

# ANGUS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD AND EXECUTIVE GROUP JOINT MEETING

Minute of Joint Meeting of the **ANGUS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD and EXECUTIVE GROUP**, held REMOTELY on Tuesday 25 November 2020 at 10.00 am.

**Present:**

***BOARD***

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

Councillor DAVID FAIRWEATHER, Leader  
MARGO WILLIAMSON, Chief Executive

**POLICE SCOTLAND**

WAYNE MORRISON, Chief Inspector

**SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

SCOTT GIBSON, Group Commander, Service Delivery – Angus Area  
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service  
GORDON PRYDE, Local Senior Officer for Perth & Kinross, Angus and  
Dundee

**NHS TAYSIDE**

BILL NICOL, Director of Strategic Change

**VOLUNTARY ACTION ANGUS**

HAYLEY MEARNS, Interim Chief Executive Officer

**BUSINESS SECTOR**

No representative present.

**CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT SECTOR**

No representative present.

**DUNDEE & ANGUS COLLEGE**

JAKI CARNEGIE, Vice Principal, Corporate Services

***EXECUTIVE GROUP***

**ANGUS ALIVE**

KIRSTY HUNTER, Chief Executive

**ANGUS COMMUNITY JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP**

No representative present

**ANGUS COMMUNITY PLANNING LOCALITY PARTNERSHIPS**

SHARON FAULKNER, Chair, Brechin

**ANGUS INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD**

Councillor LOIS SPEED, Chair

**ANGUS HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP**

VIVIENNE DAVISON, Principal Planning Officer

**DUNDEE & ANGUS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

ALISON HENDERSON, Chief Executive Officer

**DUNDEE & ANGUS COLLEGE**

No representative present.

**DWP**

MOIRA CAMBRIDGE, Angus & Perthshire Customer Service Leader

**POLICE SCOTLAND**

Chief Inspector WAYNE MORRISON

**SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE**

GINA FORD, Engagement Partner

**SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

SCOTT GIBSON, Group Commander, Service Delivery  
**(Chair of the Executive Group)**

**SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND**

GORDON MACDOUGALL, Head of operations NE Region, Grampian  
Tayside and Fife

**TACTRAN**

No representative present

**VOLUNTARY ACTION ANGUS**

HALEY MEARNS

**ANGUS COUNCIL SUPPORT OFFICERS ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

MARK ARMSTRONG, Depute Chief Executive

VIVIEN SMITH, Director, Strategic Policy, Transformation & Public Sector  
Reform

KATE COWEY- Service Leader, Planning & Communities

SHELLEY HAGUE - Strategic Planning & Policy Manager (SPT&PSR)

KIM RITCHIE, Strategic Policy Planning Officer (SPT&PSR)

ANDREW WILSON – Angus Council - Committee Officer (Democratic  
Services)

SCOTT GIBSON, Chair, ACPPE Executive Group, in the Chair.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Gary Malone (Joint Chief Executive Officer, VAA); Stewart Ball (Locality Chair, Carnoustie); Ian Lorimer, (Locality Chair, Arbroath); Lynsey Dey, (Angus Council Team Leader, Sustainable Communities); Alison Smith, Angus Council, Economic Development); Jaki Carnegie and Kevin Murphy; Dundee and Angus College; Daniel Kleinberg (Scottish Government Location Director); Mark Speed (TACTRAN); and Jacqui Semple (Angus Council).

**2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (ELECTED MEMBERS ONLY)**

No declarations of interest were intimated.

**3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minute of the Joint Meeting of the Board and Executive Group of 6 October submitted and **approved.**

#### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTE / UPDATE

There were no matters arising from the Minute.

##### **Period Poverty Update:**

*Reference – Minute of Meeting of Article 10 of 2 September 2020*

Noted that the Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Bill had been enacted in the Scottish Parliament on the previous day, 24 November, putting a legal duty on local authorities to ensure that anyone requiring period products could obtain them free of charge. This Partnership had played a significant part in the campaign to achieve this outcome.

#### 5. INTERIM GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

There was submitted Report on interim governance arrangements since the first joint meeting of the Executive Group and the Board on 1 July 2020, which had agreed to survey the Partnership on governance and structure arrangements. This resulted in a clear wish amongst the majority of Partners to proceeding as a joint Executive and Board, with the idea being that challenges and opportunities could be discussed and then acted upon quickly and efficiently.

**Position of Chair:** Shelley Hague advised that this meeting would be the last chaired by Scott Gibson. On behalf of the Partnership, she thanked Scott for the contribution he had made in his time as Chair, not as Chair of the Executive Group as originally intended, but in taking on the joint chairing arrangement with the Board and the Executive Group meeting together. There being no nominations for Chair or Vice Chair, the original arrangements for appointments came back into play with Angus Council, becoming Chair of the Partnership and Board, and Voluntary Action Angus, assuming the Vice Chair position.

Scott Gibson proposed, and Bill Nicol seconded, Margo Williamson as Chair and Hayley Mearns as Vice Chair of the Board and Partnership. This was unanimously agreed.

Margo paid tribute to her predecessor, who had to contend with bringing the Executive Group and Board together, and who had brought the Partnership as a whole a long way during his time as Chair. Scott indicated that he had enjoyed his time in office and assured the meeting that he would continue to attend these joint meetings as a member of the Executive Group.

#### 6. RESILIENCE UPDATE

*Reference – Minute of Meeting of 6 October 2020, Article 5*

In the absence of Jacqui Semple, Mark Armstrong advised that that the Local Resilience Partnership continued to meet every fortnight and continued to respond to issues related to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. It also had to consider concurrent risks and matters beyond the pandemic, including 'normal' winter flu; the additional strain placed upon the NHS; the potential for severe weather conditions (always a risk at this time of year); and the implications of the oncoming Brexit. The Test and Protect Group continued to meet, and there was now a robust system across Tayside. This also involved the Public Health Incident Management Team and the Tayside Director of Public Health, Dr Drew Walker. The number of people who were self-isolating was remaining steady and was not falling.

Margo acknowledged the significant contribution in informing the public made by the Tayside Public Health Department, which, while being a relatively small body, had made a significant contribution in that area. Gail Smith advised that the Department was also making preparations for its COVID-19 vaccinations programme, once these became available. The national guidance was changing virtually daily. Staffing arrangements were being prepared and training still had to be undertaken.

Bill Nicol acknowledged Margo's recognition of the size of Public Health when set against the considerable challenges the team faced, including care homes. In addition to the COVID-19

vaccination preparations, it also was responsible for seeking to maximise uptake of the standard flu jab Shelley Hague offered assistance with communications on that particular issue. Gail Smith advised that it was not yet known how much vaccine would be allocated to Tayside.

## 7. **EVALUATE, EVOLVE AND ESTABLISH – Shelley Hague and Haley Mearns**

*Reference – Minute of Meeting of 2 September 2020, Article 7*

- (i) Short Life Strategic Group - Renamed the **Task and Finish Group**
- (ii) Accessibility and Connectivity Pilot: Transport Network
- (iii) Support for Women Pilot

There was submitted a report by Haley Mearns setting out the remit of the ACPD Task and Finish Group. Speaking to the Report, Hayley referred to the enthusiastic discussions which had taken place between partners to work together on various issues. This new Group would be project-based and have an end-date. The name change was to signify the intention to achieve action quickly. At present, it was considering two proposals, papers relating to which were attached. One (**Paper 6(iii)**) was for a one stop advice shop for Angus women. This was in recognition that there was a need for greater focus on client groups rather than on particular geographical areas, with partners coming together to provide services. The second (**Paper 6(ii)**) was the need for improvements to accessibility and connectivity. Haley emphasised that improvements to connectivity meant providing help with access to equipment including laptops and iPads. Angus had a poor transport network with a lack of services or linked-up services, particularly throughout its rural hinterland. Many people lacked funds to spend on travel, and around 25% of the Angus population lacked access to a car. The Group would start its work by looking at the creation of a travel network at its next meeting on 16 December. Outline papers in both these matters were attached as detailed below.

Mark Armstrong thanked Hayley for her presentation and welcomed the proposals from the Group, particularly those relating to support for women, which stemmed from the HAART work in which Hayley had been instrumental. It was anticipated that, demand for greater support for women was likely to grow exponentially.

Gina Ford indicated that she would like to share with her Scottish Enterprise colleagues this 'Task and Finish' approach so that others could learn from Angus' good ideas. She also advised that SE, unlike other agencies, was not doing frontline deliveries to the public.

The Joint Meeting noted that Hayley would update members on progress at the next Joint Meeting.

## 8. **COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN – Tricia Ryan**

There was submitted the Annual Update to the Community Learning and Development (CLD) Plan for the period to October 2020. The Plan set out the 10 CLD key activity / improvement areas which were linked back to the local outcomes for Angus as detailed in the Angus Community Plan.

The full CLD Plan is at the following link:

[https://www.angus.gov.uk/media/community\\_learning\\_and\\_development\\_plan\\_2018\\_2021](https://www.angus.gov.uk/media/community_learning_and_development_plan_2018_2021)

Tricia, in her presentation, acknowledged the **diverse nature of work**, with people adopting their own practices with key challenges highlighted, common reporting, and sharing data. She highlighted areas of progress, identifying significant features, for example, healthy living initiatives, supporting physical and mental health and wellbeing. The ongoing pandemic had had its effects on CLD, with staff across CLD partners jointly working with Voluntary Action Angus to support various activities to mitigate the effects on the community of COVID-19. She also noted an increase in on-line activity, enabling adult learners, young people and the community groups to continue to receive support.

**Participatory budgeting** had highlighted the power of youth initiative and money had been set aside for local community projects and initiatives, illustrating a community empowerment agenda. PB was a small step which allowed people to take some control. Fife was one area which had made good progress in this area and we could look to learn from their experience – and good practice is shared through the Tayside and Fife Alliance.

Hayley Mearns acknowledged the efforts of the 1,400 volunteers Angus volunteers who assisted with shopping, dog walking and many other everyday tasks in the community in response to the average 130-plus requests received each day. Helping VAA realise its aim that **'no-one was left behind'**. Working with partners, including Angus Council, made this effort possible, and Haley thanked everybody for having the courage to 'lose the name badges' and instead, just get on with whatever needed to be done.

For CLD, the question was how to **build on this success**, and harness the volunteering effort, and contractual arrangements. Reporting had to be succinct and made more meaningful.

Bill Nicol saw an opportunity to facilitate ways for community groups such as the Men's Sheds, to make volunteering easier to do.

Cllr Fairweather – Arbroath Men's Shed had recently gone through a Community Asset Transfer process, and now rented its unit at £7/week and was thriving.

Tricia highlighted in her presentation the importance of local organisations coming together to support youth groups – funding being available from Youth Works Scotland.

**Health and Wellbeing** was a key issue. Communities teams had organised outdoor walks with community groups, but work was needed on a wider CLD effort, and on how to pull everything together.

Margo noted that East Ayrshire had enabled communities to take control to a greater extent than had happened in Angus. **'Taking back control'** was a much-heard refrain these days but more work was needed in Angus for it to gain traction, for example - with CAT transfers, and help to create that shift.

Gordon MacDougall suggested that the Partnership could do much to avoid duplication in provision of services and enable individuals to 'take back control'. Kate Cowey referred to Health and Social care Partnership's efforts to **reduce, or avoid, duplication of provision**, and more of a community action learning approach – getting people to identify actions themselves. Only by having ownership of issues would people identify with them.

**Where to go next?** The usual annual Partner Event had not taken place this year; however, it was hoped that an on-line event could be organised later in the year. CLD were normally inspected by Education Scotland, but this was not happening under present conditions. ES had offered support in different ways and had agreed to act as a 'critical friend' and discussions on this were taking place at present.

New guidance for 2021-24 was imminent. CLD plan guidance had been very broad up to now which made reporting very challenging; this would be reviewed and improved under new guidance, and may include the removal of mandatory standards on CLD reporting.

Members expressed their appreciation to Tricia for her presentation.

## 9. **SUSTAINABLE ENERGY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (SECAP) - Kim Moubray, Urban Foresight**

Kim Moubray gave a presentation (attached) which recognised the role of this Partnership in taking forward the Sustainable Energy Action Plan.



SECAP Draft  
presentation V1.0.ppt

SECAP would cover all of Angus and mainly public sector partners and was intended to be a flexible and evolving document, intended to include more stakeholders and partners as it progressed. It covered buildings, energy use, transport, agriculture and food production, waste, land use, and forestry, governance and process. It recognised key elements from the sectors – the Tay Cities Deal funding and the Mercury Project. Buildings should be more sustainable and existing housing stock made more fuel-efficient. Offshore wind was already a major energy source and was continuing to expand. Usage of non-fossil fuel vehicles was also increasing. The value of the Angus environment was becoming increasingly recognised while agritech innovation to improve sustainable production. Angus had one of the highest recycling rates in the country. SECAP, it was intended, would reflect Patrick Geddes' ideal of recognition that what we do locally has a global impact.

SECAP was overseen by a Steering Group; with temporary working groups intended to explore specific SECAP actions. It was important to engage with the wider community, and a community climate forum could be one way to achieve this. A SECAP co-ordinator would provide a focal point within the Council, bringing continued collaboration and involving people and resources as required.

Alison Henderson thanked Kim for her presentation and noted that sustainability was a top priority. She was seeing many businesses doing innovative things in terms of work/business practices. The Zero Waste Scotland Challenge was being overwhelmed by demand to participate, Innovate UK was another element she was happy to support, and these were increasingly forming parts of firms' business plans.

Kim indicated that there were many exciting opportunities at present and that funding was available. She hoped that SECAP would provide a more streamlined approach and involve as many organisations as possible.

Vivien Smith was also encouraged, reminding the meeting that £26.5m had been identified specifically for Angus from the Tay Cities Fund. New skills were required with clear growth opportunities in low carbon and agritech ventures. Tay Cities Deal arrangements at local level were developing clean growth.

Bill Nicol referred to fuel poverty and indicated that he would welcome an overview on that subject. Kim indicated that some businesses were repositioning themselves, for example, away from upland farming to forestry, an economic way to give people new skills; for example, more people would be required to work in heathland restoration. SECAP included fuel poverty with a project to test technologies and make homes more energy efficient.

Cllr Fairweather thanked Kim for her presentation and expressed his pleasure at hearing of the fine work being done, referring to the success in recycling rates in Angus, in particular.

## **10. CPP RISK REGISTER: BREXIT UPDATE**

*Reference – Minute of Meeting of 6 October 2020, Article 9*

There was submitted the Risk Register, with the emphasis moving to the impending departure of the UK from the European Union on 31 December.

Vivien Smith updated the Joint Meeting on the current situation, with negotiations continuing on a trade agreement. The Council was keen to work with local businesses and with Alison Henderson in the Dundee & Angus Chamber of Commerce to make the most of as many opportunities as possible arising from the outcome of these negotiations. State aid, governance arrangements, fisheries and technical details were still sticking points in the talks.

With Covid-19, winter flu, winter and Brexit all coinciding, civil contingency preparations were being made on the basis of “preparing for the worst and hoping for the best”. As public sector organisations, Vivien believed that Angus and its partners were as well prepared as they could be in the circumstances. There were many European citizens living in Angus who were registered to stay. A national site in Lanarkshire would assist to ease the transport of goods as much as possible. Some disruption was likely over the New Year period, however.

Mark Armstrong confirmed that much work was going on, in Scotland with a national co-ordination centre chaired by Police Scotland to oversee the process. While there was still uncertainty, partners were geared up as far as possible.

Alison Henderson advised that the Chamber had held a series of webinars on the Chamber’s YouTube channel, some of which she would pass on to Shelley Hague. A big priority for Angus was the arrangements for the movement to their markets of seed potatoes. Many local businesses had approached the Chamber looking for assistance. It was all very ‘last.minute.com.’!

Scott indicated that, as usual, the Register would be reviewed and updated as necessary ahead of the next Joint Meeting.

Noted by the Joint Meeting.

#### **11. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Kirsty Hunter advised that despite challenges, in the ways of working, AngusAlive and its partners still aimed to improve health, and so wellbeing, around the forthcoming Scottish Government document *Sport and Physical Health* due to be published in January 2021. In the meantime, she was working with Shelley Hague to seek to engage with this Partnership once the document was released, through community sport co-ordinators and through the AngusAlive website.

#### **12. DATES OF NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS All on Wednesdays at 10.00 – 12.00**

**5 May**

**30 June**

**27 October**

In conclusion, Scott brought his final meeting as Chair to a close by thanking partners and representatives for all their assistance during his time in office. It had, he said, “been a pleasure”.