

Notice of Meeting and Agenda Forum for Empowering Communities Group

| Date | Time | Venue |
|---------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| Tuesday, 17 November 2020 | 14:00 | Remotely via Microsoft Teams, |

KENNETH GRAHAM
Head of Corporate Governance

Membership

S McDonald, Active Communities; M Mathieson, Barnados; I McLean, Bridgewater Housing Association; J Gonani, DEAR; A McNiven, Engage Renfrewshire; J Wilby, Paisley West & Central Community Council; S McLellan, RAMH; S Cruickshank, Renfrewshire Access Panel; K Taylor, Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau; N Hanssen, ROAR; and C Masson, Save the Children.

Chair

A McNiven, Chief Executive, Engage Renfrewshire.

Items of business

Apologies

Apologies from members.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare an interest in any item(s) on the agenda and to provide a brief explanation of the nature of the interest.

- | | | |
|----------|--|----------------|
| 1 | Minute of Previous Meeting | 1 - 4 |
| | Minute of previous meeting held on 3 September 2020. | |
| 2 | Matters Arising | |
| 3 | Rolling Action Log | 5 - 6 |
| | Report by Director of Finance & Resources. | |
| 4 | Local Hubs | |
| | Verbal update by Partnerships Planning and Development Manager. | |
| 5 | Black Lives Matter/Dear Update | |
| | Report by DEAR (Not available - Report to Follow). | |
| 6 | Youth Employment/Kickstart | 7 - 10 |
| | Report by Chief Executive, Engage Renfrewshire. | |
| 7 | Timetable of Meetings for the Forum for Empowering Communities 2021 | 11 - 12 |
| | Report by Director of Finance & Resources. | |



Minute of Meeting Forum for Empowering Communities

| Date | Time | Venue |
|---------------------------|-------|--------------------|
| Thursday 3 September 2020 | 14:00 | Remotely via Teams |

Present

J Gonani, DEAR; N Hanssen, ROAR; S McLellan, RAMH; and M Mathieson, Barnados.

Chair

A McNiven, Chief Executive, Engage Renfrewshire, presided.

In Attendance

C Masson, Save the Children; R Robertson, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership; K McIntyre, Engage Renfrewshire; and S Graham and C MacDonald, both Renfrewshire Council.

Apologies

S Cruickshank, Renfrewshire Access Panel; S Kraft, Renfrewshire Council; S McDonald, Active Communities; I McLean, Bridgewater Housing Association;; K Taylor, Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau; and J Wilby, Paisley West & Central Community Council.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to commencement of the meeting.

Order Of Business

The Chair intimated that he proposed to add an item to the agenda on Mutual Support and would consider the item prior to item 4 on the agenda.

1 MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering Communities Group held on 9 June 2020.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

2 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

3 ROLLING ACTION LOG

The Rolling Action Log was submitted for approval.

RFG. 28.11.19(9) – Stay Mobile, Stay Connected. It was noted that a report in relation to falls was on the Health & Social Care Partnership website. N Hanssen asked if this matter could be highlighted through the Council's website and distributed generally to other organisations. After discussion it was agreed that R Robertson would raise this matter through the neighbourhood hubs.

RFG.09.06.20 (4) - Mutual Support In Third Sector Management. K McIntyre advised that the new Engage website had just been launched and contained a section where members could log in to a secure area to access information and share their skills, knowledge and expertise.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the possibility of highlighting falls prevention through the Council's website be investigated;
- (b) That the possibility of highlighting falls prevention through neighbourhood hubs be investigated;
- (c) That the updates be noted; and
- (b) That the Rolling Action Log be approved.

4 MUTUAL SUPPORT

A McNiven advised the Forum of the potential for a Discussion/Support group for Third Sector Senior Managers.

He intimated that Derek Raffaelli, who had a long track record in supporting management groups in the private, public & third sector, had agreed to support the Forum with two or three introductory, 90 minute, sessions to look at how a support group would work and what benefits it could bring.

He advised that if anyone was interested in participating to let him know and dates would be scheduled to suit the Group.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the Discussion/Support group support sessions be agreed; and
- (b) That it be agreed that members notify the Chair of their interest in participating in the Group.

5 NEIGHBOURHOOD HUBS

S Graham gave a verbal update relative to the neighbourhood hubs.

He advised that more than 60 volunteers have been working with staff from Renfrewshire Council and partners to support people in the community at this time. Officers, partners and volunteers had been working together as one team to support people in a flexible and innovative way from the council's Neighbourhood Hubs.

The hubs were run by the Council in partnership with key local organisations such as the Health and Social Care Partnership, Renfrewshire Leisure and local voluntary and community groups, to provide general support and information to residents who needed extra help in coping with the effects of coronavirus.

The volunteers had been recruited through Engage Renfrewshire's Volunteer Reserve and had been carrying out a variety of tasks in the community including; doing doorstep deliveries, helping with daily errands such as dog walking and posting letters and keeping in touch with residents by making friendship calls.

After discussion it was agreed that this item would be submitted to a future meeting for further discussion.

DECIDED: That it be agreed that this item be submitted to a future meeting for further discussion.

6 EARLY ACTION SYSTEM CHANGE

There was submitted a report by the Community & Partnership Manager, Engage Renfrewshire relative to an update on the Early Action System Change.

The report advised that phase 1 of Early Action System Change was complete and phase 2 commenced in September 2020 with two commissions: Codesign and Collaboration. The report intimated that phase 2 would be complete at the end of June 2021.

DECIDED: That the update be noted.

7 UPDATE ON COVID-19 RECOVERY

The Chair gave a verbal update on the response to COVID-19 and ongoing recovery activity, focusing on activity undertaken since the last Forum Group on 9 June 2020.

Members then provided updates in relation to their specific service.

DECIDED: That the updates be noted.

8 UPDATE FROM OTHER RELEVANT COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUPS




A verbal update was given by members who had been present at the other Community Planning groups.

DECIDED: That the updates be noted.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

DECIDED: That it be noted that the date of the next meeting of the Forum for Empowering Communities would be held remotely by Microsoft Teams at 2pm on 17 November 2020.

**RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
RENFREWSHIRE FORUM FOR EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES GROUP
ROLLING ACTION LOG**

| | | |
|---|---|------------|
|  | Action is on track | KEY |
|  | Areas for concern that will impact on completion date if not fixed. Action required to bring up to satisfactory level | |
|  | Past deadline date and action required. | |

| Action No. | Action | Action Owner | Status | Expected Date of Completion | Actual Date of Closure | Update & Comments |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--------|-----------------------------|------------------------|---|
| <u>RFG.13.12.17(4b)</u> | <u>Greener Communities</u> an informal grouping be convened of third sector organisations with expertise and interest in environmental issues as a sounding board for responding to greener issues. | AMcN/SG JW/IMcL/A McN SG | | | | <u>RFG. 28.11.19(3) - Greener Communities Climate Change</u> (a) Informal network to be set up with I McLean, J Wilby and A McNiven in order to take forward the actions and pick up developments; (b) S Graham to contact the Clyde River Foundation to ascertain further information in relation to the ecological health of the river and report back to the Group at a future meeting. <u>RFG.05.03.20(2)</u> Update given on informal network being set up and Clyde River Foundation. |
| <u>RFG.12.06.19(2)</u> | Membership of the Forum to be reviewed and update to be submitted to next Forum meeting | CMacD | | | | Members to complete their biography forms and send it along with a recent photograph by no later than 13 January 2020 to the Clerk <u>RFG.05.03.20(5)</u> Clerk to email members again who have not submitted their biographies. |
| <u>RFG. 28.11.19(9)</u> | <u>Stay Mobile/Stay Connected</u> The issues discussed in relation to bins and vulnerability of the elderly be raised with the Director of Environmental Services | SG/RR | | | | <u>RFG 03.09.20(3)</u> That the possibility of highlighting falls prevention through Council website and neighbour hubs to be investigated. |
| <u>RFG 03.09.20(4)</u> | <u>MUTUAL SUPPORT</u> (a) Discussion/Support group support sessions to be set up; and (b) Members to notify the Chair of their interest in participating in the Group. | AMcN/ALL | | | | |
| <u>RFG 03.09.20(5)</u> | <u>NEIGHBOURHOOD HUBS</u> Item be submitted to a future meeting for further discussion. | | | | | |



To: Forum for Empowering Communities Group

On: 17 November 2020

Report by:

Alan, McNiven, Chief Executive, Engage Renfrewshire

TITLE:

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT & KICKSTART

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Improving the opportunities of young people in light of the pandemic will be a priority for recovery planning. Scottish Government are encouraging all employers who are able, to work with to create more opportunities that recognise the valuable contribution young people can make.

2 Youth Guarantee

- 2.1 The Scottish Government have announced their Programme for Scotland 2020/21 - a £60 million Youth Guarantee, so every young person aged between 16 and 24 will be guaranteed an opportunity at university or college, training or employment. The offer will bring in other aspects of the Programme for Scottish Governments for 2020/21. This will be further supported by additional funding for apprenticeships and the new Job Start Grant; providing £250, or £400 for people with children, supporting around 5,000 young people a year starting a new job after a period of unemployment. Nicola Sturgeon said that the focus has to be on young people, "supporting, retraining and investing" in their futures is key to a smoother economic recovery.
- 2.2 The long-term goal sitting behind the Youth Guarantee will be moving young people into the Green New Deal to help the nation tackle climate change; £100m over the next five years, investing alongside businesses and organisations to support new and increased opportunities for green job creation across Scotland.
- 2.3 There will other be further investment in the Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) that began in 2012, with £10 million in DYW Regional Groups to support more young people to access the labour market, strengthen their links with employers, and create more opportunities to employ young people.

- 2.4 Covid-19 has exposed the need for investment to tackle the attainment gap and the Scottish Government are investing £135 million in extra resources. They will support educational catch up, and recruit 1,400 additional teachers and 200 support staff and help close the poverty related attainment gaps. Digital learning opportunities for young people will also increase, supported by the provision of Chromebooks and internet access. The hope is that this will build resilience in the face of COVID-19 and create new opportunities for young people to learn.

3 Kickstart – in Renfrewshire

- 3.1 The Governments' Kickstart Scheme aims to provide hundreds of thousands of paid 6-month work placements for young people on Universal Credit and at risk of long-term unemployment.
- 3.2 The job placements should support the participants to develop the skills and experience they need to find work after completing the scheme.
- 3.3 The job placements created with Kickstart funding must be new jobs. They must not:
- replace existing or planned vacancies
 - cause existing employees or contractors to lose or reduce their employment

The roles must be:

- a minimum of 25 hours per week, for 6 months
 - paid at least the National Minimum Wage for their age group
 - and should not require people to undertake extensive training before they begin the job placement
- 3.4 The placements will commence between November 2020 and December 2021 (although the timescales could be extended). An initial bid from Renfrewshire Council, in partnership with Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce and Engage Renfrewshire, for 400 places in Renfrewshire is being created. The final guidance on the Kickstart programme has not been issued yet but posts will be funded at 100% of the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours a week, plus associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer minimum automatic enrolment contributions.
- 3.5 A set fee £1500 is also paid to the employer for the wraparound support to the young person. This fee should cover any IT or equipment required, some management support, training and employability support required by the young person.
- 3.6 The Intermediary Body for Kickstart in Renfrewshire will be Renfrewshire Council (in partnership with Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce and Engage Renfrewshire). The Intermediary body is effectively the co-ordinator of the placements and the support. The UK Government will deal directly with the Intermediary Body (rather than the many employers) and all of the funding will be directed to the Intermediary to distribute to the employers. The Intermediary will work with the employer to detail the job on offer and will pass this to DWP (local jobcentre) for advertising and recruitment.

- 3.7 In terms of recruitment to the roles, the employer (with the support of the Intermediary) provides a job description for the role and the Intermediary (with DWP) confirms that the post is eligible for Kickstart support. The post is advertised through the local job centre and up to 6 candidates (less if required) will be put forward for interview to the employer by DWP. Those put forward should be ready and able for the role.

4 Going forward

- 4.1 Following the impact of the present crisis, some researchers (including the Resolution foundation <https://www.resolutionfoundation.org/>) are suggesting that Youth unemployment in Britain is on course to more than triple; unemployment among economically active 18- to 29-year-olds could hit 17% by late 2020. Youth unemployment – which does not include people in education and currently stands at a record low of 5.5%.
- 4.2 It will be important that were possible locally the Forum supports initiatives that support young people towards employment, and we will look to provide reports as delivery around this agenda develops.



To: **Forum for Empowering Communities Group**

On: **17 November 2020**

Report by:
Director of Finance & Resources

**TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS FOR THE
FORUM FOR EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES GROUP
JANUARY 2021 TO DECEMBER 2021**

1 Summary

The purpose of the report is to submit for consideration the proposed calendar of meeting dates for the Forum for Empowering Communities Group for the period January 2021 to December 2021.

2 Recommendation

That the timetable of meetings from January 2021 to December 2021, as indicated within the report, be agreed.

3 Background

3.1 At the meeting of the Forum for Empowering Communities Group held on 4 September 2019 it was agreed that the meetings would alternate between Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and would commence at 2pm.

3.2 The proposed dates are as follows:

- Thursday 11 March 2021 at 2pm
- Tuesday 8 June 2021 at 2pm
- Thursday 9 September 2021 at 2pm
- Tuesday 16 November 2021 at 2pm

- 3.3 Meetings of the Forum are usually held at Engage Renfrewshire however, given the ongoing situation with Covid-19 meetings will be held remotely via Teams until further notice.
- 3.4 The timetable takes account of all standard meetings of the Forum for Empowering Communities Group but does not take into account any ad-hoc meetings which might be held as and when necessary.

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