



Working together to make a real difference

Title of meeting: Strategic Planning Group		Date: 25.10.22
		Time: 14:00-16:00
		Location: Microsoft Teams
Chair:	Stephen Brown	
Action Log Recorder:	Debbie Hallworth	
Member	Attended	Apologies / No Apologies (NA)
Janice Annal	✓	
Lynda Bradford		NA
Morven Brooks	✓	
Graeme Clark		NA
Angela Colborn-Veitch		✓
Kirsty Cole	✓	
Callan Curtis	✓	
Susan Dutton		NA
Maureen Firth	✓	
Andrew Fuller	✓	
Morven Gemmill		NA
Martha Gill	✓	
David Hall	✓	
Sharon Hammell		NA
Jacqui Hirst	✓	
Rachael King		✓
Wendy Lycett	✓	
Jim Love		✓
Jim Lyon		NA
Michelle Mackie	✓	
Dawn Moody		✓
Danny Oliver	✓	



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Valerie Stonehouse		NA
Maureen Swannie		✓
Andrew Trevett		✓
Frances Troup		NA
Louise Wilson		✓
Jay Wragg	✓	
Diane Young		NA
In attendance/By invitation		
Shaun Hourston-Wells, Project Manager - Orkney Health & Social Care Partnership	✓	

	Agenda Item:	Issues Raised:	Action Agreed:	By Whom and When
1.	Welcome & Apologies	Apologies were noted and Morven Brooks, new Chief Executive at Voluntary Action Orkney (VAO) was welcomed to the Group, replacing Gail Anderson.		
2.	Minutes of the meeting – 31.08.22	<p>Feedback following Edinburgh event in October and Orkney Matters work – item 5 on today’s agenda.</p> <p>Strategic Plan Action Plan draft to be circulated for feedback – action complete.</p> <p>Palliative Care Services in Orkney / Marie Curie – it was noted this was scheduled to be an agenda item for today’s meeting but Lynda Bradford and Angela Colborn-Veitch were not in attendance. It was agreed that a briefing note would be provided.</p> <p>National Care Service – share programme of co-design when</p>	<p>Briefing note to be circulated to the SPG.</p> <p>Share programme of co-</p>	<p>L Bradford / A Colborn-Veitch</p> <p>M Swannie</p>



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		<p>published.</p> <p>Mental Health & Wellbeing – forward mental health response unit model for review – action complete.</p> <p>Mental Health & Wellbeing – Communities Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund launch – this is now open and closes 13.01.23, further details to be provided by Morven Brooks.</p> <p>Mental Health & Wellbeing – investigate training opportunities and post in the Microsoft Teams’ chat – no update provided as Maureen Swannie unable to attend today’s meeting.</p> <p>Home Carers’ fuel costs – item 3 on today’s agenda.</p> <p>The minutes were approved by the Chair as a true and accurate record and seconded by Callan Curtis.</p>	<p>design when published.</p> <p>SPG to be provided with further details.</p> <p>Investigate training opportunities & post in Microsoft Teams.</p>	<p>M Brooks</p> <p>M Swannie</p>
3.	Cost of Living Crisis	<p>The Group was advised of changes made for care at home staff to claim the first and last five miles when using their own vehicles, following discussion with Orkney Islands Council (OIC). A working group has been established but Unison’s approach to increase the mileage rate has been rejected. It is currently 45p per mile for OIC staff and 63p for first 3,000 miles for NHS staff. The importance of having enough home carers was noted and it was suggested that SPG should be kept updated. It was advised that there are 25% of vacancies</p>		



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		<p>across the care at home service and that the joint staff forum / trade union discussions are the most appropriate place to take this. However, the need to ensure we retain and support staff was noted and something this Group should keep an eye on.</p> <p>The Chair then went on to explain that studies are suggesting food, fuel and energy costs are higher than anywhere else. It is recognised that the United Kingdom has a state pension 28% of the average wage, whilst Italy, for example, is 100%. He spoke of the many challenges faced for those with disabilities in the home, more so than those who work. Families heat or eat phrase being used more than ever before, along with a deliberately complex benefit system and as we move into winter there is a real worry about the impact physically and mentally across our communities and the challenges this will bring for us as service providers.</p> <p>Reference was made to the Cash First approach, the aim of which is to reduce the need for emergency food aid by helping people access any existing financial entitlements and advice on income maximisation as a cash first approach to food insecurity. The Group was advised that funding has been approved to take this forward with third sector organisations. It was agreed that Morven Brooks would circulate the Cash First approach diagram, which captures much of the work put in place to support this. The Group was advised of additional funding given to THAW (Tackling Household Affordable Warmth) for energy vouchers. Also, that part of the referral process can lead people to Scottish Government's (SG) welfare fund and it is proposed that front</p>	<p>Cash First approach diagram to be circulated to the Group.</p>	<p>M Brooks / D Hallworth</p>



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		<p>line practitioners are upskilled to identify where best to direct people.</p> <p>As part of the Cash First approach there will be a Crisis Support Worker, Energy Advice Worker and a Mental Health Support Worker. It was asked whether there will be a welfare advocacy, as the Citizens Advice Bureau is really stretched, and it was advised there is funding to create new roles to support capacity for the likes of THAW.</p> <p>Janice Annal referred to a Cash First report submitted to a recent VAO meeting and agreed to forward it to Morven Brooks to see if it needed updating and then to circulate to SPG.</p> <p>The Chair advised that whilst there is ongoing work around the Cash First proposal and funding agreed, he wanted SPG to be aware that there are a number of elected people on the Council who are looking for ways to assist. A short-term working group has been established, to which Morven Brooks will be invited. He asked if anyone else was interested in joining the group or had any ideas to let him know.</p> <p>Reference was made to warm spaces such as libraries, church halls, community halls, etc, albeit noting the possibility of transport issues in getting people to those warm spaces. It was noted that whilst we will support people in crisis, what we really need to aspire to is for people not to reach a crisis point in the first instance.</p> <p>An account was given of an SPG member trying to assist a relative to access benefits and the really cumbersome process. It was felt that</p>	<p>Cash First report to be reviewed & circulated to SPG.</p> <p>To contact Stephen Brown if interested in joining short-term working group or with any ideas.</p>	<p>J Annal / M Brooks</p> <p>All</p>



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		<p>people were being refused benefits because of the minefield they needed to navigate even though they were entitled to them, therefore cash available to support that process would be good. It was agreed this was a good first-hand experience, that people are entitled to these benefits and that we need to support them to navigate the complex system.</p>		
4.	<p>National Care Service – Update</p>	<p>The Chair advised that the SG still aims to have a National Care Service (NCS) in place by 2026/27 and in order to co-produce it they want to set up groups looking at various aspects of the service. It could present a challenge for Orkney, where it could end up with three Chief Executives, which seems an overkill and not commensurate with the work that needs doing. He agreed to review progress and try to co-ordinate so everyone has an opportunity to engage. He noted his biggest concern was the challenge in mental health and wellbeing, and that we might end up looking at internal structures rather than how we can help the community.</p> <p>In answer to a question as to whether we were expecting a big increase in funding in relation to the NCS, the Chair advised that in an independent review of adult social care and consultation around NCS it was recognised there was underfunding, which needed to be addressed.</p> <p>It was felt it was good for this Group to be aware of progress and whether there was something we could learn from the creation of this joint piece of work. Whilst not sure that it would sit with this Group it</p>		



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		<p>was felt it might be a useful exercise to undertake. In response the Chair advised he attended a recent parliamentary committee session and they were looking at what had worked well in the integration agenda, the challenges and what we need to learn in terms of moving towards a NCS. It was noted that it seemed something was being done on a national level and whether we could look at that and see what would be appropriate for Orkney. The Chair agreed to share the Health and Sport Committee minutes.</p>	<p>Circulate minutes of the Health & Sport Committee.</p>	<p>S Brown</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Strategic Plan 2022-25 - Priority Area Discussion: Community Led Support</p>	<p>The Chair advised that the Strategic Plan Action Plan was nearly finalised and emphasised the importance of involving our communities in the way we design our services. He explained that Shaun Hourston-Wells had been invited to today's meeting in order to provide an update following his attendance at the conference in Edinburgh last week.</p> <p>(Maureen Firth left the meeting).</p> <p>Shaun introduced himself and explained that Community Led Support (CLS) is a programme adopted in 2019 by Orkney Health and Care (OHAC), which looks to identify alternative ways to deliver support through conversations and a strength-based approach, empowering staff to make decisions; and is a strategic priority for the Integration Joint Board (IJB). The gathering in Edinburgh provided an opportunity to network with colleagues across Scotland and discuss plans moving forward in each of the seven CLS sites in Scotland. A consistent theme was found, that of the use of dedicated CLS staff. NHS Shetland is now seeing consistent positive outcomes as they implement their community</p>		



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		<p>hubs and we are looking forward to the shared learning. He thought it would be useful to hear how they established their hubs and have therefore invited them to the next SPG meeting. He noted that the current team delivering CLS in Orkney is small and believed with dedicated resources, success would be commensurate with the level of resource. He saw the Wellbeing Project as a model of how CLS can be delivered across the isles. The Chair advised that CLS will be revisited as we move forward.</p> <p>There followed a discussion around the issue of funding and it was advised that the IJB is looking into various options.</p> <p>It was noted that a lot of people in OHAC struggled to understand CLS and that it will be interesting to know how the outcomes around this will be measured for a better understanding of what it means in practice. In response Shaun advised that CLS had just started to develop momentum before the pandemic and people were beginning to understand what we were trying to achieve. He advised as we roll out CLS we are aware of the need to retrain people to get them involved. It was noted what an incredibly valuable tool CLS was with learning, networking and support.</p> <p>An example was given of a community helping a person with dementia and how community led support can make a difference, sharing the burden of demand within the community. It was agreed that kind of community-based approach needs investing in.</p>		



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		The Chair noted that we need the infrastructure in place to be able to move away from reactive crisis intervention and encourage communities to work with us. The vast majority of communities in Orkney work with each other and we need to ensure all these pieces are in place to work properly. Shaun advised that when first speaking to communities a degree of cynicism was expected around statutory organisations trying to pass responsibility onto each other, however they recognised that we all have a collective responsibility to look after vulnerable people and that is what CLS is all about.		
6.	AOCB	None for discussion.		
7.	Date of next meeting	19.12.22, 11:00-13:00		