



## Fermanagh and Omagh Community Planning Partnership

### Strategic Partnership Board

**Title:** Fermanagh & Omagh Community Planning Strategic Partnership Board  
**Location:** Exhibition Room, Waterways Ireland, Enniskillen  
**Date:** Thursday, 27 June 2019  
**Time:** 1.30pm

**Present:**

**Chairperson:** Cllr Anne Marie Fitzgerald

Councillors: Bert Wilson, Catherine Kelly, Emmet McAleer, Errol Thompson, John Coyle, John McCluskey, Thomas O'Reilly

Alison Chambers, Dept of Education  
 Allison Forbes, SWAP / CVS Representative  
 Barry Boyle, CVS Representative  
 Clive Beatty, PSNI  
 Ethna McNamee, Invest NI  
 Gerard Treacy, DAERA  
 Helen Osborn, Libraries NI  
 Hugh McKenna, Department for Infrastructure  
 John News, Sport NI  
 Kieran Downey, WHSCT  
 Martin Graham, Tourism NI  
 Michael Burns, EA  
 Mona Conway, NIHE  
 Nichola Creagh, Department for Communities  
 Podge McKeon, NIFRS

**In Attendance:**

**Fermanagh & Omagh District Council:**

Alan Mitchell, Data Scientist  
 Alison McCullagh, Director of Regeneration & Planning  
 Kim McLaughlin, Head of Community Planning & Performance  
 Kim Weir, Community Planning Officer  
 Oonagh Donnelly, Community Planning Officer;  
 Valene McCaughey, Admin Assistant

Andrew Kerr, Pharmacy Needs Assessment Project  
 Anne Donaghey, Pathfinder Project, WHSCT

**Apologies:**

Ailbhe Hickey, NIHE  
 Cllr Diana Armstrong  
 Brendan Hegarty, Chief Executive, FODC

Celine McCartan, Director of Finance & Governance, FODC  
 Ed McClean, Public Health Agency  
 Fergal Leonard, NIFRS  
 Kevin O’Gara, Director of Environment, FODC  
 Mairead Harvey, CCMS  
 Patricia Cooney, Education Authority  
 Paul Cavanagh, HSCB  
 Robert Gibson, Director of Community, Health & Leisure, FODC  
 Rosemary McHugh, Tourism NI  
 Teresa Molloy, WHSCT  
 Tom Reid, Department for Infrastructure

## **1. Welcome and apologies**

The Head of Community Planning and Performance (HCPP) welcomed all to the meeting and apologies were noted. Members were advised that, since the last SPB meeting, a local government election had taken place and that the newly elected Fermanagh and Omagh District Council had appointed 9 elected members to the SPB for the term to May 2023. The newly appointed elected members were introduced.

## **2. Appointment of Chair**

The HCPP advised that, in line with the governance framework for community planning in Fermanagh and Omagh, the Chair of the SPB is required to be an elected member and she reported that the Council had appointed Councillor Anne Marie Fitzgerald as SPB Chair for the incoming year. It was reported that a Chair will be appointed annually.

### **NOTED.**

Cllr Anne Marie Fitzgerald took the Chair at this point and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **3. Appointment of Vice-Chair**

It was noted that the governance framework identified that a Vice-Chair would be appointed from the SPB partner organisations. The Chair invited nominations for the position of Vice-Chair at this point.

**PROPOSED:** by Barry Boyle that Allison Forbes be appointed as Vice-Chair. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Wilson.

**AGREED:** that Allison Forbes be appointed as Vice-Chair for the remainder of the term.

*Nichola Creagh joined the meeting at this point.*

## **4. To consider and agree minutes of previous meeting held on Friday 22 February 2019 (Paper A)**

**PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED:** the above minutes.

**NOTED:** an incorrect date on page 3, item 3.4 with the year referring to 2019 as opposed to 2018.

**AGREED: on the proposal of Cllr Thompson, seconded by Ms McNamee, that the minutes of the previous meeting are approved as an accurate record of proceedings, subject to the foregoing amendment.**

## **5. Matters Arising**

### **5.1 University of Ulster Community Fellows Project – Page 4, item 3.11**

The HCPP reported that the University had appointed Mr Alan Strong as the Community Fellow for Fermanagh and Omagh. She advised that Mr Strong attended the Action Leads' Forum meeting held on 16 May 2019 and outlined his role which included building stronger links between the community and the University.

**NOTED.**

*Cllr Coyle joined the meeting at this point.*

### **5.2 Community Planning Governance Framework and Guidance – Page 5, item 4**

The HCPP advised that, following the last meeting, the framework was issued to all SPB partners for endorsement. It was noted that some had responded to confirm endorsement by their organisations but that a number of confirmations remained outstanding.

**AGREED: that all partners confirm receipt and endorsement of the framework and guidance.**

### **5.3 Children's Services Co-operation Act – Page 8, item 10**

**AGREED: that a presentation on the above from the Department of Education is deferred to the November SPB meeting.**

### **5.4 Department of Education – Area Planning Local Groups – Page 9, item 12.1**

It was noted that, at the February meeting, it had been agreed the EA would provide an update on progress in relation to development proposals for Action 4.4 'Facilitate community involvement in area planning for schools to ensure we have the right number of schools in the district and that they are of the right size, type and in the right place, to ensure pupils receive the best education possible' at the June SPB meeting.

The EA representative advised that this action would be taken forward by the Area Planning team and, at this point, he had no further update to report.

The HCPP advised that community planning officers had met recently with representatives of the Area Planning Team and that an appointment of a local officer who would also lead on Action 4.4 would be taken up in July 2019.

**AGREED: that an update on progress towards action 4.4 is presented to the November meeting of the SPB.**

*Martin Graham joined the meeting at this point.*

## **6. To receive presentation from Kieran Downey, WHSCT re Pathfinder Project**

The Chair welcomed Kieran Downey and Anne Donaghey, WHSCT, to the meeting in order to provide an update on the Trust's Pathfinder Project.

A detailed presentation was delivered by Mr Downey outlining the background and context to the project in terms of the pressures experienced on delivery of services in the Fermanagh and West Tyrone area. An overview of the detailed consultation exercise undertaken was provided alongside the findings from the population health needs analysis which had been undertaken. The issues around geography, demography, workforce and recruitment issues were highlighted together with factors such as high levels of isolation and loneliness which contribute to ill health. Particular reference was made to the challenges around adult social care in the context of a growing elderly population and staff recruitment issues, including domiciliary carers and the retraction of GP services.

The governance structures for Pathfinder were outlined alongside the workstreams which would be taken forward which included (i) building capacity in communities and prevention; (ii) organising ourselves to deliver; (iii) reforming hospital and community; and (iv) enhancing support in primary care. Regarding next steps, reference was made to the need to develop a 'connected communities' approach bringing together a partnership approach to embedding wellbeing in the area. Three pilot areas were referenced in the Lisnaskea, Belleek and Gortin areas where significant concerns about sustainability of services had been identified and it was noted that a collaborative approach to developing new models of delivery would be taken forward in these areas.

In conclusion, Mr Downey spoke of the commitment and dedication of staff within the Trust area and of the need to recognise and value the work of all health care staff and to change public perception of careers in health and social care generally as well as of career opportunities in the Pathfinder area. A 'Western Trust Heroes' and 'Future Heroes' campaign was identified alongside the need to engage with children and young people at a much younger age to encourage them to consider local careers in health and social care.

Discussion took place around a range of issues including lengthy waiting lists for surgery and accessibility of services. Mr Downey advised that the need to relieve pressure on key points within the system to reduce waiting lists was widely recognised across the service and that it was hoped that Pathfinder could identify some local solutions. Regarding the closure of GP surgeries, it was noted that the recruitment of GPs was not directly a Trust responsibility. Mr Downey advised, however, that this was a key concern and there would be a need to find innovative solutions to meet the challenges presented. It was clear, he added, that the new generation of GPs would no longer work in the same way as previous generations of GPs and that there was a need for more flexible work practices. The need for Social Care workers to be more valued for the work that they do was highlighted by members and it was suggested that the Trust should consider more direct employment. Mr Downey spoke of the three identified pilot areas and the need to identify and trial new approaches in these areas and of the need for wider schools' engagement. The emerging work on trauma informed communities was highlighted by a member as an area of good practice and it was recognised that this could help to establish a more preventative and early intervention approach to embedding wellbeing.

*John News joined the meeting during the above discussion.*

Mr Downey advised that hard copies of the report would be issued to the members as soon as they are available. He noted that an online version has been made available on the Trust's website.

The Chair and members expressed thanks to Mr Downey at this point and wished him well in his retirement.

*Anne Donaghey left the meeting at this point.*

## **7. To receive presentation from HSCB re Pharmacy Needs Assessment Project**

PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED: Correspondence dated 15 May 2019 from Pharmacy Needs Assessment Project

Mr Andrew Kerr, HSCB provided a detailed overview of the project to conduct a needs assessment of community pharmacy services as they are currently provided across Northern Ireland in the context of current and projected demographics, geography and health of populations. At the outset Mr Kerr highlighted that the review was not aimed at cutting services but ensuring that these are provided in the right places to meet identified needs and he spoke of the recognition of the differences in rural and urban needs. An overview of the background, stages of the project and work to date was provided alongside the identification of key considerations, including need, geography and existing service provision. Reference was made to a public survey undertaken as part of data scoping and to the survey findings developed from over 2,000 responses. Next steps were outlined which included meeting with Council/Community Planning stakeholders, patient focus groups and conducting a pharmacy provider survey. Detailed work would then be taken forward based on all of the information provided to model the population needs, he advised.

Discussion took place during which the need for assurance that the survey responses were representative of the wider population was highlighted and Mr Kerr noted that analysis seemed to indicate that it was broadly representative but that any gaps would be addressed through focus groups. The important contribution which community pharmacies could make in health promotion and preventative approaches was discussed and it was felt that some incentives were needed to support community pharmacies in this work as many had begun to focus on more commercial approaches to ensure sustainability. In addition, members emphasised the role of community pharmacies in supporting GP practices and, indeed, in supporting communities where GP services had been reduced and it was noted by Mr Downey that these conversations were already happening in the WHSCT area. It was also felt that it would be important to gather data outlining the extent to which community pharmacies met needs around treating minor ailments. Members emphasised the needs of rural dwellers and also spoke of issues around transport affecting rural communities in terms of access to services.

The Chair thanked Mr Kerr for the presentation.

**AGREED: that the comments, as outlined above, are submitted to HSCB for consideration in respect of the Pharmacy Needs Assessment Project.**

*Mr Kerr left the meeting at this point.*

## **8. To consider update report on progress of community planning actions**

PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED: Paper B.

The HCPP outlined Paper B which provided an update on the progress of community planning actions. It was noted that one action (4.4 re community involvement in area planning for schools) had been identified as having a 'red' status, ie, significant issues had arisen which had stopped or significantly impacted progress. A presentation was provided which also outlined progress of actions broken down across individual outcomes.

Discussion took place on the eight actions which had been allocated an amber status, ie, some emerging issues which are affecting progress:

- (i) 1.1.1 Increase uptake of arts and culture activity programme – action progressing well but agreement needed on performance measures and data collection (FODC lead)
- (ii) 1.5 Health literacy action plan – Delivery Partnership established across 3 districts in WHSCT area; baseline data to be developed (WHSCT lead)
- (iii) 3.4 Domestic violence and sexual abuse – Performance report card, including proposed approaches, developed but to be agreed by Western Domestic and Sexual Violence Partnership (WDSVP lead)
- (iv) 3.7 Alleviating the effects of poverty – research undertaken and need identified; working with DfC to identify potential funding for projects; funding deficit to be addressed (FODC lead)
- (v) 5.3 Brexit preparedness/planning for businesses – information at central level remains unclear (Invest NI lead)
- (vi) 7.4 Built heritage – significant research undertaken including survey with children and young people but final agreement on approaches and performance measures needed
- (vii) 8.1 Sustainability and vitality of towns and villages – a further workshop is required with partners to focus approaches (FODC lead)
- (viii) 8.4 Sperrins AONB and global Geopark – involves other council areas and a further workshop is needed to focus approaches and performance measures (FODC lead).

Partners thanked officers for their hard work and support for Action Leads in taking actions forward and complimented the Performance Report Card approach. The DfC representative noted that this approach put the Partnership in a strong position in terms of developing its public Performance Statement by November 2019.

**AGREED: on the proposal of Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Kelly that the report, exception report and performance report cards are noted, and the direction and approach set out in the cards in terms of progressing the agreed actions is endorsed.**

## **9. To consider report on approach to review the Community Plan and update on findings of recent engagement exercise**

PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED: Paper C.

The HCPP outlined paper C, the purpose of which was to update the SPB on progression of the decision taken by the Board at its February 2019 meeting to conduct a review of the Community Plan. This was alongside an update on a community engagement exercise aimed at ensuring that the community planning outcomes remained a priority for citizens and identifying any new/emerging priorities which may have arisen. It was noted that there had been 633 responses,

including 158 from children and young people and that the engagement had identified the outcomes ranked in the following priority order:

Priority	Outcome
1	Outcome 1: Physical and mental health and wellbeing
2	Outcome 6: Connectivity – roads, broadband, mobile provision
3	Outcome 3: Communities are safe, inclusive, resilient and empowered
4	Outcome 5: Local economic growth, including tourism
5	Outcome 4: Provision and services for children and young people and lifelong learning opportunities
6	Outcome 7: Natural environment and built and cultural heritage
7	Outcome 2: Provision and services for older people
8	Outcome 8: Attractive and accessible towns, villages, places.

It was noted that, while the environmental outcomes had been ranked 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> overall, two specific actions had been highlighted as of significant priority, ie, 8.1 'Improve the sustainability and vitality of the towns and villages in the Fermanagh and Omagh district' and 7.1 'Promote a circular economy ethos'. In terms of potential gaps, it was noted that issues around affordable housing and childcare had been raised and that some current actions had not been specifically identified as a priority.

Discussion took place during which reference was made to the priority given to health and wellbeing, including mental health, which correlated with the Pathfinder project. Members welcomed the references made to housing and childcare which they felt needed to be considered as potential action areas. In response to a query regarding next steps, it was noted that this feedback needed to be taken into consideration alongside existing and new data which would be reviewed prior to production of a Performance Statement. It was further noted that issues such as domestic violence and sexual abuse may not have been raised during community engagement, however, data confirmed the need for ongoing action to address these. In response to a query regarding ongoing community engagement, it was noted that this exercise had been publicly advertised and open to all and would be further informed by a stakeholder event to be held in October which would involve community/voluntary sector representatives. It was noted that this built on a number of previous significant community engagement exercises undertaken throughout the community planning process to date.

With reference to the ongoing high level of priority given to broadband provision by citizens, it was felt that further engagement was required with the Department for the Economy to consider the way forward and the Department's involvement in community planning.

**AGREED: on the proposal of Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Kelly that the Department for the Economy is invited to attend the November meeting of the Strategic Partnership Board to discuss proposals for improved broadband provision in the area and the Department's role in community planning.**

**AGREED: on the proposal of Cllr Thompson, seconded by Barry Boyle, that:**

- (1) The Community Planning Team develops, with partners, an updated data profile for the district over the coming months to inform the Performance Statement which is to be published before the end of November 2019;**

- (2) A wider stakeholder engagement event is held in October 2019 to review the updated evidence base alongside the '2019 Community Conversation' findings and to inform the review of the Community Plan;**
- (3) A report is compiled for consideration by the Strategic Partnership Board at its November 2019 meeting outlining recommendations on future priorities and identifying whether there is a case for the publication of an update of the Community Plan/Action Plan;**
- (4) This process should also take account of any emerging recommendations from the DfC review of the community planning process;**
- (5) Qualitative data is shared with Action Leads at this point in order to support them in their ongoing efforts to progress actions**
- (6) The actions which have been identified as a high priority for citizens of Fermanagh and Omagh are given additional focus by all partners over the coming months.**

#### **10. To consider report in relation to the role of GIS in community planning**

PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED: Paper D.

An overview of Paper D was provided by the Data Scientist in relation to the use of GIS for a number of community planning actions and also in terms of a potential asset mapping project across community planning partners in Fermanagh and Omagh.

The NIHE representative noted that this work had proven to be beneficial in the Newry, Mourne and Down area where it had helped to identify sites for social housing and she welcomed the approach.

**AGREED: on the proposal of Helen Osborn, seconded by Cllr Thompson that the partnership:**

- i) undertake a scoping study to identify GIS capability across partnership organisations;**
- ii) progress GIS related 'best ideas' where possible;**
- iii) support Community Planning Officers with the identification of relevant people to speak to; and**
- iv) develop a proposal for undertaking an asset mapping project for presentation at the next SPB meeting in November.**

#### **11. To receive update on activities progressed in relation to the Partnership Communications Plan and Consultation and Engagement Protocol**

PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED: Paper E.



The Community Planning Officer (OD) provided an overview of Paper E with specific reference to progress of the actions outlined in the Communications Plan. In terms of ongoing progress, members were asked to ensure that updated details of communication officer contacts for each organisation has been provided to the community planning team.

**AGREED: on the proposal of Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr O'Reilly, that the update report is noted.**

Nichola Creagh noted that at a recent event held by the Carnegie Trust in Lisburn, the importance of cohesive communications was highlighted. She said the Department for Communities will be writing to all community planning partners at Chief Executive level to emphasise this issue.

**NOTED.**

*Ethna McNamee left the meeting at this point.*

## **12. To consider report on development of a Partnership Capacity Building Plan**

PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED: Paper F.

The Community Planning Officer (KW) provided an overview of Paper F and thanked all those who had responded for their contribution to the Capacity Building survey which had sought to establish the views of partners on the effectiveness of partnership working and collaboration in community planning to date. It was noted that the survey had been informed by the NI Audit Office guidance document on 'Making Partnerships Work' and by the Improvement Service (Scotland) publication 'The Community Planning Partnership Checklist'. The findings arising from the survey which indicated high levels of support around outcomes, actions and indicators, use of the OBA approach, effective governance, performance management and community involvement approaches were noted alongside some challenges around sharing of resources, alignment of reporting cycles and attendance of senior representatives from partners.

With regard to sharing of resources, discussion took place on a potential pilot project to test an approach to identification, sharing of resources and associated accountability arrangements. It was suggested that Action 3.7 in relation to initiatives to alleviate the effects of poverty and disadvantage would be selected as a potentially suitable action given that this was being delayed due to lack of identified resources. Partners were asked to nominate a representative to a Working Group to progress the pilot project.

**AGREED: on the proposal of Cllr Wilson, seconded by Cllr Thompson, that:**

- (i) The Strategic Partnership Board (SPB) agrees the recommendations from the Survey Report and that a meeting of the Community Planning Partnership's Policy and Performance Support Forum is convened in July to commence preparation of a work plan, through the development of a series of performance report cards, with an update report to the next meeting of the SBP in November.**
- (ii) Action 3.7 relating to poverty is identified as a pilot project and relevant partners are asked to nominate a representative to a working group to demonstrate how resource identification and sharing costs can be realised.**

**13. To review the Partnership Risk Register**

PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED: Paper G.

The HCPP appraised members of the updated Partnership Risk Register including a newly identified risk and pre and post control risk ratings.

**AGREED: on the proposal of Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Kelly, that the updated Partnership Risk register is agreed by the Strategic Partnership Board.**

**14. Brexit Considerations**

The Council's Director of Regeneration and Planning provided an update in respect of the Council's approach to Brexit preparedness highlighting that the risk of a no deal scenario appeared to be increasing. She advised of ongoing liaison with Environmental Health and DAERA in terms of food certification issues. No other comments were raised by members.

**NOTED.**

**15. Date of next meeting**

**Friday 22 November 2019 at 11am in Invest NI Offices, Omagh**

*Meeting closed at 4.30pm*

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cllr A Fitzgerald**

**Chairperson**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_