

Date: 3 March 2022 from 2.00 to 3:40 p.m.

Location: Via Microsoft Teams

Attendees: Councillor Rowley (Chair), Councillor S. Bell, Ms A. Cox (Borders College), Chief Insp. V. Fisher (Police Scotland), Councillor C. Hamilton, Mrs K. Hamilton (NHS Borders), Mrs M. Hume (Third Sector), Mr K. Langley (Fire & Rescue Service), Ms M. Meldrum (RSL representative), Mr R. Roberts (NHS Borders), Councillor G. Turnbull.

Also in attendance: Chief Executive, Director Resilient Communities, Communities and Partnership Manager, Clerk to the Council (all SBC); Dr T. Paterson (Public Health), Mr J. McDougall (Scottish Government).

MINUTE AND ACTION POINTS

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Councillor Rowley welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Councillor Tatler (SBC) and Prof. Griggs (SOSE).

2. MINUTE

2.1 Copies of the Minute of 18 November 2021 had been circulated.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Minute.

2.2 Copies of the Action Tracker for the Strategic Board had been circulated.

DECISION

NOTED.

3. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP REVIEW PROGRAMME & DRAFT IMPROVEMENT PLAN

3.1 With reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of 18 November 2021, copies of an update paper on the Community Planning Partnership Review and a Draft Improvement Plan had been circulated. SBC Director Resilient Communities, Mrs J. Craig, gave a presentation on progress with the Review:

- Review update – a questionnaire had been issued to all partners at the end of November to inform the CP workshop agenda. The workshop, hosted by the Improvement Service, took place on 17 January 2022 and aimed to start developing a draft CPP Improvement Plan. Three main areas of focus came out of this for the Improvement Plan: prioritisation, governance and performance.
- Action 1 (Prioritise) – officers aimed to refresh the Community Plan to account for significant changes in the operation landscape as a result of the pandemic. Proposals to achieve this included establishing a Working Group to support the Programme Board in its work, with a shorter time target to reduce the Plan to a

number of key priorities and report to the Strategic Board in June 2022. A key focus would be to gain insight from partners on lived experience. In tandem, all partners would be involved in place making and the outcomes from those discussions would feed into the refresh of Locality Plans and the Community Plan. Engagement would take place with communities and a further report provided to the Strategic Board in September 2022.

- Action 2 (Governance) – a review was currently underway on the current Community Planning Partnership structures and processes in relation to effective decision making to ensure they were fit for purpose. A Working Group was being established to consider options; with partners surveyed during February and March to establish what had worked well during the pandemic; identify best practice, including the views of partners who were involved in multiple Community Planning Partnerships; a peer review to be carried out via the national network, assisted by the Improvement Service. A workshop would be held to develop the future structure which would be aligned to the Plan and priorities and reports would be provided to the Strategic Board in June and September 2022.
- Action 3 (Performance) – work would be carried out to ensure the Community Planning Partnership's long term outcomes were supported by a performance framework in which progress could be measured in the short and medium terms. Once priorities had been agreed, the accountability of partners for reporting would be clarified. A Task Group would be established to develop a core number of key performance indicators along with a consistent way of measurement. An evaluation process would be established which would include lived experience and a clear approach to public performance reporting. A report would be brought to the Strategic Board in September 2022.

- 3.2 The Programme Board at its meeting on 9 February had agreed the Draft Improvement Plan. It was recognised that delivery of this would require both leadership and resource investment, with all partners having a key role. A Task Group was being established to progress the work required. Netta Meadows emphasised one really important point which came out strongly in the workshop held in January that as the overall Plan was being refreshed, the focus would be on the outcomes we were trying to achieve and that is what we would measure. This would not be easy to do and it would be a challenge to get those outcomes right, ensure they remained at a strategic level, but a collective approach would help. It would be better to do a few things well rather than attempt to do many things badly. By having a clear framework and approach to deciding what the main priorities were, the links could be mapped out along with the dependencies. The Regional Economic Strategy outcomes could also be considered as part of this work. Marjorie Hume commented on the need for the Community Planning Partnership to consider how it looked to others externally. Too much information did not work well for communities. It was hoped that the Partnership would have the same priorities as communities as that would achieve greater input and realisation from communities. Jenni Craig confirmed she would send out details of the Working Group to ensure all partners were represented.

DECISION AGREED to:

- (a) note the progress made in relation to the Review;**
- (b) approve the Draft Improvement Plan; and**
- (c) the proposed partnership approach to deliver the Improvement Plan and the relevant timescales.**

4. PLACE MAKING UPDATE

- 4.1 With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of 4 March 2021, copies of a presentation with an update on Place Making had been circulated. Naomi Sweeney, SBC Project Manager, advised that there had been presentations and discussions at all the Area

Partnerships since Spring 2021. Facilitated Area Partnership workshops were planned for 14 and 26 March 2022 which would allow an understanding of place making, agreement to a memorandum of understanding and prioritisation of communities. During 2022/23, a Forward Plan would be developed which would include prioritised communities and Borderland target towns. The role of the Area Partnerships was to agree and monitor actions and themes, Locality Plans and their delivery, while also considering future priorities. In terms of implications for the CPP review, the place narrative looked at what was good/a strength; what and needed to change, where and why; what changes would make a difference; and what opportunities existed. A vision and objectives would be developed along with priorities, projects and action plans. Learning from place plans would allow common themes to be recognised between communities, localities and the wider Borders. This would contribute to the refresh of the Community Plan and the Borderlands Towns Investment Programme. Project development and delivery would need to be considered alongside service planning and delivery, and by securing funding a project pipeline would then be ready to roll out.

- 4.2 Cllr Bell referred to outcomes and asked for clarification on the output from the place making process. There was some confusion around the definition of place making which for some communities was a process to feed into the Local Development Plan, while another could view it as a developing a better understanding of how everyone worked together. A Locality Plan in Community Planning terms was based on reducing inequalities. Ms Sweeney advised that place making was an ongoing consultative process. Workshops were being held to establish 15 place plans for this year, with the aim of having plans for the 69 Community Council areas thereafter. Four of the plans related to Borderlands funding and were being produced quickly. It was very much around working with the capabilities and capacity of communities to produce the rest. Some communities were keen to proceed while others would require support. The terms 'place making' was confusing but a local place plan looked at the objectives of a community and the actions needed to join these up. There was no prescriptive way to put together a place plan so they would vary. Cllr Bell sought further clarification on the outputs for locality plans and those in place plans. Cllr Rowley advised that different communities had different views on this, with some communities doing place planning themselves to determine how their communities would evolve and develop and what they needed in terms of services, etc. The SBC Director Resilient Communities further advised that there was no definitive answer at the moment as there would be different outputs from different communities so this would need to come back to the Community Planning Partnership for further discussion. The aim was to progress a different way of working and for our communities to decide their own priorities, with partners then working alongside them to achieve these. There were currently multiple funding opportunities. There did seem to be some confusion between place plans and the links to Local Development Plan/the planning system so a piece of work would be carried out to try to provide clarity. The SBC Chief Executive confirmed that there was no consistent approach but this could be seen as a measure of success as communities would be different and outputs/outcomes would be different in each case. Place shaping did need to be community led and outcomes did need to match. Ms Sweeney confirmed that more joined up work was needed by partners in our communities so that communities were leading with a bottom up approach rather than being dictated to by others, pulling a community together with a joined up approach. Mrs Hume added that it would be vital to do it with the people and not for the people.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

5. **CLIMATE CHANGE ROUTE MAP**
Michael Cook

6. **ALCOHOL AND DRUGS PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21**

7. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Marjorie Hume advised that the Third Sector Interface was going through a transformation in the next 4 months and it was hoped to bring an update to the Board at the June meeting.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

8. **NEXT MEETING**

The Strategic Board noted that its next meeting was scheduled to take place on 16 June 2022 at 2pm. This meeting would be held via Microsoft Teams and would be livestreamed.