**Community Planning Aberdeen**

**Sustainable City Outcome Improvement Group**

Meeting on 12th January 2021

- On Teams -

**Present**: Ann Wakefield, Emma Williams, Gale Beattie, Joanna Murray, Jon Barron, Kelly Wiltshire, Kris Hultman, Michael Cassie, Michelle Cochlan, Neil Carnegie, Nicky, Pam Walker, Sinclair Laing, Steven Shaw, Sue Lawrence, Jacqui Bell and Jillian Evans. Neil Carnegie

**Actions:**

* SC group to feedback on potential LOIP changes by end of Feb. – priorities, focus, proposals

**LOIP refresh workshop** led by MC

See Slides attached for description of process and initial assessment of PNA and SC projects.

Overall aim: to get views on whether we need to re-prioritise? Do we have the right projects? Are the projects making a difference?

Group addressed the workshop questions on gaps in the PNA and whether we have the right stretch outcomes.

Summary of identified issues

* Gap in the PNA and LOIP around **natural heritage** - wildlife, habitat and species – they have an important connection to how people feel about their environment, especially during COVID-19 as people connect more with nature and wildlife. There is potential for partnership working with SEPA/Nature Scotland etc on this. Work has already started but should be included in the LOIP due to the link between health and wellbeing and people’s sense of place.
* Gap in the PNA around **water environment** – ensuring we are meeting quality standards. Current focus is on managing flooding but it is possible to do this whilst improving spaces for wildlife, recreation and fishing. Resource management.
* Our current focus on access to outdoors/**green space** is quite narrow and LOIP would benefit from more emphasis on related issues e.g. **biodiversity**. We need to make places more attractive whilst improving environment. We have seen an increase in the use of green spaces and also demand for on maintaining/improving them, including unrealistic measures (e.g. woodland walks to be gritted). It is calling for resource which just isn’t there. Service is reviewing how maintain/improve – working with partners and community champions and getting them aligned – there is a lot of potential. Also shifting emphasis to KPIs that look at outcomes e.g. wildlife presence rather than process e.g. cutting grass.
* **Community cohesion** – In light of COVID-19 it’s even more important to capture communities coming together/supporting. Could bring together with resilience planning and think about how this fits with locality planning and whether there is an opportunity for the SC Group to lead on any aspect from a city-wide angle.
* The Climate Change Strategy includes targets and challenges for **transport emissions**, incl. 20% reduction in car kilometres. We could include this as a project in the LOIP – not focussing only on public sector partners but private sector organisations too. Employers could reduce travel at work and single car occupancy, encourage people to continue to work from home and return to public transport when safe to do so. There is an opportunity for this to link into Community Planning Aberdeen’s work to strengthen relationships with the business community and tapping into their Corporate Social Responsibility efforts.
* **Road safety** – need to explore data showing this moving in the wrong direction for the last 2 years to understand the issues and where we might have an impact.
* Gap in the LOIP re. **fire safety** - is there a role for the Partnership? Important for community safety. Learning from education work with home fire safety visits and link with health and social care issues. Need to think whether there is a project in this. Where does it sit in terms of stretch outcomes?
* Review of how **waste** is measured. Scottish deposit/return scheme means it will be more difficult to track what the improvement is going forward. Need to take a targeted approach to focus on the priority neighbourhoods where this is more of a problem. E.g. Communal properties and affordable housing. Looking for partners to work with to deliver improvements in this area
* **Fuel poverty** – choosing between food and fuel common for CFINE food bank members. Income maximisation. Pantry work already supports. Is this a gap or are our projects already addressing the root cause of fuel poverty? Poverty in widest sense needs a higher profile in LOIP.
* Proposals re Stretch Outcomes: SO13 stays the same. SO14 might need to be tweaked given raised expectations and changes to the data. SO15 to be revised to ensure it is measurable and reflects a desire to see an increase in walking and cycling, not necessarily as the main mode of travel but in general. COVID-19 has seen more people doing this for recreation, how can we sustain? We also have an annual study on children (‘hands up’ survey) which shows the influence they can have. Could we revise the SO or improvement aims to show a focus on adults and children?
* Suggestion to add new stretch aims - opportunity to do this, but care not to over-commit

Other points of interest

* Need to be realistic about what can be achieved – there won’t be more resources – must manage what we have better to meet outcomes we want to see. And manage demand.
* Consider whether we have had capacity to make improvements so far
* For work/collaboration that is starting to happen, inclusion in LOIP may give more profile/credibility
* Consider the ‘common barriers to progress’ slide to see if any apply
* Knowing what you know now, what would you change: improvement aims and ways of working? (workshop question to apply to individual projects)

**Next meeting** – suggestion that it follows in next couple of weeks so we have the chance to discuss our individual projects and consider further things that came up today.