



**LIBERTON/GILMERTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP
YOUTH ISSUES GROUP
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11th AUGUST 2011
IN 13 NEWTOFT STREET, EDINBURGH, EH17 8RG.**

PRESENT

Douglas Jeffrey	CEC, C & F – Community Learning and Development
Jade Mooney	CEC C& F – the Base/Youth Forum
PC Jamie Toal	Lothian & Borders Police
Brian Jennings	CEC, C&F
Paula Gaunt Richardson	Action for Children
Kirsty Hughes	Action for Children - HYPE
Jane Denmark	CHILDREN 1 ST - Bfriends
George Mackenzie	Gilmerton Library
Stewart Laird	CEC Services for Communities
Scott Donkin	CEC Services for Communities (Chair)

1. APOLOGIES

Gilbert Clark	Kaimes Neighbourhood Forum
Gayle Henderson	WEACT - Employability
Emma Vance	WEACT – Employability
Jan Williamson	Streetwork UK
Inspector Alan Bowie	Lothian & Borders Police
Andy Chittick	Liberton Kirk – Youth Worker
David Hayden	Moredun Library
Helen Munro	Princes Trust
Robert Ure	Fernieside Football Club
Cllr Norma Hart	City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Snowden	City of Edinburgh Council
Niki Powers	Health Opportunities Team

2. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 25th MAY 2011

- 2.1 These were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1 ***Dunedin Canmore Youth Project:*** Douglas informed the group that the Dunedin Canmore project was progressing well and has received the support of Kezia Dugdale MSP who has an interest in youth unemployment and the school to work transition. This followed the project writing to all MSP's raising the profile of the issue.

3.1.1 The project has also been involved in taking forward the Just do it Course in conjunction with WEACT which involved 12 young people with a wide range of successes on completion including an apprenticeship, work placements and employment.

3.2 **Young People & Alcohol Strategy:** Scott informed the group that following the summer break, work will begin in respect of identifying the baseline data required to complete the strategy action plan. Following this, the Strategy will be presented to the Neighbourhood Partnership for formal adoption in November.

4. YOUTH ISSUES GROUP – DEVELOPMENT & PURPOSE

4.1 In addition to the report previously circulated, Scott suggested that as we move into the development of the new 2011 – 2014 Community Plan and the associated group priority, an opportunity exists to reflect on the development and purpose of the group.

4.2 The new plan will be a more streamlined and manageable version to the current plan and it is hoped that the priorities will provide opportunities to identify clear and robust outcomes. To do this, it is important that the correct agencies and individuals are involved in the process.

4.3 Taking forward both the development and delivery of the associated action plan will require innovative thinking whereby resources both financial and human have already diminished and are likely to further diminish in the next few years. This will no doubt impact on local service delivery however, Scott was confident that with key agencies involved and a potential re-think of how services are managed and delivered locally, the challenges linked to the future action plan can be achieved.

4.4 This was agreed and it was also acknowledged that with diminished resources, the work linked to the Priority (Positively Engage Young People) may need to be undertaken using a focussed approach. This links to how young people are currently engaged in local activity:

- **Generally Engaged:** Those young people, often large numbers, already engaged through a wide range of services and activities;
- **Disengaged:** Potentially identified as those young people who may hang around the streets and not wish to engage formally. My however be involved in some other form of activity from time to time e.g. Sport.
- **Furthest Removed:** Young people identified by a number of agencies and in particular, the police, Social Work etc. Likely to have behavioural issues and may be banned from a number of facilities.

- 4.5 It was suggested that whilst young people will continue to engage in the services available and we must ensure that this can increase wherever possible, this is an opportune time to identify how we focus resource to positively engage young people who may be disengaged, have known issues and generally require more support.
- 4.6 This is likely to not only provide benefit for the young people themselves but potentially also their immediate families and the wider community.
- 4.7 Those present agreed that when the development process for the action plan takes place, the group, its membership and remit must be taken into consideration and where specific actions are identified, these recognise that a focus will be to engage those young people furthest removed at present.

5. 2011 – 2014 COMMUNITY PLAN PRIORITY INDICATORS

- 5.1 Scott reminded the group that the development of the new community plan has been underway for some time now with the group initially identifying the proposed priority (Positively Engage Young People) and this being agreed in principle for wider consultation by the Neighbourhood Partnership.
- 5.2 The community consultation was well underway and Scott informed the group that to date, the community had wholeheartedly endorsed the priorities put to them. This then allows future planning to be carried out.
- 5.3 It was now an opportune time to begin the development of the priority itself and the Partnership adopted a 'dictionary' of indicators to be used to support the priorities and to help build the action plans. Scott provided some further details about the indicators contained in the report and informed the group that a maximum of 3 should be used for the priority.
- 5.4 After some discussion, it was agreed that the indicator linked to 'Youth Work Attendance' would be ideal however, it was noted that this only relates to Council provision. The group felt this was too narrow as there was a great deal of activity and service provided through the voluntary sector and uniformed services.
- 5.5 Douglas informed the group that the Edinburgh Youthwork Consortium were in the process of gathering this type of information across the city which may better reflect the indicator sought by the group.
- 5.6 It was agreed that this would be preferable and Scott will discuss with colleagues in Performance Management and Information to see if this indicator can be used.

ACTION: SCOTT DONKIN

- 5.7 The other indicator suggested centred on 'Satisfaction with facilities for teenagers'. Again the group felt this was wholly appropriate but because the collection method is via the Edinburgh People's Survey, this will likely reflect the views of adults. It was agreed that Viewfinder was the most suitable vehicle to obtain this information.
- 5.8 There was uncertainty over the future of the Viewfinder study and Douglas agreed to look into this.

ACTION: DOUGLAS JEFFREY

- 5.9 It was suggested that if Viewfinder will not be repeated, the Neighbourhood Partnership must be made aware that taking forward a priority of Positively Engaging Young People becomes flawed as there appears to be no readily available method to identify young people's views.
- 5.10 The group agreed that this indicator should be used one way or another and that other collection methods must be investigated. Scott agreed to report this to the Partnership.

ACTION: SCOTT DONKIN

- 5.11 Brian felt that the work of the Youth Issues Group needs to link in with the GIRFEC group to ensure that there is no duplication of resource and that wherever possible, known issues are developed in tandem.
- 5.12 Scott felt that this was vital if elements of the plan are to succeed. This will also be relevant for the Health Inequalities Group who have identified parenting as a key strand within their priority of 'Tackling Health Inequality'.
- 5.13 Scott suggested that he and Brian meet to discuss how best to establish firm links between the groups and issues.

ACTION: BRIAN JENNINGS/SCOTT DONKIN

6. YOUTH EVENT 2011

- 6.1 Work on the development of the Youth Event will regain momentum following the summer break. It is suggested that the event will take place in November.
- 6.2 The group commented that the event is an ideal opportunity for the Partnership to learn of young peoples views and opinions and that the members of the Partnership must be encouraged to participate.

ACTION: SCOTT DONKIN

7. SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM PRIORITIES

- 7.1 Scott reminded the group that the paper circulated outlining the SNT priorities is for information as these are set by the Partnership's Better and Safer Communities Group.
- 7.2 It was acknowledged that a large percentage of the priorities set involves young people and Scott reminded the group that once the new community plan has been agreed, there is likely to be a full review of the sub structure and its meeting schedule etc beyond 2011. The Youth Issues Group will meet prior to the Better and Safer Communities Group to potentially offer assistance with identifying solutions to some of the issues raised etc.

8. LIBERTON GILMERTON SPORTS FORUM

- 8.1 In addition to the report circulated, Stewart informed the group that the Sportsfest held at Inch Park on the 10th June had been very successful. The Sports Forum are about to undertake a full review of the event and its development.
- 8.2 Over 13 sports participated on the day with all volunteering their time and opportunities for the 300+ young people to participate.
- 8.3 Whilst the rain came down a bit later in the afternoon, it didn't dampen the spirits of all involved.
- 8.4 Stewart agreed to provide a report of the outcomes from the review at the next meeting of the group.

ACTION: STEWART LAIRD

9. LIBERTON GILMERTON YOUTH FORUM

- 9.1 Jade informed the group that the members of the forum have been busy with summer activities and it is planned to meet again on 31st August.
- 9.2 This meeting will be used to plan the residential as part of the programme of activities the group have been involved in.

10. MEMBERS UPDATES

- 10.1 **HYPE:** Paula informed the group that HYPE as a city wide entity has gone as all of the associated funding was lost. Action for Children no longer has premises in London Road and the other services such as the homeless aspect now operate from Castlebrae.
 - 10.1.1 Kirsty will still provide services in Liberton Gilmerton relating to alcohol work with young people at least until March 2012.
- 10.2 **Burdiehouse Dip:** PC Toal informed the group that as part of the SNT Burdiehouse Dip priority, RUTS will be coming to the Dip during September and October to engage with young people identified as having been involved with off road bikes and mini motos etc.
 - 10.2.1 At present, 6 young people aged 14 – 18 yrs have been identified and the work they will engage with will contribute 30 hours to a SVQ. Valley Park Community Centre is helping to host some of the activity.
- 10.3 Scott thanked everyone for their input to the meeting.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 11.1 Thursday 10th November 2011 at 2.00 pm in 13 Newtoft Street.