



## Integration Joint Board

<b>Report Title</b>	Engagement, Empowerment & Participation Strategy
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Judith Proctor, Chief Officer
<b>Report Author</b>	Gail Woodcock, Integrated Localities Programme Manager (ACHSCP)
<b>Date of Report</b>	07.10.16
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	15.11.16

### 1: Purpose of the Report

This report brings to the attention of the IJB the Engagement, Empowerment and Participation Strategy that has been developed by Community Planning Aberdeen partners, and seeks agreement that this strategy would be adopted by the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership.

### 2: Summary of Key Information

#### 2.1 Background

The Health and Social Care Integration Scheme for Aberdeen City sets out that the IJB will develop a Participation and Engagement Strategy. The purpose of the Participation and Engagement Strategy being to ensure “significant engagement with, and participation by, members of the public, representative groups and other organisations in relation to decisions about the carrying out of integration functions.” The Integration Scheme goes on to state that the IJB will be encouraged to “access existing forums that the Parties (ACC and NHSG) have established, such as Public Partnership Forums, Community Councils, groups and other networks and stakeholder groups with an interest in health and social care.”

It was intended that this strategy was developed alongside the Strategic Plan development. However while the strategy was not in place at that time, the key principles around engagement and involvement were adopted to underpin the comprehensive consultation process associated with the iterative development of the Strategic Plan.



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### 2.2 Empowerment, Engagement and Participation Strategy

Along with the requirements of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014, other legislation, namely the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 has provided an impetus to create an increased focus on how organisations and communities experience engagement, participation and empowerment. This has provided an opportunity for the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership to work in a co-production manner with other Community Planning partners to develop a city-wide “Empowerment, Engagement and Participation Strategy.”

This strategy (attached at Appendix A) has been developed via an iterative process which aligns with the aspirations of the strategy.

The strategy utilises the metaphor of a ladder to represent different types of interactions between public organisations and people, from one-way provision of information (informing), through involvement and collaboration, to self-determination, where people implement what they decide.

The strategy was developed by a working group including representatives from: Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen Civic Forum, Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership, Aberdeen Community Council Forum, Aberdeen Council or Voluntary Organisations, Castlehill & Pittodrie Community Council, Community Renewal, NHS Grampian, Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue. Its development has incorporated iterative additional input from a range of partnerships, networks and third sector organisations.

The strategy has yet to receive final approval by the Community Planning Board, and is in a final draft form. Given the highly participative manner of development, it is understood that any final changes may be minor in nature.

### 2.3 Strategic Objectives

The strategic objectives of the strategy are as follows:

- Communities’ inherent strengths and assets – their people, their energy, their connections, sense of purpose and resources, and their abilities to self-organise and exercise autonomy, will be valued as a fundamental building block of a healthy society
- Every community will be equally heard and listened to
- Participation will be the norm rather than the exception
- Staff will be empowered to work in collaborative and empowering ways
- People will be able to see the difference that involvement has made



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There is a clear alignment between these objectives and the Integration Principles, our vision and values, and our strategic priorities.

*“We are a caring partnership working together with our communities to enable people to achieve fulfilling, healthier lives and wellbeing” – our vision*

### 3: Equalities, Financial, Workforce and Other Implications

#### **Financial Implications**

None.

#### **Equalities Implications**

The strategy seeks to be proactive in ensuring participation from those who may be at risk of being seldom heard. A full list of people at risk of being marginalised is included in Appendix 3 of the strategy. In the final version of the document the list will also include veterans.

#### **Workforce Implications**

One of the strategic objectives is: “Staff will be empowered to work in collaborative and empowering ways”. It is recognised that this may challenge the culture within some of our existing systems. The support required to enable delivery of this objective is covered within our Transformational Programme within the Organisational and Cultural Change priority and the associated developing work stream of activity.

#### **Other Implications**

Having a single, shared Empowerment, Engagement and Participation Strategy across all Aberdeen Community Planning Partners, many of whom are considered as part of our extended Health and Social Care Partnership system, and are critical to ensuring the delivery of our strategic plan, will help to ensure consistency and alignment in the way that we collectively support engagement and participation within and across services and the wider community.



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### 4: Management of Risk

#### Identified risk(s):

Strategic Risk Register (3) There is a risk that the IJB fails to function properly within its Integration Scheme, Strategic Plan and Schemes of delegation in particular reference to being able to make appropriate decisions in a timely manner and meet its required functions: The Health and Social Care Integration Scheme for Aberdeen City sets out that the IJB will develop a Participation and Engagement Strategy, this report recommends the adoption of a strategy which will fulfil this requirement.

Strategic Risk Register (8) There is a risk of reputational damage to the IJB and its partner organisations resulting from complexity of function, delegation and delivery of services across health and social care: Effective engagement and participation across all stakeholder groups will help to mitigate against this risk.

Strategic Risk Register (10) There is a risk that the IJB does not maximise the opportunities offered by locality working: a key opportunity offered through locality working is the opportunity to work in a co-productive manner with a range of stakeholders. Adopting the principles within the Empowerment, Engagement and Participation Strategy will help to maximise such opportunities.

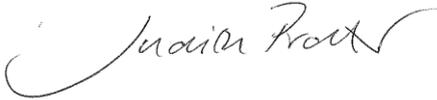
### 5: Recommendations

It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:

1. Adopt the Community Planning Aberdeen Engagement, Empowerment and Participation Strategy as the partnership's Engagement and Participation Strategy as identified within the Integration Scheme.



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6: Signatures	
	Judith Proctor (Chief Officer)
	Alex Stephen (Chief Finance Officer)