



From mountain to sea

## **Buchan Local Learning Community Partnership Meeting**

**Teams Meeting**  
**26 February 2021**  
**11.30am-1.00pm**

Present:

Jane Verity	Senior CLDW, Community Learning & Development
Linda Smith	Skills Development Scotland
Lynne Gordon	Senior CLDW, Community Learning & Development
Wendy Harley	HMP Grampian
Paula Musson	Head Teacher, Peterhead Central School
Catriona Arthur	Healthy Lifestyle Advisor
Jacqui Gray	Session Worker, Community Hub
Margo Paterson	Community Learning Worker, CLD
Eleanor Morris	Area Project Officer
Miranda Aitken	Opportunities for All Officer

Apologies:

Keith Anderson	AVA
Sharon Tulloch	Skills Development Scotland
Elizabeth Richards	Senior Community Co-ordinator, Health & Social Care
Di Faithfull	Gypsy/Traveller Liaison Officer
Peter Kennedy	Employability Officer
Karen Smith	Admin Assistant, Community Learning & Development
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
Elaine Lawson	CLD Worker
Stephen Shand	Aberdeen Foyer
Andrew Mills	Aberdeen Foyer
Ewen Allardyce	Employability Officer, EDPS
Annette Johnston	Tackling Poverty & Inequalities Co-ordinator

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### Welcome and Introductions

'Round the table' introductions from everyone.

### Employability issues, the pandemic impact – understanding the picture

Miranda Aitken, Opportunities for All Officer, gave a presentation on this. The questions asked:

- How can we all contribute to Opportunities for All/YPG?
- Anything surprising from the data?
- How can we all help to reduce number of unknowns?
- How can we prepare young people for this changing landscape?
- How can we support our communities to 'develop' opportunities for young people and adults?

Miranda said SHMU are doing through care/after care support into HMP Grampian. First one began in February. Wendy said Fife College don't work in partnership with SHMU. Not sure if anyone else been employed since Tev left. SQA personal development units, Digital Media on offer to them from SHMU. Before Xmas one Work shed transformed into Work skills Pilot. 3 Groups done. Work shed closed now. Very successful and good feedback. Will continue once restrictions are lifted.

How can we help to reduce number of unknowns? Linda said SDS always had problem with unknowns due to changing phone number, ignoring call etc. GDPR has had a big impact. Sometimes seen as too corporate/schooley! Generally, 'unknowns' are less able and have got more barriers. Life experience is one of the things really missing. Miranda agreed. Virtual experiences just aren't the same as practical life experiences. Lynne said catching school leavers and steering them into something else, eg employability via AL. Don't let them drop off. Need to get in before they leave school. Jane asked the question – Are young people made aware of AL Team and what they offer, eg SQA accreditations, not school-based teaching etc? SQA Vol Schools Award could be something for them to do. Margo mentioned 'housing' is a good service and they may be able to pick up unknowns. Paula said P6-7 pupils are showing signs of disengaging. School would have a lot of info re families/outcomes etc. Linda asked if King Street is still open as she had a good partnership working with them. Jane confirmed it was open before Xmas.

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How can we support our Communities to 'develop' opportunities for young people and adults?

Jacqui agreed we need more volunteering in Communities. More green spaces could be developed, and this would encourage Communities to engage/work with schools etc. Maybe should be more engagement with Community Councils. Margo said it is very difficult to engage with young people. Some instances of young folk helping with Pandemic should be given more recognition. Miranda mentioned there are new initiatives coming in March/April – one of them is through AVA – Funding to do Community Volunteering in the Shire. Will be supported by key worker and SQA Employability Award.

### Minutes of Last Meeting

All happy with minutes of meeting held on 20 November 2020.

### Round the Table Catch Up

Margo – engagement with Longate continuing. She is involved in engagement with New Community Campus. As from today, there is Community testing at the Rescue Hall 8am-4pm in the first week then 8am-8pm, 7 days a week. For anyone who lives in Peterhead – just drop in. <http://bit.ly/Peterheadtesting>. She is still working on the Hub, but not as busy as it was.

Jacqui – Junior Confidence to Cook for Wellbeing Wednesday – every week group of 4 children (vulnerable backgrounds). 5 groups so far – good fast foods – basic foods, reading ingredients, traffic light system. 5 people have been put through Food Hygiene training. Walk Club will resume in May. Conversation Cafes on Zoom – very well attended. Grampian Fairshare – big increase in people of all ages. Jacqui spending 2 days a week in school. Her post is PEF Funded up to 21 Dec 2021.

Paula – Teachers testing twice weekly from home. All got kits to last them 3 weeks. All P1-P3s are in with 100% attendance. They have really missed school. Hub uptake very high. 5% of pupils accessing it across the board. 30% of Central school pupils accessing Hubs. It has been challenging with on-line learning, Hub and classroom learning. MAAPMs haven't stopped – they are engaging on-line. No support for EAL at all. Aberdeen Football Trust is a PEF initiative – all done remotely just now. Increase in families coming to Peterhead. 3 Romanian families. Don't have any English so very difficult with on-line. Google Translate, very challenging. They need to hear sounds etc. Large group of families come from Aberdeen.

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Wendy – Returned to work last week after furlough. Capacity limited. All Work sheds closed except essential ones. Family Learning stopped and funding handed back. Transition booklet gone into pre-release pack along with facemask. STEPS Course on hold.

Catriona – No face-to-face visits. Doing what we can on-line. Winter Wellbeing feature – covered 4 topics. Involved workshops, well-being sessions etc. Exercise referral classes for long-time health conditions. On-line respiratory classes. Self-referrals or referred by Health Care Partners.

Linda – SDS busy on-line. Peterhead by phone, Mintlaw via Teams or video calls. Quite a lot of referrals from those who are really struggling. Attendance up and down. Difficult to engage. Post-school – less opportunities out there. No longer doing Pace clients. SDS set up a Pace Team, Mon-Fri 9am-5pm.

Jane – A lot of learners reluctant to engage. Happy to have phone call but in terms of learning have dried up. No enthusiasm. Linda agreed motivation gone. Some have decided to return to school instead of College. Jobs/apprenticeships not there.

### **Any Other Business**

Jane spoke about 3-year CLD Plan Aug 2021-2024. First year of plan is very much in relation to engaging with stakeholders to get information on how CLD can help. This is for anyone who delivers a service in the Community.

Jacqui said a lot of people are coming to New Pitsligo and Peterhead. Aberdeen City have a shortage of 3-bedroom houses. It is very hard on those coming to NP – isolation, transportation etc.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April – 11:30 to 13:00