

FRIDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 10 AM

CIVIC CENTRE, MOTHERWELL

PRESENT

BOARD MEMBERS

V Watson	Police Scotland
G Cairns (as substitute for S Nesbit)	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
S Frew	Scottish Enterprise
L Long	NHS Lanarkshire
D Murray	North Lanarkshire Council
C Rae	University Health and Social Care North Lanarkshire

OFFICERS

J Boyce	Scottish Government
M Costello	North Lanarkshire Council
C Coole	North Lanarkshire Council
W Cunningham	North Lanarkshire Council
A Gordon	North Lanarkshire Council
R Lochrin Hopkins	North Lanarkshire Council
L Johnston	North Lanarkshire Council
P Kane	North Lanarkshire Council
S Morgan	North Lanarkshire Council
Councillor L Roarty	North Lanarkshire Council
Professor J Pravinkumar	NHS Lanarkshire
K Swan	North Lanarkshire Council

APOLOGIES

N Brown	Community and Voluntary Sector Partnership Group
S Nesbit	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
J Walker	Scottish Government
D Wood	Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire (VANL)

CHAIR

V Watson, Police Scotland

CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS AND APOLOGIES

1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and participants introduced themselves.
The apologies were noted.

MINUTE OF MEETING OF STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP BOARD HELD ON 5 DECEMBER 2025

2. The Minute of the meeting of the Strategic Leadership Board held on 5 December 2025 were agreed as an accurate record and approved.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE LOCAL EMPLOYABILITY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

3. Paul Kane introduced a presentation on Local Employability Partnership Update. The presentation advised that the Partnership purpose is to align and integrated the Councils' approach to employability in North Lanarkshire, reflecting the need to shape coherent and inclusive employability and skills provision.

In the labour market unemployability remains low with a number of employers having vacancies, noting that the NI increase has slowed recruitment which is showing an impact. There is a real wage growth in North Lanarkshire with those in work and it has been noted that more young people going to positive destinations post school.

The Board also heard that 3 out of 4 children were in relative poverty in a working household and that long term health issues in working age population remained a regional and local challenge.

Paul Kane advised that there was a continued focus on broadening access to the local labour market and employment opportunities that are fair and sustainable for all residents who are unemployed or economically inactive with specific initiatives for:

- Parents on low incomes, unemployed or employed
- Disengaged 16-19 year olds
- Closing the disability gap especially for young people with additional support needs transitioning from school
- BAME
- Long term health
- Justice / addictions

Following discussion, the Board noted the need to engage and support people with health concerns to be able to aid them in an appropriate manner.

Action: that the Strategic Leadership Board acknowledged the Local Employability Partnership Update presentation.

PARTNERHSIP APPROCAH TO WATER SAFETY

4. Matt Costello, Community Partnership Manager introduced a report that provided an update on the progress to date of the PAWS Group and the work undertaken to ensure that an effective Pan Lanarkshire approach is in place. In addition, the report demonstrates the continuation of and building upon existing good practices currently being undertaken by partner agencies across Lanarkshire. Responsibilities are allocated in a clear framework agreeable to all agencies and formalised into agreed actions that are reported to the Community Planning Partnerships (CPP) in both North and South Lanarkshire.

Across Lanarkshire, there are various water environments including rivers, lochs, and canals. The dynamic nature of which presents challenges to the agencies responsible for carrying out rescues and managing waterways safely. Meeting these challenges requires a commitment to strong partnership working and the sharing of information, good practices, and resources.

Water safety has gained increased focus both politically and publicly due to the 2018 release of Scotland's Drowning Prevention Strategy with overall targets to:

- reduce accidental drowning deaths in Scotland by 50 per cent by 2026 and
- reduce risk among the highest-risk populations, groups, and communities
- contribute to the reduction of water-related suicide.

Action: that the Strategic Leadership Board noted the report and the information contained in Appendices.

POPULATION FRAMEWORK ACTION PLAN

5. Professor S. Josephine Pravinkumar, Director of Public Health, NHS Lanarkshire introduced a report that supported the strategic intent, scope and structure of the Population health Framework Action Plan and a proposed approach aligning NHSL and CPP activities for implementing the PHF.

A report had been submitted to the Strategic Leadership Board (SLB) on 5 December 2025 on CPP Joint Event Report in which it was noted that a further update to the implementation of Population Health Framework (PHF) would be brought back to the SLB.

The PHF identifies five interconnected drivers of health and wellbeing:

- a) A prevention-focused system;
- b) Social and economic factors;
- c) Places and communities;
- d) Enabling healthy living; and
- e) Equitable health and care.

Louise Long, Chief Executive NHS Lanarkshire confirmed that NHS Lanarkshire had committed £4 million over a three-year period toward population health actions through the Community Planning Partnerships in North and South Lanarkshire. The Strategic leadership Board was asked for suggestions or different approaches in the use of the funding.

Claire Rae, Chief Officer Health and Social Care Partnership Lanarkshire also confirmed that the IJB were also providing funding with the future hope the funding was used in a more sustainable manner.

Des Murray, North Lanarkshire Council Chief Executive confirmed that at the heart of the Councils work was about maintaining whole family support and education.

Action:

- (1) that the strategic intent, scope and structure of the Population Health Framework Action Plan be noted;
- (2) that the establishment of a Joint CPP–PHF Collaborative be endorsed;
- (3) that ongoing alignment of NHS and CPPs' prevention activity with national PHF drivers be supported; and
- (4) that a more detailed plan, including refined actions and an agreed monitoring approach will be brought to NHSL and CPP Boards' meetings be acknowledged.

CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

6. Alison Gordon Chief Officer (Chief Social Work Officer - Children, Families, Justice and Integrated Practice) introduced a report that provided information on the delivery of statutory functions and performance in improvement activity across the range of social work services over 2024/25.

The Chief Social Work Officer of each local authority is required to provide an annual report which provides information on the wider governance and planning of social work provision within their local authority, including its key role in local partnerships, on both the national and local challenges impacting on the delivery of social work service delivery and demand.

Within the submitted report it reflects Social Work's contribution to the Programme of Work, underpinning the Plan for North Lanarkshire.

Action: that the Strategic Leadership Board members noted and endorsed The North Lanarkshire CSWO Report 2024/25.

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP BOARD PROGRAMME OF WORK AND REPORTING SCHEUDLE

7. William Cunningham, Business Partnership Manager introduced the report that provided an update on the Programme of Work for the North Lanarkshire Partnership – Strategic Leaders Board for 2026-2027. The report outlines the existing workstreams that capacity had been built into the reporting Schedule to accommodate emerging priorities as they arise.

Des Murray, Chief Executive confirmed that the annual outcomes on health would be submitted to the Strategic Leadership Board on the 12 June 2026. The Board also noted that the recent Audit report will be submitted to Council in April 2026. **Action:** William Cunningham.

Action

- (1) that the proposed 2026-2027 Programme of Work and associated Reporting Schedule attached as Appendix 2 be approved;
- (2) that any further workstreams and potential inclusion in the Strategic Leadership Board's Programme of Work 2026-2027 and their anticipated reporting requirements be noted; and
- (3) that the Chair of the Strategic Leadership Board is authorised to amend the Reporting Schedule as required. This includes accommodating additional items and adjusting the timing of consideration or decision-making on specific workstreams, whether bringing them forward or deferring, where necessary to align with external timescales or other influencing factors.

PROMISE - STOCKTAKE REPORT: ICGG DEVELOPEMTS SUPPORTING THE PROMISE

8. Alison Gordon, Chief Social Work Officer (Children, Families, Justice and Integrated Practice) introduced the report that provided an overview of the developments undertaken by sub-groups, partners, and services in North Lanarkshire to support the delivery of the Promise between 2020 and 2025.

The report demonstrated how North Lanarkshire was delivering on the commitments of the Promise including UNCRC and showing the collaborative work across multi-agency task groups aligned with the Children Services plan 2023-2026.

Detailing the key developments, innovations, and measurable outcome across health, education, social work and the community sectors including evidence of how lived experiences and the voices of children and young people have shaped service design and delivery.

Action

- (1) that North Lanarkshire's progress in fulfilling its commitment to keep The Promise be noted; and
- (2) that the resources are allocated across the partnership to maintain progress through next stage of keeping The Promise up to 2030.

REVISED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) FOR HUB ACCESS

- 9. William Cunningham, Business Partnership Manager advised that the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) had been included within the agenda following an recent update of membership. The Strategic Leadership Board have been asked to review and if acceptable, sign the MOU and return to William Cunningham.

Action: that the Strategic Leadership Board agreed to review and sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

AOCB

- 10. Update

James Boyce, Scottish Government updated the meeting and confirmed that they would submit a report to the next meeting of the Strategic Leadership Board.