

Kincardine & Mearns Community Planning Briefing Note November 2019

We use this briefing note to share some of the things that are happening in our communities. We hope you enjoy reading them. This time:



- Loneliness & Social Isolation Conference
- C.I.A.

Loneliness & Social Isolation Conference

Kincardine and Mearns Welfare & Wellbeing Network (KMWWN) aims to improve the health, wellbeing and welfare of the people of Kincardine and Mearns, in cooperation with community groups, third sector, public sector and local businesses. The group is a hub for information sharing and networking amongst members.

Following discussions within Kincardine and Mearns Welfare & Wellbeing Network, upon receipt and distribution of the Zubairi Report, a decision was made to host a focused event on Social Isolation and Loneliness.

The morning session focused on the strategic landscape and lived experience of loneliness and social isolation, with speakers from key partners on this agenda. Followed in the afternoon by consideration of the local perspective in South Aberdeenshire, aiming to identify potential work streams/outcomes the Kincardine & Mearns Welfare and Wellbeing Network may actively progress.

The afternoon session was held within the Community Learning base in Portlethen Academy and brought together those who work within Kincardine and Mearns, and who have a remit which includes Loneliness and Social Isolation.

Following feedback from the groups, and further discussion, groups were asked to identify a tangible action/outcome which the KMWWN could discuss further to work into an action for the Connecting Communities sub-group.

Proposed actions/outcomes were identified;

- Investigate the Kindness agenda

In March 2018, the Carnegie UK Trust brought together a Kindness Innovation Network of people and professionals from across Scotland who had an interest in encouraging kindness in their organisations and communities. At the same time, the Trust began working in partnership with North Ayrshire Council to embed kindness as a value throughout the local authority and region.

https://d1ssu070pg2v9i.cloudfront.net/pex/carnegie_uk_trust/2019/06/25090227/Practice-of-Kindness-Report-WEB.pdf

Kindness has also been positioned as a potential ‘cure’ for the ‘epidemic’ of loneliness and social isolation (Reeves, 2017); and there is growing interest in how it might contribute to the wellbeing of those performing ‘kind acts’ as well as those receiving them.

<https://www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/publications/public-policy-and-the-infrastructure-of-kindness-in-scotland/>

- Work with school pupils to raise awareness of Loneliness and Social Isolation, and to gain their knowledge and learning on this. Purpose would be to capture their lived experience of this, which may be different to our own, and can usefully feed into this process.
- Create awareness of change and loss through life transitions, and how this affects individuals and communities.
- Share personas scenarios widely to gain local knowledge, determine how and where people gain help. Build a comprehensive local picture.
- Further development of ALISS locally.

The findings of this conference will be shared with the Kincardine and Mearns Welfare & Wellbeing Network for any further input. The KMWWN Steering Group will meet to determine if the Connecting Communities sub-group is the correct vehicle to move this forward, and to determine if the correct people are round the table to discuss further.

To read the full report from the conference see the attachment with this note.

C.I.A. (Central Intelligence Aberdeenshire)

KDP are one of six Rural Partnerships operating across Aberdeenshire, coming together under the ARPF (Aberdeenshire Rural Partnership Federation)

The ARPF sits on the Third Sector Strategy Group (TSSG). The Third Sector Strategy Group (TSSG) are embarking on a long-term piece of work to try and demonstrate the value of the Third Sector across Aberdeenshire.

The first steps of this will be the C.I.A. or Central Intelligence Aberdeenshire. This will be a mapping exercise to try and gather some quantitative data – looking at “what” rather than the “who” we have across the Third Sector.

This will give some idea of the economic value of the Third Sector and identify gaps but also help the Third Sector recognise its worth.

The timing and importance of this work is reflected and supported by Looking ahead to the Scottish Government’s Draft Budget 2020-21: Valuing the Third Sector.

In recognising the third sector as a key partner in delivering national equalities and human rights outcomes, and that public bodies need to be held accountable for their spending decisions, the Committee agreed a remit for this year’s budget scrutiny—

“To explore public sector funding to third sector organisations that deliver national equalities and human rights priorities, and to assess the accountability of public bodies partnering with the third sector in achieving better outcomes for those groups who have equality needs or require support to access their rights.”

To further support the inquiry, the Committee identified some key questions to investigate—

- What are the key public policy areas where individuals and protected groups are struggling to access their rights?
- Which groups of people are most likely to be affected and why?
- What type of public sector funding (European, national or local) is provided to organisations to support vulnerable groups and those with protected characteristics to access public services?
- Is the level of public sector funding provided enough to deliver national priorities and better outcomes for people and communities?
- Are there public funding challenges for the third sector; if so what would be the implications for delivering equalities and human rights outcomes?
- What type of administrative systems are in place to monitor the impact on equalities and human rights outcomes from public sector funding to the third sector? · What changes could be made to improve accountability for national priorities being delivered by the public sector in partnership with the third sector?

Want to find out more, visit;

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdnep.azureedge.net/published/EHRiC/2019/11/7/Looking-ahead-to-the-Scottish-Government-s-Draft-Budget-2020-21--Valuing-the-Third-Sector/EHRiC-S5-19-04.pdf>

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