

Community Empowerment Committee

To combat alienation and social isolation among young people up to the age of eighteen, to support them to engage constructively with their local community and to assist them to inform and influence decisions within their local community that affect their lives.

To support people aged eighteen and over who could be described as vulnerable, **in need**, isolated or disadvantaged within society and to assist them to inform and influence decisions within their local community that affect their lives.

The Committee should be five voting Members – and, in any case, shall be no fewer than three – appointed by Full Council. The Committee may appoint additional Members as non-voting members of the Committee.

The Committee shall have the authority to establish sub-committees and/or working groups from within the membership of the Committee and to appoint other Members of the Council to the sub-committees and/or working groups for which it is responsible.

The Committee shall have the authority to appoint members of the Committee (or of a sub-committee or working group) who are not Members of the Council. The Committee is advised to actively seek to appoint non-Council Members with specialist knowledge of matters that fall within the remit of the Committee, and these shall for all purposes be treated as non-voting members of that committee, sub-committee or working group.

The Chair of the Committee shall convene an ordinary meeting of the Committee at least once every **two months**.

The Committee's duties shall be:

To establish criteria for measuring the effectiveness, value-for-money and performance of Community Council-funded youth work.

To continually review the effectiveness, value-for-money and performance of Community Council-funded youth work.

To liaise with external agencies to formulate proposals for future youth engagement initiatives.

To examine external sources of additional funding for youth engagement initiatives and, if need be, help establish groups and act as members of those groups.

To take steps to establish a Youth Council/Forum within the Community Council area.

To manage on behalf of the Community Council the following projects, initiatives and public events and to authorise expenditure within the associated budget lines that shall be delegated to the Committee by the Full Council:

- Blaenau Gwent detached team (£60,000)
- Off the Streets initiative (£60,000)
- New Website (£5,000)
- Extra-curricular transport for schools (£10,000)
- Councillor Surgeries (£1,000)

To submit proposed terms of reference for the Committee's adult engagement responsibilities to a future meeting of the Full Council.

To appoint, from within the membership of the Committee, the members of, set the terms of reference for, and manage the meetings and activities of the following working group (including any associated delegated budget) and any other sub-committees and working groups

(including any associated delegated budget) whose management is delegated to the Committee by the Full Council and to appoint other Members of the Council to those sub-committees and/or working groups:

- Youth Engagement working group
- Adult Engagement working group
- Communications Working Group

To manage on behalf of the Community Council any other public events, projects and initiatives and the associated budget lines that shall be delegated to the Committee by the Full Council.

To work with external agencies and grant-giving bodies, managing applications, as appropriate, by the Council for funding for events, projects and initiatives that fall within the remit of the Committee.

To scope and cost proposals for Council support for projects, initiatives and public events in the subsequent financial year that fall within the remit of the Committee and to prepare a budget for these in accordance with the Council's budget-setting procedures.

To consider the needs of the Community Council area and the opportunities for the Council in regards to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, the Blaenau Gwent Public Services Board Well-being Plan and the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental Well-being under the Local Government Act 2000, and to make recommendations to the Full Council.

To understand the causes of social isolation in the Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council area.

To take a lead role – in cooperation with officers and other Council committees – in developing this Council's strategies to combat social disenfranchisement and marginalisation.

To make recommendations regarding Council strategies to ensure that no one in the Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council area is excluded from being able to play a full role in helping to build cohesive communities.

To identify – and collate information on – community groups and organisations that have connections with adults aged 18-and-over at risk of being marginalised within society.

To identify and develop ways in which this Council can help to maintain and strengthen the work of such community groups and organisations.

To reinforce this Council's work to liaise between such groups, helping them to network and to build links and connections that strengthen the voice of marginalised people aged 18-and-over in the decision-making processes of this Council and other public bodies.