



COMMUNITY PLANNING WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Report by Chair of the Empowered DIG

Management Group : 12th August 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 at DIG Chairs level, a process of review of priorities and activities is ongoing to ensure maximum impact from the work of the Empowered DIG.
- 3.3 This report provides members with an indication of the focus of activity moving forward and our work

4. Main Issues

- 4.1 Key areas of progress have been selected for highlight in this quarter's reporting and are detailed below.

Community Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan

- 4.2 The Project Board has now formally convened and have agreed an outline delivery plan against 7 key themes – 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. The plan is a live document including a number of long-term ambitions and will be up-dated at regular intervals and as tasks are completed.

- 4.3** Alongside this, the Project Team delivery mechanism has also convened and has established a programme of meetings, starting August 2021, to plan 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

- 4.4** The collaborative around this key area of work has resumed a schedule of regular meetings, supporting the planned re-start of activity; this also includes participation within the upcoming CPWD Roadshows.
- 4.5** Arising from the Dementia Strategy Group, an application for funding to support the Dementia Friendly work was made in April this year and a response is awaited from the HSCP Project Management Office.
- 4.6** This programme will see the restart of both targeted and open public awareness sessions, a refresh of the Dementia Ambassadors Network, targeted business support and improved community communications and information-sharing.
- 4.7** DFWD is also committed to supporting colleagues in the Safer DIG in the planned roll-out of the Herbert Protocol, recently agreed by the HSCP and local authority in conjunction with Police Scotland. This valuable cross-sector initiative has been long-awaited and will help to ensure freedom, independence and opportunity for those living with dementia and their families.

Volunteering Strategy

- 4.8** In late 2019, the Board adopted the newly finalised national volunteering outcomes framework, Volunteering for All. In line with this and in recognition of the contribution volunteering makes to West Dunbartonshire and the potential areas of development highlighted by Covid, work has been ongoing on preparation of a draft authority wide volunteering strategy.
- 4.9** First stage third sector consultation on the draft strategy structure has now been completed. A series of on-line focus group sessions took place during June 2021 and were attended by 55 organisations and 106 volunteer representatives. Work is ongoing to analyse the feedback received and to produce a second draft for wider consultation in October 2021.

Refreshed Action Plan

- 4.10** In line with ongoing Board discussion and alongside fellow DIGs, the Empowered DIG has embarked on a process of reviewing and refreshing the

2021/22 action plan. Discussions have focussed on identifying a number of key thematic areas for further exploration over the next two months including actions to reduce barriers, poverty and loneliness and isolation. A refreshed action plan will be presented to the next CPWD Management Group meeting.

- 4.11 Work is also being taken forward in conjunction with the Independent DIG to progress areas of potential joint activity. A session to further explore linkages and complementarity will take place in early September 2021 and will be reflected in the refreshed action plan.

5. People Implications

- 5.1 There are no personnel issues at this time

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 Should funding not be received to support the DFWD initiative, the action plan will have to be revisited.

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