



## Community Planning Aberdeen

## **Minutes of the meeting**

## Meeting Name - ABERDEEN PROSPERS OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT GROUP

Date	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	
Time	10.30 – 12 noon	
Location	TEAMS	
Present	Allison Carrington (SDS), Arshia Khatir (ACC), Duncan Abernethy (Nescol), Margaret Stewart (Culture Abdn), Paul Tytler (ACC), Ruth Milne (RGU), Bob Farthing (Civic Forum), Rab Dickson (NESTRANS), Charlotte Saunders (ACC), Roz Taylor (Elevator), Marie Watson (DWP), Paul Walsh (DWP), Martin Barry (SE), Kirsty McLaughlin (Elevator), Lori Leslie (ACC), Jim Johnstone (ACC), Colin Farquhar (Culture Abdn), Blair Duthie (?), Julie Kean (SDS) – minute taker	

		Action
1.	Welcome and Introductions	Allison
	Allison welcomed everyone onto the call and noted there is now a new representative from DWP attending – Paul Walsh and from Culture Aberdeen – Colin Farquhar, everyone on this call introduced themselves.	
	Apologies	
	Apologies received from – Liz Rattray (University of Abdn), Charlotte Saunders (ACC), Claire Shaw (AVCO), Tom Power (NHS), Angela Taylor (ACC)	
2.	Minutes of previous meeting, actions & matters arising	Allison
	Item 6 Project Baseline Data and Reporting – Allison spoke to Emma and Bob and now this action is complete.	

	Passed and approved.	
3.	Communication of projects (see Comms Help Sheet attached)	Allison Swanson
	Help Sheet - Communication Draft • There are 70 live projects in the LOIP overall – 5 have reached	
	<ul> <li>their aims for 2023.</li> <li>Key focus now is on how to communicate the work being carried out under the LOIP to the community – both to spread the word re work being done and also to encourage uptake of project offers.</li> <li>Attached is a communication help sheet for project leads. It outlines provides help and advice on delivering comms around projects to the community.</li> <li>Lots of support available from Aberdeen City Council re sending comms out and all partners in the group also able to share comms via own comms lines.</li> </ul>	
	Roz mentioned that she wasn't aware that ACC could send out communications and was not sure what is available, and the question was asked "what do you want from us"? and how will it look?	
	Martin commented saying he had received fantastic comms re Wood Group/Living Wage.	Allison C
	Allison C thanked Allison Swanson for attending meeting, this information is very useful. Allison Swanson asked the group to contact them directly for any further information and assistance.	
4	Allison to contact Claire regarding communications. (done)	All
4.	Overview of Project Charters sitting with Aberdeen Prospers – brief update from each project owner. (See overview of SOs 2 & 3 attached, Discussion around barriers preventing progression where appropriate and potential ways forward.	Ап
	PDFPDFSO2 Overview AprilSO3 Overview April22 (2).pdf22 (2).pdf	
	There are 9 projects, and some are doing well.	
	<u>Real Living Wage 2.1</u> – The project is progressing well as intended, increase of cost of living is at a 40-year high as a result of inflation, the energy price increases and other factors. The Real Living Wage rate will be adjusted by the end of the year in response to this and there will be action plan published later this year. Planning to meet with Claire to discuss comms to be sent out Nationally.	Martin
	Allison mentioned that this project is doing well and asked if the group if they had any questions.	

<u>Business Start-Ups 2.2</u> – The project is progressing well with a good number of start-ups coming through from Universal Credit. Up to March there had been 40 enquiries and 14 have started new businesses. There have been no enquiries from the North area of the City and this needs to be addressed. Donna Davie is now the new Business Enabler Advisor contact for City & Shire she is also looking for help to find new bases that have internet connection etc. from which to work with the localities.	Kirstie/Roz
Paul Tytler is happy to speak to Donna regarding the North.	Paul Tytler
Donna only started at the beginning of April so there are no comms for this project yet but hopefully there will be in the next few weeks. The plan is for Donna to have a presence in each locality twice per month. Roz mentioned that she is pleased with the progress so far but that there is still a lot of work to do to get out and about to meet the right people face to face in order to best support. Businesses can be anyone from a sole trader, limited company etc. Kirstie gave examples of the types of companies they can support from someone setting up an ironing business from home to supporting someone running the next renewable energy company.	
Allison asked if there is any help needed from this group, Kirstie please asked for the referrals to keep coming in.	All
Employability Support for Care Experienced Young People 2.3 - Lori gave an update. There is a targeted employability support plan which was launched in November 2020 to support 15 care experienced young people to progress into employment, via the public sectors programmes, by 2023. So far there have been 14 registered individuals which is very positive. We are working alongside Working Rite and out of the 14 participants 12 are care experienced and the other 2 are referrals from social work. All of these will be working towards accredited training.	
<u>Priority Groups into employment</u> – This has not been able to progress. Paul covers 3 localities and has no team for his charter project and has capacity problems/issues. Paul is looking for a Project Lead to help support him/take over the project. He also asked if this could be combined with another charter to support delivery but there isn't an obvious one with which to do this. Paul would appreciate support from the group and has also tried to get someone from ACC that could possibly take over. Allison asked the group if there was anyone that would be interested in supporting Paul with this project?	Lori/Angela
Allison asked Paul if they could meet up next week to discuss this further. (done)	Allison

	<u>Community Benefits</u> – In Charlottes absence Lori said there is a meeting this week with Michelle Cochlan and there will be some brainstorming with input from the 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector.	
	Allison to catch up with Charlotte. (done)	
	Digital Access and Skills 3.2 – Emma was not on the call and no update was received.	Allison
	Allison to catch up with Emma. (done)	
	ICT and Digital Qualifications 3.3 – Bob mentioned that he was still looking for a contact at Aberdeen University. The project has 2 x main objectives – to engage with schools and increase awareness of the importance of these skills. Allison said that she will put Bob in touch with Charlie Love and that there was some cross engagement between Bob and Emma's project. Bob asked if there is anyone that could support him around this group to please get in touch, Paul replied to say he would be happy to help Bob. Ruth is happy to ask the head of computing to gather some data (John Issacs), Ruth will pick this up with Bob after meeting.	
	Allison to catch up with Bob within the next 2 weeks to possibly widen his team.	Allison
	<u>Modern and Graduate Apprenticeships 3.4</u> – This has not been able to progress the main problem is capacity, was struggling to get information from St Machar Academy but thankfully Paul was able to help. Duncan needs to get dates etc in diaries 'Test for Change' and focus on locality – apprenticeships. Duncan said that he knows what needs to be done it's just the time.	Duncan
5	AOB	All
<u> </u>	Bob mentioned there is a locality meeting in the evening 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022.	7.0
	Martin – Region Economic Strategy being refreshed by end of June/July 2022 and will keep this group informed.	
	SE have now moved premises into, Marischal College Business Hub 13 2nd Floor North Broad St Aberdeen AB10 1AB	
	Duncan – would like to look at future items for this group to add to future agendas looking forward.	

	Julie to send out to group the list of items for future meetings for	
	members to also add items to be discussed and if they are time	Julie
	critical (please see attached below).	
	Suggested Forward	
	Agenda Items (2021).	
	<ul> <li>Culture Aberdeen project – this is now a new project which is not listed on the LOIP, Margaret introduced a new member Colin</li> <li>Farquhar to the group and gave an overview on how to increase the use of vacant city centre units for cultural purposes and there are 3 ways to do this-</li> <li>1. Promotional units used to promote cultural organisations e.g., Aberdeen Performing Arts unit</li> <li>2. Pop up space, allowing people to inhabit a space for a short period of time</li> <li>3. Longer term tenancies</li> <li>There are a number of barriers to overcome such as access to sites,</li> </ul>	
	rates relief, building issues.	
	Aberdeen Performing Acts will be doing a variety of things regarding vacant units in Bon Accord centre from Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2022.	
	Bob would like to catch up with Margaret after this meeting to discuss the 'future of Union Street'.	Bob
	Julie to send meeting requests to the group for the rest of this year (approx. every 6 weeks apart)	
8.	Date and time of next meeting - Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2022, 10.30 –	Julie
0.	12pm via Teams	