



Fraserburgh Local Learning Partnership,

note of meeting held on 21st October 2020 at 10 AM

Present: Alison Brodie – Cultural Development Officer, Kirsty Hannon – SDS, Catriona Arthur- Healthy Lifestyle Advisor, Martin Robertson – CLD, Gwen Watt, NESCOL, Student Support Coordinator, Ewen Allardyce – Employability Coordinator, Sandra Ross- CLD

Several apologies were received- **Sandra- note to self, do not organise meetings during school holidays.**

Sandra welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

Speaker 1 – Martin Robertson gave a presentation and overview of the Community Works project in Banff. This is a Community Development Project to help improve living and working experience which is community led and funded by Tackling Poverty and Inequalities. Martin noted that a lot of the work had been around income maximisation and had led to an uptake in benefits and grants such as Fresh Start. (Presentation attached) Martin would be happy for partners to get in touch if they have any questions or would like to hear more about the project. Martin.roberstson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Speaker 2- Catriona spoke about her new post which is funded by Seafarers UK. Aberdeenshire Council partnered with the Fishermen's Mission and Seafarers Hospital society, Catriona is new in post and her role is to provide support, information, and signposting to services. (slides presentation attached) If any partners would like to offer support or services relevant to this project please get in touch with Catriona by email Catriona.arthur@aberdeenshire.gov.uk 01467 468915 or 07436 020165

Sandra gave a brief update on the Banff and Buchan Poverty hub who had a first meeting on 7th October. Fraserburgh & Banff LLCs have a focus on poverty and will be a reference group for the poverty hub. Fraserburgh LLC will continue to build on the work done previously at a local level and the hub will focus on a more strategic approach to looking at one or two topics or issues.

The hub will be a small, short term action focussed group. For this meeting we were focussing on the Entitlement card / Young Scott card – its uses and limitations in Aberdeenshire.

Partners have agreed to meet again and will invite the area manager from Young Scott and representative from Dundee to talk about how the card is being used there. Dundee is seen as a good practice model where young people use the card in restaurants, cinemas, transport as well as sport and other leisure activities.

98% of young people in Aberdeenshire aged 11 – 26 hold a YSC but we learned that currently they only access a small potential of its capacity.

The poverty hub will have a focus on increasing the use of the card, working directly with Young Scott to deliver training for young people, signing up local business to offer meal deals and discounts and piloting this in Fraserburgh before rolling out across Aberdeenshire.

Partners on the hub are

Agnese Carter- Child Poverty Engagement Worker, Anne Kain – Aberdeen Foyer, Alastair Rhind – Strategic Regeneration Executive, Douglas Findlay – CLD (Youth Voice, MSYP, Youth Forums) Pamela Neri- Elevator, Clare Levett – Principal Teacher Progress & Equity Leader, Gwen Watt – NESCOL – Martin Roberson / Sandra Ross CLD Community Development. Roisin Daly – Chair, Sandra Ross – Chair

Roisin held the second poverty meeting in the afternoon on the same day with different partners to look at Cuckooing and the possibility of setting up a peer led approach to tackle this issue.

Sandra is keeping TPI and Towns teams up to date with progress in both Banff and Buchan and Buchan.

Theory of Change 2020

Sandra spoke to several partners out with today's meeting and gave updates on discussion with them.

We worked through each of the statements and proposed priorities but were unable to assign actions as not enough partners were present.

We agreed that it may be best to look at setting up some small short-term subgroups to look at the following

- Setting up an Online family hub – suggested membership – Libraries – NHS -CLD -North School- Arts & Cultural services – **Action – Sandra and Alison to follow up**
- FSM campaign – Local research/ engagement with parents / pupils to learn more about the difference it made to them when this benefit was paid directly during lockdown– Findings to go back to Douglas Findlay and picked up by MSYPs for follow up. Sandra has also spoken to Annette Johnston from TPI who

is in support of this project. Proposed membership Clare Levett, Derek O'Halloran, CLD- Agnese Carter

- Reducing Stigma and increasing access to food – Fraserburgh Local Resilience group have secured premises at the harbour. They hope to have a community pantry set up by November. They are working with AVA and CFINE. This could be a collaborative project depending on what support the local group are looking for– Martins presentation highlighted that they were also looking at reducing food waste and that local growers were donating surplus produce to the local foodbanks – not sure if this is happening in Fraserburgh? **Action** - Debra is working with this group and will feed back to LLCP at next meeting.

CPD Event November – Sandra will be coordinating workshops with the Rosin Daly and Jane Verity. The workshops will be open to partners from Banff and Buchan and Buchan.

More details and invitations to follow.

Partner updates:

Catriona – interested in linking with the local resilience group

Gwen- Still delivering a blended approach so students are on campus as little as possible and depending if they are doing theory or piratical based work. Poverty is still an issue and my main area of interest.

Kirsty- Biggest update is the new national transition training fund that became available this month. A fund that is available for anyone aged 25+ who is unemployed or been made redundant since 1st of March, its seen as a response to COVID. Can be used of training courses and referrals come through ourselves or DWP if they are engaging with the job centre.

Alison – There are more facilities open and lots going on, eg libraries are now open for folk to access computers. The arts team had the across the grain festival and a lot of the content is still available from Live Life at home. For the next 4/5 moths we are looking at reconnecting communities and the health and well being agenda. Knit a cosy bony, led by libraries but anyone can get involved. There are online videos available to get you started but anyone can knit, crochet and donate, libraries will collect and get them out to groups in the community who need them. Get in touch with Alison or the local library for more information.

Ewen – We have 2 new members for our employment support team. 15 referrals in Fraserburgh / Peterhead area in last few days some from Job centre but we are also getting self-referrals. Some who are still in employment also seeking help to get better jobs. We have around 450 to 500 clients on the books at moment seeking employment and we think this number will rise.

We are all working from home, no face to face stuff at moment. We are seeing a slow and steady rise in number of unemployed.

Nationally we have a new employer recruitment scheme about to begin in end of October through ESF funding and run by my team as well as other employment incentive projects.

Probably be mid-November when all discussion has been held around the various funding proposals, criteria and interventions that we can share the outcomes of those but we are making really good progress. Due to the partnerships we have in place we are street ahead in comparison with other LA areas.

Sandra – Our teams are still delivering learning opportunities online such as ESOL, STEPS courses, and face to face in Fraserdean and Peterdean. We continue to be engaged with community groups and take an active role in key partnerships such as Community Planning, Towns teams etc.

Phase 2 Connected Scotland – all of our referrals are being allocated equipment
Some staff are still deployed to Grampian assistance Hub, care homes etc.

Next Meeting – CPD event 25th November

January 2021 on 27th at 10 am– invitation to be sent out