



Report by the Chair, Community Planning Executive Group

Community Planning West Dunbartonshire: Thursday 19 November 2020

Subject: Community Planning Executive Group - update

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide members with an update on work progressing through the newly established Community Planning Executive Group (CPEG)

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to:
- Note the CPEG update
 - Agree the proposed review and refocus of Delivery & Improvement Group (DIG) action plans

3. Background

- 3.1 Community Planning West Dunbartonshire undertook a self-assessment exercise between June and September 2019, in order to identify improvement activities for the management group. This self-assessment activity was supported by Improvement Service and took the form of an online survey.
- 3.2 Improvement Service colleagues facilitated a dedicated development session, attended by a range of CPWD members, to support consideration and refinement of a proposed action plan. The action plan was developed as a mechanism to deliver continuous improvement activity on key areas of focus for members of CPWD.
- 3.3 The first action progressed by CPWD was creation of an executive group, established under the leadership of the Council Chief Executive. This group replaces the previous DIG chairs meeting, with membership extended to ensure all five statutory agencies are represented.
- 3.4 CPEG has met three times since its creation, and will meet every second month to progress the range of action areas assigned to this executive group from the improvement plan. These will be reported quarterly through an improvement plan update paper.

4. Main Issues

- 4.1** CPEG is leading on development of a range of actions which stem from the improvement plan. Details and areas for consideration are detailed in the following sections, covering collaborative priorities, an updated partnership agreement, and scoping of possible community planning awareness sessions.

Collaborative priorities

- 4.2** At the first meeting of the CPEG, each Delivery & Improvement Group (DIG) chair was asked to consider and submit possible areas for further collaborative activity. These submissions by DIG chairs have been grouped to create three collaborative thematic areas:
- Poverty
 - Wellbeing
 - Empowerment
- 4.3** These collaborative thematic areas provide both an overarching and underpinning context for the action plans of the DIGs and align well to the five priority areas of the West Dunbartonshire Plan for Place (Flourishing, Independent, Nurtured, Empowered Safe). These remain the focus for the DIGs and the key outcome improvement areas for the partnership.
- 4.4** It is proposed that these three collaborative themes, along with sustainability, are adopted as cross cutting priority thematic areas for the partnership. These themes will not replace the existing commitments made in the Plan for Place, but will instead enhance the focus of the DIG action plans and provide a context for refining work plans.
- 4.5** Providing these key collaborative themes allows each DIG to address their own delegated priorities in a consistent and focused way. This also responds to the national commitment and desire to review LOIPs to ensure they remain focused and deliverable in the context of recovery and renewal from the current pandemic. A revised supporting structure for the LOIP, through DIF action plans, focused on these broad collaborative thematic areas may support a more coordinated and cohesive approach to planning and outcome improvement and ensure the benefits of collaboration can be fully exploited.

Partnership Agreement

- 4.6** Following creation of the CPEG, the Partnership Agreement for CPWD has been revised to include a terms of reference for this group. An updated partnership agreement can be found as appendix 1 to this report. A review of the agreement will be carried out annually through CPEG.

Community Planning Awareness Sessions

- 4.7** In line with improvement actions identified within the CPWD improvement plan, CPEG has been considering options for raising awareness of community planning at a more operational level of member organisations.

- 4.8** It is proposed that a short seminar / workshop style session be developed which would support the ambition of CPWD to increase awareness of community planning. The session could then be delivered over remote or physical platforms to a range of representatives across the wider community planning landscape in West Dunbartonshire.
- 4.9** A key challenge for community planning partnerships in general, and one which is recognised locally, is ensuring that frontline employees from across agencies see the link between their day to day activity and the aspirations of the LOIP. Often 'community planning' is seen as a thing which happens around a board table and not in day-to-day provision.
- 4.10** The aspiration of these introductory sessions is to ensure that the wider workforce delivering on behalf of CPWD recognise the valuable contribution they make to delivering improved outcomes in line with the LOIP. They will do this by providing both a recognisable context for community planning but also real examples of how community planning 'feels' and 'looks like' at a local community delivery level.
- 4.11** CPEG will be further considering approaches to these sessions and the practical details for delivery at their December 2020 meeting. A further update will be brought to CPWD in February 2021 for decision.

5. People Implications

- 5.1** None, all activity will be delivered through existing partnership capacity.

6. Financial & Procurement Implications

- 6.1** The work of CPEG is focused on improving processes and approaches to how partners work together. As such the financial implications are minimal. It is assumed that any financial implications will be met from within existing resources.

7. Risk Analysis

- 7.1** There is an increasing drive nationally for community planning partners to work at an increased pace to deliver outcomes for communities. Failure to respond to the new challenges being set for community planning in Scotland would not reflect well on CPWD and would risk delivery against the national policy priorities set by the Scottish Government.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 8.1** No actions are required as this is an update report.

9 Consultation

- 9.1** This report provides an update on ongoing activity.

10. Strategic Assessment

10.1 Progressing work as outlined in this report ensures CPWD can deliver on the outcomes set in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.

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Chair, CPEG
20 October 2020

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Appendices: Appendix 1 – CPWD Partnership Agreement

Background Papers: None

Wards Affected: All