

Community Empowerment Committee Terms of Reference (As amended 25 Sept 2025)

As Amended & Agreed 20 May 2026

To combat alienation and social isolation within the community, 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.

The Committee should be seven 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. It 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 a year

The Committee's duties shall be:

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 and to examine additional sources of funding for those initiatives

To support Youth Engagement within the Council area (Youth Parliament, Youth Councillors) and review feedback from the Youth Councillors, within the Community Council area.

To manage on behalf of the Community Council the following projects, initiatives public events, and publications.

To authorise expenditure within the associated budget lines that shall be delegated to the Committee by the Full Council such as:

- Blaenau Gwent detached team (£65,000)
- Off the Streets initiative (£65,000)
- Extra-curricular transport for schools (£10,000)

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 working groups and sub-committees (including any associated delegated budget) and any other sub-committees

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 if required:

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 support, in co-operation with officers, other Council committees and external parties, to promote social inclusion

To make recommendations regarding Council strategies to ensure that people in the Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council area are included and are able to engage fully within society

To identify – and collate information on – community groups and organisations And 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.

To lead and recommend to council future Communication Strategies to empower the Community.

To lead a survey based approach to Community Feedback.