

Title of Report:	Age Friendly Alliance & Forum
Committee Report Submitted To:	The Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 August 2021
For Decision or For Information	For Information

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Resilient, healthy & engaged communities
Outcome	Council will work to support healthy lifestyle choices for all citizens; Council will work to develop and promote stable and cohesive communities across the Borough
Lead Officer	Head of Sport & Wellbeing

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	
Code	
Staffing Costs	

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update Elected Members on the establishment of an Age Friendly Alliance & Forum with relevant partners to raise awareness and interest in the Age Friendly agenda and engagement of local people across the Council area.

2.0 Background

In June 2020, Council approved to accept the offer of funding from the Public Health Agency to recruit and host an Age Friendly Co-Ordinator for Causeway Coast and Glens for a two-year period as part of a regional initiative and thereby accept the funding offer of £45K each year for two years (01 April 2020 – 31 March 2022) to employ an Age Friendly Co-Ordinator.

As a result of this venture, Council has been engaging with community planning partners to develop an Ageing Well Model. This model is based on a community planning led partnership approach to supporting and promoting longer independent quality living for older people. It supports positive ageing with assistance, where 'our older people are active, respected and supported in their community'. The model also includes a partnership approach to the commissioning of ageing well services for older people in the Borough.

Following Council's approval to accept the PHA's 100% funding, and to facilitate this work, an Age Friendly Co-ordinator was appointed in August 2020.

Subsequently, towards the end of 2020 and through February 2021, Council's Age Friendly Co-ordinator commissioned a Borough-wide Age Friendly survey (in line with PHA guidelines and using the expertise of Council's GIS Team) and identified strategic visions that would ultimately make Causeway Coast and Glens an Age Friendly Community.

The results from this survey informed the Charter by detailing these visions together with the sharing of opinions and common issues faced by older people gathered via the Borough-wide survey.

An information report specifically detailing the Charter was taken to the L&D Committee in May 2021. The Charter has just been published (copies for Elected Members left with Democratic Services) and has been distributed to the following organisations: COAST, CRUN, BCRC, NACN, U3A, NHSCT, WHSCT, Council's Community Development for issuing to community groups as well as made available to the general public at Council buildings, Libraries, GP Practices etc.

Following on from the Charter will be the establishment of the Age Friendly Alliance and Forum. The Alliance & Forum will create the optimal environment where issues for older people are identified, and strategic planning is undertaken to embed these key issues. The Age Friendly Alliance & Age Friendly Forum will place older people, and the interests of older people, at the heart of decision-making to develop an Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan, utilising a co-production approach that engages a range of stakeholders and utilises the eight WHO themes for age friendly cities and communities.

Year one of the Age Friendly Alliance and Forum will be utilised for planning. During this year the Age Friendly Alliance and Age Friendly Forum will act to purposefully drive forward the development and implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan. Year two onward, will be utilised for implementation of agreed strategic aims and actions.

3.0 Current position

To facilitate the establishment of both the Alliance and Forum, the Age-Friendly Coordinator has developed a proposed structure (**Annex A**). It is worth noting that the Alliance and Forum have differing compositions to ensure that there is appropriate representation from key statutory organisations (Age Friendly Alliance) and the community / voluntary sector (Age Friendly Forum). This approach will facilitate a bottom-up approach to decision making in the

programme where the thoughts and views of older people will be directly represented by the Age Friendly Forum. The Age Friendly Alliance will consist of representatives of statutory organisations who will have a remit for implementation of agreed strategic aims and key actions, thus enabling a direct link between representatives of older people in the Borough with those responsible for strategic planning for older people.

3.1 Age Friendly Alliance

Membership:

The Alliance will comprise of representatives from Elected Members, Senior Council staff, Age NI, Police Service Northern Ireland, Western Health & Social Care Trust, Northern Health & Social Care Trust, Translink NI, Northern Ireland Housing Executive, Causeway Chamber, Libraries NI, Ulster University / Regional Colleges, Linking generations NI, **Chairperson, Age Friendly Forum** (list not exhaustive)

Roles & Responsibilities:

- Year 1 (2021-22): Oversight of Age Friendly Strategy & Action Plan development.
- Participating in project specific subgroups.
- Meet Quarterly – First meeting anticipated for October 2021.
- Year 2 (2022-23): Oversight of Age Friendly Strategy & Action Plan implementation.
- Participating in project specific subgroups.

3.2 Age Friendly Forum

Membership:

The Forum will comprise of representatives from Council staff, U3A, Causeway Older Active Strategic Team, Causeway Urban & Rural Network, North Antrim Community Network, Building Communities Resource Centre, Mae Murray Foundation, Causeway Over 50's Forum, Asian Over 50's, North Coast Community Transport, Age Concern Causeway, Alzheimer's Society, Be Safe Be Well (list not exhaustive)

Roles & Responsibilities:

- Outline key priorities for services re: older people within CC&G Council area.
- Chair of Forum to advocate priorities to AF Alliance.
- Updating on operational activities being developed / administered.
- Discuss & develop collaborative projects.
- Identify training required for public / private / voluntary bodies.
- Undertake services and activities which help to meet targets detailed in strategy and action plan

This structure together with associated memberships / roles & responsibilities has been discussed with and approved by the funding body (PHA).

4.0 Next Steps

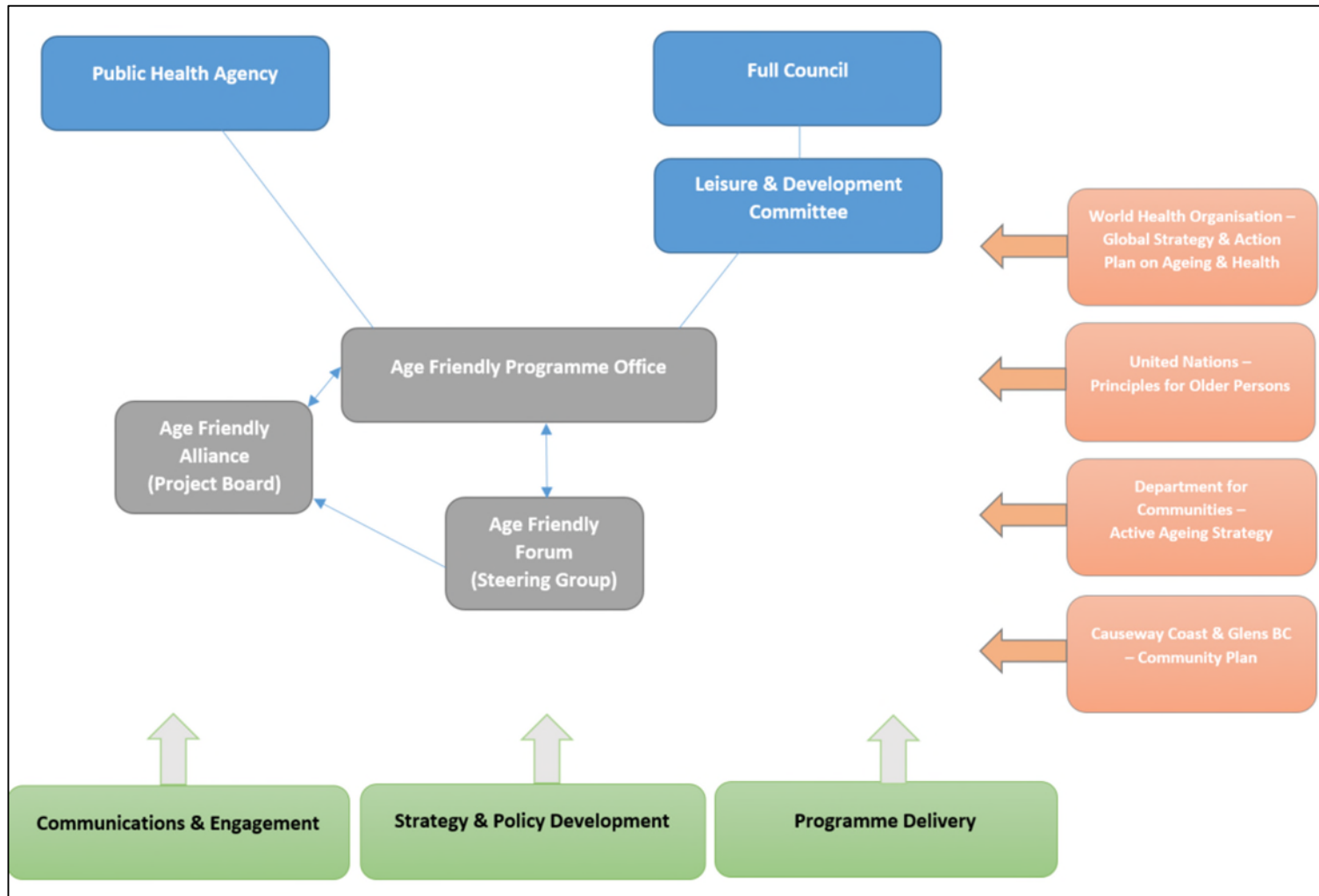
Through implementation of the proposed programme structure, the Age-Friendly Coordinator will arrange inaugural meetings of both the Age Friendly Alliance and Age Friendly Forum. However, key actions necessary to be accomplished prior to the establishment of both groups will be the development of detailed Terms of Reference for each group, finalising proposed memberships (including appropriate Elected Members), and briefing prospective members on programme plans.

Finalising the proposed structure will enable the programme to move to Stage 2 of the Age Friendly Programme lifecycle (**Annex B**) and begin strategic planning.

In addition, the Age-Friendly Coordinator will also begin the process of developing a Baseline Assessment Report. The Baseline Report will be developed using the following indicators: Age-Friendly survey (completed February 21), Supplementary focus groups, Community planning research, NISRA research (including 2021 census when published), ONS subnational ageing tool, ONS local statistics and Understanding society website. The Baseline Assessment Report will be completed by the end of December 2021. This Baseline Assessment Report will also help inform the development of the Age-Friendly Strategy and Action Plan.

Throughout this process, Elected Members will be appraised regularly.

Annex A
Age Friendly Programme Structure



Annex B

Age Friendly Programme Lifecycle

