



Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership Case Study: Board Development

Context

The Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership underwent a period of change and development throughout 2024. At the end of 2023, Community Planning Partnership (CPP) members agreed that they needed to change their approach, with a focus on:

1. Shared leadership and accountability
2. Strategic direction
3. Priorities in tackling socio-economic inequality
4. Consolidation and rationalisation of structures and governance


Another key issue that the Board had been grappling with was the type of CPP they wished to be. A previous drive towards commissioning and delivering new work had not gained traction and the Board agreed that a more pragmatic approach, focussing on supporting existing work, adding value and removing barriers was a better option.

Approach

In early 2024 the Perth and Kinross CPP met in person at Letham Community Hub. This Hub was chosen as it was a great example of Community Planning in action, with partners collaborating with the community to develop a new multi-million pound asset in Perth city. This meeting focussed on the four points set out earlier and agreed:

1. To shift the CPP focus to three priorities: poverty, health & wellbeing and employability
2. To make use of existing infrastructure, e.g. an existing Anti-Poverty Taskforce should lead on the poverty theme and the Local Employability Partnership on employability

Partners agreed that the initial focus should be on health and wellbeing and therefore a workshop was arranged for August 2024. This workshop agreed to form a new Health & Wellbeing Partnership, which would focus on three main issues: child health; obesity and physical activity; and ageing.



With that arrangement in place, the CPP agreed to a further workshop where all three priority themes could be considered together, with a focus on:

1. How the existing thematic work should be reflected in the LOIP
2. How the three themes impact on each other
3. The role of the CPP in helping the existing thematic groups to deliver their actions

The information taken from these workshops was used to help redraft the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) and CPP Governance. These changes were approved in-principle at a CPP Board meeting in December, with final sign off scheduled for the first meeting in 2025.

Summary and Learning

Significant progress was made throughout 2024 as a result:

1. **Shared leadership and accountability** - partners have embraced a more collaborative approach and two of the thematic partnerships are being led by the Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Services (PKAVS) and NHS Tayside.
2. **Strategic direction** - partners have agreed to a revised LOIP (currently in development) that summarises and reflects the excellent thematic and cross-cutting work that is already underway - and importantly clearly sets out the role of the CPP in supporting this work.
3. **Priorities in tackling socio-economic inequality** - the CPP agreed to reduce the number of priorities from 5 to 3 - each of which are impacted on and influence socio-economic inequality in Perth and Kinross.
4. **Consolidation and rationalisation of structures and governance** - historically CPP's have created new structures, independent of existing work. Perth and Kinross have taken the pragmatic decision of using existing structures to deliver work that supports the LOIP.

The main learning points and reflections from the work done in Perth and Kinross in 2024 are:

1. Be **pragmatic** - use what already exists and works.
2. Be **interactive** - partners have preferred a workshop approach, which challenges them to think and contribute effectively.
3. Be **proactive** - relationships are central to the success of partnership working and need to be sustained throughout the year, not just at meetings.