

EX20. Strategy for Community Engagement 2019-2024

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services which sought approval of the Strategy for Community Engagement 2019 – 2024.

The previous community engagement strategy, Have Your Say: A Plan for Local Involvement, in 2015 for a three year period. It had therefore been updated for the period 2019 - 2024 to bring it in line with the Council business plans.

The strategy took an evidence based approach to community engagement and was based on:-

- What works: consultation was carried out with relevant employees to determine which methods and approaches to community engagement are already working well for services;
- How the public want to get involved: a consultation was carried out with the public to ask how they want to participate, what services and issues they want to have their say on, how they want the Council to communicate with them, and any barriers preventing them from participating. Results from a previous consultation with young people were also used when determining strategy priorities;
- Policy context: the strategy adopts the National Standards for Community Engagement and adheres to our duties under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act.

The strategy was developed in consultation with the Council's Participation Group and was provided as an appendix to the report.

Decision

The Executive:-

- (1) approved the Strategy for Community Engagement 2019-2024;**
- (2) agreed that its progress will be reported to members on an annual basis, and**
- (3) noted that the Strategy will support the delivery of the enabled communities workstream in the council's five year business plan.**