

Minute of the Dundee Partnership Management Group held on Wednesday, 22 June 2022 at 3.00 pm online via Teams

Present:

Andrea Calder, Chief Executive's Service, DCC
Bailie Kevin Keenan, Dundee City Council
Christina Cooper, Dundee Volunteer & Voluntary Action
Councillor John Alexander, Dundee City Council
Elaine Zwirlein, Neighbourhood Services, DCC
Emma Fletcher, Public Health, NHS Tayside
Gordon MacDougall, Skills Development Scotland
Graeme Stewart, Department for Work and Pensions

Greg Colgan, Chief Executive, DCC (Chair) Ross Fitzgerald, Police Scotland Sarah Ainslie, JobCentre Plus Scott Gibson, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Sean Neill, Scottish Government Simon Hewitt, Dundee & Angus College Vicky Irons, Health & Social Care Partnership

<u>In attendance</u>:

Bill Findlay, Chief Executive's Service, DCC Diane McCulloch, Health & Social Care Partnership Gillian Lamb, Neighbourhood Services, DCC Martin Dey, Children & Families Service, DCC Vicky Reilly, Department for Work & Pensions

Apologies:

Alice Bovill, Community Regeneration Forums Alison Henderson, D&A Chamber of Commerce Brian Logan, Scottish Government Graeme Hutton, University of Dundee Grant Archibald, NHS Tayside Lorna Birse-Stewart, NHS Tayside Michael Wright, Scottish Enterprise Murray Webster, Community Regeneration Forums Paul Davies, Chief Executive's Service, DCC Paul Duthie, Scottish Enterprise Peter Allan, Chief Executive's Service, DCC

Action

1. WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS

Gregory Colgan welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies received are noted above.

2. MINUTE OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Agreed as accurate.

3. <u>MATTERS ARISING</u>

a) Location Director

Andrea Calder advised that Sean Neill had taken up the role as the Scottish Government's Location Director for Dundee and Sean was welcomed to the meeting. Sean talked about how he sees the role and emphasised the importance of open dialogue. Greg Colgan looked forward to inviting Sean to visit the city and see the work being carried out by partners.

b) <u>City Plan / Dundee Partnership Structure</u>

Andrea advised that a short survey will be issued soon to gather views on priorities for the City Plan and the structure of the Dundee Partnership.

PA / PAD

4. COMMUNITY SAFETY & JUSTICE ANNUAL REPORT

Elaine Zwirlein presented an overview of the annual report from the Community Safety and Justice Executive Board, highlighting achievements over the past year as well as ongoing challenges.

Elaine highlighted concerns over domestic violence and summarised the work being done to raise awareness, change behaviour and support victims, and she brought in colleagues from the Executive Board to cover the following issues:

- Ross Fitzgerald on crime and road safety
- Martin Dey on work with offenders
- Scott Gibson on fire safety
- Gillian Lamb on anti-social behaviour, including fire setting and noise nuisance

Simon Hewitt offered to promote community safety information to students – Elaine to follow up.

EZ / SH

5. REDUCING HARM ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USE

Vicky Irons and Diane McCulloch gave an overview of a report on the above which responds to the recommendations of the Drug Commission, sets out areas of work underway, and includes an action plan with priorities, timescales and a Statement of Intent.

It was noted that the report had been considered by the Integration Joint Board and would also go to the Public Health Committee and Dundee City Council's Policy and Resources Committee.

Greg Colgan emphasised the importance of partners responding collectively as a city, and Christina Cooper confirmed the third sector's support for the plan.

Sean Neill asked Vicky and Diane if they had the data needed to set a five year plan and measure progress. Diane referred to the proposed use of the MAT Standards and assured the Partnership there will be evaluation, scrutiny and performance reporting. Emma Fletcher talked about implementation of the plan being an ongoing iterative process with regular progress reporting.

Kevin Keenan expressed concern about officers having to spend time chasing funding for specific projects, leading to uncertainty about the direction of travel, while Greg Colgan also talked about the challenges of single year funding for the sustainability of services. Sean Neill agreed to take these comments back to relevant policy leads.

SN

6. <u>DISCOVER WORK PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN</u>
Simon Hewitt gave an update on the multi-agency approach to employability in the city.

The new strategy published at the end of April highlights the ongoing challenges and sets goals in relation to strengthening the functions and effectiveness of Discover Work, promoting and raising awareness of the service, and improving outcomes for customers. Simon asked the Partnership to support the strategy and hold the Discover Work Partnership to account for its implementation.

Kevin Keenan emphasised the need for a joined-up approach and for ensuring that results and progression were achieved from short term placements, while Christina Cooper talked about the importance of sustainable funding for third sector projects. Simon described a mapping of existing provision which will help inform action to join up services and address sustainability.

Ross Fitzgerald said that Police refer people to health services but could perhaps do more to signpost people they encounter into employability services if there was a clear referral route.

RF / SH

7. COST OF LIVING CRISIS

John Alexander referred to the cost of living crisis and the impact it will have on communities and on services.

He asked that this be placed on the agenda for the next meeting, with partners asked to submit information on how they are (and plan to) contribute to tackling the cost of living crisis. This will then be used to generate discussion at the September meeting.

PA ALL

Kevin Keenan echoed these comments and talked specifically about pay and fuel poverty issues. He asked if there might be funding for projects such as home insulation and energy efficiency. Sean advised that funding was limited but he would be happy to take back any examples of work underway locally and challenge Scottish Government colleagues to consider the best way to use the resources available to assist.

8. LOCAL CHILD POVERTY ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Andrea Calder advised that the above plan would normally be produced around this time of year but, due to the emerging cost of living crisis and to tie in with the development of new strategic plans, the intention now is to produce the update around September/October. Over the summer, officers will be looking at work currently underway and what else needs to be done to address the increasing challenges.

Kevin Keenan asked if there were baseline measures which would demonstrate the impact of rising prices e.g. what % of people's income was having to be spent on fuel. Andrea committed to investigate the data available and include relevant figures in the report.

AC

9. AOCB

Thanks to Gordon MacDougall

Greg Colgan noted that this would be Gordon MacDougall's last meeting before his retirement. Greg thanked Gordon for his contribution to the Partnership and the city and wished him well in his retirement.

10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Thursday 1 September at 1:30pm Thursday 1 December at 1:30pm

Attachments: