

Notice of Meeting and Agenda Forum for Empowering Communities Group

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 16 November 2021	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; M Fotheringham, Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau; C Forbes, 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.

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| 1 | Minute of Previous Meeting | 1 - 4 |
| | Minute of previous meeting held on 9 September 2021. | |
| 2 | Matters Arising | |
| 3 | Rolling Action Log | 5 - 6 |
| | Report by Director of Finance & Resources. | |
| 4 | Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund | |
| | Presentation by Engage Renfrewshire. | |
| 5 | Climate Emergency | |
| | Presentation by Roz Smith, Climate Emergency Lead Officer. | |
| 6 | Affordable Credit | |
| | Presentation by Engage Renfrewshire. | |
| 7 | Support for People with a Physical Disability | |
| | Presentation by Health & Social Care Partnership. | |
| 8 | Timetable of Meetings for The Forum For Empowering Communities Group to December 2022 | 7 - 8 |
| | Report by Director of Finance & Resources. | |



Minute of Meeting Forum for Empowering Communities

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday 9 September 2021	14:00	Remotely via Teams

Present

C Forbes, ROAR; J Gonani, DEAR; J Wilby, Paisley West & Central Community Council; S McLellan, RAMH; and R Robertson, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership.

Chair

A McNiven, Chief Executive, Engage Renfrewshire, presided.

In Attendance

K McIntyre and Z Hakim, (both Engage Renfrewshire); D Lockyer, Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau; S Graham, D Pole, C MacDonald and E Gray (all Renfrewshire Council).

Apologies

I McLean, Bridgewater Housing Association; S McDonald, Active Communities; M Mathieson, Barnados; C Masson, Save the Children; M Hill, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Declarations of Interest

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

SEDERUNT

The Chair intimated that Item 5 – Update of Renfrewshire’s Alcohol & Drug Approach had been withdrawn from the agenda and would be submitted to a future meeting.

1 MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering Communities Group held on 8 June 2021.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

2 MATTERS ARISING

In relation to Item 4 – Falls Prevention Group – C Forbes advised that the next meeting of the Group would be held in October 2021. She intimated that the membership of the Group had been reviewed and refreshed.

DECIDED: That the update be noted.

3 ROLLING ACTION LOG

The Rolling Action Log was submitted for approval.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the updates be noted; and
- (b) That the Rolling Action Log be approved.

4 PHYSICAL DISABILITY & THE IMPACT OF COVID

There was submitted a report by S Cruickshank, Chair, Renfrewshire Access Panel in relation to inequalities, participation and human rights before, during and beyond Covid-19.

The report advised that in August 2020, Glasgow Disability Alliance (GDA) produced a report which outlined members' concerns during the first lockdown, a copy of which was attached as an appendix. It advised that 80% of disabled people did not know where to turn to for help in their local communities in terms of information, advice, services or support; 82% were worried about social isolation and loneliness; and 60% faced digital exclusion- either the device, the connectivity or the confidence to use digital equipment.

During discussion it was noted that there required to be a distinction between mental and physical disability and the support available around both areas; to acknowledge that there were still covid-related problems in relation to accessing services; and as 60% of disabled people faced digital exclusion, communication was required in all formats not just digitally but it was acknowledged it was very difficult to reach certain parts of the community.

It was agreed that communications methodology and the balance between disabilities be looked at.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the update be noted.

(b) That it be agreed that communication methodology and the balance between disabilities be looked at.

5 IN-REN

The Community & Partnership Manager, Engage Renfrewshire gave a presentation relative to racism in communities and highlighted the Marcus Rashford incident. The presentation also detailed racial disparities and “the house that racism built” diagram; advised how racism affected health; outlined Engage’s commitment to racial equality and advised of viewing, listening and reading material.

Z Hakim, the new Network Officer within Engage Renfrewshire introduced himself to the Group and outlined his role and responsibilities.

After discussion K McIntyre and Z Hakim were thanked for their input.

DECIDED: That the presentation be noted.

6 LOCAL PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

S Graham Partnerships Planning and Development Manager, Chief Executive's Service, Renfrewshire Council gave an update on the Local Partnerships.

He advised that the deadline had now passed for project notification and 60 groups had put themselves forward for the Celebrating Renfrewshire Awards and voting would take place over the course of September and October and the results would be announced at a digital event later in the year.

DECIDED: That the verbal update be noted.

7 THE PROMISE

S Graham Partnerships Planning and Development Manager, Chief Executive's Service, Renfrewshire Council gave an update on the Promise which was a national initiative but which had a local Renfrewshire Action Plan.

He advised that the Promise Scotland was responsible for driving the work of change demanded by the findings of the Independent Care Review and it was working with all kinds of organisations to support shifts in policy, practice and culture in order that every child would grow up loved, safe and respected, and able to realise their full potential.

DECIDED: That the verbal update be noted.

8 BACK TO THE OFFICE

The Chair led a discussion by the Group in relation to the arrangements for re-opening of offices as well as other works spaces.

DECIDED: That the update be noted.

**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.12.06.19(2)</u>	Membership of the Forum to be reviewed and update to be submitted to next Forum meeting	CMacD				<p>Members to complete their biography forms and send it along with a recent photograph by no later than 13 January 2020 to the Clerk</p> <p><u>RFG.05.03.20(5)</u> Clerk to email members again who have not submitted their biographies.</p> <p><u>RFG171120</u> Clerk advised responses received and bio handbook in progress</p> <p><u>RFG.11.03.21(2)</u> Clerk to send out existing bios for refresh and send out forms to new members for completion..</p> <p><u>RFG180621 (2)</u> Email sent and awaiting responses.</p>
<u>RFG 03.09.20(4)</u>	<p><u>MUTUAL SUPPORT</u></p> <p>(a) Discussion/Support group support sessions to be set up; and</p> <p>(b) Members to notify the Chair of their interest in participating in the Group.</p>	AMcN/ALL				<p><u>RFG 17.11.20</u> Meeting will take place on 2nd December and further update will be given to Members after that date</p> <p><u>RFG.11.03.21(2)</u> Members were updated and advised more meetings in diary for 2021..</p> <p><u>RFG 9.9.21(2)</u> It was intimated that a meeting was held in September and A McNiven would be writing to participants</p>
<u>RFG180621 (2)</u>	<p><u>GREENER COMMUNITIES</u></p> <p>Agreed that once the Climate Change Lead Officer post was established that they be invited to a future meeting of the Forum;</p>	AMcN/Clerk				<p><u>RFG 9.9.21(2)</u> S Graham updated the Group</p>
<u>RFG180621 (5)</u>	<p><u>SOCIAL RENEWAL PLAN</u></p> <p>Agreed that an update be submitted to a future meeting</p>	AMcN				
<u>RFG090921(4)</u>	<p><u>PHYSICAL DISABILITY & THE IMPACT OF COVID</u></p> <p>That it be agreed that communication methodology and the balance between disabilities be looked at.</p>	AMcN				



To: **Forum for Empowering Communities Group**

On: **16 November 2021**

Report by:
Director of Finance & Resources

**TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS FOR THE
FORUM FOR EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES GROUP
TO DECEMBER 2022**

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 2022 to December 2022.

2 Recommendation

That the timetable of meetings from January 2022 to December 2022, as indicated within the report, be agreed.

3 Background

3.1 At the meeting of the Forum for Empowering Communities Group which was held on 4 September 2020 it was agreed that the meetings would alternative between Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and would commence at 2pm.

3.2 Due to Covid, the location of the meetings will remain as TBC until nearer the time.

3.3 The proposed dates are as follows:

- Thursday 3 March 2022, 2pm - 4pm
- Tuesday 24 May 2022, 2-4pm
- Thursday 1 September 2022, 2pm - 4pm
- Tuesday 15 November 2022, 2pm - 4pm

- 3.3 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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