

REPORT TO KINCARDINE AND MEARN'S AREA COMMITTEE AREA COMMITTEE – 20 NOVEMBER 2018

KINCARDINE AND MEARN'S COMMUNITY PLANNING UPDATE

1 Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to –

- 1.1 Note and comment on progress of actions within the Kincardine and Mearns Community Plan 2016 – 2018.**
- 1.2 Note and comment on the engagement programme for the next iteration of the Kincardine and Mearns Community Plan 2019 – 2021.**

2. Background/Discussion

- 2.1 This is the third monitoring exercise for the 2016-2018 Community Plan.
- 2.2 The Kincardine and Mearns Community plan 2016 – 2018 identified priorities are;
 - Strong Communities
 - Wellbeing
 - Connecting People
- 2.3 **Welfare and Wellbeing Network**
Focus in this period has centred on the merger of the Kincardine and Mearns Welfare Solutions Group and The Wellbeing Network which addresses actions in each priority area in the 2016 – 2018 Community Plan. Following a period of consultation with partners, both statutory and third sector, the decision was taken that the area would be served most effectively if these two groups were to merge. Work streams and actions were increasingly overlapped leading to significant duplication of effort with no additional outcomes. A strategic plan overview was undertaken to ensure all relevant plans were being considered, and the right people had the opportunity to attend, and new terms of reference drawn up and are included as Appendix 1 to this report.

The Kincardine and Mearns Welfare and Wellbeing Network meets four times annually. The structure of the merged Welfare Solutions Group and Wellbeing Network will allow all topics currently being discussed by both groups to continue. It will be up to the group which actions they may wish to take forward and focus on through the establishment of three sub-groups. It is intended the sub-groups will be fluid in their membership dependent on the actions being progressed. The sub-groups are reflective of the areas being focused on at present and are also reflective of the Aberdeenshire Council Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP), the Health and Social Care Partnership Locality Plan and Kincardine and Mearns Local Community Plan.

The Steering Group will be responsible for ensuring the right people have a place in the group, and to have an overview of the actions being progressed to ensure there is no duplication of effort.

The current sub-groups are;

- Tackling Poverty - identified fuel poverty as a major issue within Kincardine & Mearns. Looking at how those in poverty are being affected, fuel poverty, period poverty, food poverty, and the issue of child poverty which links with Aberdeenshire Council Local Outcome Improvement Plan on child poverty
- Connecting Communities - there are two main strands to the Connecting Communities sub-group, these had been partly identified through the 'Living with Hope' project and existing professional knowledge. Professional communities where good networking produces better outcomes, reduces duplication, shared knowledge and address/ meet organisational priorities within K&M.
Strong and integrated communities where people feel empowered to make change, have a sense of belonging and have access to a network of support that reduces isolation.
- Mental Wellbeing – Issues identified for initial focus are how do we effectively promote community-based support to people who are lonely and/or isolated? How can we support referral pathways from acute to community-based services, with a right person (service), right time focus which supports person-centred outcomes?

Actions are being developed by each sub-group, outcomes on these will be reported on in the Kincardine and Mearns Welfare and Wellbeing network e-bulletin. The e-bulletin is shared with the Network, Elected Members, Local Community Planning Group and other relevant partners.

2.4 Johnshaven Vision

Work continues with the community of Johnshaven to address concerns initially raised by the Primary School Head Teacher with Community Planning. Following a multi-agency/partner meeting a number of actions have been undertaken and good outcomes developed. A community café has been established with input from Outside the Box, a charity providing development support to groups and people across Scotland who want to make a difference in their communities. Supported by Community Planning and Community Learning and Development, a community member has now take the lead on this. Numbers are low at present so ways to address this are being looked at. Early Years have been working with the school on a family nurture approach through book bug, messy play and healthy eating sessions, and hope to link in with the community café this term. Kincardineshire Development Partnership are working with the community to develop a Community Action Plan, liaising on this with the Alcohol and Drug Partnership. Further to this a cycle club has been established which will work with the primary school on Bikeability and develop family biking sessions. The Young at Heart group continues to be well attended.

2.5 Paths

The development of fit for purpose paths, both walking and cycling, in Kincardine and Mearns is an important ongoing work stream. We are working with a number of communities to establish a vision for sustainable paths in their communities. This,

unfortunately, is not a project which has easily achieved/achievable outcomes due to the complexity of the issues involved around land ownership, cohesive community vision, sustainability and funding. We are working with communities in the South Mearns Coastal strip to determine a vision for the coastal path which must be clear before the major funding required can be sought. Getting all partners in this work around the table is an important action in the next tranche of work. Community motivation is high, and this remit fits in well with the wider tourism opportunities for Kincardine and Mearns. Work will continue, and tangible, achievable outcomes are being actively sought.

2.6 Dialogue and Deliberation

“How can we create spaces where passionate engagement can be put to productive ends? How can we use tensions, conflicts and difference as catalyst for collective inquiry and action?”

-- Oliver Escobar

Since 2015 What Works Scotland have been working with four Community Planning Partnerships in Scotland: developing collaborative action research projects; organising research seminars and events; and building capacity in collaboration and evidence use. The types of skills required in this new era of collaboration are often overlooked or taken for granted – in particular, the value of high quality dialogue, focussed deliberation, communication, and strategic thinking about process design.

Community Planning in Kincardine and Mearns has been part of this ongoing process, informing colleagues in Aberdeenshire. The broad aim of this training is to make a sustainable contribution to capacity building in dialogue and deliberation training, more simply to take time out to think about and understand how we train others. We will:

- Confirm what we already know/do;
- Learn new practises;
- Gain ideas;
- Start to develop peer support in the local area; and
- Improve consistency of engagement across Aberdeenshire

In August 2018 a final peer session was held in Aberdeen. Following this we have been looking at ways to continue to develop this work and ensure those who have attended training sessions feel confident and supported in further cascading this process and using the method in their everyday engagement. In liaison with Corporate Community Planning and the ALDO (online training platform) team, we are developing a virtual Dialogue and Deliberation toolkit and an ALDO training package. This will allow those using Dialogue and Deliberation access to all developed material, both by ourselves, Glasgow University and What Works Scotland.

2.7 Portlethen Settlement Plan

Following completion of the Place Standard and a period of engagement with statutory partners, third sector, businesses and the community, a Place Settlement Plan has been developed for Portlethen. The Area Committee agreed to allocate £20,000 of the Area Committee Budget to projects that had been assembled in the Settlement Plan from the Portlethen Place Standard engagement. This would be run by means of a Participatory Budgeting exercise. Criteria was drawn up following meetings between Portlethen and District Community and Community Planning. The

Participatory budgeting exercise was held at Portlethen Gala in August, with 5 projects successful in their bid for funding:

- Portlethen & District Voluntary Ambulance Association - £3,000 (Transportation);
- Hillside School P7 - £118 (Community Café);
- Dementia Friendly Portlethen - £1,500 (Musical Memories Project);
- Portlethen Primary, Parent Participation - £8,000 (Playground Improvement Project); and
- Portlethen Men's Shed - £7,382 (Sensory Garden).

Portlethen and District Community Council, with support from Community Planning will seek monitoring reports on all projects funded for feedback to Area Committee.

2.8 Connecting People

Many of the work streams currently being undertaken by Community Planning are in partnership with other organisations. A strength of the current Plan has been building relationships with partners, supporting the work they do, gaining invaluable insight from them into our priorities, likewise into their own and avoiding duplication of efforts. Partnership working can be seen in work with: the Local Learning Partnerships; Kincardine Development Partnership; Health and Social Care Partnership, in the development of the Locality Plan; Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action; and the many other partners we work with on a daily basis. A desire for the next iteration of the Kincardine and Mearns Community Plan would be to ensure these relationships continue and develop further into more supported outcomes benefitting the communities of Kincardine and Mearns.

2.9 Engagement for the next iteration of the Kincardine and Mearns Community Plan 2019 – 2021 has been taking place over Summer/Autumn 2018. Working with the library service we have spent time in Stonehaven, Inverbervie, Portlethen and Laurencekirk libraries engaging with their users. Additionally, to reach users who are more isolated time was spent in the mobile library speaking to those who are isolated and unable to be involved in our engagement previously.

In addition to this engagement, sessions have been held with the Older Peoples Forum, Mearns Allsorts and Mother and Toddler Groups. A session will be held with the Community Council Forum in November, and it is planned to engage with the Youth Forum.

Following review of strategic data available, emerging themes will be identified and reviewed. Emerging themes will be presented at a joint meeting spring 2019 for discussion and development.

2.10 The Head of Finance and the Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report. Their comments are incorporated within the report and they are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

3 Scheme of Governance

3.1 The Committee is able to consider this report in terms of Section B4.4.1 of the Part 2 A of the List of Committee Powers in the Scheme of Governance as it relates to the Local community Plan for Kincardine and Mearns.

4 Equalities, Staffing and Financial Implications

- 4.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because the purpose of the report is to inform the Committee on current progress and does not have a differential impact on any of the protected characteristics. An equality impact assessment was carried out upon approval of the plan.
- 4.2 There are no specific staffing implications arising from this report.
- 4.3 No risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a corporate or strategic level in terms of the Aberdeenshire Council Risks Register.
- 4.4 The content of this report has been considered against the Town Centre First Principle and would have no impact upon the town centres listed, therefore a Town Centre First Impact Assessment is not required.

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KINCARDINE AND MEARN'S WELFARE & WELLBEING NETWORK

Terms of reference

Updated: 3 May 2018

Introduction

- Kincardine and Mearns Welfare & Wellbeing Network (KMWWN) aims to improve the health, wellbeing and welfare of the people of Kincardine and Mearns, in cooperation with community groups, third sector, public sector and local businesses.
- The group is a hub for information sharing and networking amongst members.

Membership

- Membership to Kincardine and Mearns Community Wellbeing Network is open to representatives of groups whose aim is to improve the health, wellbeing and welfare of the Kincardine and Mearns population.
- All members of the group will be 16 years and over.
- The network will proactively support recruitment of new members to the KMWWN.

Purpose

The purpose of KMWWN will be to:

- Commit themselves to working with the public, private and third sector to improve the health, wellbeing and welfare of people/communities in the K&M area.
- Ensure that all relevant stakeholders and communities are enabled to have a voice, including those that are vulnerable or hard to reach, on issues affecting the health, wellbeing and welfare of those living in Kincardine & Mearns.
- Seek to influence decisions, strategic or otherwise, on issues affecting the health, wellbeing and welfare of those living in Kincardine & Mearns.
- Share knowledge, best practice, information and resources amongst members, teams and wider networks.
- Ensure a model of best practice is considered in all decisions being made by or to the KMWWN.
- Plan, develop and align actions in the K&M area and support each other in

implementation.

- Work with member groups to seek funding for agreed activities/projects in partnership as identified by the network.
- Safeguard solicited funds by being transparent, namely by working with member groups to report progress and outcomes to the funding bodies.

Conduct and Values

- All members must act in the interest of their community.
- Ensure that a range of voices and views from local organisations and services are taken into account when making decisions.
- Members should work in a non-discriminatory way, making decisions that represent and affect all sections of the community.
- Mutual respect, trust and professionalism is essential to maintain continuity of the network.
- Members are accountable to their respective organisation/group and membership.

Main contact

Kincardine and Mearns Community Planning will be the main contact for the KMWWN.

Meetings

There will be four calendar meetings per year.

Review

The Terms of Reference is to be reviewed annually by the network steering group.