



MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (CPSP) MEETING  
HELD IN LOUGH NEAGH DISCOVERY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024 AT 10.06AM

- PRESENT: Colette Rogers (Chair) PHA
- OFFICIAL PARTNERS:
- |                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ABC Council                     | Elaine Gillespie (Vice Chair) |
| DfC                             | Simon Sloan                   |
| Invest NI (Chair - Place Board) | Ethna McNamee                 |
| Sport NI                        | John Hart                     |
| NIFRS                           | Andy Burns                    |
| NIHE (Vice Chair – Place Board) | Sinead Collins                |
| CVSP Chair & Millennium Court/  | Geraldine Lawless             |
| SRC                             | Catriona Regan                |
| EA                              | Paul Crooks                   |
| ABC Council                     | Cllr Julie Flaherty           |
| PSNI                            | Karen Ross                    |
| SHSCT                           | Janet McConville              |
- APOLOGIES:
- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| ABC Council   | Charlene Stoops    |
| ABC Council   | Cllr Peter Lavery  |
| ABC Council   | Jonathan Hayes     |
| ABC Council   | Caroline Leonard   |
| ABC Council   | Alison Beattie     |
| ABC Council   | Jennifer Mc Kibben |
| Libraries NI  | Adrienne Adair     |
| PSNI  | Brendan Greene     |
| NIFRS   | Dermot Rooney      |
| SHSCT   | Elaine Wilson      |
| SHSCT   | Paula Tally        |
| Tourism NI  | Martin Graham      |
| Catherine Mc Farland  | NIHE               |
| CVSP Interim Vice-Chair   | Donna Stewart      |
| (Vice Chair Shared Leadership<br>& Community Engagement<br>Sub-Committee) CB Volunteer<br>Bureau and CVSP |                    |
| Interim Co-Chair Tackling Poverty<br>& Social Exclusion Sub-Committee<br>Craigavon Foodbank<br>& CVSP     | Chris Leech        |
- IN ATTENDANCE:
- Jennie Dunlop, Community and Strategic Planning Manager, ABC Council
  - Jessica Bennett, Statistical Data Analysis Officer, ABC Council
  - Lissa O'Malley, Place and Strategic Projects Manager, ABC Council



Emma O'Carroll, Community Planning and Evidence Officer, ABC Council  
Michelle Markey, Community Planning and Engagement Officer, ABC Council

**ALSO IN  
ATTENDANCE:**

Martin Stevenson, Salvation Army/Steering Group (Interim Co-Chair –Tackling Poverty & Social Exclusion Sub-Committee)  
Gerard Rocks, SHSCT (Chair – Promoting Good Mental Health and Wellbeing Sub-Committee)  
Laura Wylie, Links Counselling (Vice-Chair of promoting Good Mental Health and Wellbeing Sub-Committee) & CVSP Steering group  
Paul Mc Gurnaghan, PHA

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

**1.1 Welcome**

The Chair, Colette Rogers, welcomed all present to the meeting, noting the meeting was quorate and could therefore proceed.

Also in attendance and welcomed by the Chair were Janet Mc Conville from the Southern Health and Social Care Trust and Paul Mc Gurnaghan from the Public Health Agency.

**1.2 Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Peter Lavery, ABC Council, Charlene Stoops, ABC Council, Jonathan Hayes, ABC Council, Jennifer Mc Kibben, ABC Council, Caroline Leonard, ABC Council, Alison Beattie, ABC Council, Chris Leech, Craigavon Area Food Bank, Interim Chair of Tackling Poverty and Social Exclusion Sub-Committee and CVSP Steering group, Adrienne Adair, Libraries NI, Paula Tally, SHSCT, Elaine Wilson, SHSCT, Dermot Rooney, NIFRS, Catherine Mc Farland, NIHE, Brendan Greene, PSNI, Donna Stewart, Craigavon & Banbridge Volunteer Bureau, Vice Chair of Shared Leadership and Community Engagement and CVSP Steering Group and Martin Graham, Tourism NI.

**NOTED.**

*Councillor Julie Flaherty and arrived at 10:08 and Michelle Markey arrived at 10:12*

**2. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**2.1 Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting on 29 November 2023.**

Minutes of the Community Planning Strategic Partnership (CPSP) meeting on 29 November 2023.

**AGREED:** on the proposal of Geraldine Lawless, seconded by Elaine Gillespie, that the Minutes of the Community Planning Strategic Partnership (CPSP) meeting on 29 November 2023, having been previously circulated, be confirmed and signed off as a correct record.

**3. STATEMENT OF PROGRESS 2021-2023:RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CHAIRS' AND VICE CHAIRS' GROUP**

- **Report CPSP-24-01**

The Chair introduced Jennie Dunlop to speak about the Statement of progress 2021-2023: Recommendations from the Chairs' and Vice Chairs' group. The video of the Statement of Progress 2021-2023 was then played and the Chair thanked Michelle Markey and Emma O'Carroll for all their work on the video and the members who also took part. The Chair then relayed that the video is what community planning is all about in highlighting the values and benefits of community planning. The Chair then encouraged partners to take the video back to their organisations and use it within them.

The link to the Statement of Progress 2021-2023 video can be found here- [Our Progress Towards Outcomes - Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council \(armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk\)](https://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/our-progress-towards-outcomes)

Jennie Dunlop then went through the cover report on the Statement of Progress 2021-2023: Recommendations from the Chairs' and Vice Chairs' group and then delivered a presentation on the timeline for the mid way review of Connected- our Community Plan, providing detail on the 9 long term outcomes, the cross-cutting themes and the Population Indicators and encouraged partners to attend the upcoming workshops.

A copy of the presentation is attached in the appendix.

Following the presentation, the Chair took the members through the first cut of the reviewed Community Plan.

*Ethna Mc Namee arrived at 10:45*

Discussion ensued and the following key points were noted:

- Partners will check internally if the timeline suits approvals within their organisations
- SRC noted that the summer time was not great for seeking approvals due to governance structures not meeting over the summer
- It was queried if all CPP's are doing their review at the same time and the response was that all CPP's are at different review stages with some being completed and some not yet underway
- New and emerging issues such as the cost-of-living crisis, poverty and health need to feature in the review as the Community Plan was written pre Covid-19
- The language needs to reflect the work that has been undertaken to date
- It is important to tweak and not to re write the plan

- Potential to add in diabetes or obesity as an indicator in the context of a whole systems approach or to bring an expert in to speak to the CPSP. This issue will also be brought to the Chairs group
- Do the public know what “preventable deaths” means?
- PHA and the SHSCT are working on obesity prevention and intervention
- Value in sharing information to give a sense of what the issues are
- Accessibility to healthy eating differs from one household to another
- Shared education is important and should feature
- Inclusive outcomes need to be inclusive in more than name. They need measurable aspirations if they are to be called Inclusive. How can we best measure inclusivity, should it feature in each of the nine outcomes?
- Barriers to employment such as disability
- It was noted that any population indicators used in the plan must be robust
- Foodbank stats are collected by ABC Council and the Trussell Trust
- Data needs to be validated and must be evidence based It was noted that these service stats from foodbanks might not meet criteria to be a population indicator in the community plan.
- Some official data is not available at a local level
- Even if data sets are not used as an indicator, they can still be very useful
- Foodbanks have been operating in crisis mode for the last 5-6 years and there is a need to shift away from crisis mode where possible
- EA holds valuable data around free school meals-families just above the threshold for FSM are in poverty and can't afford them
- FSME has been challenged as an indicator of deprivation as many children's families who are not eligible are also struggling financially. If universal free school meals were introduced this would prevent its use as an indicator. Partners will provide follow up information.
- Qualitative stories are very insightful- potential to bring to Chairs' and Vice-Chairs' group
- Some teachers in schools are using their own money to buy children meals
- How do we make changes to fit in with Net Zero?
- Place Board on 6<sup>th</sup> June will be looking at environmental sustainability in detail
- Carbon literacy - small steps
- Disability access in town centres needs to be addressed
- Do the cross cutting themes need changed or do they still fit?
- Women and those individuals with a disability are under represented in the workforce
- The revised Community Plan needs to reflect residents' issues in the Borough

The Chair thanked everyone for their invaluable feedback and for their honesty in their responses. Referencing the importance of the upcoming review workshops the Chair assured the Partnership that the dates would be circulated as soon as they are confirmed.

**AGREED:** by consensus, that the Partnership approve the plan to conduct a mid-point review of Connected, the community plan for the Borough.

#### 4. Sub-Committee Updates

- **Report CPSP-24-02**

**Promoting Good Mental Health and Wellbeing Sub-Committee-** The Chair invited Gerard Rocks to give an update as Chair of this Sub-Committee. Gerard spoke about the last meeting of the Sub-Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> March outlining that the recent meetings are enabling better connections to be made with other partnerships locally and regionally. Gerard also spoke about John Mc Entee, the Chair of PLIG, Hilary Johnston from the SHSCT, Robbie Mc Cague, SHSCT and Karen Ross, PSNI who all spoke at recent meetings and gave an insight into what the priorities are at a local, sub-regional and regional levels. He then reinforced the need for a better understanding of the issues affecting the most vulnerable in our society coupled with a collaborative approach to address the issues. Gerard also spoke about Trust research with Travellers and that it could influence the partnership's thinking on addressing barriers to services and under representation. He also spoke about Multi Agency Support Hub (MASH) and PSNI supporting people in mental distress. Thinking about whether there is anything more we can do as partners to support the MASH. Laura Wylie, Vice Chair of this Sub-Committee outlined that the process used in the meetings is a great vehicle to test the strategic plans and data that we have available.

**Tackling Poverty and Social Exclusion Sub-Committee-** The Chair invited Martin Stevenson, interim Co-Chair of this Sub-Committee to give an update. Martin said that the Sub-Committee had met in December and that the members realise that they need to start focusing on the longer term issues but are still extremely busy dealing with the current issues such as the cost-of-living crisis. Martin spoke about the need for the use of foodbanks increasing and the donations decreasing which is causing real concern when over 10,000 people accessed the foodbanks from the period April-September 2023. Of the people accessing foodbanks 80% live in private rented accommodation and are paying high rents as there is a lack of affordable housing. Martin then spoke about the potential of looking at the NMDC model of bringing landlords and land owners together with the NIHE and Council to look at available land and houses in order to alleviate some of the pressure.

Discussion ensued and the following key points were noted:

- SRC run an "Employ Me" programme through the Shared Prosperity Fund which provides people with the skills to enable them to gain employment and they have funding for 2 years to run this. Information on how to refer will be distributed to partners.
- Benefits only cover 70% of what people need to live on which is causing extreme difficulties for families and individuals
- Private rental costs are increasing
- Getting on the property ladder is proving far more difficult due to rising house prices and mortgages being hard to access, coupled with larger deposits required for mortgages
- NIHE are finding that single lets are increasingly hard to find for people even within the private rental market due to lack of availability. The only long-term solution is an increase in the supply of affordable housing in the borough.



**Place Board-** The Chair invited Ethna Mc Namee, Chair of the Place Board to give an update. Ethna said that the Place Board recently met in January and are meeting again on 6<sup>th</sup> June. Keith Brown, Department of Economy attended the last meeting and spoke about the Place 10X Sub-Regional Economic Strategy and Inclusive Growth. There was discussion around people who are excluded from the labour market and around data that can't be shared due to GDPR. Ethna spoke about the importance of the priorities around health and life sciences, advanced manufacturing and the food sector. Net Zero will be discussed at the next Place Board and the importance of us all as individuals to do what we can was reinforced. The Banbridge Place Plan was launched on 20<sup>th</sup> March in Banbridge SRC and was a successful day and a contractor has been appointed to support the development of the Dromore Place Plan.

Discussion then ensued and the following key points were noted:

- Council, along with EBR and several County Councils, are applying to PEACEPLUS. If successful, this would contribute to the costs of developing Place Plans for Lurgan, Portadown and Craigavon
- The submission will be in May/June 2025 and if successful a Letter of Offer will be issued in 2025 for a 2 year project
- Need to engage residents through the Place Plans
- Connections between Sub-Committees through delivery of the Place Plans
- Excellent facilities at SRC, Banbridge and great to use partner facilities for events.
- The need for partners to look at contributing to the cost of developing the Dromore Place Plan

**AGREED** by consensus that Community Planning partners explore opportunities to financially contribute to the cost of developing the Dromore Place Plan. Also that the Community Planning partners participate in the development of the Dromore Place Plan via the Place Board and that the Council are approved to explore funding under PEACEPLUS for future plans.

*The meeting adjourned for a short break from 11.55am to 12.10pm.*

**Shared Leadership and Community Engagement Sub-Committee-** The Chair invited Jennie Dunlop to give an update as both Catherine and Donna could not attend the meeting. Jennie outlined that over 4,200 people had come out to vote during the Participatory Budgeting market stall events and that there were all ages from young through to older people. Funding of £104,656 was distributed to 107 projects in the ABC area. There will be two stage approach to the evaluation which will examine the wider impact of the project. A preliminary report will be completed in June to inform the Partnership's approach for the coming financial year. The CVSP have outlined three priorities for the panel steering group for the next year and these are increasing the panel membership, succession planning for the steering group and a review of the panel's action plans.

Discussion then ensued and the following key points were noted:

- Ways of working are influenced by the CVS sector through engagement and the use of evidence



- Diversity is needed on the CVS steering group and an effort will be made to encourage this
- Support for PB is needed from partners and 121's will be happening over the coming months
- CVS sector is taking a hit at the minute and many organisations will have to close before the end of the year due to funding cuts
- Money is needed to run PB and last year contributions were very slow to come in and this left the decision to run PB very late
- Can partners please use the Statement of Progress video and the PB evaluation and video to influence contributions for PB going forward- any support at all is welcome in terms of in kind and financial contributions
- PB is shared finances for a shared investment and it is about having a say about how money is spent in your area.

*Geraldine Lawless and Lissa O'Malley retired from the meeting at 12:10pm*

*Councillor Julie Flaherty retired from the meeting at 12:15pm*

## **5. Input into the SHSCT Corporate Strategy Janet Mc Conville, Southern Health and Social Care Trust**

Janet Mc Conville delivered a presentation to the Partnership on the SHSCT's vision and strategy 2030. A copy of which can be found in the appendix.

Discussion ensued and the following key points were noted:

- The learning from external view points
- SHSCT- one vision and one strategy, not multiple
- Strategy and vision must be co-produced
- Workstreams need to be aligned to emerging themes
- Through partners plans- how can CPP support delivery
- Sharing of information and cross linkages are integral for success
- Useful for SHSCT to participate in the review of Connected-our Community Plan
- Engagement methods need explored
- Workstreams-diversity of members
- NMDC have a Citizen's Panel that could be used for engagement

The Chair thanked Janet for her attendance at the meeting and hoped that she would return again to update the Partnership on the strategy in the future. The Chair also asked Janet to let the CPP know the dates of the CVS engagement workshops in advance so that partners can attend.

*Catriona Regan retired from the meeting at 12:47pm*



**6. Climate and Health in ABC**  
**Paul Mc Gurnaghan, PHA**

Paul Mc Gurnaghan from PHA delivered a presentation on Our Health and Our Place which detailed the urgency of protecting our planet for protecting our people, a copy of which can be found at **Appendix 3**.

Discussion ensued and the following key points were noted:

- There is double the return on any investment in environmental measures
- Global temperatures are rising by 1.5 degrees which has consequences for human, plant and animal life
- There are direct and indirect health effects with the temperature rise due to global warming
- Increase in infectious diseases
- The effects of global warming need to be made relevant to residents and the locality that they live in for them to take notice
- Restricted and ever reducing budgets to lower our carbon footprint
- Could the energy produced in schools be offset in any capacity?
- The sustainability of the environment needs to feature in the review of Connected
- Net zero is cross cutting across all Sub-Committees
- HSC vast amounts of net waste. Environmental sustainability will become central to all our individual corporate plans.

The Chair thanked Paul for his attendance at the meeting and for a very detailed and insightful presentation.

*Janet Mc Conville retired from the meeting at 1:02pm*

**7. AOB**

**7.1 Southern Area Outcomes Group – Review of the Community Plan**

The chair proposed a 121 meeting with Southern Outcomes Group as part of the review of the community plan to ensure they had opportunity to feed in and that links are made.

**7.2 PHA- Spring Booster Campaign**

Partners were invited to encourage anyone eligible to avail of the Spring booster for Covid-19.

**7.3 European Conference**

The Chair proposed submitting an abstract for a European Public Health Conference in Lisbon based on our innovative partnership model.



**AGREED** by consensus that the Chair would submit an abstract to the European Public Health Conference in Lisbon on behalf of the partnership.

**8. CLOSE**

The business having been completed, the meeting concluded at 1:18pm.

**APPENDIX**

Presentations from the CPSP Meeting April 2024