

Scottish Border Community Planning Joint Delivery Team

**Wednesday 1st May, 2013
2:00-4:00pm
Committee Room 2**

Present: SBC:
Rob Dickson, Director of Environment & Infrastructure (chair)
Glenn Rodger, Director of Education and Lifelong Learning
Eric Baijal, Joint Director of Public Health
Andrew Lowe, Director of Social Work Services
David Robertson, Chief Financial Officer

Partners: Morag Walker, Executive Officer, The Bridge
Liz McIntyre, Principal, Borders College
David Rennie, Stakeholder and Partnerships, Scottish Enterprise
John Mallin, Group Commander (Borders Area), Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Calum Campbell, Chief Executive, NHS Borders
Helen Forsyth, Chief Executive, Berwickshire Housing Association
Margaret Ross, Chief Executive, Waverly Housing
Nile Istephan, Chief Executive, Eildon Housing Association

In Attendance: SBC: Douglas Scott, Shona Smith, Sarah Glendinning

Apologies: Tracey Logan, Chief Executive, SBC
Jenny Wilkinson, Clerk to the Council, SBC
David Cressey, Head of Strategic Policy, SBC
Julia Mulloy, Chief Executive, SBHA
Andy Clark, Local Police Commander (Scottish Borders), Scottish Police Service

Summary of Discussion

1. Welcome and Apologies

RD welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the apologies (above).

2. Minute of last meeting and matters arising

Approved as a true record of the meeting.

Item 3- SS/SG/DS to develop a common template for theme reporting for next meeting onward

All other items covered on agenda

3. Scottish Borders SOA3

SG covered the presentation that had been delivered at the Strategic Board on 18th April, and highlighted the key areas of consensus that had come from that meeting.



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RD said that the Board had been very specific about tackling deprivation and targeting at its meeting, with feedback from all three groups focusing on this, based on the evidence presented. EB said that nationally, the concept of targeted universalism was gaining traction, and that we are already doing a lot of additional work and spending more money in these areas. However, GR said that we now need to look at what we are

doing and perhaps why it is having such a limited impact. There is a need to rethink our delivery to improve outcomes for people. RD added that we need to take the longer term view and this seemed to be the view of the Strategic board.

DRobertson said the “renewables” priority seemed very different to the others two priorities (Grow Economy and Reduce Inequalities) and felt that we need to have a real “place” focus for the work we do. GR said that we need to look at the things we are doing anyway e.g. within the Early Years Strategy and then how we do things in more specific ways within our most deprived communities in order to make progress. He mentioned an emerging national education focus on the 20% underperforming. HF cautioned against just pouring money into these areas as evidence from across Scotland suggested that we need to create more mixed communities. This related to the point that GR made about looking at what we do differently, not just pouring in more money.

RD said that we need to seize the moment in terms of renewables and benefit from the national interest in low carbon and various funding streams. MR raised concerns around investment opportunities within organisational plans and opportunities we may have missed in the past e.g. in relation to district heating. She also raised concerns about how flexible partner plans can be.

NI said that we need to be careful about the way we express things as you could over-clad people’s houses and reduce their fuel poverty, but they might still be living in income deprivation to the effects of Welfare reform or as costs rise.

GR said that within the Place and Communities theme, there was an Eyemouth pilot ongoing which we don’t want to lose the focus on, as well as looking for other opportunities that perhaps relate to funding (e.g. Kelso). However, it would also be good for the theme to start developing a model around Burnfoot and Langlee. HF asked to be included on the theme

In relation to the preparation of SOA3, there was a discussion on the performance measures presented and concern about small numbers in Borders and CC suggested using Funnel graphs to overcome this. EB asked that he meet with SG to discuss some of the measure proposed.

LMcl raised concerns around low uptake within the renewables market, therefore low demand for training. She also mentioned low aspirations within the business base, with many in related sectors unwilling or uninterested in growing and developing in this field. NI said that there are many compelling reasons for embracing this agenda and many national drivers. DRobertson highlighted the fact that within the public sector, we have a responsibility to spend our resources wisely and to support local opportunities e.g. around ground source heat/3G pitches and to spot opportunities. GR said that unfortunately, local contractors are just not there. LMcl said that it was a pity we no longer had the Borders Construction Industry Forum (BCIF) which had been a good way to engage the sector and try to prepare it for future opportunities.

DR mentioned some work that Alistair McKinnon will be sharing with the Economy and Infrastructure groups about how to coalesce around the low carbon agenda. It is unlikely to be one single project but rather a big jigsaw where we think laterally about opportunities.

RD concluded that what is now needed is discussions at theme level about what had been identified within the Strategic Assessment, a discussion on indicators and then a discussion at the Strategic Board. It was also necessary for partners to look at the priorities and see where they can support and re-align activity and then reflect this back to the Strategic Board

In relation to the preparation of SOA3, SG highlighted the need for a prevention plan for Borders around the 6 Scottish Government policy priorities. There is no national guidance on how this should be done which gives us flexibility. She also highlighted the Scottish Government’s forthcoming Quality Assurance of SOAs and said that our first draft had been a very preliminary draft and that a lot of work was still required based on the priorities set at the Strategic Board. Our Scottish Government Location Direction, Barbara Allison, is

aware of our approach and of the fact that we were undertaking a Strategic Assessment on which to base our priorities.

Partners all agreed that prevention needed to go much wider than the table presented within the presentation and that they would like to contribute what they are doing that would be classed as prevention.

ACTION

- **Themes to now consider the big ideas from the Strategic Board and what needs to happen differently or what projects need to be developed to respond- AL, GR, RD**
- **Partners to now consider the big ideas from the strategic Board and how they might re-align their activity.**
- **DS to invite Helen Forsyth to join Place and Communities theme**
- **SG to circulate a matrix that can help capture prevention activity of partners in order that this be presented within our SOA (attached)**
- **SG to meet with EB to discuss indicators in relation to health inequalities**

4. Community Planning Audit update

SS gave an update on the process to date. Based on the audit recommendations, she is currently putting an improvement plan together under 5 broad headings (see below) and she suggested that we seek an executive sponsor for each theme, from across the CPP. This person would oversee work in relation to the theme and work with SBC's Strategic Policy Unit to develop a robust plan in relation to the audit recommendations. The following was agreed:

- Strategic direction and leadership: Tracey Logan SBC
- Performance Management: Calum Campbell, NHS Borders
- Use of Resources: David Robertson, SBC
- Governance and accountability: Liz McIntyre
- Community Engagement: Morag Walker (Third Sector) and John Mallin (Fire)

Audit Scotland will come to the next meeting of the Strategic Board on the 13th June.

ACTION

- **SS to set up meetings for each theme and to clarify the role of the Executive Sponsor**

5. Early Years collaborative

AL introduced Amanda Cronin, SBC, to the team and she delivered a presentation on the national collaborative approach.



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Amanda raised the issue of engagement with the Voluntary Sector, Police and Fire with the collaborative work.

CC said that NHS Borders are using the Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) Model widely now and have developed an online training module that partners could use.

LMcI asked about the skills development aspect of the collaborative, and HF highlighted the important role of housing officers

ACTION

- **Partners to contact Amanda to engage with the collaborative work**
Amanda.Cronin@scotborders.gov.uk
- **Amanda to follow up contacts and possibility of partners using the NHS e-module**

6. Disabled Go

AL introduced Jane Robertson, SBC, who has the lead for the recently published Joint Disability Strategy. She has been approached by DisabledGo, an organisation that produces online access guides (and have been commissioned by a number of councils in Scotland to produce guides for local areas on accessibility of services, businesses, venues etc) to see if we could be interested in taking a similar approach in Borders. Whilst everyone agreed that it would be a good idea to have this sort of information available from an equalities perspective, there were concerns about it being taken on by a commercial organisation. A number of guides had been produced in the past within the Borders and had been done using various local groups, who had taken responsibility for the information in the guides. It would also be difficult to find additional funding for a project of this nature, especially when we are all bound by duties anyway in this field.

It was suggested that it would be good to see what a guide would look like and how it has benefited and been used by other Councils in Scotland. A town based approach was also suggested as a good way forward, linking the production of guides into the Whole Town Plan work through Place and Communities, building community capacity whilst producing guides at a local level.

ACTION

- **JR to contact another Scottish Council to speak with the Place and Communities theme about the guides**
- **DS to co-ordinate a presentation at Place and Communities**

7. Papers/Items for noting

SBC Corporate Plan- SG spoke to the plan that had been approved at Council on the 25th April. The plan shows clear links through to partnership work. It was agreed that other partners would share their plans with the group

Third Sector Community Planning event- MW said that this has been confirmed for 16th May in the Volunteer Hall and shared a draft programme. GR will open the event and DS, SS and SG will speak about the work of the themes, the Strategic Assessment, the SOA and the role of the voluntary sector across community planning. The aim of the day is to strengthen the Third Sector Forum and ensure good representation across the CPP.

Economic Strategy- RD said that the Economy and Infrastructure had been involved fully with this and that it would be going through Council and the Strategic Board during June. Sam Smith, SBC, is currently undertaking one to ones with partners to ensure and there is now a last call for feed in

ACTION

- **Partners to send corporate plan (or equivalent) or send a web link to their plan to SG for circulation to the Joint Delivery Team.**

8. AOCB

There was no other business

ACTION

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 19th June, 2-4pm, Committee Room 1, SBC.