

MINUTE of MEETING of the COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD
held within MS TEAMS VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 22 AUGUST 2022.

Present –

Councillor Kirsteen Sullivan (Chair)	West Lothian Council
Councillor Tony Pearson	West Lothian Council
Councillor Andrew McGuire	West Lothian Council
Graham Hope (Chief Executive)	West Lothian Council
Elaine Cook (Depute Chief Executive)	West Lothian Council
Graeme Struthers (Depute Chief Executive)	West Lothian Council
Julie Whitelaw	West Lothian Council
Donald Forrest	West Lothian Council
Clare Stewart	West Lothian Council
Katie Dee	NHS Lothian
Ashley Goodfellow	NHS Lothian
Jackie Galbraith	West Lothian College
Steven Michie	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Karen Wernham	West Lothian Leisure
Alan McCloskey	Voluntary Sector Gateway
Jim Stewart	Sestran
Charles Wardman	West Lothian Chamber of Commerce
Brenda Cumming	West Lothian Chamber of Commerce
Craig Sheerin	Jobcentre Plus
Mark McMullen	Scottish Enterprise
John Sives	Joint Forum of Community Councils

In Attendance –

Susan Gordon	West Lothian Council
Laura Murray	West Lothian Council
Pauline Cochrane	West Lothian Council
Fiona MacKenzie	West Lothian Council
Nahid Hanif	West Lothian Council
Gillian Pearson	West Lothian Council
Steven Turnbull	West Lothian Foodbank
Neil Cowan	Poverty Alliance

Apologies –

Councillor Tom Conn	West Lothian Council
Councillor Angela Doran-Timson	West Lothian Council
Chief Inspector Louise Brownlie	Police Scotland
Jim Quinn	Scottish Fire and Rescue Services
Alison White	Integration Joint Board
Jonathan Pryce	Scottish Government

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. MINUTE

The Board confirmed the Minute of its meeting held on 21 February 2022.
The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

3. LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Board received a report (copies of which had been circulated) providing an update on the review process of the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.

It was recommended that the Board:-

- (i) Note the update on progress with the new LOIP;
- (ii) Agree the high-level pillars of the LOIP and key focus areas; and
- (iii) Agree the next steps..

The Chair invited all partners able to support the planned engagement works to link in with Susan Gordon.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

4. COST OF LIVING - A NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

The Board received a very topical presentation on The Cost of Living – A National Perspective by Neil Cowan from the Poverty Alliance. The presentation set out poverty levels in Scotland pre-Covid-19 pandemic; the various plans in place to tackle child poverty; levels of poverty now as a result of covid and the cost of living crisis predictions; the impact of the crisis so far on support mechanisms across the country; and planned actions for the weeks and months ahead to help vulnerable households through the cost of living crisis.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked Neil for his excellent presentation and invited him to stay and hear the other presentations which covered the same topic.

Decision

To note the terms of the presentation.

5. WEST Lothian Foodbank

The Board received an extremely interesting presentation on The West Lothian Foodbank – Helping Local People in Crisis by Steven Turnbull from the West Lothian Foodbank. The presentation covered a variety of topics including the aim of the Foodbank to end hunger and poverty in West Lothian; an overview of the poverty picture in West Lothian; the background to the establishment of the Trussell Trust and the number of foodbanks now operating in the UK; the history of the establishment of the West Lothian Foodbank in November 2012, its position in October 2019

and the changed services it now offered as at May 2022 as a result of the impact of Covid-19.

The presentation concluded with a number of slides showing images of the creation and growth within the Foodbank Garden which would see 10 tonnes of home grown being produced in the garden per month.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked Steven for his fantastic presentation.

Decision

To note the terms of the presentation.

6. COST OF LIVING IMPACT

Continuing the theme, the Board received a very insightful presentation on the Cost of Living Impact in West Lothian by Gillian Pearson from the Anti-Poverty Service. The presentation provided an overview of the drivers to increasing inflation and costs and the impact these were having locally; demonstrated the disproportionate impact increasing costs were having on people with low household incomes, disabled people, families and ethnic minority people; information on various local supports and initiatives by the Anti-Poverty Team; and opportunities that were being explored to provide local services and initiatives, encourage active referrals and support and the plans to hold a conference and refresh the Anti-Poverty Service Strategy.

The committee then noted a report by the Anti-Poverty Manager (copies of which had been circulated) providing extensive information on the impact of the rising cost of living on poverty in West Lothian.

It was recommended that the Board consider the impact of the cost of living crisis and measure that could be implemented locally to support residents most at risk of poverty and deprivation. The Board was also asked to note the development of a Cost of Living Crisis Conference to be open to partners, the third sector and members of the public with an interest in the area of work to consider how we could work together to support those households experiencing poverty.

Arising from a suggestion, a Short Life Cost of Living Working Group would be set up and partners interested in getting involved were asked to contact the council's Anti-Poverty Manager.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked Gillian for her detailed presentation.

Decision

To note the terms of the presentation and report.

7. CPP COVID-19 DATASET

The Board received a report (copies of which had been circulated) providing an update on the review of the CPP dataset.

It was recommended that the Board :-

- Note the proposal to review and update the datasheet
- Consider the recommendations for retiring some of the measures
- Discuss how the dataset be used going forward

Following discussion, the Board agreed that rent arrears figures should be retained within the data set and that crew resilience be removed as staffing levels were always higher than 96%. It was agreed that the young person claimant count by ward should feature in future dataset reports.

Decision

To note the Covid-19 dataset update.

8. WEST LOTHIAN ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY: END OF YEAR REPORT 2021/22 AND PROPOSED ACTION PLAN 2022/23

The Board considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) detailing the progress made towards the aims of the West Lothian Anti-Poverty Strategy during the 2021/22 period and across the lifetime of the strategy so far and the planned activity to address key concerns and record from the impact of Covid-10 during 2022/23.

It was recommended that the Board:-

- (a) Notes the range of activity carried out in the 2021/22 period to mitigate the impact of poverty and deprivation in West Lothian;
- (b) Approves the performance indicators and targets for 2022/23; and
- (c) Approves the action plan for the 2022/23 period.

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.

9. WEST LOTHIAN ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY: END OF YEAR REPORT 2021/22 AND PROPOSED ACTION PLAN 2022/23

The Board considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) setting out an updated remit for the Anti-Poverty Task Force to provide strategic governance and leadership to mitigate the effects of poverty on

vulnerable households in West Lothian.

It was recommended that the Board:-

- (a) Agrees the proposed Chair of the Task Force and the inclusion of multi-party representatives on the Task Forces following the recent local government elections;
- (b) Agrees the updated terms of reference for the Anti-Poverty Task Force; and
- (c) Agrees the proposed reporting arrangements to the Community Planning Partnership.

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.

10. COMMUNITY JUSTICE OUTCOME ACTIVITY ACROSS SCOTLAND
LOCAL AREA ANNUAL REPORT REPORT 2021-22

The Board considered report (copies of which had been circulated) providing an awareness of the annual report and its progression to the Community Justice Strategic Plan 2019-24 which acts as the Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP), the annual report that would be submitted to Community Justice Scotland in September 2022.

It was recommended that the Board:-

- (a) Notes the annual report for the Community Justice Strategic Plan 2019-24 (including CJOIP);and
- (b) Note that a report would be submitted to the CPP Board each year on the annual report submitted to Community Justice Scotland.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the next meeting of the Board would take place on 21 November at 10am and would be an in-person meeting.