

Scottish Border Community Planning Joint Delivery Team

Wednesday 4th September, 2013

2:00-4:00pm

Committee Room 1, SBC

Present:

SBC:

Tracey Logan, Chief Executive (chair)
Rob Dickson, Director of Environment & Infrastructure
Glenn Rodger, Director of Education and Lifelong Learning
Eric Bajjal, Joint Director of Public Health
David Cressey, Head of Strategic Policy
David Robertson, Chief Financial Officer, SBC
Elaine Torrance, Joint Programme Director for Health and Social Care Integration

Partners:

David Rennie, Stakeholder and Partnerships, Scottish Enterprise
John Mallin, Group Commander (Borders Area), Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Margaret Ross, Chief Executive, Waverly Housing
Nile Istephan, Chief Executive, Eildon Housing Association
Julia Mulloy, Chief Executive, SBHA
Pete Smith, Director of Finance and Resources, Borders College
Kenny Simpson, Safer Communities Manager (representing Police Scotland)

In Attendance: SBC: Douglas Scott, Shona Smith, Sarah Glendingning (Strategic Policy Unit)

Apologies:

Jenny Wilkinson, Clerk to the Council, SBC
Andrew Lowe, Director of Social Work Services, SBC
Liz McIntyre, Principal, Borders College
Helen Forsyth, Chief Executive, Berwickshire Housing Association
Calum Campbell, Chief Executive, NHS Borders
Andy Clark, Local Police Commander (Scottish Borders), Police Scotland
Morag Walker, Executive Officer, The Bridge

Summary of Discussion

1. Welcome and Apologies

TL 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.

Matters arising (not covered on the agenda):

- Item 2: SG is collecting partners' key plans with a view to linking to them from the Community Planning page on the Scottish Borders Council site, in order that read-through can be seen from SOA priorities to strategic planning.
- Item 5: TL had received very positive feedback on the Ministerial Cabinet summer tour in Hawick. The session with Derek Mackay, Minister for Local Government and Planning yesterday (3rd Sep) had also gone well, with Borders able to showcase both Domestic Abuse Pathway and Welfare Reform work, as well as discussion with partners around our SOA process and next steps.
- Item 6: Some partners still to indicate whether or not they would like to attend the meeting with Police Scotland on 25th September (*note: meeting is now at 2pm*)

ACTION

- **SG to get links set up to partner plans on SBC site**

- **Partners to let SG know if they want to attend the meeting with Police Scotland on 25th September, 2pm**

3. Scottish Borders SOA – next steps

SOA has been formally signed off by the Minister yesterday. However, it does remain a work in progress, as there is work to do on the inequalities indicators and on the prevention plan. NHS Borders will be taking it to their board early next week. In terms of the 3 priorities (Grow the economy, Reduce inequalities, Maximise the impact from the low carbon agenda), there are key strategies developed/being developed for all but Reducing Inequalities. EB outlined a good inter-agency session that had been held last Friday, looking at the work that is going on in both Burnfoot and Langlee and what more needs done to really start to close the gap. He also stressed the need to consider other inequalities that exist in other communities (of place and of interest, young carers etc). TL asked that DC lead a Project Team to develop this strategy, ensuring all necessary linkages with other strategies and action plans. She asked that we pay particular attention to individuals who might “fall through the net” e.g. young people living in families where domestic abuse takes place, leading to worklessness etc. There was concern that, even though we have good service provision in many areas, there are still significant differences in outcomes for people in our most and least deprived areas and there are people who are missed.

EB said that we need to tie the reducing inequalities strategy clearly back to the SOA, be relatively tight in scope, don't duplicate what the Early Intervention and Prevention is doing, and really work to close the gap. DC said that the SOA has to focus our activities. GR mentioned work that was taking place to provide early years centres in Burnfoot and Langlee which would focus activity in these two areas.

SG mentioned our Prevention Plan, which covers all the work that partners are doing in relation to the Scottish Government's 6 Priorities. We took the approach of including everything we are all doing in the plan as a starting point but on further reflection it may be that it doesn't really focus on true prevention and the shifting of resources.

TL asked that we do the work on our Reducing Inequalities strategy first and then come back to this group to develop the Prevention Plan, and that this forms a substantive item on our agenda. NI asked about direction from Scottish Government on Prevention Plans. DS said that he had spoken with Richard Rollison (Scottish Gvt) at the Ministerial visit who had stressed the fact that it is really up to individual CPPs to work out what is best for them.

SG asked that our 3 themes now consider their contribution to the SOA priorities.

ACTION

- **DC to lead on Reducing Inequalities Strategy**
- **Theme leads to ensure that each theme is addressing SOA priorities fully**
- **Future Joint Delivery team agenda to be devoted to Prevention Plan development.**

4. Community Planning Improvement Plan update

DC gave an update on the Improvement plan, under each of the 5 themes

Strategic direction and leadership

The partnership has made considerable progress with the vision set down in April and the jointly agreed SOA submitted in June, signed off by the Scottish Government yesterday. Our SOA has been commended for its clear focus on inequalities, but work needs to be done on rationalising the indicators in relation to inequalities, and on defining the resources that are used collectively in working towards the achievement of outcomes, as well as on our Prevention Plan.

Performance Management

This is the area that we have probably made least progress on over the summer, due partly to annual leave and the work that is still required to be undertaken by the Joint Delivery Team and the Strategic Board regarding the actions, programmes and projects that are required to deliver the 3 key priorities.

Use of Resources

Work has been completed in relation to aligning SBC Capital and Revenue budgets to CPP themes. Once SBC has had time to develop and agree the methodology, this approach needs to be endorsed by the Joint Delivery Team and the CPP Strategic Board and then completed by partners to gain an overview of resources available to the Partnership in order to deliver the agreed priorities. SBC will have a paper to present at the next meeting. TL said that the minister had encouraged us to “ignore the public sector finance rule book” and to be creative in developing new solutions based on a sound understanding of the resources that are available to address particular outcomes for people. She said that we need to stop talking and start doing, and look at the common client base we all have, which should then result in specific actions around a small number of families. NI asked about ROI analysis, methodology for the work (e.g. committee spend in current year) as we need to be clear about this before partners start the exercise and develop a set of principles for moving forward. This will also be vital around the integration of health and social care.

Governance and accountability

The initial mapping exercise to baseline current governance arrangements across the themes has been done. Maps were handed out and DS, SG, and SS spoke to their theme’s map. Themes need to consider these in relation to understanding the CPP landscape and the proposed streamlining of these governance arrangements. RD said that there are some groups that we just need to acknowledge and that we don’t need to “take over” groups e.g. Civil contingencies group, tried and tested, why intervene. We should only streamline where there is a common purpose and too much overlap; we need to make an assessment of whether we are competing or coordinating; there will always be “rogue groups”. GR said that we need to ensure that the control of resources matches the governance route. ET said that the Health and Social Care pathfinder board has to find a route into community planning and that this new board needs to be given elements of the SOA, to be accountable for. EB added that in relation to Integration, Scottish Government are saying to us to find the answer locally. JM said that housing cuts across all the themes and DC asked that partners agree to the Borders Housing Network joining the EIP theme- **AGREED**

Community Engagement

The group has agreed an approach for the development of a full set of principles for community engagement activity across the CPP. A draft will be brought in November for comment and approval. A Voluntary Sector event was held on 16th May to raise awareness of the CPP structure, and a workshop to begin the process of developing a “Reducing Inequalities Strategy” took place on 30th August (referred to under item 3 above) .

ACTION

- **SS to continue to work with theme Executive Sponsors to progress work, and an update will be prepared and presented to the Strategic Board**
- **SS will also update Audit Scotland and the Accounts Commission re progress**
- **Delivery Teams to review maps and feed back to Joint Delivery Team in November**

5. Scottish Borders Household Survey

DS gave an introduction to the report that generally presented good news for SBC and partners. The final report will go to the Council at the end of September and the Community Planning Strategic Board on the 1st October. The response rate has dropped from 43% in 2010 to 34% in 2013. Clare Malster (SBC Community Engagement Officer) said that this may be partly due to increased length of the survey but that a 34% response rate is still very good. Concerns had been raised about roads and about public conveniences, as well as affordability of rent and mortgages, and it was very interesting to note that “tackling poverty and inequality” was now the third top priority (it had been 12th place in 2010)

From a Police perspective, there was little change from 2013, with people still regarding feeling safe as their top priority. DS highlighted that volunteering levels had gone down. Health improvement- reduction in physical activity levels and gym membership. Good response about NHS Borders. Reports available at area committee area level which will be useful for discussion at a more local level. GR said that it’s what we do now with the results and the changes we make and communicate with the public that is really important, if the survey is to have any value. Need to map this to the SOA and triangulate with the Strategic Assessment. Interrogate the findings. TL said that it is important to get back to people, explain consequences of our

actions, communicate the results. NI said it will also be important to pre-empt the press coverage that these survey results will get. CM stressed that the report is still confidential at this stage. JM asked if results were available by tenure type.

ACTION

- **SBC to prepare a press release for publishing of results, with input of partners**
- **CM to check if results available by tenure type**
- **DC to lead piece of work around what we are doing as a result of what we have found**

6. Low Carbon Economic Strategy Update

RD said that the development of the strategy had been a lengthy process, with feedback from partners and stakeholders. Redrafting work is now underway to ensure that this strategy is in the same format as the recently approved Economic Strategy, and will clearly differentiate what we *are* doing and what *needs done* (as per the format of the action plan of the Economic Strategy). It will be a reflection of a point in time, and there are many policy changes, announcements that will affect the strategy both now and into the future. Monitoring of the action plan needs to be fit for the Strategic Board. A number of points were raised around joining up low carbon / poverty issues in Langlee and Burnfoot. JM said that this strategy had been discussed yesterday at the Housing Network and they believed that some RSL issues had not been captured e.g. around Eco funding. Need to pull together all the Housing Network activity as the strategy is not reflecting this activity yet.

ACTION

- **RD to keep group updated, and ensure involvement of Housing Network**

7. Scottish Government led "Borderlands" Summit update

DS informed the group that there had been a Cabinet announcement last week about proposed cross border work, to be led by the Scottish Government. It follows the publication in July of the 'Borderlands' report for the Association of North East (of England) Councils (ANEC) and Cumbria County Council, calling on Scotland and the North of England to work together to exploit mutual economic and social opportunities.

The Scottish and English border councils have agreed to join forces to explore ways of boosting business and tourism in the area, and SBC has agreed to host the first meeting.

ACTION

- **DS will continue to work with the Scottish Government on this initiative and will keep the Joint Delivery Team updated on progress.**

8. Papers for noting

A South of Scotland Next Generation Broadband update had been circulated for information

9. AOCB

TL informed the group that SBC has allocated a sum of money for a consultant to undertake a piece of work around sustainable transport and it is hoped that partners will play into this work fully. SG said that a Project Mandate had been presented to this group some time ago and it had been agreed that there was a real need to establish a project that mapped current services provided by partners and look at sustainable solutions. The PID has now been developed by the consultants, iMPower, and has a slightly wider scope than the original mandate, and now needs to take account of some fairly large reviews within SBC e.g. within Education and Social Work. ET said that there had been some really valuable learning through the Change fund, on what does and what does not work and that we need to build on that. RD said that by the turn of the year, the consultants would like to be in a position to present us with a model with options.

ACTION

- **SG to circulate PID and work with consultants to ensure involvement of partners over the next 2 months**

10. Next meeting: Wednesday 6th November 2013, 2- 4pm, Committee Room 1