

**To:** Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities

**On:** 21 March 2018

**Report by:**

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**TITLE:**

**Improvement Service: Community Empowerment Action Learning Programme**

**1. Summary**

- 1.1 The Improvement Service and Scottish Community Development Service are supporting community planning partnerships to develop community empowerment and engagement. This is delivered through an action learning set spread over two days in February and May 2018 that enables community planning partnership to share good practice and identify questions for investigation.
- 1.2 A set of issues for discussion by Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities is set out at section 3.3. The output of this discussion will inform further exploration of the issues at the second session of the action learning set.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities:
  - (a) Notes the format of the Improvement Service action learning set, and
  - (b) Discusses the issues set out at section 3.3, in order to inform work at the second session.

**3. Background**

- 3.1 The Improvement Service is running an Action Learning Set for community planning partnerships across Scotland in conjunction with Scottish Community Development Centre. The action learning sets are organised in clusters, with Renfrewshire included within the West of Scotland cluster. The purpose of the action learning set is to enable community planning partnerships to reflect on their own experience of

community empowerment and engagement and to learn from good practice in other partnerships.

3.2 The first meeting of the West of Scotland Action Learning Set took place on 26 February, attended by Karen McIntyre, Engage Renfrewshire and Stuart Graham, Renfrewshire Council. A follow up session takes place on 21 May 2018.

3.3 The follow questions and actions were identified at the first meeting for further development, to be brought back for discussion to the second session on 21 May:

- Ways to engage and support disenfranchised individuals/communities to take ownership of solutions to the issues they face.
- Ways to identify community influencers in the digital world and work through them to engage with different communities. Carry out web analysis that would identify key community influencers in the digital world.
- Develop a summary of existing “digi” support/services within Renfrewshire.
- Ways to have conversations with people about their aspirations for their communities.

It was agreed that the issues identified above would be presented for discussion to Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities to inform work to be brought back for discussion to the second action learning set on 21 May 2018.

**Author:** : For more information about the report, please contact Karen McIntyre, Engage Renfrewshire