

RECORD OF WORKING GROUP MEETING

GROUP NAME:	SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP (SCP) OPEN MEETING	
CHAIRPERSON:	Cllr Gordon Macdonald	(GMcD)
DATE OF MEETING:	30 JANUARY 2015	
LOCATION:	Committee Room, HQ	
ATTENDING:	Cllr Gordon McDonald, Chair Rhona Gunn, Acting Corporate Director (EDPI) as Lead Officer Richard Anderson, Head of Housing & Property Stephen Cooper, Head of Direct Services Gavin Clark, Scottish Natural Heritage Fabio Villani, Third Sector Interface Anne Lindsay (on behalf of Frank Hughes), UHI, Moray College Cllr Margo Howe Anita Milne, Federation of Village Halls	GMcD RG RA SC GC FV AL MH AM
BY TELEPHONE:	May East, CIFAL	ME
APOLOGIES:	Jim Grant, Head of Development Services Pam Gowans, Chief Officer (Health & Social Care Integration) Don Vass, Third Sector Interface	JG PG DV

AGENDA ITEM/TOPIC	ACTION POINT	ACTION BY
1. Background	<p>The genesis of the Partnership was explained briefly for those in attendance. The Partnership had first come together in the summer of 2014 at which time it had been known as the Communities and Sustainability Partnership. To clarify the remit of the Partnership, a survey had been undertaken of opinion leaders in Moray including HIE, Police, the RAF, TSI, the Council, Fire & Rescue Service etc. This had been followed by working sessions and as a result of this process, the main point of focus had been agreed as energy. It was accepted that this work crossed over with work in a number of other areas including carbon management, diversity etc. Those initially involved in the group had agreed however that energy management was the best gateway through which to access these other areas. As a result the energy group had come together looking at social, behavioural and infrastructure changes needed to meet relevant energy targets. The group had agreed that there were some early wins available such as in schools but work across all three areas social, behavioural and infrastructure as set out in system ISM2 would be necessary. The Chair confirmed that as a result</p>	

	<p>of this clear focus, the work of the Partnership had in effect been driven forward by the energy group but it was accepted that the remit of the Partnership was broader. It was the recognition of this broader remit which had led to a request by the Community Planning Board in November 2014 that the Sustainability and Communities Partnership hold an open meeting, both to clarify its remit and to widen its membership. May East of CIFAL undertook to produce the report prepared following the ISM workshops for circulation amongst the Partnership members.</p> <p>It was noted that the document entitled “Community Planning Partnership- Sustainable Communities Reporting on Targets/Achievability” had been approved by the Community Planning Board in the summer of 2014 as representing a reasonable summary of the agreed remit of the Partnership. It was noted that part of that remit included recognition that pursuing some areas such as biodiversity or coastal/marine related activities, whilst clearly relevant to the Partnership, would not be pursued as a priority. RG confirmed that part of the purpose of the open meeting was to seek confirmation from members that they remained happy with this remit. Clarity would be needed as to the areas the Partnership was pursuing and this would be likely to be broader than discrete areas captured in the six targets that fell within the responsibility of the SCP. Care had to be taken to avoid spreading attention too widely however as inevitably this diluted resources and impacted on progress.</p>	ME
2. Structure and Remit	<p>Partners were invited to consider the place the Partnership took within the community planning structure and proposed remit. The Chair confirmed that clearly there were a lot of areas which crossed over with work being undertaken in other Partnerships. Part of the role of the Chair was to help to populate the action table which had also been produced with the Agenda papers to show work being undertaken to progress each of the six targets, but he also hoped to reflect in that table other relevant work being undertaken by the Partnership, particularly work that might be ongoing within partners other than the council. On that subject Anne Lindsay confirmed that the college might well be able to contribute information regarding energy efficiency and so if some of the targets could be broadened out to include activity by other partners, that would be a positive step. The Chair confirmed that this wider contribution by partners would be welcomed and it was recognised that the 2023 Plan was a living document with targets that should be refined and developed over time. He stressed to partners however the importance of ensuring that the focus of the Partnership was narrow enough to maximise its efforts on ensuring that milestones</p>	-

were achieved and objectives delivered. To this end he sought confirmation from those round the table that energy would be the main area of focus within the Partnership since this encompassed a number of the targets including those relative to fuel poverty, energy consumption and energy efficiency of council housing stock. In general, members were supportive of this whilst indicating the importance of other areas within the remit and in particular, the contribution which other partners could make for example, SNH could contribute in the area of biodiversity and sustainable travel. ME confirmed the point made by the Chair that energy was simply a doorway through which other areas could be examined including sustainability, biodiversity, waste management and other areas. The Chair indicated that at subsequent meetings the group might choose to add additional targets to reflect some of these specific areas but that to do so, it was probably necessary that other sub-groups be set up to drive these areas forward. It was agreed that members needed a little longer to reflect on the remit and that meantime consideration of the targets under the SCP would assist.

It was agreed to consider the existing six targets which fell within the responsibility of the SCP:-

Percentage of households in fuel poverty

It was noted that this target was not restricted to council houses although data from this sector was most easily obtained. The council also administered funding allocated under HEEPS and this helped the private sector also. It was noted that although the council was doing a lot of work to its council housing stock in this respect, less work was being done in the private sector. It was also noted that partners had no control over important factors in terms of meeting this target such as energy costs or household incomes. It was agreed that RA would look at the potential to extend data recovery for this target to RSLs and private landlords via the landlord register. It was also noted that Moray now had a Moray Energy Advice Service available to all sectors. As regards general carbon targets, RA indicated that Graeme Davidson within his team was looking at that area. In general the focus at present was on fuel poverty although carbon targets clearly had an impact on that.

Energy consumption

Although this target was based purely on the council's energy consumption, it was agreed that this could be extended to UHI and the NHS. It was also noted that as the council progressed with its waste management strategy, there might be some scope to reduce energy consumption via energy produced from waste treatment.

RA

	<p>Three Council Targets:</p> <p><u>The council targets regarding waste diverted from landfill</u></p> <p><u>Housing stock meeting the Moray standard</u></p> <p><u>The number of council houses</u></p> <p>It was agreed that these would be restricted to council data only. Although RSLs complied with some housing standards, RA advised that RSLs were not building in Moray at present and so their contribution would be limited re the housing standards given most stock was older. RA confirmed he would enquire as to whether RSLs compiled data about the percentage of their stock which met the energy efficiency standard however.</p> <p>As regards the waste target, it was noted that this was expressed as waste diverted from landfill rather than in terms of waste reduction, because this wasn't directly measured. It was also noted that some waste in Moray was not collected by the council such as NHS waste etc. FV indicated that there are a number of groups working in this area such as wastebusters, the green home and reboot all of which help to divert waste from landfill. There were also community composting schemes. It was agreed that if data could be obtained from these sources that would be helpful but it only if additional costs were not incurred extending data collection in this area.</p> <p><u>Structure</u></p> <p>It was noted that as well as the energy group, RA was involved in a number of housing groups which fed into the work of the SCP and the Chair was now attending some of those groups. There might be the need to form a waste sub-group to support work in that area. The Chair would discuss with that SC. It was agreed that RG would prepare an action table with the information from the open meeting adding a column so that milestones could be shown as red, amber and green depending on how work was progressing. It was also agreed that at future meetings an update on the work of the sub-groups would be provided by the relevant members and that where minutes from the Working Groups were available these would be posted under the Partnership on the Community Planning webpages.</p>	<p>RA</p> <p>GM RG</p> <p>Service Leads</p>
<p>3. Membership</p>	<p>AL indicated that the College could make a clear contribution to the energy agenda but that future attendance may well depend on what was on the Agenda and in future it was likely that the College's Head of Estates would be the member. The Chair also suggested</p>	

	that a member of the Administration be approached, potentially one of the depute Chairs from Communities or Economic Development & Infrastructure Services. The Chair would make some approaches on this. It was also noted that TSI might send substitutes to meetings. As regards SNH, GC indicated that he wasn't sure whether this was the best Partnership from SNH to contribute to. It was agreed that RG would provide him with the resources table showing the remit and Working Groups under each Community Planning Partnership along with the electronic link to the refreshed 10 year plan.	GM RG
4. Business Programming and Management of the Partnership	<p>AM asked that 6 copies of the refreshed 10 year plan be provided to her for use by the Federation and each of the area Forums as work was currently being done on annual action plans and it was important that these reflected the 10 year plan.</p> <p>She also indicated that a talk to the Federation of Community Halls and Associations had been helpful before and this group would appreciate hearing from a member from CMT on the 10 year plan now that it had been finalised.</p> <p>As regards membership it was agreed that the Forestry Commission should be invited to attend the SCP meetings and that a representative of the local RSLs would also be invited to attend.</p> <p>It was anticipated that 2 further meetings would be needed before the Chair was due to report on the work of the Partnership to the Community Planning Board in August and it was agreed that these should be arranged in April and late June.</p> <p>It was anticipated that the work of each meeting would include updates from the Working Groups, consideration of the action plan and progress and confirmation of the remit given members were to be given time to reflect further on this.</p>	RG RG RG RG
5. Date of Next Meeting	The next meeting would be at a date to be announced in April.	
6. AOCB	There was no AOCB.	