

Caithness Health Improvement Forum Meeting
Held In The Family Centre, Telford Street, Wick
On Friday 9th June 2006 At 1.30pm

Present:

Kirsty Windsor, UKAEA
Yvonne Logue, Dietician - NHS Highland
Sharon Wade, NHS Highland
Julie Calder, Birchwood Highland
Lorna Simpson, Ormlie Community Association
David Brookfield, Pentland Housing Association
Fiona Bremner, Job Centre Plus (Wick)
Deirdre Aitken, Caithness Deaf Care
Margaret Bremner, SHAW Adviser – NHS Highland
Anne Crowe, Health Visitor – NHS Highland
Helen Skea, School Nurse – NHS Highland
Susan Temple, Pulteneytown Parish Youth Forum
Ellen Campbell, Caithness & Sutherland Women's Aid
Yvonne Hendry, Pulteneytown People's Project
Chris Connolly, Community Learning & Leisure –The Highland Council
Anna Swanson, The North Highland College
Eric Larnach, Initiative At The Edge
Pauline Craw, NHS Highland
John McDonald, Northern Constabulary & Drug & Alcohol Forum
John McLeod, Highland Users Group (HUG) & Food For Thought
Douglas Henderson, Food For Thought
Dee Quintas, Health & Happiness
George Bruce OBE, The Caithness Partnership
Niall Smith, Caithness Voluntary Group & Ethnic Minorities Network
Cameron Stark, NHS Highland
Miles Greenford, NHS Highland
Anna MacConnell, Caithness Partnership
June Pollard, Caithness Partnership

1. Welcome & Apologies – George Bruce OBE, Chairman – Caithness Partnership

Apologies were received from:

Ian Hargrave, The Highland Council
Christa Macdonald, Homelink, Pulteneytown People's Project
Katrina Macnab, Pulteneytown People's Project
David Flear, The Highland Council
Alison Gibbons, People First
Bob Silverwood, The Highland Council
Dr Pat Robertson OBE
Caithness Disabled Access Panel
Innes Mitchell, The Highland Council
Elizabeth Jones, Caithness Community Care Forum
Libby Cook, Homestart

Helen Allan, Community Learning & Leisure, The Highland Council
Fiona Clarke, NHS Highland Health Promotion Department
Tom Sayles, National Farmer's Union
Margaret Brown, NHS Highland
Patricia Greenford, Smoking Cessation Adviser – NHS Highland
Eann Sinclair, Caithness & Sutherland Enterprise
Trevor Walker, Birchwood Highland

Mr Bruce welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave them a brief history of the Caithness Partnership. He explained that last September Caithness Partnership and NHS Highland staff had organized a meeting of agency and community representatives to discuss ways of improving health in Caithness. At that meeting it was agreed to set up a Caithness Health Improvement Forum to create a Health Improvement Plan for the county. The purpose of today's meeting is to determine how this Forum might proceed and to agree its structure, membership, focus and function.

2. Scene Setting For The Agenda – Niall Smith

At an earlier meeting of health improvement stakeholders convened by NHS, CVG and Caithness Partnership, it had been agreed that Anna MacConnell, Miles Greenford and Niall Smith would bring together relevant agency and community representatives to create a plan for health improvement. This was to be centred around the priorities of embedding, substance misuse, access to healthy food and inequalities.

3. Mapping Exercise – Overview of Health Improving Community Engaging Structures Miles Greenford & Pauline Crow – NHS Highland

In order to get an overview of which health improving organisations were presently active in Caithness, everyone was asked to write down what groups they were aware of.

See Appendix I.

4. Health Improvement Plans In Caithness – An Overview Anna MacConnell – Caithness Partnership

Ms MacConnell distributed a sheet listing all relevant plans for Caithness which she is aware of.

At Highland Level

Highland Community Plan
Joint Health Improvement Plan
NHS Highland Plan

At Local Level

Draft Caithness Community Plan
Community Learning & Development Plan
Community Regeneration Fund Plan – Pulteneytown
South East Caithness Development Plan
Joint North Highland Community Health Partnership & Caithness Partnership Planning Event Document
Caithness Drug and Alcohol Forum Action Plan

The Joint North Highland Community Health Partnership & Caithness Partnership Planning Event held in September last year, indicated that there were five priority areas for health improvement in Caithness. These are as follows:

- 1) **Set up a local health improvement group with task groups to address the following:-**
- 2) **Substance Misuse**
- 3) **Inequality**
- 4) **Embedding**
- 5) **Access to healthy food**

5. Four Task Groups To Examine Are There Any Gaps

The meeting split into four task groups to examine if there were any gaps under priorities 2-5 above.

Substance Misuse Task Group

Susan Temple
Chris Connolly
John McDonald
David Brookfield
Helen Skea

Embedding Task Group

Kirsty Windsor
Fiona Bremner
Margaret Bremner
Pauline Crow
George Bruce
Anne Crowe
Eric Larnach

Inequality Task Group

Julie Calder
Niall Smith
Lorna Simpson
Deirdre Aitken
Dee Quintas

Access to Healthy Food

Douglas Henderson
Yvonne Logue
Miles Greenford
Anna Swanson
Sharon Wade
John McLeod

In relation to the 4 priorities the task groups were asked to examine existing health improvement actions from the local plans and identify where there may be gaps. The next stage was to identify areas where priorities can be translated into actions and who should be responsible for carrying out the actions. This way all the various plans could be turned into an action plan which identifies what needs to be done, who needs to get together to do it and what resources will be required.

6. Plenary Report Back From Groups
Anna MacConnell – Caithness Partnership

See Appendix II.

7. What Structures Do We Need to Deliver Plan and Avoid Duplication?

Structures are available but need to be better co-ordinated to avoid duplication. Awareness of other people's work would be enhanced by the setting up of a Caithness Health Improvement Group and would help avoid duplication while making the most of existing services.

8. What Is The Role of This Group?

Everyone was asked if they wished to take forward Improvements to Health in Caithness, whether or not they wanted to be involved personally in this and would it be useful for this group to meet to stimulate ideas.

It was agreed that this meeting had been a positive step and a Health Improvement Group would be useful for members to come together to network and learn about the services that are available.

9. Plenary Final Session Drawing together and Agreeing Future Actions

It was suggested that Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Social Work Department and the Church be asked to join the Group. This was agreed and it was pointed out that the Social Work Department had received an invitation. It was also suggested that Alcoholics Anonymous be invited to come along and give a talk to the Group to explain the support available to individuals.

It was agreed that the Group should meet again in 3 months time and it was suggested that this date coincide with the local MP's surgery or with an MSP's surgery. Meanwhile a couple of Working Groups from today's meeting are going to take forward a couple of the actions e.g. Community Directory.

All present were asked to email their details to caithnesspartnership@btinternet.com