

Community Empowerment Group
Thursday 25 November 2021, 2-4pm

Member	Present
Michelle Cochlan, Aberdeen City Council (Chair)	Yes
Maggie Hepburn, ACVO (Vice Chair)	Apologies
Jonathan Smith, Civic Forum (Vice Chair)	N/A Attends Network
Darren Bruce, Police Scotland	Yes
Dave Black, GREC	Yes
Bryan Nelson, SFRS	Yes
Fiona Clark, ACC	Yes
Gordon Edgar, ACHSCP	Yes
Wendy Henderson, Independent Care Sector	Yes
Susan Thoms, ACC	Apologies
Colin Wright, ACC	Apologies
Martin Wyllie, ACC	Apologies
Rachel Harrison, ACC	Yes
Elaine Sinclair, UoA	Yes
Louise Ballantyne, NHSG	Yes

Item No.	Title	Lead	Notes/ Actions	Responsibility
1.	Welcome & Apologies	All	Welcome to Louise Ballantyne, Head of Engagement, NHSG.	
2.	<u>Actions from the last meeting</u>	All	<p>Actions from the last meeting were marked as complete or covered on todays agenda with the following exceptions:</p> <p><u>Responsible Business Network</u> – Michelle updated the group that the second Aberdeen Responsible Business Event went ahead this morning. It was agreed that this area of work should be included in the updated Empowerment Strategy.</p> <p><u>Community Empowerment Network</u> – Dave advised that use of jargon was missing as an area for improvement from the debrief notes from the last meeting. Next Event is Feb 22. Michelle will be in touch with volunteers to organise this in the New Year using the feedback captured at last meeting – Dave, Martin and Elaine volunteered to help with the planning of the event.</p>	<p>DB/MH/FC/DB</p> <p>MC</p>

			<p><u>Acronym Buster</u> – Michelle thanked Gordon for sending the HSCP Acronym Buster. This has been adapted for CPA and published on the web. Members were asked to review and let Michelle know if they have any changes/ additions.</p> <p><u>CLD</u>– Colin has asked to put the CLD progress report back to next meeting due to preparation for the HMIE visit. Fiona Clark confirmed that the HMIE visit has been very positive with inspectors providing good feedback on new governance arrangements and from communities too. Well done to Fiona, Colin and the Team.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>CW</p>
3.	Community Stories	Martin/ Catherine Russell	<p>Michelle introduced Cate Russell who has been connecting with Martin on gathering community stories.</p> <p>Cate provided a presentation on Sense Maker which is a tool to assist in decision making in complex environments. It helps gather perspectives which can be explored further via workshops with communities. Cate asked the group for support to share the opportunity to get involved with communities.</p> <p>Members thanked Cate for the presentation and agreed that the tool looks helpful to understand how communities have experienced life in the City over the last year. Members liked the bottom up approach it takes and that it provides a space for authenticity, encouraging participants to give a true account.</p> <p>The group also offered the following feedback that they felt would be useful to Cate in attracting more participation from communities in the exercise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be clear on the outcome of the exercise and what the information will be used for. Decision making by who? • Confirm whether the information will be published online. How will it be shared? • Language used is very academic and needs plain English. Need to review the message. Elaine offered to help Cate with this. • Consider how you will reach people that do not have access to digital devices. • Use of social media to reach communities. <p>Cate confirmed that she is aiming to receive about 300 stories for an accurate representation of the City. The findings of the exercise will be shared with decision makers across the public sector.</p>	

			<p>Cate will send poster communications prepared for communities and the link to the online story collector, as well as a copy of the slides from today. The group agreed to cascade communications to community networks and wished Cate well with her project.</p>	CR/ ALL
4.	Aberdeen City Voice	Anne	<p>Anne presented the Revised City Voice Report which takes on board feedback received from members of the Group. This includes additional demographic information and responses by locality. There are still some gaps in terms of service response but these will be added before the report is published. The Group approved the report, subject to these responses being added.</p> <p>It was agreed that there will be a review of City Voice before the next questionnaire is issued in 2022 to address some of the issues identified by the group this year. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vale of panel v open questionnaire • Response rate • Format of questionnaire/ other options • Targeting of under represented groups • Analysis by group/neighbourhood <p>The timeline for producing the next questionnaire is due to start in April 2022 and therefore the review will need to be concluded before then. Michelle and Anne asked which members would be willing to form a review group to explore the issues highlighted above and identify recommendations for improvement. Bryan, Dave and Gordon volunteered to participate. Michelle and Anne will be in touch to arrange.</p>	BN/DB/GE/ MC/AM
5.	Aberdeen Engagement Schedule	Gordon	<p>Gordon explained that in refreshing their strategic plan the HSCP have been considering how they can better engage younger people and that there is an idea to produce an engagement schedule to forward plan for upcoming consultations to ensure they are accessible to young people. E.g. Simulator and citizens panel. Gordon wondered if there is anything in place at the moment for not only engagement activity but ongoing fora for engaging. It was highlighted that ACVO do have an online calendar of events and perhaps there was scope to build on this. It was agreed that we should not duplicate what is already there. Gordon agreed to discuss this with Maggie.</p>	MH/GE

6.	Locality Planning and Update from LEGs/PNPs	Gordon/ Rachel	<p>The group heard an update from Gordon and Rachel regarding Locality Empowerment Groups and Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships. The new process for linking communities to improvement projects via the role of community connector is still bedding in. It takes time to build the connections with communities and build people's confidence to engage deeper.</p> <p>There have been capacity issues which has posed a challenge across the three localities due to vacancies and staff absence within the integrated Locality Planning Team (Public Health Coordinators and Locality Inclusion Managers).</p> <p>However, meetings are continuing to happen and staffing is in a better place with all three Public Health Coordinators now recruited. LEGS are building an identity. There has been some very positive feedback from community members attending the LEG meetings. In particular, it was highlighted to the group the fantastic work Jade Leyden has been doing to cover the South LEG and Torry Partnership whilst there has been no PHC or Locality Inclusion Manager in post.</p> <p>The Phase 2 Review of Locality Planning was scheduled to take place this year to examine the effectiveness of the LEGs/ PNPs in engaging with wider communities. However, due to the resource issues mentioned the group agreed that the new system needs more time to bed in before it is assessed for effectiveness and that the second phase review is not likely to start until mid 2022.</p> <p>In the meantime, the CEG will continue to receive progress updates via Gordon and Rachel on how the LEGs and PNPs are engaging local communities and what improvements are being made, whilst acknowledging that resource issues remain for the Locality Inclusion Managers.</p> <p>The Group agreed to invite the full Integrated Locality Planning Team to the next meeting of the CEG in the New Year so everyone can meet them.</p>	<p>GE/RH</p> <p>MC</p>
7.	Update on Review of Engagement, Participation & Empowerment Strategy –	Maggie/ Dave/ Darren and Fiona	Thanks to members who provided further feedback on the questions posed by Maggie on the outline for the revised strategy. Dave has arranged a meeting of the strategy review group to discuss these next week?	
8.	<u>Date of Meetings 2021/22</u> 27 January 24 February – Network	All	The group agreed to continue meeting monthly in 2022. Michelle will issue a new calendar invite.	MC

31 March 28 April 26 May 30 June 28 July (Chair needed) 26 August 29 September 27 October (Chair needed) 24 November			
--	--	--	--