



From mountain to sea

Buchan Local Learning Community Partnership Meeting

Teams Meeting
20 November 2020
11.30am-1.00pm

Present:

Jane Verity	Senior CLDW, Community Learning & Development
Di Faithfull	Gypsy/Traveller Liaison Officer
Peter Kennedy	Employability Officer
Bryan McKay	Aberdeen Foyer
Catriona Arthur	Healthy Lifestyle Advisor
Jacqui Gray	Session Worker, Community Hub
Margo Paterson	Community Learning Worker, CLD
Elizabeth Richards	Senior Community Co-ordinator, Health & Social Care
Sharon Tulloch	Skills Development Scotland
Eleanor Morris	Area Project Officer

Apologies:

Linda Smith	Skills Development Scotland
Kathleen Ramsay	HMP Grampian
Helen James	Head Teacher, New Pitsligo School
Gerry McCluskey	Depute Head Teacher, Mintlaw Academy
Pauline Robertson	Employment Team
Alison Brodie	Cultural Development Officer
Olive Thain	NHS Grampian
Claire Taylor	Team Manager, Children's Social Work
Joy Aiken	NESCOL
Maureen Stephen	Area Community Officer
Elaine Lawson	CLD Worker
Katherine Irvine	Team Manager, Children's Services
Suzanne Connor	Deputy Head Teacher, Peterhead Academy
Andrew Jenkins	Head Teacher, Strichen School
Steph Swales	Community Planning Officer
Sandra Ross	Senior Community Learning, Worker, CLD
Shona Sellers	Head Teacher, Peterhead Academy
Peter Wood	Quality Improvement Manager
Ruth Batchelor	Teacher

From mountain to sea

Apologies (Contd):

Annette Johnston Tackling Poverty & Inequalities Co-ordinator
Philip Boath Service Manager, CLD
Agnese Carter Child Poverty Engagement Officer

BeLink'd

Eleanor Morris gave a presentation on BeLink'd – this is a referral-based system. No timetable now. There will be a new electric multi-passenger vehicle coming on board. Postcard and other information will be shared by Eleanor and sent out to all. Bryan mentioned that the Foyer would like to be part of this. Jacqui Gray said she is registered and asked if she can make a booking on behalf of somebody who has been referred to them. Eleanor said if a person is on the system, they can make booking themselves – she will double check this.

Partner Updates

Jane Verity – CLD very busy. Lots of referrals - Literacies and ESOL. ESOL Initial Assessments on hold for 2 weeks due to situation in Peterhead/Fraserburgh. Fish factories have people on waiting list.

Jacqui Gray – No access to Community Hub. All groups on-line except Walking Club, Craft Club. Hoping for new clubs to start after New Year, eg ICT.

Margo Paterson – Engagement work at Longate is continuing, along with 1-1 work, support services, zoom calls all continuing. Also doing some work out with CLD in Grampian Assistance Hub.

Elizabeth Richards – Community Mental Health – completely virtual – directory of groups going on in the Community has been put together.

Sharon Tulloch – SDS – Office in Peterhead is open for appointments only. Call 01779 479345 and make appointment for coming into the office. All back into schools – virtually or face-to face. Busy with National Transition Training Fund (NTTF) and working with Job Centre and Foyer.

Di Faithfull – Gypsy Traveller Liaison Officer – mainly signposting and making sure folk have financial assistance.

Bryan Mackay – Foyer – Princes Trust programme started 2 weeks ago. Extended to 9 weeks so will carry on till 30.1.2021. Reach Programme coming to an end. 12 weeks on-line which has been very successful. Virtual tai-chi and cooking been very successful. 'Fun at One' is on everyday – good. Foyer Families – new programme for parents/children of school age coming on-line soon. 1 vacancy been filled in Aberdeen and 1 in Peterhead. We are going back to any unsuccessful candidates and suggesting updates/improvements for CVs etc.

From mountain to sea

Employability – inundated with referrals. NTTF massive uptake. Foyer busier than ever.

Peter Kennedy – Employability – their service is on hold just now. Mental health is a big thing.

Catriona Arthur – Health Style Advisor – working with fishing community. Got great contacts in Peterhead/Fraserburgh harbours. This has stopped for a couple of weeks due to the COVID situation.

Power Tools Overview

Carol Bambrough – Gave a presentation on Power Tools – Excuse Busting. There are lots of different Power Tools. They are usually 1.5 hours long and can be done stand-alone or consecutively and, also, can be done alongside something else, like employability. Jacqui said she has a few clients attending this weekly course and really enjoying it. Peter also heard good things from client. Carol also supports Adult Literacies in Core Skills Lits/Num up to level 4. Run STEPS Course – Steps for Success. Most of work with learners is on-line/phone. Some face to face work. Just about to train up volunteers to support learners.

Aberdeenshire Literacies Strategy – What impact has Covid 19 had on literacies in Aberdeenshire?

During 2019 and early 2020 the Aberdeenshire Literacies Strategy was being developed and we were about to move into drafting the strategy when the pandemic hit the UK. Further work on the strategy was passed as a result. We are now able to revisit the strategy development and part of this will be to reflect the current literacies picture in our communities.

The following literacies have been identified previously:

Emotional – the ability to understand and express feelings

Health – having knowledge, understanding, skills and confidence to use health information

Financial – the ability to make informed judgements and take effective decisions regarding the use and management of money

Digital – the skills to use technology to engage in learning

Functional (including ESOL) – the ability to understand written information and use it to communicate (everyday literacies)

In relation to literacies what are the emerging issues/ needs in your area?

Di – digital and access to computers or anything to help get on-line, eg access for benefits, health info etc. In Mintlaw an on-line form needs to be completed for doctor appointments etc (takes 20 mins).

From mountain to sea

Bryan – the same. Digital literacies for our learners are paramount to completing courses. Liz Cameron can do some work before-hand. Lack of digital literacies with PT learners is surprisingly poor. That's part of reason for extension of course.

Jacqui – agree with Bryan. Digital is the thing we should be focussing on. Some folks have skills but can't afford broadband monthly cost. We need to get places open when people can sit and use Wi-Fi etc. Even at school, when we were doing ICT, we needed to have mobile Wi-Fi. Limited to showing folk what they need because Wi-Fi not accessible to all.

Margo – agree with above. Everything digital by default. Groups I am working with have found it difficult. They have equipment, eg mobile phone, but have limited data allowances etc. This has implications for job searches etc. They are limited to where they can go for accessing broadband. Medical situation the same in most places now – must go online and complete forms etc. In Longate, we work with a few older people who don't use digital. Even with encouragement, it isn't something they want to do, so we must put notices through their door. Although on several occasions, it might be because of literacies issues which are hidden for whatever reason. Longate has broadband in the flat which is switched on so anyone can get the code. Don't see why this can't be happening everywhere.

Catriona – all the same problems. A lot of the population, particularly retired, aren't digitally connected. Health literacy is an issue too.

Bryan – we have got 40 devices for the Shire complete with MiFi. Everyone who comes onto any of our learning programmes gets a laptop which is not required to be returned, so they get to keep the laptops.

How do you think the emerging issues/ needs should be addressed?

Bryan -NTTF available for folk who are unemployed etc. The ability to put together a CV relative to the job they are applying for – this is a problem and perhaps there should be workshops to help folk with this. How do folk put together a CV and make it relevant to a particular job? We need a co-ordinated approach to this.

Sharon – SDS can help with this. We don't type peoples' CVs, but we can help tweak them and look at relevant skills for relevant jobs etc. Linda and Maureen in Peterhead can help with. There is an Adult Careers Advisor who can help also.

Margo – people don't have necessarily the info or skills to make that appointment that they need for the new medical services. Very challenging for a lot of folk. I have completed on-line, and experience wasn't good. Can see why people are having issues.

Di - Mintlaw practice put this new appointment system instructions onto their Facebook page.

Peter – nothing to add.



From mountain to sea

Di – similar to what Margo has been saying. Had called the medical practice and told to complete on-line form and found it very difficult to complete. If we are digitally able and having problems, then there is a barrier for folk who struggle digitally. Bryan – similar experiences with health appointments etc. Peoples anxieties have increased because of this.

A.O.B.

Joint LLCP CPD Event on Wednesday 25 November – everyone should have received this and all welcome to attend.

Date of Next Meeting

To be confirmed – end January/beg February 2021