



Glasgow City Council

**Wellbeing Empowerment Community and
Citizen Engagement City Policy Committee**

Report by Convener

Item 1

12th November 2020

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**Wellbeing Empowerment Community and
Citizen Engagement City Policy Committee: Annual Assessment**

Purpose of Report:

To provide an Annual Assessment of the work of the Committee as required by Standing Order 32 (8).

Recommendations:

The Committee is asked to consider and note the Annual Assessment.

Ward No(s):

Citywide:

Local member(s) advised: Yes No

consulted: Yes No

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1. Background

- 1.1 The Council's Standing Order 32 (8) notes the following in relation to City Policy Committees:

"An annual assessment will be carried out in each year to:

- assess the effectiveness of the workings of the committee, and to assess any training needs of members/officers; and*
- the effectiveness of the implementation of agreed policies.*

The assessment will be carried out by the relevant Convener in years 1 and 2, and an independent assessment will be carried out in year 3 and every third year thereafter. A report setting out the findings of the annual assessment will be submitted to the Operational Performance and Delivery Scrutiny Committee."

- 1.2 The Wellbeing Empowerment Community and Citizen Engagement City Policy Committee (WECCE) was established in September 2017 following a review of the committee structure by the council administration elected in May 2017. The Committee has representation from all four parties on the Council and the Convener and Vice Convener are members of the administration. This report now takes the opportunity to assess the effectiveness of the working of the Committee and assess any training needs.

- 1.3 The Committee agreed its Terms of Reference at a meeting in September 2017. In summary, the Committee is responsible for:

"Policy development (including consideration of equalities issues) as they relate to Council policies and services for wellbeing, empowerment, community and citizen engagement; and to act as a sounding board for the Council's input to the Glasgow City Integration Joint Board."

- 1.4 Members of the Committee should note that this assessment covers an 18 month period from April 2019 until October 2020. During this period the COVID-19 pandemic impacted on the operation of the Committee.

2. Co-opted External Members

- 2.1 Within the guidelines for City Policy Committees there exists the capacity to appoint up to four people as non-voting co-optees to bring access to external expertise, knowledge and experience, as necessary.

- 2.2 The Committee, following consideration of proposals, instructed the Director of Community Empowerment and Equalities to seek nominations of four non-voting co-optees from the following networks:

- Community Councils within the city
- Glasgow Equality Forum
- Young Persons Representative
- Glasgow Third Sector Interface Network

- 2.3 The co-optees have provided valuable input to the Committee over the past 12 months and reports will be provided to Committee recommending arrangements for co-optees for 12 month cycles.

3. Work Programme

- 3.1 The Committee regularly considers the Work Programme, with the last occasion being at its meeting on 24 September 2020.
- 3.2 All members have been invited to input into the Work Programme. Members are welcome at any time to raise suggestions with the Convener, Vice Convener, or Director of Community Empowerment and Equalities.

4. Policy Implementation

- 4.1 WECCE has contributed to the development of Council policy in the following key areas:

Community Councils

- 4.2 On 24 September 2020 members of this Committee were provided a report with regard to a proposal which aims aid the operational recovery of Community Councils and social recovery of the wider community. This Committee aims to support and guide the digitalisation of community councils.

Participation Requests

- 4.3 This Committee oversees the Participation Requests process which has been in place since May 2018. An annual report with regard to Participation Requests was noted by this Committee on 24 September 2020; Annual Reports cover each year from 1 April to 31 March and must be published by 30 June.

Community Asset Transfer

- 4.4 This Committee received the annual report for Community Asset Transfer (CAT) on 15 August 2019. An Asset Transfer Review Committee has been established to consider requests; meeting for the first time on 16 September 2020. This Committee will continue to receive annual reports.

Review of Public Petitions

- 4.5 On 30 May 2019 members of this Committee approved a report outlining recommendations following a review of the public petitions process. This review recommended updating the guidance, and how the process was communicated to communities.

Gambling and public health

- 4.6 A development session for members of the Committee was held on 23 August 2019, with the Committee considering a report on recommendations emerging from that session on 26 September 2019. Progress on this has been achieved through partnership work with Public Health Scotland on the 'A Glasgow Free from Gambling Harms' project.

Glasgow Communities Fund

- 4.7 This Committee considered reports on 15 August 2019 and 14 November 2019 with regard to the Council's new grants fund; the Glasgow Communities Fund. Reports were considered by the City Administration Committee and the three Sector Partnerships in September 2020 to approve recommendations for this fund. Demand for grant support through the Glasgow Communities Fund has been exceptional - with applications received for well over double the total value of the fund. The new fund began on 1 October 2020.

Children's Holiday Food Programme

- 4.8 On 30 January 2020 this Committee was provided with an update report on the Glasgow Children's Holiday Food Programme, noting the success of the Programme. The Programme continued throughout spring, summer, October, and February school breaks. The 2021-2022 Programme has recently received applications, which will be assessed, and recommendations made to a future meeting of the City Administration Committee.

Participatory Budgeting

- 4.9 An evaluation of the Council's Participatory Budgeting (PB) Pilot Wards 2018/19 was undertaken by Glasgow Centre for Population Health (GCPH) and published on 23 October 2019, to coincide with the National PB Conference. A discussion paper was subsequently produced by GCPH in February 2020 to aid discussions across the Council family and out with, about the next phase and roll out of PB across the city. The challenge for the city, as it is for all local authorities, is to move beyond a small grants process to mainstreaming. Work then went on hold due to COVID-19 and restarted as part of the Social Recovery Taskforce. GCPH are continuing to support this work through the Taskforce, which includes a review of the lessons learned from the pilot wards and a scoping exercise of how other local authorities are planning to mainstream PB in light of COVID-19

Glasgow City Council/Third Sector Concordat

- 4.10 On 30 May 2019 members of this Committee endorsed the Third Sector Concordat Action Plan between this Council and Glasgow's Third Sector Interface. Work has been ongoing to implement this action plan. A workstream of the Social Recovery Taskforce is reviewing the Concordat/relationship between the Council and the third sector in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is anticipated that this Committee will consider any recommendations from that review in due course.

Glasgow City Health & Social Care Partnership

- 4.11 The Terms of Reference state that this Committee is "*To act as a sounding board for the Council's input to the Glasgow City Integration Joint Board.*" This Committee has considered 8 reports provided by the Glasgow City Health & Social Care Partnership since April 2019. It is anticipated that a number of reports from Glasgow City Health & Social Care Partnership will be submitted to this Committee in the coming year.

5. Effectiveness of the Working of the Wellbeing Empowerment Community and Citizen Engagement City Policy Committee

- 5.1 The Committee has generally worked effectively since September 2017. Members behave with good conduct and show a wide understanding of the business of the Committee. Attendance by members has been good.
- 5.2 The work of the Committee is guided by the Convener and the Vice Convener, in conjunction with the lead officer. Members work constructively on a cross-party basis on varied workstreams, for example the cross-party working group on the review of Policy and Code of Conduct of Public Processions; reports are provided to the Committee for all members to consider. Co-optees provide valuable input, and have fed back to their respective networks.
- 5.3 Agendas have been kept manageable through a clear process of agenda setting – this has proven to be necessary given the wide remit of the Committee. The level of petitions is outwith the control of the Committee.
- 5.4 Meetings are now webcast and are therefore available to be watched on the internet. Public Health restrictions have required meetings to take place virtually via Microsoft Teams, which has been an effective way of re-instating Committee meetings.

6. Training Needs

- 6.1 It is noted that members received mandatory and non-mandatory training sessions following their election to the Council in May 2017. These training sessions are ongoing. There is no specific training required to sit on the Wellbeing Empowerment Community and Citizen Engagement City Policy Committee.
- 6.2 The Membership of the Public Processions Committee is drawn from the membership of the Wellbeing Empowerment Community and Citizen Engagement City Policy Committee. Elected Members are required to undertake an appropriate training session, prior to appointment to the Public Processions Committee.
- 6.3 Elected Members on the Committee can raise with their Group's business manager any suggestions for training sessions which will be fed into the Business Bureau. The lead officer for the Committee is also available to brief any Member on specific issues as required. The Committee may, in addition, wish to discuss specific training they feel is needed to assist with their role.
- 6.4 Training and support needs for co-opted members will be considered separately in discussion with the Convener and lead officer.
- 6.5 It is proposed that all members of the Committee receive Equality Impact Assessment training and Community Asset Transfer training.

7. Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

<i>Financial:</i>	No specific financial resource implications identified.
<i>Legal:</i>	No specific legal resource implications identified.
<i>Personnel:</i>	No specific personnel resource implications identified.
<i>Procurement:</i>	No specific procurement resource implications identified.

Council Strategic Plan: The annual review of the committee supports the Council Strategic Plan priority of a Well Governed City that Listens and Responds.

Strategic Priority 92:
Reform our decision-making arrangements to improve transparency and accountability and opportunities for citizens to take part in decisions, particularly local ones.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2017-22

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?

No significant impact identified

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio economic disadvantage.

No significant impact identified

Sustainability Impacts:

Environmental: No significant impact identified

Social, including Article 19 opportunities: No significant impact identified

Economic: No significant impact identified

**Privacy and Data
Protection impacts:**

No significant impact identified

8 Recommendations

8.1 The Committee is asked to consider and note the Annual Assessment.