



COMMUNITY PLANNING WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Report by Chair of the Empowered DIG

Community Planning West Dunbartonshire: 18 November 2021

Subject: Empowered DIG Update

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on the progress of the Empowered DIG against its current workplan and the ongoing refresh and re-alignment of the workplan.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The CPP Management Group is asked to
- Note the contents of the report and the work undertaken and planned.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Empowered DIG action plan spans three local outcomes: We live in engaged and cohesive communities; Citizens are confident, resilient and responsible and Carers are supported to address their needs.
- 3.2 Following recent discussions within the Management Board and building on the principles agreed at the recent DIG Chairs development session, a process of re-prioritising existing activities in the current year and considering how to maximise the impact of the Empowered DIG moving forward.

4. Main Issues

- 4.1 Area of ongoing activity are highlighted in the report below.

Community Empowerment Action Plan

- 4.2 The Project Board continues to progress activity against the 7 key themes of the outline delivery plan – awareness, knowledge and understanding of community empowerment; building confidence; promoting the National Standards for Engagement; collaboration; building skills; resources and infrastructure; and social renewal and increased participation. Given the long-term nature of the plan, this remains a live document subject to up-date at regular intervals and as tasks are completed.

- 4.3 Regular Project Team meetings are now also underway; a key activity being the re-start of the community conversation around the Strategy and its delivery. A fuller up-date and outcome of discussions will be provided in due course.

Dementia Friendly West Dunbartonshire (DFWD)

- 4.4 A commitment of funding from WDHSCP has now been secured to support the full restart of the Dementia Friendly initiative. The DFWD management group has resumed monthly meetings to monitor progress of the agreed activity plan including the roll-out of awareness sessions, business audits and a refresh of promotional materials.
- 4.6 In support of Safer DIG colleague activity, the DFWD management group have also considered how best to ensure connectivity with the Herbert Protocol and Keep Safe initiatives in its planned workplan.
- 4.7 Building on awareness of the increased opportunities for financial harm arising from scam telephone calls, a new resource of £10,000 has been secured from the Life Changes Trust to purchase telephone blocker units which will be supplied and fitted free of charge for people living with dementia and their families over the next few months. Thanks are recorded to PC Laura Evans for her support in this area of work.

Volunteering Strategy

- 4.8 Second stage consultation is now complete including a dedicated workshop via the authority wide Volunteer Engagers Forum and a wider feedback survey which has generated over 100 responses.
- 4.9 The draft strategy is now being prepared and will be presented to the February Board meeting for comment and review. The strategy will reflect the national themes from a local perspective and the resulting implementation plan will mirror the themes of the national Volunteering for All Outcomes Framework, for ease of scrutiny.

Digital Skills

- 4.10 A range of DIG members have been involved in a programme of work during the year to strengthen community level digital skills training and support. This has included ensuring availability of devices through maximising applications to the Connecting Scotland and matching community members with trained support volunteers on request.
- 4.11 In addition, and reflecting the increasing risk arising from scam emails and texts messages, a programme of free basic Cyber Security training, supported by Cyber Security Scotland, is planned for delivery over the autumn/winter period.

Action Plan 2022/23

4.12 The Empowered DIG has embarked on the process of refocussing activity along the three agreed themes – Empowerment, Sustainability and Wellbeing. Sessions are seeking to identify a small number of key activities across each of the 3 areas for the 22/23 plan.

4.13 In addition, DIG members are also keen to explore how best the action plan can also reflect positive complementary contributions to the work of colleague DIGs; a process which will be taken forward via the Executive group meetings. This will also include consideration of a communication strategy around the resulting plan.

5. People Implications

5.1 There are no personnel issues at this time

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no funding issues at this time.

7. Risk Analysis

7.1 There are no specific unassessed risks relating to this report

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

8.1 There are no specific EIA requirements relating to this report

9. Consultation

9.1 Ongoing consultation activity is planned across both the DIG membership and the Chairs Group as the final refreshed workplan is developed.

10. Strategic Assessment

10.1 The contents of this report could impact on all community planning strategic priority areas.

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Background Papers:

Wards Affected: All