



**Minute of the Dundee Partnership Management Group
held on Wednesday, 1 September 2022 at 1.30 pm
online via Teams**

Present:

Councillor John Alexander, Dundee City Council
Evonne Boyd, Skills Development Scotland
Greg Colgan, Chief Executive, DCC (Chair)
Jeff Blackford, University of Dundee
Judy Dobbie, Leisure & Culture Dundee

Michael Wright, Scottish Enterprise
Murray Webster, Community Regeneration Forums
Scott Gibson, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
Simon Hewitt, Dundee & Angus College
Vicky Irons, Health & Social Care Partnership

In attendance:

Brian Logan, Scottish Government
Paul Davies, Chief Executive's Service, DCC

Peter Allan, Chief Executive's Service, DCC

Apologies:

Alice Bovill, Community Regeneration Forums
Alison Henderson, D&A Chamber of Commerce
Andrea Calder, Chief Executive's Service, DCC
Bailie Kevin Keenan, Dundee City Council
Emma Fletcher, Public Health, NHS Tayside
Graeme Stewart, Department for Work and Pensions

Grant Archibald, NHS Tayside
Lorna Birse-Stewart, NHS Tayside
Paul Duthie, Scottish Enterprise
Ross Fitzgerald, Police Scotland
Sean Neill, Scottish Government

Action

1. **WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS**
Peter Allan welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies received are noted above. Greg joined the meeting during item 4.
2. **MINUTE OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
Agreed as accurate.
3. **MATTERS ARISING**
All items from the previous meeting were noted as completed, underway, or on today's agenda.
 - a) **DISCOVER WORK UPDATE**
Simon highlighted that there has been a lot of work underpinning last meetings Fair Work & Enterprise annual report. The circulated update includes the outcome of the first round of the Challenge Fund, with the aim of supporting targeted groups. In particular it highlights significantly improved performance of the employment pathway throughout the pandemic including a 41% increase in those reaching a positive destination and 992 people since the launch of the employability pathway programme. Reassuringly, over 70% of those gaining jobs are still in their work after 12 months.

Challenge Fund round two has commenced, with a focus on improving 16-19 participation measures.

Overall, we are seeing really strong progress compared to the past, but aware of what still needs to be done. The Transforming Employability Group are leading on continued change and collaborative working. This is a collective effort, with strong support and resources being put in.

Peter highlighted the DWP Pathfinder and its focus on helping priority groups in Linlathen. This is taking place alongside the anti-poverty work going on there as part of our Local Fairness Initiative.

4. HEALTH, CARE & WELLBEING ANNUAL REPORT

Vicky thanked Kathryn Sharp and colleagues for compiling the report. It covers three areas of focus; Reducing Obesity, Reducing Substance Misuse, and Improving Mental Health & Wellbeing, with quite detailed outlines of the strategic work for each of these.

The report has the most up to date data, but some relevant data is not yet available. The impact of the pandemic may also have skewed some figures, but for the priority areas we have seen an increase in activity over the past year including the Community Wellbeing Centre development (including a lot of stakeholder involvement), and lots of effort & progress across services e.g.

- A senior manager is being recruited to support addiction services
- The IJB approved investment in new GP sessions to help with rollout of services
- There is a continuous challenge with regard to addictions to be met, and to help achieve this work is being done with mental health colleagues. Drop-in sessions with the DDARS team are to start in September

Discussion followed, which included;

The participation measure for young people in Dundee is the lowest in Scotland and a lot of this is due to poor mental health and the need for more clinical support. Do we have enough sight on this as a partnership, or is/could more be done?

- This is being covered under mental health & wellbeing. Investing at a younger age does lead to better long term results for individuals and families. Work in schools and via CAMHS is ongoing. Social isolation and anxiety in this age group do need to be addressed
- The Iceland model looks at life circumstances and habits of younger population (secondary school age) and almost certainly links to mental health issues reported. Further discussion at a later meeting could be useful

PA/VI

Mental wellbeing is likely to be another long-term issue coming out of covid.

The ADP Delivery Plan could be ready for discussion at this group's December meeting, as could the Action Plan on the drug commission. Both to be included on December agenda for feedback.

**PAD /
PA**

5. CITY PLAN / DP STRUCTURE UPDATE

The City Plan sits at the heart of our partnership work for the next 10 years, and will be reviewed after five years.

Members of the DPMG were surveyed, and Peter thanked those who responded. Overall, people seemed happy with the direction we were going, as did responses to the community engagement we did.

Section 5 of the City Plan shows the general progress we have made over the past five years.

We have had a very wide agenda, and there is a desire to focus more on key priorities. The Vision has been refreshed and covers the three overarching goals for the Partnership. These are; reducing child poverty, tackling climate change, and inclusive growth

The Plan provides context for these three key priorities and the high level actions we will take, along with the impact indicators to track progress. Towards the end of the Plan, our 10 year outcomes are detailed.

We have a complex diagram on how it all fits together, showing all the groups and their links. The Dundee Partnership already has a number of strategic groups that are working towards some of our priorities, and these need balanced with the need to focus on the three big priorities.

We have locality commitments too and are taking a tiered approach with a Local Community Planning Partnership (LCPP) in every Ward along with new Local Community Plans coming to our December meeting. We also have Community Regeneration Areas, which further attention is given to - in particular Linlathen & Stobswell West will be focussed on due to their unique challenges. These include substance use, anti-social behaviour, private rented sector issues in Stobswell West, and extreme levels of deprivation in Linlathen.

**PA /
PAD**

We want to look at an optimal structure for delivering the City Plan.

Peter asked that the Plan be taken back to organisational strategic groups for endorsement / approval

All

Greg added that the focus within the Plan, along with tighter resourcing does require us to look at a more efficient way to deliver via Partnership groups.

Discussion followed which included;

This is a cornerstone document that underpins our work going forward, aiming to tackle entrenched issues as well as raising our aspirations. It is not just a DCC document – Partners need to be involved in its delivery too, and perhaps mirror some of this in their own strategic documents as they are developed.

Jeff welcomed such a clear and focused plan. Climate Change includes priorities such as Net Zero, biodiversity, healthy food, etc. and so there are lots of opportunities for Dundee University to be involved. A useful positive aspect to this is that students are motivated to act on this, and could be involved in action alongside their academic studies. Lots of volunteers could be available, and so anyone seeking volunteers should get in touch.

- Greg indicated that Ian Gillespie, Chair of Climate Change Board, would welcome the university's involvement
- Peter and Jeff to meet and ensure that Dundee University is incorporated into delivery against this priority

**PA /
JB**

Simon agreed that it is a comprehensive plan. One challenge is in its implementation. There is an alignment with the strategy for Economic Transformation but it's not explicit (perhaps as it is a local document).

It was agreed that this could be better linked, especially with regard to future investment.

Evonne commented that alignment to the Young Person's Guarantee could be more explicit in relation to its KPIs. We also have the Dundee Promise that could be more prominent.

A request was made that each of our organisations provide modern Apprenticeships for our young, care experienced people where possible.

Murray asked, "how do we make this a document that the people of Dundee see as being for them and that it will make a difference?", adding that we do see some differences, but mostly appear to be treading water despite all the effort. We see services being reduced and don't see people out there doing things e.g. less maintenance works; poorer bus services, etc. How do we make it real?

- A one page summary is being aimed for, but the local aspects and people's feelings on what is being done do need to be taken into account
- The scale of the challenge is so significant e.g. around the cost of living, and so it may be beyond the Partnership's ability to positively affect. We are bringing in additional jobs and opportunities that will contribute to this though
- A discussion with Steven Bell (DCC Communications Manager) is needed on making communications to citizens better, and to do it differently than in the past
- Murray concluded that there is a lot that DCC and other Partners do on the ground, but we also need communication and engagement with the communities to get them on board in future. We need services not already back out there to return to community based working now covid impact is subsiding

PA

Skills Development Scotland are looking at how they approach their place-based services and taking them into localities to reduce barriers to participation e.g. costs of travel. They are looking to engage with partners for delivery in joint hubs, etc.

- Libraries and sports centres would be happy to be involved in this, as would community centres. Evonne, Judy and Marie Dailly to discuss and take forward
- Peter asked that if there are good indicators, Evonne could send to Peter
 - Evonne provided these two links in the meeting chat in response: [Link 1](#), [Link 2](#) and referred to Recommendation 5 in the video
 - Community-based services will be needed for all careers services, not just SDS

**EB /
JD /
MD**

EB

DPMG members to send any further comments on the City Plan to Peter by 9th September and with any necessary amendments it will then be taken as agreed.

All

6. COST OF LIVING CRISIS

John outlined that he wanted a discussion to take place to look at what we are / can be doing to contribute to addressing the wider issue that is the Cost of Living Crisis. Too many people are already being impacted. Are there spaces, people, or other resources available? For

example, 'Cosy Places' seem crazy in such a rich country, but they are being looked at.

Peter outlined a short list of DCC interventions and asked if we could formalise a request for partners to make a submission in writing on this topic. DCC activity includes;

- Emergency Food via the Dundee Community Food Network. The amount of food available has been increased through DCC spend to support these groups. We want getting this to be a dignified experience and are working with groups to make sure this happens. Food provision is also linked in with other support services
- Taking a 'Cash First' approach. Food emergencies imply an underlying lack of cash, and so we are fast tracking people to advice services for grants, getting benefits, etc. as quickly as possible. We are also recruiting 'cash first volunteers' for organisations
- Access to advice. Demand will increase with regard to the need to maximise incomes. CAB, DCC, and Brooksbank are all increasing their capacity. We are also getting advice out to GP practices as that is a service where people are, and also health professionals see this as an effective way to help many of their patients
- Energy. Through the Welfare Rights team putting significant effort into Fuel Well 3, reaching out to those who have already had help from DCC with an offer of a grant (£50-150 depending on circumstances). DEEAP are also contacting Fuel Well customers to check on effective use of fuel and applying for warm home discounts to reduce costs. Fuel Well applicants are also linked to further advice on finances
- Cosy Spaces. To be promoted as 'Warm & Welcoming Spaces'. These are being looked at done across the country. We are at the very early stages of mapping out what is available, where, and when and looking at what else might be needed. We don't want it to just be a warm space, we want it to be a route into services, somewhere people can go to take part in activities, etc.
- DCC have provided grants to some groups to expand their services
- We want to communicate all of this availability in a non-stigmatising way and are discussing plans with the Fairness Leadership Panel to help frame the response

Discussion followed which included;

Greg indicated that it would be great to get a detailed sense of what organisations are doing, and asked for a written response to be sent to Peter by Friday 9th September.

All

SDS Operations Team are developing a Poverty Plan. It is not signed off yet but will be shortly, at which point Evonne will it to Peter

EB

D&A College covered this topic at their Senior Leadership meeting, with lots of ideas generated. They don't want to duplicate what is already being done elsewhere and so would rather be part of something bigger. Peter agreed to attend a follow-up session on this to help coordinate.

**PA /
SH**

People are likely to try different ways of saving money. SFRS have a resource across the city that could contribute and would be happy to be involved in projects that come about. SFRS are already providing literature to people to minimise risks they may take in relation to heating and energy use.

It was suggested that a DP working group be set up to take this forward. Greg and Peter to discuss and bring in partners.

**GC /
PA**

Greg also commented that we need to be aware that some of those needing help will be our own employees.

Murray was supportive of a working group. Coldside LCPP has already set up a sub-group on this topic. There is a need to have ideas coordinated, and urgently.

With regard to food provision, we need to make sure that we are providing decent food. Coldside LCPP received a complaint that food going to the local primary school was of low quality and as a result was just getting binned. Greg agreed to feedback to Tayside Contracts on food quality issue.

GC

An example was given of a young child who has to attend multiple health appointments. The hospital and Third sector supports all made appointments on same day and paid for taxis to get them there. This coordination made it easier for parents and also indicates the need to think differently – to deliver person centred care – and that it does make a difference.

Michael stated that we are rightly focusing on households. Scottish Enterprise (SE) don't have a direct role in this, but there is a parallel impact on businesses. SE are thinking about how to mitigate higher costs, and will liaise with other partners to help with this.

MW

The group agreed that a short life working group be set up to share information, identify gaps, promote actions, etc.

PA

7. LOCAL CHILD POVERTY ACTION REPORT UPDATE

Peter stated that this will be produced by October to take into account a range of new activity. By statute, the report includes work being done by both NHS Tayside and DCC DCC and NHS Tayside, but is broader than that and also reflects the Partnership agenda too.

If anyone has outstanding actions they want to commit to for next year, let Peter know by the 9th September. Peter will circulate an email requesting this and other pertinent items coming out of this meeting.

All

PA

8. AOCB

Street Soccer – The Nations Tournament is being held in the city centre next weekend (Fri-Sun). eight teams from around the world will be taking part and support organisation stalls will also be in City Square. Communications on this will be shared.

10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Thursday 1 December at 1:30pm
Dates for 2023 are being scheduled

Attachments: