

DRAFT Minutes of the Orkney Community Planning Partnership Board

Wednesday 16 December 2025, UHI Orkney, and via Microsoft Teams

1. Attendance and apologies

DELEGATES

Facilitating partners

Orkney Islands Council
NHS Orkney
Highlands & Islands Enterprise
Police Scotland

Cllr Heather Woodbridge (Chair)
Davie Campbell
Ruth Kirkpatrick
Scott Robertson

Participating partners

Integrated Joint board
Skills development Scotland
NatureScot
Community Justice Partnership
HITRANS

Joanna Kenny
Connie Calvo
Graham Neville
Stephen Brown
Cllr Kristopher Leask (first part)

Co-opted partners

Voluntary Action Orkney
Orkney Housing Association Ltd

Morven Brooks
Craig Spence

IN ATTENDANCE

Scottish Government
Community Learning and Development
OIC Director of Housing, Educations and Communities
UHI
NHS Orkney
SG Islands team
Orkney Islands Council
Orkney Islands Council
Orkney Islands Council
Orkney Islands Council
Observer – new CP Manager
Orkney CPP

Ellen Leaver
Kerry Spence
James Wylie

Dr Pauline Black
Hannah Casey
Francesco Bertoldi
Garry Burton
Cllr Sandy Cowie
Hayley Green
Sharon Klipova (minutes)
Daniel Aubrey
George Vickers (Secretary)

APOLOGIES

Visit Scotland
Historic Environment Scotland
NHS Orkney
Scottish Fire and Rescue
NHS Orkney
Orkney Islands Council

Cheryl Chapman
Dorothy Hoskins
Louise Wilson
David McGroarty
James Goodyear
Oliver Reid

2. Place Director Charter

Presentation by **Ellen Leaver** (Scottish Government).

- Charter sets out expectations for Place Directors and their role in supporting Community Planning Partnerships.
- **Decision:** Board welcomed and approved the Charter and agreed to provide feedback as required. Ellen confirmed intention to attend meetings in person twice yearly.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting (17 September 2025)

- **Decision:** Minutes approved without amendment.

4. Matters Arising

- None raised.

5. Population Health

- **Discussion led by Hannah Casey, Hayley Green and Garry Burton.**
- **Key points:**
 - Importance of prevention and address inequalities.
 - Food security highlighted as a resilience priority; Council has added food security risks to its corporate risk register.
 - Proposal for **short life working group** on food security and resilience.
- **Decisions:**
 - **Population Health Delivery Group to be established** as a new priority group.
 - **Chair:** Garry Burton volunteered.
 - **Group remit:** Physical activity, mental health, wellbeing and wider determinants of health.
 - **Short-life working group on Food Security** agreed.
 - To include representation from agriculture, third sector and resilience planning.
 - Partners to share feedback and nominate representatives for both groups.

6. Public Sector Reform

- Update noted on joint work between NHS Orkney and Orkney Islands Council.
- **Decision:** Board noted progress and agreed partners may join workstreams as appropriate.

7. Orkney Matters 2 Update

- Draft report circulated.
- **Decision:** Board noted findings and supported next steps to communicate outcomes to communities, including “You Said – We Did” approach.

8. Community Learning & Development Partnership Annual Report

- Presented by Kerry Spence.
- Highlights:
 - 25 actions identified; 10 completed in Year 1.
 - Strong alignment with CPP priorities.
- **Decision:** Report noted.

9. Unlocking Community Benefit from Renewable Energy

- Paper presented by George Vickers.
- Key points:
 - Need for strategic approach to community benefit from major energy developments.
 - Discussion on unified Community Benefit Fund and alignment with preventative spend priorities.
- **Decisions:**
 - Board endorsed principles in Section 8 of the paper. The Forum should include Community Leaders and Third Sector. The dedicated fund should be strategic and transformative.
 - Agreed to receive a progress report from the Transformational Opportunities Group at next meeting.

10. Children Services Reports:

1. Local Child Poverty Action Report 2024/25

- Presented by Steven Brown.
- **Decision:** Report approved for submission to Scottish Government.

2. Joint Children's Services Plan and Child Poverty Strategy

- Verbal update by James Wylie.
- Next plan will integrate:
 - Children's Services Plan
 - Local Child Poverty Strategy
 - UNCRC implementation
- **Decision:** Board noted update; draft plan to be presented in early 2026.

11. Updates from Partners

- NHS Orkney: Sub-national planning changes noted; monitoring impact on patient pathways.
- Orkney Housing Association: Successful launch of Community Housing Board (£1M target nearly met).
- Orkney Islands Council: Awaiting Scottish Government budget announcement in January.

12. New Scottish Government Islands Plan

- Presentation by Francesco Bertoldi.
- Key points:
 - Draft plan laid before Parliament on 4 December; scrutiny period until end of January.
 - Overarching theme: Population retention and attraction.
- **Decision:** Board noted update and agreed to engage during consultation period.

13. Delivery Group Reports

- **Equality Delivery Group:**
 - **Decision:** Agreed to adopt **Resilience** as main theme for 2026 and streamline membership for agility.
- **Sustainable Development Delivery Group:**
 - **Decision:** Approved Community Wealth Building Anchor Charter and adopted Scottish Government definition of “good value” in procurement.
- **Cost of Living Task Force:**
 - Report noted; Cost Crisis Fund not fully allocated and payments made. On 5 December, a very successful Fuel Poverty workshop held, Fuel Poverty Action Plan development underway.

14. Any Other Business

- **Transport Connectivity (Loganair):**
- Concerns raised about Loganair service reductions and reliability.
 - **Action:** Draft joint CPP letter to Loganair and Transport Minister; explore PSO options.
 - Placeholder agenda item for March meeting.
- **Acknowledgment:** Board thanked **George Vickers** for his significant contribution ahead of retirement.

15. Date of Next Meeting

- **Monday, 23 March 2026 – 2.00pm to 5.00pm, Council Chamber, OIC.**

Summary of Key Decisions

- Approved previous minutes.
- Established **Population Health Delivery Group** (Chair: Gary Burton).
- Agreed **short-life working group on food security**.
- Approved Local Child Poverty Action Report.
- Endorsed CLD Annual Report.
- Supported principles for community benefit from renewable energy.
- Agreed Equality Delivery Group focus on resilience.



- Action to address transport connectivity issues.

Summary of Key Actions

- Letter to be sent to Loganair.