

## Cheviot Area Partnership

MINUTES of Meeting of the CHEVIOT AREA PARTNERSHIP held in Assmbley Room, Jedburgh Grammar, Jedburgh on Wednesday, 30 January 2019 at 6.30 pm

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- Present:- Councillors S. Hamilton (Chairman), S. Mountford, S. Scott, T. Weatherston together with 7 Representatives of Partner Organisations, Community Councils and Members of the Public.
- Apologies:- Councillors J. Brown, E. Robson.
- In attendance:- Communities and Partnership Manager, Locality Development Co-ordinator, Community Police Officer (Gina Dickson), Democratic Services Officer (F. Henderson)

### 1.0 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Cheviot Area Partnership and thanked the Community Councils, Partners and local organisations for their attendance, and for participating and putting forward ideas.

### 2.0 **FEEDBACK FROM MEETING ON 5 DECEMBER 2018**

- 2.1 The minute of the Area Partnership had been circulated which included a summary of the discussion output as an appendix. The Locality Development Co-ordinator referred to the general concerns, issues, challenges and opportunities raised at that meeting. The theme for the focus for debate for the remainder of the meeting was 'Quality of Life', which was the last theme in the series. Feedback from each theme would then be drawn together to inform the Cheviot Locality Plan.

### **THEME: QUALITY OF LIFE**

- 3.0 The Chairman referred to the main item on the agenda – discussion around the theme 'Our Quality of Life' - and introduced the key speakers who each gave a brief summary of the work, relevant to the theme, being carried out by their organisation/section.
- 3.1 Inspector McGuigan highlighted the commitment of Police Scotland as identified in the Local Police Plan 2017-20 for Scottish Borders. Following a consultation process there were seven Local Police Priorities identified which linked to the themes within the Scottish Borders Community Plan: - domestic abuse; road safety; violent crime; anti-social behaviour; drugs and alcohol misuse; protecting people (including child protection); and acquisitive crime (incorporating rural crime, doorstep crime, housebreakings and thefts). Police had strong links to the Council's Safer Communities team with proactive campaigns such as Drivewise Borders and Crucial Crew. Inspector McGuigan also drew attention to the work undertaken over the past year by the Community Action Policing Team which provided a dedicated community resource which would specifically target locality issues i.e. anti-social behaviour, young driver issues and was an additional resource to the Community Policing Team. In response to a question about the importance of the Resilience Group in Jedburgh, Inspector McGuigan explained that the Group was crucial in times of extreme weather i.e. flooding and heavy snow fall. Those present were supportive of the CAT which had been very effective at responding to problems

raised locally. The Community Officer within the schools had had a positive impact and early intervention was seen as key.

- 3.2 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Group Manager, Michael Jaffray, made reference to the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Scottish Borders which was included in the paperwork provided on the tables. In particular he drew attention to the focus on helping people feel safer in their homes and on the roads. The service would work with local communities to improve outcomes, reduce inequalities and to build community resilience against extreme weather events such as flooding. Action Plans were being developed to address key priority areas in the Scottish Borders. Mr Jaffray referred in particular to the aim to reduce unwanted fire alarm signals, where there was no fire but an automated fire alarm system was activated. This currently accounted for over 65% of emergency response activity across the Scottish Borders. Mr Jaffray concluded by emphasising that the service wanted to work closely with communities and would welcome comments from local residents.
- 3.3 Donna Wood, from Scottish Borders Council, was in attendance to talk about the work of the Community Learning and Development Service and in particular the work being carried out with 11 – 25 year olds. There were 2 Learning Communities in the Cheviot area based around the secondary schools. The development of the learning communities enabled all key stakeholders to plan and work together to ensure improved outcomes for children and young people. Work was being carried out in schools and in particular with looked after and accommodated children and young people who may be failing to reach their full potential. Ms Wood referred to work undertaken by the Service in terms of Youth Work, Adult Learning, Community Capacity, Voluntary participation and targeted work with Vulnerable Adults and children. Ms Wood touched on projects such as summer activities, PEF Youth Workers, Season for Growth and recently held 'Raising Teens Workshops aimed at Parents and Children and Mental Health First Aid. It was highlighted that the new intergenerational school would provide family space and older people would be encouraged to go into the school to do additional learning.
- 3.4 Following the introductory talks, officers joined Elected Members, partners and members of the public at their tables for a discussion of the main issues relating to "Our Quality of Life" in the Cheviot Area. A pack of information was provided at each table to aid the discussion as were feedback sheets to record the emerging points. Following this first discussion period and a short break each group returned to their tables where they were asked by the Chairman to focus on prioritising the key issues raised and to discuss and identify ways of taking these forward within the Cheviot Area. A summary of the output of the discussions were provided as an appendix to this minute.
- 4.0 **LOCALITIES BID FUND ASSESSMENT PANEL**
- 4.1 In response to the decision by Council to appoint additional Members to serve on the Assessment Panel, Councillor Weatherston, seconded by Councillor Brown, moved that Councillor Mountford be appointed and this was approved.

## **DECISION**

**AGREED that Councillor Mountford be appointed as an additional member to serve on the Assessment Panel.**

## **5.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 5.1 The next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 17 April 2019 in Kelso at 6.30 p.m. The theme of the meeting would be confirmed in due course.

*The meeting closed at 8 p.m.*

Discussion Output: Quality of Life (30 <sup>th</sup> January 2019)				
Issue / Challenge	Solution	Play #yourpart		Priority rating
		Lead for action	Who else?	
<p><b>Police Scotland/Community Action Team (CAT)</b> What steps could be taken to address anti-social behaviours? How could the CAT team work with the community to tackle local issues?</p>	<p>Head teacher/ CAT/ children to collect litter and show the scale. Link to recycling and environment project? Involve Co-op? Multi agency approach - dog fouling. More bins for rubbish. Drivewise - use a local "idol" e.g. Stuart Hogg More visible approaches More beat officers, more CAT teams, stronger name</p>	<p>Police Safer communities Public</p>		
<p><b>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service</b> What measures could be taken to raise awareness and address safety in the home?</p>	<p>Isolated people need to be engaged. Elderly – what are the mechanisms to refer in. More local officers attending homes instead of out of town. Carers need more ability to report and be trained on what dangers to look for. If concerned feel they can report this. "Buddy system" Flow centre asking if they would like a home safety visit. Community Council's could circulate info on Facebook. Utility companies could give a discount if you have a fire safety visit.</p>	<p>Scottish Fire &amp; Rescue Service Registered Social Landlords promote with tenants. SB cares Carers</p>	<p>Develop and strengthen community links. Safer communities</p>	
<p><b>Live Borders</b> How do we make leisure and culture services and facilities accessible to all? How do we encourage participation in leisure and culture opportunities?</p>	<p>Encourage local sports clubs to give 'free' sessions for school children. A figurehead to promote sports. Connect paths and cycle ways. E.g. Earlston Community Council - Jubilee Path example. Advertising needs improved (incl. Snapchat/Instagram) Sport – PE base in school Leisure is too expensive, reduce costs Culture/Leisure needs to be open all year round Concerts directed at Youth Noticeboards are confusing. Schools &amp; Live Borders should be separate. Letters during classes (pastoral) Need more concerts directed towards younger people Not enough things for youths in Jed/Kelso</p>	<p>Self-service health and safety checks. Lots of culture opportunities but people don't take them up Education Live Borders</p>		
<p><b>Community Learning and Development (CLD)</b> How do we improve the well-being and life chances of our most</p>	<p>Cheviot Youth in Kelso &amp; Jed / Ancrum, Yetholm, Stichill in progress. Spread the word but demographic / rurality makes it difficult to get numbers. Pupil equity fund (PEF) to target more young people Pull more resources to build relationships to participate when disengaged</p>	<p>CLD</p>		

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<p>vulnerable children and young people?</p>	<p>More summer outdoor activities – get to know other peers to feel comfortable when moving up to High School          More spaces as uptake is good          Continue to offer PEF free school meals etc. / Subtly identify children even if not signed up for PEF          Shops/businesses/industry to help re. work experience</p>			
<p><b>Communication</b>          How do we ensure communities and individuals know what is happening in their area? How do we engage with those who are socially isolated?</p>	<p>SBC need to communicate better. Quicker in replying.          More volunteers to help communicate.          School – Jed GS TV to highlight things          Information needed to feed out.          Free district news column.          More likely to listen to local media rather than SBC.          Role of community councils need to be utilised more.          Make use of Jed Youth Hub media to relay information.          Socially isolated use SBCares and Carers to convey information.          Remind people to keep an eye on neighbours.          Community choirs.          Activity clubs / Music clubs.          Gin tasting!</p>			