

Fife Partnership Board

www.fife.gov.uk/committee/fifepartnership

Tuesday, 21 May, 2024 - 10.00 a.m. – Remote Meeting

AGENDA

	<u>Page Nos.</u>
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2. MINUTE – Minute of Fife Partnership Board Meeting of 13 February 2024	3 – 5
3. PLAN FOR FIFE - THREE YEAR REVIEW – Report by the Executive Director - Communities	6 – 14
4. ACE DELIVERY PLAN – Report by the Head of Planning Services	15 – 19
5. DISCUSSION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can we have wider partner involvement in the joint Delivery Plan for Climate?• What are the opportunities for working across the four Plan4Fife objectives to address the climate emergency?• What if we developed a partnership wide Climate Literacy programme to support climate action?	
6. HOUSING EMERGENCY UPDATE – Report by the Head of Housing Services	20 – 24
7. FIFE PARTNERSHIP BOARD FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME	25 – 25
8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 6 August 2024	

Partners are reminded that should they have queries on the detail of a report they should, where possible, contact the report authors in advance of the meeting to seek clarification.

Lindsay Thomson
Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Finance and Corporate Services

Fife House
North Street
Glenrothes
Fife, KY7 5LT

14 May, 2024



If telephoning, please ask for:

Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Fife House 06 (Main Building)

Telephone: 03451 555555, ext. 445279; email: Michelle.Hyslop@fife.gov.uk

Agendas and papers for all Committee meetings can be accessed on

www.fife.gov.uk/committees

THE FIFE COUNCIL - FIFE PARTNERSHIP BOARD – REMOTE MEETING

13 February, 2024

10.00 am – 11.45 am

PRESENT: Councillors David Ross (Convener), David Alexander and Linda Erskine; Ken Gourlay, Chief Executive, Fife Council; Carol Potter, Chief Executive, Joy Tomlinson, Director of Public Health, Patricia Kilpatrick, Chair of NHS Fife Board, NHS Fife; Nicky Connor, Director of Health and Social Care Partnership; Debbie West, DWP Customer Service Leader, Department of Work & Pensions; Lesley Caldwell, Senior Community Engagement and Social Responsibility Manager, St Andrews University; Brian Butler, Partnership Manager and Beth Harley-Jepson, SESTran; Chief Superintendent Derek McEwan, Police Scotland; Sarah Robertson, Station Commander, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service and Julie Shields, Scottish Ambulance Service.

ATTENDING: Carol Connolly, Executive Director Place; Gordon Mole, Head of Business & Employability, Kirsty Martin, Service Manager - Employability & Employer Engagement, Employability Service; Sinead O'Donnell, Policy and Delivery Manager, Communities & Neighbourhoods and Michelle Hyslop, Committee Officer, Committee Services.

ALSO ATTENDING: Susan Budd, Engagement & Community Support Officer, Ministry of Defence.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Alison Taylor, Place Director, Scottish Government; Jim Metcalfe, Principal and David Watt, Chair, Fife College.

42. MINUTE

The Board considered the minute of the Fife Partnership Meeting of 21 November 2023.

Decision

The Board agreed to approve the minute.

43. PRESENTATION FROM MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

The Board considered a presentation by Susan Budd, Engagement and Community Support Officer, Ministry of Defence, Leuchars.

Decision

The Board: -

- (1) welcomed and noted the presentation; and
- (2) agreed that partners would link in with Susan to continue discussions.

44. COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING – DEEP DIVE

The Board considered a report by the Executive Director – Place advising on Fife’s response to the recovery & renewal priorities in relation to Community Wealth Building (CWB) as set out in the 2021-2024 Plan. The report detailed the key issues and opportunities for collaboration across all anchor organisations as part of the Community Wealth Building reform ambition.

Decision

The Board: -

- (1) welcomed and noted the presentation by Kirsty Martin;
- (2) acknowledged the progress and key issues identified in embedding Community Wealth Building policy and practice across all partner organisations;
- (3) noted the opportunities to support implementation through partnership collaboration, and scaling of initiatives as set out in the report; and
- (4) agreed that the Recovery and Renewal Leadership Board would develop Fife Council's Life Chances Model for employability and noted that this would assist in the progression of public sector recruitment on a partnership basis.

45. ANCHOR PROGRAMME AND STRATEGIC PLAN

The Board considered a report by the Director of Public Health, NHS Fife providing partners with an overview of the Anchor Programme and Strategic Plan for NHS Fife and Fife Health and Social Care Partnership.

Decision

The Board noted and commented on: -

- (1) the progress of the Anchor's programme and guidance issued to NHS Boards;
- (2) the existing partnership working within the strategic plan; and
- (3) the opportunities for future collaboration between partners.

46. DISCUSSION

The Board asked partners to consider the following discussion points.

- What if the life chances model was developed on a Fife Partnership basis?
- What if Fife had one digital portal offering which supported community benefit capture in individual procuring organisations?
- What if we could jointly map our assets to support planning service delivery for places and reducing our carbon footprint?

Decision

The Board: -

- (1) welcomed the discussion topics and noted the continued collaboration work throughout the partnership board;
- (2) welcomed feedback from partners in shaping the anchor metrics;
- (3) acknowledged NHS Fife's commitment to the life chances model;
- (4) noted the continued barriers to employment and agreed to look at the employability pathways between all partnership services to improve employability;
- (5) noted that the ESES tool is available for all anchor partner organisations to access; and
- (6) agreed that partners would look into how they can contribute to the life chances model for their individual organisations.

47. NEW PARTNER MEMBER – SCOTTISH AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Board considered a report by the Executive Director - Communities providing partners with an overview of the Scottish Ambulance Services in Fife. The report detailed ways in which Scottish ambulance services could contribute to the Plan for Fife ambitions.

Decision

The Board: -

- (1) considered the work of the Scottish Ambulance Service; and
- (2) agreed that Julie Shields from the Scottish Ambulance Services would be added as a partner on the Fife Partnership Board.

48. FIFE'S UK SHARED PROSPERITY INVESTMENT PLAN

The Board considered a report by the Executive Director - Place presenting the updated Fife's UK Shared Prosperity Investment Plan for 2022/25.

Decision

The Board endorsed the updated Fife's UK Shared Prosperity Investment Plan for 2022/2025.

49. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Decision

The next Board meeting would take place on 21 May 2024.

Fife Partnership Board

www.fife.gov.uk/committee/fifepartnership

21st May 2024

Agenda Item No. 3

Plan for Fife – Three Year Review

Report by: Michael Enston, Executive Director, Communities

Purpose

To propose that Fife Partnership continues to progress the recovery and renewal priorities for the period 2024-2027, focusses on a collaborative programme in that period and to set out an approach for the development of the next Plan for Fife.

Recommendations

That Fife Partnership Board:

1. Notes the summary assessment from the recent annual report, the review work undertaken by the Recovery & Renewal Leadership Group and emerging findings from the strategic assessment in section 2;
2. Agrees to maintain focus and action against the existing recovery and renewal priorities for 2024-2027 and to refocus delivery arrangements;
3. Approves a review exercise of the current partnership system and delivery arrangements;
4. Agrees to explore further how we might embed an approach to health equity through the Marmot approach as set out in section 3.

Resource Implications

There are no resource implications arising from the proposals in this report other than for partner engagement and diary time to participate in a review exercise. Work with the Institute of Health Equity on the 2027 refresh of Plan for Fife would require resource to be identified and this will be considered as part of the further evaluation of the benefits of a Marmot approach to constructing the Plan.

Consultation

The Recovery & Renewal Leadership Group shaped the recommendations proposed in this report at their meetings on 14th March and 29th April 2024.

1.0 Background

1.1 The Plan for Fife 2017- 2027 sets out our ten-year ambitions for Fife. It has three-year review periods built into the planning cycle. Review work undertaken in 2021 identified the following key messages:

- The Plan for Fife ambitions are still relevant but require a stronger focus over the next three years, particularly in mid-Fife. They provide a clear set of longer term aims for the plan and will enable us to continue to monitor our progress.
- We are unlikely to achieve our ambitions using the systems and approaches that are currently in place - incremental change against a background of increasing demand and resource pressures is unlikely to bring about the change we need to make.
- The success of local place-based responses has underlined the importance of community-based solutions when tackling poverty, building future economic success, and addressing climate change.
- The implications of the coronavirus pandemic are likely to affect life outcomes for people for some time after it ends. This will be seen through increased or changed demand for services and poorer outcomes across a range of indicators. This is expected to impact on health, jobs, poverty, and inequalities.
- The challenge will be to move from crisis support to prevention.
- The scale of the challenge facing Fife's communities following the Covid-19 pandemic points to the need for a refocus around renewal and clear leadership to support common purpose across the system.

1.2 A decision was subsequently taken by Fife Partnership Board in 2021 to refresh the Plan and to focus on three key priorities for recovery and renewal coming out of the pandemic experience:

- Leading economic recovery
- Tackling poverty and preventing crisis
- Addressing the climate emergency

1.3 Each priority is supported by an overarching approach of community wealth building as the way to reframe the development of our local economies and environment and to provide the unifying approach to meeting challenges as diverse as economic recovery, wellbeing, poverty, climate action and our aspiration for people and place-based, local leadership.

1.4 The Recovery & Renewal Plan 2021-2024 further identified several pivotal changes we need to make in how we work to achieve our priorities:

- Building no wrong door
- Creating a sense of place
- Making it happen – just do it
- Taking time for people and relationships
- Improving evidence

- 1.5 New delivery board and senior leadership arrangements were put in place to drive forward the new recovery and renewal priorities during this three-year period.
- 1.6 A series of focused conversations on public service redesign involving around 100 leaders across the Fife Partnership was undertaken in 2022 as part of the Our Fife Leadership Summits. This led to the agreement of strategic change ambitions and leadership commitments to further drive action across the system. (**Appendix 1**)
- 1.7 To inform review at this three-year stage in the plan cycle, section two presents a brief commentary on progress during 2021-2024, recent review work undertaken by the Recovery & Renewal Leadership Group and the emerging findings from the strategic assessment.

2.0 Three Year Review

Progress 2021-2024

- 2.1 The Annual Review of Priorities and Ambitions report was presented to FPB in November 2023. It shows a mixed and moving picture of progress across the range of activity, indicators, and measures in the Plan for Fife.
- 2.2 The report concluded the following summary position:

The latest annual report on priorities and ambitions reflects the ongoing and not unexpected challenges that Fife continues to face in recovering from the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis.

Through a continued focus on recovery and renewal priorities, Delivery Boards have shown good progress. There has been improved use of data and evidence to target poverty interventions and maximise household incomes. Partners are flexing their power as anchor organisations to re-wire systems and processes to deliver Community Wealth Building: increasing local procurement, increasing recruitment for those facing most barriers, and capturing greater community benefits.

In terms of local economic recovery, as well as post-pandemic growth in tourism, external funding has been secured to support businesses, create jobs and opportunities in mid-Fife. The delivery of community climate projects continues to expand, biodiversity enhancement activity is underway with grants available to support transition to net zero for businesses in Fife. Good progress is also being made in reducing Fife's carbon footprint.

Across the wider ambitions, while good progress is being made in literacy and numeracy, and in closing the attainment gap, the gap remains between most and least deprived communities. More young people are now going into positive destinations on leaving school. Fewer people are being paid less than the living wage. Tourism is a success story in terms of economic recovery. Town centres continue to face ongoing challenges. Lower business survival rates reflect the

increased costs of doing business arising from a mix of factors (including Brexit, the pandemic and rising energy costs).

Sports facilities, culture and leisure are taking time to recover to pre-pandemic levels. Mid-Fife continues to be an area of strategic concern with persistently lower employment and higher unemployment rate relative to other areas of Fife.

Poverty levels remain stubbornly high. Cost of living pressures have increased demand for community food, fuel and crisis support, working against the desire to move to more preventative approaches to tackling poverty before people end up in crisis. Difficult economic circumstances are reflected in increased crime in some communities. Challenges remain around housing and homelessness with temporary accommodation limited and under pressure. Longer term health impacts on local communities continue to be an area of concern.

Despite the challenging social and economic context continuing to hamper improvement efforts, maintaining focus on the recovery and renewal priorities is supporting partners to work collaboratively to make a step change in the areas which will make the biggest difference to achievement of the long-term ambitions set out in the Plan for Fife 2017-2027. (FPB November 2023, Agenda Pack pg 31)

Recovery & Renewal Leadership Group Review

- 2.3 The Recovery & Renewal Leadership Group undertook a self-assessment exercise in 2023 and identified the following areas for improvement to the partnership delivery system:
- refocus delivery arrangements on the recovery and renewal priorities around a sharper collaborative programme,
 - clarify wider reporting arrangements to the Group and to FPB on e.g. strategic partnerships, thematic strategy development and in annual reporting requirements,
 - improve project tracking and the performance framework,
 - elevate a focus on place-based approaches.
- 2.4 To address the issues identified, the Recovery & Renewal Leadership Group agreed that a sharp review exercise be undertaken with delivery board leads, partners and partnership chairs. This could take the form of a desk-based review and workshop discussion session and reported back to FPB later this year.

Fife Strategic Assessment

- 2.5 A Fife Strategic Assessment is produced every three years to inform the review of Plan for Fife priorities. Work is underway to produce the 2024 Strategic Assessment which will be presented to Fife Partnership Board in August.
- 2.6 Initial findings from the 2024 assessment work identify some key risks:
- Population growth has stalled, fewer people are of working age.
 - Our population is ageing, is unhealthier, leading to growing demand.

- Children and young people are at risk of poorer outcomes.
- Personal wellbeing is a concern at all ages.
- The cost-of-living crisis is far from over and there are pressures on housing.
- The need for improvement in place is growing.
- Mid-Fife remains an area of concern.
- Inequalities in Fife persist and are widening.

2.7 This confirms what was anticipated in 2021 that the legacy impacts of the pandemic will last longer than the crisis itself and negatively affect life outcomes and widen inequalities.

2.8 This evidence points to a conclusion that we are very much still in a recovery phase, the priorities remain appropriate but there is increased urgency for action to narrow the widening inequality gap particularly in relation to outcomes for children and young people, healthy life expectancy and premature mortality.

3.0 Marmot Learning & Options to Shape 2027 Plan

3.1 This increasing inequality challenge as evidenced by the strategic assessment is a challenge to all partners and could possibly benefit from a focus on health equity similar to that set out in a Marmot approach. A Marmot place is one which has a significant commitment to tackle health inequalities through action on the social determinants of health - the social and economic conditions which shape our health - and has strong and effective plans and policies to achieve these reductions in health inequalities. It is a way of responding to increasing inequality by focussing our partnership work.

3.2 Fife Council, together with the Director of Public Health, has been exploring what Fife can learn from the work of Sir Michael Marmot and the [Institute of Health Equity](#) (IHE) with local authorities across England and Wales to reduce inequalities. The Scottish Government and Public Health Scotland are also exploring the potential of embedding a system of health equity nationally through a Marmot approach. Further information on Marmot principles and learning from across the UK is in Appendix 2.

3.3 The Institute of Health Equity are available to work alongside Fife Partnership to tackle inequalities by strengthening the health equity system and using this to shape investment and resource allocation decisions.

3.4 Opportunities that this might offer include:

- a simpler focus to a shared agenda
- external support to develop stronger leadership and partnerships.
- help to prioritise health and wellbeing when planning places and services
- a whole systems approach to tackling inequality through health equity
- an improved performance framework

- 3.5 The Recovery and Renewal Leadership Group considered the potential of Marmot and of working with IHE and agreed that it should be further explored as part of a wider options appraisal during 2024-2027. The Recovery & Renewal Leadership Group was keen however to remain open-minded about what might be the right fit for Fife and to explore this as part of a Leadership Summit 2 engagement approach.

4.0 Conclusion

- 4.1 The report presents the findings of review and assessment work to be considered at the end of the three-year period of the Recovery & Renewal Plan 2021-2024. It identifies that; the current recovery and renewal priorities remain valid, despite good efforts and crisis support there remain widening inequalities, there are improvements to make to the delivery, co-ordination system and performance framework and there is value in developing a collaborative programme.
- 4.4 Building on recent learning of the Marmot approach, and the opportunities with Public Health Scotland and the IHE it is recommended that Marmot is further explored together with other options for resetting in 2027 and that a Leadership Summit 2 approach is deployed during 2024-2027 to engage more deeply with partner organisations.
- 4.5 Proposed timeline of decision point opportunities are set out in the table below:

1. Partner Feedback on Plan for Fife – Three Year review report to Recovery & Renewal Leadership Group.	29 th April 2024 RRLG
2. Proposal to Fife Partnership Board on Plan for Fife three-year review findings and next steps.	21 st May 2024 FPB
3. Fife Strategic Assessment Report for discussion and an update on review scoping / action to Recovery & Renewal Leadership Group.	5 th June 2024 RRLG
4. Fife Strategic Assessment Report to FPB and recommendations on proposals for changes to partnership delivery and co-ordination system.	6 th August 2024 FPB

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Strategic Change Ambitions and Leadership Commitments

Appendix 2 – Marmot Learning

Report Contacts:

Sinead O'Donnell
Policy & Delivery Manager
Fife Council
sinead.odonnell@fife.gov.uk

Appendix 1 Strategic Change Ambitions and Leadership Commitments

Leadership Summit Stocktake January 2023

Strategic Change Ambitions and Leadership Commitments

Put Community Wealth Building at the heart of what we're doing, so we

- actively engage and work with local business, start-ups and third sector to win more of our work
- reach out our recruitment to local communities
- prioritise CWB within our key strategies e.g. economy, climate, health

Live up to the Place Principle, so we

- work through a shared approach to how we inform, plan, review and engage locally
- adjust our structures and operating arrangements to enable locally responsive teamwork
- make resource decisions together

Implement system change in how we are supporting people and families to improve their quality of opportunity and life, so we

- commit to share knowledge, review our referral approaches, and redesign processes
- join up our access and information
- lead and invest in multi-service team working and skills

Prioritise health and wellbeing when we plan our places and services, so we

- invest in local community groups to facilitate local action
- design our workplaces and the services they deliver to improve physical activity and health and wellbeing
- work to create community networks and use all our assets to support physical activity and health and wellbeing, especially our green spaces

Appendix 2 – Marmot Learning

The Marmot principles

1. Give every child the best start in life
2. Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
3. Create fair employment and good work for all
4. Ensure healthy standard of living for all
5. Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
6. Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention
7. Tackle racism, discrimination and their outcomes
8. Pursue environmental sustainability and health equity together

Marmot learning

Across the UK, the Marmot principles are being embedded into the core functions of councils and their partners in more than 40 places. This includes Coventry, Greater Manchester, Cheshire and Merseyside, Lancashire and Cumbria, Luton, Waltham Forest, Gwent, Southwest region, and Leeds.

Some of the key learning points are listed below:

Marmot Place	Learning
Coventry City Council	<p>A Marmot approach demands that resourcing and delivering services at a scale and intensity proportionate to the degree of need; just focussing on one group of disadvantaged individuals or one geographical area won't deliver change.</p> <p>There has been a significant cultural shift, with partners ensuring all policies and services commissioned, from planning, housing and transport to licensing, regulation and procurement, consider the impact on health equity before implementation.</p>
Gwent <small>(more like Scotland: structures, devolved administration)</small>	<p>Marmot provided momentum and shared vision.</p> <p>IHE provided challenge back to local system to support shared vision (one year of close working).</p> <p>Initial focus was too broad, frame to focus on 1 or 2 priorities</p>
London Borough of Waltham Forest	<p>More equal borough a core focus for leadership.</p> <p>The Marmot principles are expressed as Missions, within which there are priority areas for delivery.</p> <p>Prevention and neighbourhood-focused approaches come together for greatest impact for people with poor health outcomes through three Marmot accelerator areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">9. Healthier Homes,10. Good work, better health11. Greener and healthier places

Fife Partnership Board

www.fife.gov.uk/committee/fifepartnership

21 May 2024

Agenda Item No. 4

Addressing the Climate Emergency – Partnership Delivery Plan

Report by: Pam Ewen, Head of Planning Services, Fife Council

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform the Fife Partnership Board of the Addressing the Climate Emergency Partnership Delivery Plan.

Recommendations

That Fife Partnership Board:

1. Agree the action areas as outlined in the Plan (Appendix 1)
2. Note that the Addressing the Climate Emergency Board will assess and approve business cases for each of the specific projects
3. Discuss and identify any other opportunities to deliver action on climate, including collaborative across the four Plan4Fife objectives

Resource Implications

The development of the plan is within existing resources. However, it is anticipated that business cases for each project will be developed outlining the resource implications and agreed through the Addressing the Climate Emergency Board.

Consultation

The Plan was developed by the ACE working group comprising member from Fife Council, NHS Fife and Fife College.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Addressing the Climate Emergency (ACE) Board was established in 2021 with the remit to:
- Lead and manage the delivery of a Plan4Fife reform and renewal priority of Addressing the Climate Emergency, and
 - Ensure risks affecting the delivery of priority outcomes are being effectively managed
- 1.2 Membership of the Board includes:
- Fife Council
 - Fife College
 - NHS Fife
 - University of St. Andrews
 - Fife Environmental Partnership
 - Zero Waste Scotland
- 1.3 During 2023, Fife Council refreshed its Climate Change Strategy, identifying its priority actions and “Big Moves” it wanted to make. During this development there was a recognition by the ACE Board that, given that each of the Fife organisations within the ACE Board already had (or were preparing) their own Climate Strategy/Plan, focus for the ACE board should be on developing areas of collaborative projects that would add value to existing commitments.
- 1.4 The Board established a working group comprising Fife Council, Fife College and NHS Fife, with the task of identify priority areas for partnership working and develop a joint delivery plan to take them forward.

2.0 Context

- 2.1 The ACE Working group undertook a series of workshops, identifying six broad outcomes that they would work to:
1. Decarbonising our estate through energy efficiency, low carbon energy and renewable generation,
 2. Using our land assets to benefit climate action
 3. Making our places more resilience to the impacts of climate change
 4. Reduce our climate impact from travel and waste
 5. Maximising the environmental benefit from our procurement, and
 6. Improving our climate communications through co-ordination
- 2.2 It was agreed that the focus for delivery was on the first four areas. ‘Procurement’ already had an established partnership working group, and the ACE Board would seek to incorporate climate ambitions into that. “Communications” would be covered by a Communications Strategy that was already in development, and subsequently approved by the ACE Board.

2.3 The ACE Board subsequently agree that the areas would be worked into a Delivery Plan, with the aim of collaborative action to meet the Plan4Fife objective of addressing the climate emergency.

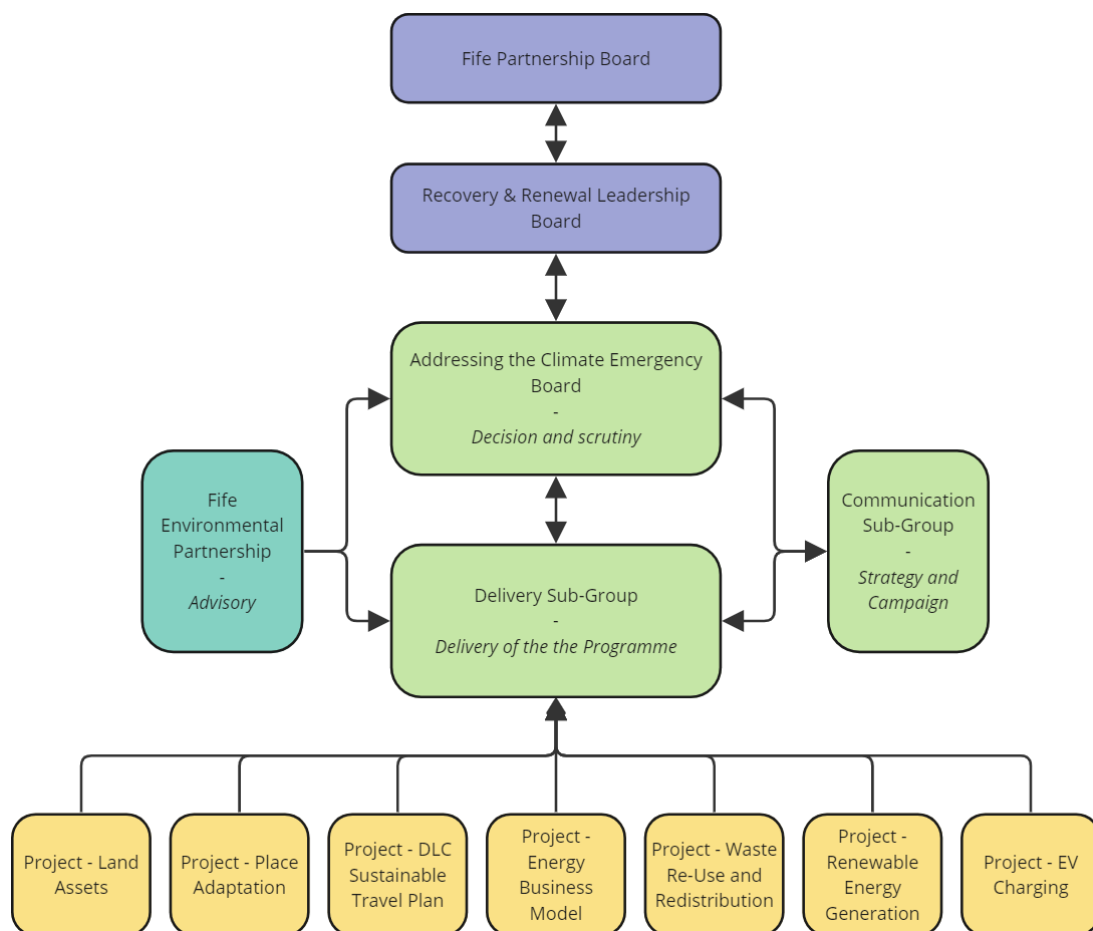
2.4 Seven project areas were identified and together these would form the Delivery Plan. The Projects are outlined in Appendix 1.

2.5 Governance

2.5.1 Management of the Delivery Plan will be undertaken by the Delivery sub-group reporting progress to the ACE Board. They will be supported by:

- The Communication Sub-group - who will prepare a joint communications strategy and co-ordinate partnership communications.
- The Fife Environmental Partnership – who will provide advice and information to both the Board and Delivery group.

2.5.2 The Diagram below outlines the governance arrangement for the Delivery Plan.



2.7 Next Steps

2.7.1 The ACE Board will meet on the 23rd May to discuss and agree the proposed projects, governance arrangements and future monitoring proposals.

- 2.7.2 It is also recognised that there are opportunities to work across Plan4Fife objectives. The ACE Board will consider opportunities to work collaboratively with the Poverty, Economic and Community Wealth Building Boards.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 The Delivery Plan provides an opportunity for enhanced collaborative working across the Fife Partnership to deliver on its commitment to addressing the climate emergency.
- 3.2 With climate plans in place for individual partners, and a joint plan for working together. Future consideration should be made to collaborative working across the Plan4Fife objectives.

Appendices

Appendix 1: ACE Delivery Plan Summary

Report Contacts:

Name: Ross Spalding
Title: Service Manager (Climate Change & Zero Waste)
Organisation: Fife Council
Contact Email: ross.spalding@fife.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – ACE Delivery Plan Summary

Project Name	Description	Timescale	Lead	Partners	Key Outcome
Dunfermline Learning Campus – Sustainable Travel Plan	Be a demonstrator of sustainable travel facilitation and collaboration within the public sector by creating a shared Travel Plan for the Dunfermline Learning Campus. Implementation of this Plan will be a second stage of the project and will reduce single occupancy car journeys to the new shared Dunfermline Learning Campus from Fife College and Council students, staff and visitors.	2024-25	Fife College	Fife Council	Increased sustainable travel
Climate Resilient Places	Place based approach, develop and combine policies and plans on how we use our land and assets to adapt communities to the changing climate.	2024	Fife Council	Fife College NHS Fife	Increased asset resilience
Land Assets	Using the joint asset list, we will prioritise areas of land to be reviewed in terms of land use to maximise climate and nature benefits and increase place-based resilience. E.g. renewable generation, community growing, flood resilience.	2024-25	Fife Council	Fife College NHS Fife	Improved land assets
Renewables Energy Generation	Identification of suitable locations for the installation of Renewable Energy and Battery Energy Storage Systems infrastructure on Public Sector land.	2024-25	NHS Fife	Fife Council Fife College	Renewable energy generation
Energy Business Model	Undertake a review of potential heat network and wider energy generation and storage delivery models for Fife. Identifying opportunities for partnership agreement and development.	2024-26	Fife Council	Fife College NHS Fife	Reduced fossil fuel energy consumption
Re-Use and Redistribution	Develop redistribution and sharing network for unwanted items across partners and the wider community. Including a joint re-use campaign, digital platform for resource sharing and support for community Re-Use infrastructure across Fife.	2024-25	Fife Council	Fife College NHS Fife	Reduction in waste to landfill
Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure	The Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal has established an electric vehicle (EV) Strategy Regional working group to explore the potential benefits of a collaborative approach to the expansion of the public EV charging infrastructure network across the Local Authorities of the South East of Scotland Transport Partnership. This may also develop opportunities of joint working with other Local Authorities and partners.	2024-26	Fife Council		Increased EV Capacity



Fife Partnership Board

www.fife.gov.uk/committee/fifepartnership

21 May 2024

Agenda Item No. 6

Developing the Housing Emergency Action Plan 2024-27

Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing Services

Wards Affected: All

Purpose

This report summarises the background to the declaration of Housing Emergency in Fife, proposes three main themes, outlines the proposed Governance framework to provide focus and direction and puts forward some specific asks to the Board to support the Housing Emergency Action Plan (HEAP) going forward.

Recommendation(s)

Fife Partnership Board are requested to consider the report and;

- (1) Note the corporate development of a HEAP to be reported to Cabinet Committee on 6th June 2024.
- (2) Discuss and consider the proposed asks of the Board to assist the development of the HEAP going forward.

Resource Implications

It is unlikely that any funds or resourcing will be provided by Scottish or UK Governments, therefore actions will require to be funded and resourced within existing constraints and ongoing Partner and Council Change Planning arrangements. Continuing to fund crisis response services will mean additional costs will accrue without an effective mitigation approach.

Legal & Risk Implications

Regular breaches of statutory homelessness duties partly triggered the declaration of the Housing Emergency in Fife and it is highly probable these will continue without focussed, Council and Partnership action. The Council is also likely to experience significant reputational risk due to shortages of housing supply and other housing services.

Impact Assessment

A formal EQIA will be prepared as part of the ongoing development of the HEAP.

Consultation

There is limited formal public consultation underpinning this report. The Head of Housing and the Service Manager for Housing Access (Programme Management Officer) have been engaged in a round of meetings with specific partners, including special meetings of the Fife Housing Partnership, the Health & Social Care Partnership and Fife Voluntary Action. Further events are proposed including a Housing Emergency Summit in Dunfermline on 27th May 2024. Going forward, there is a need to widely engage with Members, Partners and Heads of Service to inform the development of the HEAP.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Fife Council took the decision to formally declare a Housing Emergency on 21st March, 2024 and required the Head of Housing to develop a HEAP and report this to Cabinet on 6th June 2024. This was confirmed as the necessary timescale and reflects the urgency and gravity of the situation.
- 1.2 Fife was the fourth Local Authority in Scotland to declare a Housing Emergency, following Argyll and Bute, Glasgow and Edinburgh. West Dunbartonshire has also now declared a Housing Emergency and others are likely to follow in the next few weeks and months. Contact has been made with each local authority to share experience and learning to incorporate into the Fife Plan. Argyll & Bute have recently published their plan, with Edinburgh's published on 7th February 2024. There is no indication when Glasgow will publish a Plan. The Scotland Board of the Chartered Institute of Housing also declared Housing Emergency in March 2024 with the STUC following suit in April. There is a work programme supporting this which Fife will be intimately connected to. The Head of Service has also met with Shelter Scotland to discuss their Framework document and role in supporting the Fife HEAP where relevant and appropriate.
- 1.3 The Housing Spokesperson and Head of Service met with the Housing Minister on 6th March 2024. Although no resources have been offered, the Minister has agreed to meet regularly with the Housing Spokesperson to discuss actions arising from the Housing Emergency. The Head of Service has taken steps to inform the Scottish Housing Regulator and Scottish Government.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 There is no specification or template for Housing Emergency Action Plans, including governance and resourcing arrangements. They are intended to be local frameworks with clear priorities, actions with appropriate accountability and a clear purpose to increase short term housing supply. Homelessness prevention and capacity to meet statutory homelessness duties was a factor in triggering a Housing Emergency. The Council's first priority must be to comply with the law. There should also be clear links with Fife's Local Housing Strategy and network of Partnership Boards and fora as part of the Governance Framework.

2.2 The developing framework for the HEAP is proposed to focus on 3 Key Themes;

- **Boosting Affordable Housing**
- **Making best use of existing properties**
- **Housing Access & Prevention of Homelessness**

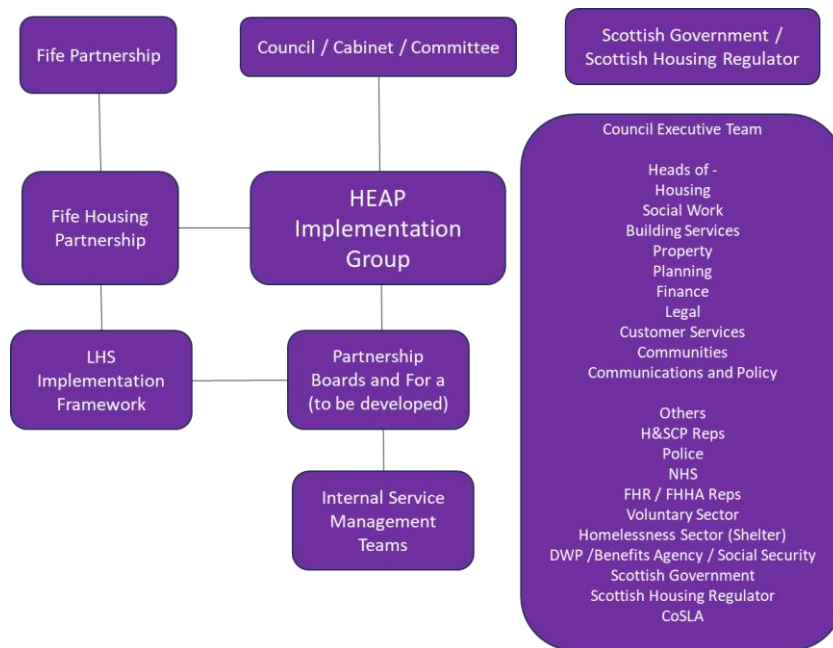
This provides a **housing, not just a homelessness, focus** and ensures a Fife Council and Partnership approach to increasing short-term housing supply. The Fife Housing Association Alliance (FHAA) have confirmed their support in developing this approach, further events will also be organised to engage key stakeholders and build on the pledges of support that came in advance of the Committee session, and since the declaration. The Fife Housing Partnership is keen to support the development of the Plan and build the wider housing contributions.

2.3 At the Chartered Institute of Housing's Scottish Housing Festival, the Housing Minister made it clear that, in addition to the significant and irreversible cut to the Affordable Housing Budget of £200m in 2024/25, there would be no financial support for local authorities declaring housing emergencies. There is also unlikely to be any support from UK Government which means that the HEAP will have to be funded internally and within the context of an ongoing Service Change Planning programme. The Plan will also require to link to transformational programmes such as No Wrong Door, Pace Redesign, and Digitalisation. This will represent a significant challenge with a number of pressures already facing the Council's Housing Revenue Accounts Capital and Revenue accounts. The General Fund Housing Account is also being reviewed to contribute to Council savings for the coming 3 years to 2027.

There is no specific financial or resource plan underpinning a developing HEAP, although the Fife Homelessness Strategy which was approved by Cabinet on 11th January is costed at £67m over 3 years. That does not include resourcing the new Housing Bill, with Part 5 containing a Homelessness Prevention Duty on public bodies which was introduced to Parliament on 26th March, 2024. A similar financial and resource plan will be required for the HEAP, it is also recommended that a specific communications and media management plan is developed.

2.4 There are currently no resources attached to the HEAP although clear Programme management is a key learning point from other local authority discussions to date. The Housing Management Executive will discuss and propose specific Programme Management arrangements over the next 2 weeks, but CET direction is sought in terms of the proposed governance arrangements. The HEAP is led at a Senior Level with Heads of Service taking an Incident Management type approach to governance.

The following draft structure is a high-level depiction of the linkages between the key stakeholder groups from a Housing and Corporate perspective with appropriate links to Committee and national bodies of interest.



2.5 The structure recognises that a number of the housing focussed internal and partnership structures are already in place but would require to develop a set of ‘Pledges’ to ensure delivery with the governance framework providing the overall co-ordination. Any gaps identified would be addressed through Task and Finish Group type approaches or if any new Groups are required, this would be addressed through the Implementation Group.

3.0 Specific Asks of the Board

- 3.1 Focussing on the proposed 3 Themes of the HEAP, there is a need to consider boosting short-term housing supply to support the HEAP over the next 3 years. The Council and our Housing Association Partners currently rely on a combination of development land, capital finance and partnerships with private housing developers to develop affordable housing in Fife.
- 3.2 The Board is requested to consider how it can best contribute to the HEAP through:
 - Boosting the supply of public land to support affordable housing development.
 - Evaluating the instance of empty properties owned by Partners that could be used to house homeless people or other households in housing need.
 - Any other contribution that could be brought forward by Partners.

4.0 Conclusions

- 4.1 Each of the Local Authorities that have declared Housing Emergencies have adopted different approaches which are relevant and appropriate to their area. With more Council’s on the brink of housing emergency, the process that Fife adopts will be monitored with interest. The proposed Governance Framework recognises that a lot of the infra-structure, partnerships and arrangements are in place but need additional focus and accountability.
- 4.2 There is significant tension around the financial and resourcing arrangements which need to be formally addressed as part of the development of the Plan. In addition, it is important that Elected Members, staff across the Council and, most importantly, the public understand the actions being taken so the Plan needs to be accompanied

by a specific communications and media management plan as part of wider programme management structures to ensure accountability.

Report Contact

Author: Gavin Smith, Service Manager, Housing Access and PMO for the HEAP

Email: **gavin.smith@fife.gov.uk**

FIFE PARTNERSHIP BOARD WORKPLAN 2024/25

Last Updated: 10th May 2024

Meeting	Presentations	Potential Reports – (tbc)
21 May	<p>Priority focus: CLIMATE ACTION</p> <p>ACE Board – Climate Priorities</p> <p>Housing Emergency Action Plan</p>	<p>ACE Delivery Plan</p> <p>Plan for Fife Reset 2024/27</p> <p>Fife Partnership Board Workplan</p>
6 Aug	<p>Priority focus: ECONOMY & HEALTH</p> <p>Fife Strategic Assessment</p> <p>Fife Economic Strategy Progress and Priorities</p> <p>Director of Health Annual Report</p> <p>Joint Health Protection Plan</p>	<p>LER Delivery Plan</p> <p>Local Development Plan Report</p> <p>Fife UK Shared Prosperity Investment Plan Update</p> <p>Opportunities Fife Partnership Update</p> <p>Levelling Up Fund Update</p> <p>NHS Fife Population Health and Wellbeing Strategy Development</p> <p>Communities and Wellbeing Partnership Progress and Priorities</p> <p>Plan for Fife Reset 2024-2027 Plan Sign Off</p>
6 Nov	<p>Priority focus: TACKLING POVERTY</p> <p>Tackling Poverty/Child Poverty Annual Report</p> <p>Cost of Living Support Winter 2024/25</p> <p>Children’s Services Plan Annual Report*</p>	<p>Tackling Poverty Delivery Plan</p> <p>No Wrong Door Report</p> <p>Plan for Fife - Annual Public Performance Report</p> <p>Delivering the Promise in Fife Update</p>
Jan/Feb?	<p>Place Planning Report</p> <p>Fife Local Development Planning</p>	<p>Local Community Planning Update</p>
TBC	<p>Greenspace and Biodiversity planning</p>	

Note – Request at agenda planning to swap the order of economy and health reporting with tackling poverty. Decision required by FPB on 21st May 2024.

*The Children’s Services Plan – annual report will only be available for the Nov meeting.