



**Minute - Community Planning Board**

**10am-12noon 9 December 2021**

**Online – Microsoft Teams**

<b>In Attendance:</b>	Ken Thomson (Chair)	Forth Valley College
	Cllr Collie	Falkirk Council
	Paul Anderson	Falkirk Council
	Rhonda Archibald	NHS Forth Valley
	Elaine Brown	NHS Forth Valley
	Ian Dryden	Falkirk Council (in lieu D. Duff)
	Julia Ferrari	NHS Forth Valley
	Kenny Gillespie	Falkirk Council
	Dr Oliver Harding	NHS Forth Valley
	Emily Harvey	Forth Environment Link
	Jen Kerr	Falkirk Council
	Kenneth Lawrie	Falkirk Council
	Victoria McRae	CVS Falkirk
	David Mellor	CVS Falkirk
	Robert Naylor	Falkirk Council
	Mandy Paterson	Police Scotland
	Clara Walker	Forth Environment Link

Item	Note	Action
<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies</b>  Cllr Cecil Meiklejohn      Falkirk Council Martin Thom                  ADP Janie McCusker              NHS Forth Valley Douglas Duff                 Falkirk Council David Sharp                    SFRS Stephen McAllister          NHS Forth Valley Aiden Grisewood             Scottish Government Karen Morrison               NatureScot Cllr Robert Bissett          Falkirk Council Patricia Cassidy              Integration Joint Board	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minute of the Last meeting – 14 October 2021</b>  The Board agreed the Minute of the last meeting.  Matters arising - JK had circulated information from Fraser of Allender Institute.	

	<p>National Care Consultation – JK: a CPP-wide response had initially been considered. However, the survey did not accommodate a generic CPP response, as some of the questions and issues raised were very service specific. As such, individual CPP partners were asked to contribute their own responses to the consultation.</p>	
<p><b>3. Falkirk Food Futures</b></p>	<p>Emily Harvey and Rhonda Archibald from Forth Environment Link (FEL) delivered a short presentation on the Food Futures project.</p> <p>This is a joint project between FEL, NHS Forth Valley, CVS Falkirk, and Falkirk Council. UK Govt funded through Community Renewal Fund; just over half a million pounds. Time-line: Dec 2021-June 2022.</p> <p>Application was based on research into impact of pandemic on food systems locally - looking at sustainable food processes. Key focus is about improving life experiences and outcomes, and looking at equality, human rights and food sustainability. Also considered is the ambition towards Net Zero.</p> <p>Money to be spent on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant schemes for community groups (focusing on sustainable and dignified food)</li> <li>• Education programmes and digital skills training (incl carbon literacy training)</li> <li>• Capacity building</li> <li>• Creating cross sector food networks</li> <li>• Support urban agriculture initiatives</li> <li>• Working with young people</li> <li>• Community food volunteers (emergency food provision)</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessing sustainable and dignified food</li> <li>• Reducing poverty</li> <li>• Building capacity</li> <li>• Improving health and well-being</li> <li>• Increasing use of local seasonal food</li> <li>• Improving redistribution of surplus food</li> <li>• Reducing food waste</li> <li>• Enhancing digital skills</li> </ul> <p>Clear links to Themes in the Falkirk Plan – esp. Theme 2 (Poverty) and Theme 6 (Economic Recovery).</p> <p>Sustainable Food Places Award – encourages a joint, holistic approach to sustainable food. Similar project running in Clackmannanshire. Funding secured for a co-ordinator post. Building public awareness; achieving ‘food citizenship’; local good food movements – all focus on getting people involved and acting on food sustainability.</p>	

	<p>Project aims to work with up to 3000 people – majority of whom will be unemployed or economically inactive. Minimum of 40 community groups. Cascade outcome will result in c.4000 people being engaged.</p> <p>This is a pre-cursor to the upcoming (2022) Shared Prosperity Fund; and one of the outcomes will be enabling groups to be in a better position to apply to the Shared Prosperity Fund.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p><b>OH</b> – asked about criteria for applying for grants.</p> <p><b>EH</b> – Bids range: min £5k to max £30k. Eligibility criteria do apply: community groups, CIC’s, SCIO’s registered charities. There are 4 criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Groups must be able to deliver within timeframe</li> <li>2) For capital bids, all leases, planning permissions etc must be in place</li> <li>3) Must be open to collaboration on evaluation</li> <li>4) Must meet at least 4 of the FFF Outcomes</li> </ol> <p><b>ID</b> – some of this work ties in with land use planning; and FC will soon appoint a Growing Officer, so scope for collaboration is strong.</p> <p><b>PA</b> requested a separate meeting with FEL to map out the outcomes of the project against specific Outcomes in the Falkirk Plan</p> <p><b>Chair</b> - cited previous work undertaken by Forth Valley College in the local food poverty plan. Over 1000 three-course meals were distributed to the community – primarily in Stirling. Keen to enquire as to potential for repeating this in Falkirk.</p> <p><b>OH</b> – This work should be more embedded in the structure of the CPP; and suggest this is closely linked to the work of the Locality and Place Planning Group (L&amp;PPG), and recommends this should be a standing item on the Agenda for that group.</p>	<p><b>PA/FEL</b></p>
<p><b>4. Falkirk Plan- Theme 3 – Mental Health and Wellbeing</b></p>	<p><b>Julia Ferrari (JF)</b> – updated the Board on the work of the Mental Health and Well-being Planning Group. The Group has been in place for some time in one form or other. Pandemic response in 2021-21 meant that much non-essential work was suspended. Since start of 2022, there’s now a renewed focus on picking up on services focused on remobilisation and recovery. Acknowledgement that the pandemic has had a huge detrimental impact on mental health.</p> <p>Group currently has a solid continuing membership, which is broad-based and brings a wealth of experience to the delivery of services in a ‘whole system’ approach.</p>	

	<p>The Group aims to be action focused. Its work is driven by the Falkirk Plan and the Mental Health Strategy. Activities are linked to clinical pathways work. Focus on early intervention and prevention is crucial.</p> <p>Two sub-groups have been created: 1) Communities Group and 2) Suicide and Drug Related Deaths Prevention Group.</p> <p>The Communities Group focuses on tangible actions and delivery (e.g., Falkirk Services Directory, Support in Coming out of Furlough leaflet, ADP Directory, etc.)</p> <p>Every GP practice in Forth Valley has a mental health specialist nurse, who can see up to 18 patients a day. Early intervention and prevention is a crucial part of their work, including low-level CBT.</p> <p>There has been positive co-operative working between the NHS, Housing and homelessness support services, where community psychiatric nurses are involved in front line work supporting vulnerable individuals and families. There is similar collaborative work being undertaken with the community justice service.</p> <p>A move to ensure that services are trauma informed. Trauma champions are an essential part of ensuring that services are fully holistic and person-centred. Forth Valley has a cohort of trauma champions, and these come together in a steering group. This work links directly to Outcome No. 11 in the Falkirk Plan.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p><b>RN</b> – asked about the support available through GPs. People are often required to tell receptionists in GP surgeries about their mental health challenges. What’s being done to address this?</p> <p><b>JF</b> – this is a national primary care issue. It is appropriate for receptionists to ask questions such as this, as they perform a broadly triage role. Acknowledgement that there is scope for improvement in terms of use of language used, and how receptionists deal with patients.</p> <p><b>Cllr Collie</b> – suggests the trauma lens tool could be useful in housing services, where colleagues work with the most vulnerable people who are least understood within their own communities. This links closely to the work being undertaken to tackle stigma around the use of alcohol and drugs.</p> <p><b>Chair</b> – significant interest in trauma lens tool at Forth Valley College. Request that links are established between JF and the College to progress this issue and the wider support available for students experiencing mental health challenges.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Falkirk Plan- Theme 4 – Substance Use and Drug Related Deaths</b></p>	

**Elaine Brown (EB)** - Suicide and Drug Related Deaths Prevention Group is a subset of the Mental Health Planning Group. Its work links directly to the Falkirk Plan.

Suicide and drug deaths should not be the only indicators as to how successful the strategy is. These are important, but are only part of the story. Addressing poverty and reducing inequality are critical factors here.

**EB** – presented ‘suspected’ 2021 figures for suicide and drug-related deaths – still to be confirmed by National Records of Scotland. There’s strong partnership with Police Scotland in gathering of raw data. Review process is currently being developed on a Forth Valley wide basis. This will consider how many individuals were referred to statutory support services before their deaths through suicide or drug use.

There was detailed discussion of demographics and analysis of trends in those who have lost their lives to suicide and drug use.

There was strong acknowledgement of the interdependencies of the issues being outlined, and this spoke to the need for community planning partners to work together to address these challenges in a way that hasn’t been undertaken previously. The Delivery Plan to support the Falkirk Plan is a critical tool to enable this, and maps out the collaborative efforts that need to be undertaken to bring these figures down.

Currently three staff are employed who focus on reviewing suicide and drugs deaths across Forth Valley. Process reviews are currently being considered.

A strategic multi-service framework that supports both alcohol and drugs agendas is in the course of being developed. A senior leadership group will be established to be led by Dr Graham Foster, who will oversee the development and implementation of an area-wide prevention plan.

The 2020 Forth Valley Report will be ready at some point in early 2022, and will be reported to Board in due course.

**MP** – the introduction of the three new posts in Forth Valley have shown real benefits in a very short period in terms of understanding and coordinating the effort around suicide and drug-related death prevention. Lived experience of people involved in substance use is critical to driving this work forward.

**EH** – some of the early engagement work around the Falkirk Food Futures project indicates that mental health support was a key issue in some of the hard-to-reach communities being encouraged to take part. Involvement in initiatives such as grow your own food, and other community benefit projects can contribute to improved mental health outcomes. This work should, wherever possible, link up to preventative programmes.

**Chair** – keen to see the change / improvements in the outcomes over time, mapped against the data presented today.

**6. Locality Planning Update**

	<p><b>PA</b> – reported continuing positive progress in locality planning. Challenges remain, but overall, the progress has been significant;</p> <p>Bainsford and Langlees – the CAP working group continues to meet fortnightly. Efforts continue to improve and widen the membership. The Group is developing thematic sub-groups. These will address the specific issues identified through the community engagement undertaken in Sept.</p> <p>There are tentative plans for a community outreach meeting to be held at the Dawson Centre early in the new year. This will, of course, be subject to COVID-19 restrictions. A Community Action Plan (CAP) is planned to be published in August 2022.</p> <p><b>Denny Dunipace and Dennyloanhead</b> – a working group was reconvened at the end of November, with the intention of refreshing the draft CAP from 2019. This was a positive, well-attended meeting with broad community representation. The intention is to publish a CAP for the area by March 2022.</p> <p><b>Grangemouth</b> – the Grangemouth Stakeholder Group will be reconvened on 14 Dec – for the first time since Jan 2020. The draft CAP is only one small part in a very complex, multi-faceted landscape in Grangemouth. Grangemouth still presents serious challenges in terms of consultation fatigue. The intention is to publish a new CAP by end of February 2022. This is extremely tight, but with effort focused on actions (as opposed to yet more consultation) we feel this is deliverable.</p> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p><b>KL</b> – pleased that we seem to have a grip on this in a way that hasn't been seen before. Acknowledgement of the complexity of the situation in Grangemouth. Practical steps are important. The publication of these three CAPs in 2022 will be an important milestone, and are crucial in demonstrating our commitment to working with, and for, local communities.</p> <p><b>Chair</b> – Good to see that risk has been explicitly mentioned – especially the risk to reputational damage if the CPP doesn't use this work to build upon the momentum that's being developed here.</p>	
<p><b>7. AOB Improvement Plan</b></p>	<p><b>JK</b> – The Board discussed considered an improvement plan back in 2019, when a table was circulated to Board members. Numerous actions were identified, and a number have been addressed since then. However, since 2019, there has been a Board restructure and several new Board members have joined.</p> <p>The Board will be asked to consider an Improvement Plan paper at its upcoming February meeting. This is to consider whether we are fully meeting our statutory obligations under the Community Empowerment Act, and where this can be improved. Clarification sought: would the Board prefer to:</p>	

**Agenda Item 2**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• continue with the themes and issues identified as part of the 2019 self evaluation?</li></ul> <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• start again from scratch with a new 'ground up' self evaluation?</li></ul> <p>The Board agreed to continue with the themes and issues raised in the 2019 evaluation. This would allow for the momentum that has taken place since 2019 to continue.</p>	
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