

WESTERN NEIGHBOURHOOD NETWORK Wednesday 14th April 2021 At – 18:00 via Teams

Present

Steve Kerr	Corstorphine Community Council/Western Neighbourhood Network Locality Community Planning Partnership representative
Cllr Robert Aldridge	City Edinburgh Council
Cllr Frank Ross	City Edinburgh Council
Tommy Mclean	Western & Almond Voluntary Sector Forum
Cllr Claire Bridgeman	City Edinburgh Council
Duncan Whitty	Corstorphine Community Church
Esther Elliot	Church of Scotland
John Yellowlees	Murrayfield Community Council
Kenneth Write	Corstorphine Community Council
Chris Wark	Edinburgh leisure- Energise
Cllr Gillian Gloyer	City of Edinburgh council

In Attendance

Evelyn Kilmurry	CEC NW & NE Lifelong Learning Localities Manger
Scott Donkin	CEC NW Lifelong Learning Service Manger
Elaine Lennon	CEC NW learning Development Officer (part meeting)
Pauline Fordyce	CEC NW Lifelong Learning Development officer (notes)

Apologies

Angela Benzies	St. Thomas's Church
Sian McSorley	Corstorphine Community Centre
Arron Moffatt	Corstorphine Dynamo

AGENDA ITEM		ACTIONS AGREED
1.Welcome & Apologies	Tommy agreed to chair the meeting until Steve arrived. Tommy welcomed the group, and introduced Evelyn Kilmurry (CEC NW & NE Locality Manager) Evelyn informed the members that she is now managing both areas on a temporary basis, as Peter Strong has now retired from the CEC.	

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2. Notes of Western NN Meeting of 10.02.21	The notes were Approved.	
3. Western NN - Social Isolation Sub-Group Update	<p>Tommy had sent out two papers in advance. One from the western NN (WNN) subgroup meeting and another from the Western Almond Voluntary Sector Forum meeting whereby the issue of social isolation was the focus of both meetings.</p> <p>Tommy gave some background information as to when and why social isolation has become a priority issue as identified at several meetings last year. Highlighting that the issue, a major impact of the pandemic, is now one of the three North West Edinburgh Locality Improvement Plan (LIP) priorities.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding levels of isolation, it was agreed that lots of people need different levels of support, different age groups, a different transition stages of life. However, Tommy indicated that rather than for example setting up a befriending service, any approach might be perhaps a light touch a <i>“lend and elbow approach.”</i> However, that service would need to be supported and co-ordinated locally, with the appropriate checks, paperwork and training, which would need to be provided.</p> <p>Concerns had been expressed by some members of the WNN regarding the duplication of services and having two Social Isolation subgroups. Tommy explained the Voluntary Sector Forum meeting is made of different representatives and organisations and covers both the Western and Almond areas. The strength of NN was it can go through and get support from CEC. The overall aim is to work together and not duplicate. Digital Inclusion was also highlighted as a key concern, especially amongst older people in the community and this highlighted issues in respect of how activities to encourage people into more social opportunities might be missed.</p> <p>Pauline mentioned the Edinburgh Volunteer Centre has been present at the Voluntary Sector meeting and has a Task Force of volunteers that can offer light touch services. Tommy explained they would not have the capacity to offer the admin support but could recommend trainers.</p> <p>Scott highlighted that social isolation was on a sliding scale and that it was a massive issue. He suggested that the development of the wider Locality Improvement Plan priority would likely welcome some smaller approaches as the issue is so wide and will be challenging across the whole of the NW locality. Scott added that when the potential to develop Social Isolation was raised pre pandemic, there was a suggestion to undertake a mapping exercise to help</p>	<p><i>Scott to identify a member of staff to</i></p>

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	<p>identify what is already available and to help create a baseline to identify any potential gaps in service. This would also recognise the services currently being provided by local organisations and partners. It was generally accepted that this would be a welcome starting point and Scott agreed to provide some staff resource to help coordinate the activity.</p> <p>Robin mentioned the Prana Restaurant in Corstorphine as an example as it has a chatting area. Esther highlighted other examples currently ongoing in the Corstorphine Community centre, the Wellbeing Wednesdays which has a logo and good social media presence, several activities up and running. Fitting in with Corstorphine friendly Village profile.</p> <p>However, it was pointed out that not everyone has IT skills or access to social media. Poster are helpful too. Claire highlighted the people who need the most help may not tap into the social media or existing services; how do we reach out to them? There is Police and Social care, however it was recognised that linking with GPs can at times be difficult as they don't have time.</p>	<i>support the development of a Mapping exercise.</i>
4. Edinburgh Partnership (EP) update meeting of 23.03.21	<p>Steve gave background information about the Edinburgh Partnership. He has attended the working group tasked with taking forward the Audit Scotland findings which includes examining the performance of the LIPs and the effectiveness of community involvement with Community Planning. The group has met three times and are addressing three best value audit actions: - devolved budgets; strengthening the NN with support from CEC and strengthening the voluntary sector.</p> <p>Timeline – approved, working group in April and an implementation document ready for June to make it real.</p>	
5. Local Community Planning Partnership (LCPP) update meeting of 9.4.21	<p>Steve / Evelyn provided a verbal update.</p> <p>On the 16th March all 3 revised LIP priorities were approved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social Isolation (NW Locality wide) 2. Employment and Skills (NW Locality wide) 3. North Edinburgh (Specific to the area) <p>Work is now progressing to put in place appropriate structures with a view to further developing appropriate actions to take forward delivery. The Social Isolation priority is being led by Health & Social Care, Employment and Skills by Edinburgh College and North Edinburgh by the voluntary sector.</p>	
6. Western Community	<p>Scott spoke to the paper circulated which provided some background information about the community grants and the criteria set by the CEC. Scott indicated that the management of the funds had differed across the respective</p>	

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<p>Grant Fund (CGF) 2021/22 update</p>	<p>neighbourhoods where some local criterion had been established but, in most cases, never formally publicised which could create issues for potential applicants. These have included upper grant limits, repeat applications, set no from each org, set themes for funding.</p> <p>The CEC grant criteria is set and cannot be altered however, within that there are aspects which may provide some scope for the Neighbourhood Networks to identify local criteria and in doing so, this should be published alongside CEC criteria.</p> <p>Members discussed the introduction of ‘local’ criteria that would link to the ambitions of the network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thematic: Applications which will support the theme of Social Isolation (across all age groups) are to be encouraged; • Repeat applications: Whilst generally accepted that applications would be welcomed from different organisations, Esther highlighted some concerns that this perhaps shouldn’t prevent organisations from applying for different projects. It was agreed Community Grants can be awarded to same org as long as it’s for a different project. • Youth Decides: Cllr Aldridge suggested that this should be reintroduced as a means of encouraging young people to be proactively involved with decision making. It was agreed to ring fence some of the 2021-22 Community grant budget, the sum of between £5000 - £10,000 was agreed. <p>A local criteria document based on the discussion would be developed and circulated to the NN for comment and then circulation with future application requests.</p> <p>Community Grant Decision making: - it was agreed the Community grants recommendation would be discussed at the Western NN.</p>	<p><i>Scott to identify staff to support the process.</i></p> <p><i>Scott to circulate this before the next NN meeting.</i></p> <p><i>CGF decisions to be taken to WNN meeting</i></p>
<p>7.Neighbourhood Environment Programme (NEP) Progress</p>	<p>Scott shared a paper which provided updates to Housing Revenue Account and Transport Projects. Scott added that transport-based functions have now been centralised. The paper listed works which had been completed and some to be progressed.</p> <p>There was a general concern by the NN members regarding the progress of many of the transport works listed. The members highlighted the list of jobs still to be completed or with limited information in respect of definitive timescales for completion e.g. Drumbrae Junction - the consultation has not happened and this project was</p>	

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	<p>identified to support and improve public safety. The poor quality of workmanship on a completed pathway was also mentioned as an issue.</p> <p>Clarity was also sought regarding the budget and what will happen with outstanding projects.</p> <p>Scott explained that projects previously committed will be completed.</p> <p>Cllr Brown also highlighted his concerns and frustrations around the timescales and especially where larger projects being developed from the capital budget were awarded a contribution from NEP budget which could have been used to support several smaller projects.</p> <p>Evelyn acknowledged the concerns regarding the dissatisfaction associated with time scales and the number of uncompleted projects. Evelyn agreed to contact the departments to get the up-to-date information and clarity on the issues highlighted at the meeting.</p>	<p><i>Evelyn to get this information in advance of the next NN meeting.</i></p>
8.AOB	There was no other business	
9.Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 26 th May 2021 – <i>or afterwards – depending on when the Locality Community Planning Partnership meeting takes place.</i>	