

## **REPORT TO COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 2 SEPTEMBER 2021**

### **VOICE YOUR CHOICE - STONEHAVEN PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING PROJECT**

#### **1 Reason for Report / Summary**

- 1.1 To update the committee on the Participatory Budgeting (PB) process in Stonehaven and to agree future reporting.

#### **2 Recommendations**

**The Committee is recommended to:**

- 2.1 **Acknowledge progress in the Participatory Budgeting (PB) project in Stonehaven**
- 2.2 **Agree to receive a report on the development of options at the Communities Committee meeting scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

#### **3 Purpose and Decision-Making Route**

- 3.1 Full Council allocated an indicative £7million of the Infrastructure 1 Capital Fund to Live Life Aberdeenshire. £1.8 million of this has been agreed as the allocation for the Stonehaven Participatory Budgeting project. This capital investment was agreed in recognition that the Sports and Leisure facilities in Stonehaven are not of a standard to meet expectations
- 3.2 The Scottish Government as part of the Community Empowerment agenda has been promoting the use of Participatory Budgeting for several years. Local authorities are expected to allocate 1% of their budget to be used and delivered through the PB process, giving local communities a say on how money is spent.
- 3.3 Using a Participatory Budgeting approach to support delivery of improved sport & leisure facilities in Stonehaven will deliver against the expectation of Scottish Government set out in 3.2 above.
- 3.4 Kincardine and Mearns elected members have been engaged in the planning stage of the process and have received updates. The Community Council participated in a presentation and have representatives on the reference group.

#### **4 Discussion**

- 4.1 The Service has recognised that Stonehaven Leisure Centre is in need of modernisation and as a result £1.8 million was allocated for improvements, through monies agreed as part of the 'Infrastructure 1' capital allocation. This was in addition to the spend in 2021/22 of £413K on roof repairs and gas line improvements.

- 4.2 Participatory budgeting is recognised internationally as a way for people to have a direct say in how local money is spent. Live Life Aberdeenshire chose to use this tool to agree the use of the £1.8 million. This project process will be assessed and reviewed so that we continually improve and deliver quality PB projects across Aberdeenshire.
- 4.3 LLA officers have worked with the Area manager and Community Planning officers from the early planning stage. A Reference Group has been formed and has met three times. This group includes: Area Manager, Community Planning Officer, representatives of the Community council and Community Sports hub, Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership, Public Health, Stonehaven Recreation Grounds, LLA/Business Services/ Landscape Services – Aberdeenshire Council.
- 4.4 The function of this group is to work with officers to manage a quality PB process and to input to the options. It will have a key role together with a cross-council working group of officers in raising awareness, encouraging participation in voting and providing feedback to the wider community on progress.
- 4.5 Appendix One outlines the timeline for the project. During the information gathering stage positive progress has been made with a range of community organisations.
- 4.6 A dedicated portal on the Council's new engagement hub, Engagement HQ, is live and we have received a range of ideas from individuals which will help inform future options. 62 sports groups from the Stonehaven Community Sports Hub were invited to three workshop sessions to look at their ideas. There were three sessions which generated ideas. While focusing on the use of the budget, the sessions also looked at increased collaboration between clubs and options for co-production with Council services.
- 4.7 In addition to the ideas generated by the public engagement, our colleagues in Landscape Services are identifying a suite of activities that can be used during the public engagement phase and the voting stages of the participatory budget process. This will give stakeholders an opportunity to shape how their open spaces are maintained.
- 4.8 The option design phase will be informed by the ideas gathered and input from community focus groups. The aim is to be as inclusive as possible. At the end of August, the Reference Group will provide options. These will be designed and developed by Property Services and costed by Live Life Aberdeenshire.
- 4.9 The fully developed options will go to a public vote during October. Every member of the community will have an opportunity to vote, with specialist software used to ensure a robust voting process.
- 4.10 The options will be shared with Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee at its 21<sup>st</sup> September meeting for comment. It is proposed that Communities

Committee will receive a further update report and details of the options at its meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

## 5 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

5.1 *This report helps deliver the Strategic Priority “Health and Wellbeing within the Pillar “Our people” and contributes to Resilient Communities within the Pillar Our Environment.*

5.2 The activities and outcomes delivered through the Participatory Budgeting process, helps deliver against Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and contributes to the Community Empowerment agenda.

5.3 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is (are) agreed.

Subject	Yes	No	N/A
Financial	x		
Staffing		x	
Equalities and Fairer Duty Scotland		x	
Children and Young People’s Rights and Wellbeing		X	
Health and Wellbeing	IIA attached as Appendix 2		
Town Centre First	IIA attached as Appendix 2		

5.4 There are no staffing implications. Financial implications are as stated in paragraph 4.1

5.5 An integrated impact assessment has been carried out as part of the development of the proposals set out above. It is included as Appendix 2 and

The following positive impacts have been highlighted

- *Improved Sports and Leisure infrastructure for the Stonehaven Community*
- *Improved health and wellbeing outcomes*
- *Increased engagement and community democracy*

5.6 The following Risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level:

- No risks have been identified.

## **6 Scheme of Governance**

- 6.1 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments are incorporated within the report and are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.
- 6.2 The Communities Committee is able to consider this matter as per its delegations in Section D6, paragraphs 6.2 and 6.5 in Part 2A, List of Committee Powers in the Scheme of Governance. As the matter related to the support of activities that are related to the development of Sport, Leisure, Culture and Heritage

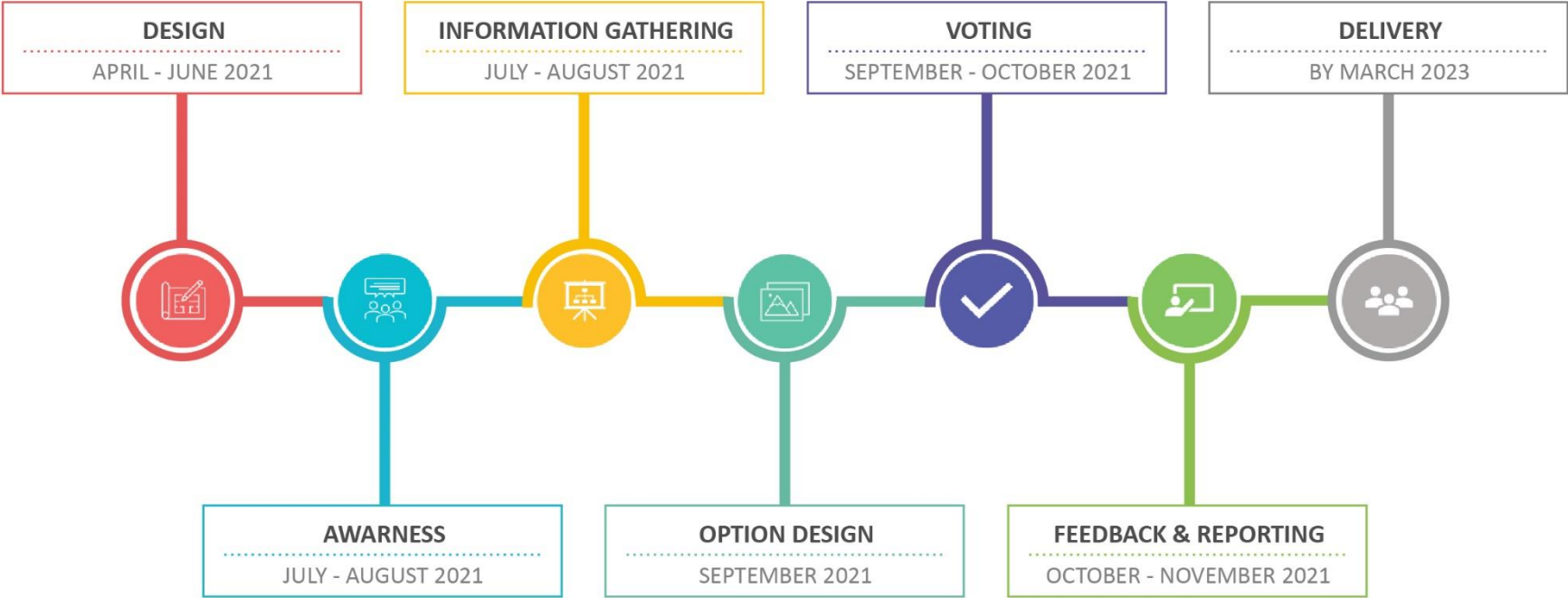
**Laurence Findlay**  
**Director of Education & Children's Services**

Report prepared by: Claire Thomson, Customer Services Manager  
Date: 7 August 2021

### **List of Appendices**

*Appendix 1 – project timeline*  
*Appendix 2 - IIA*

APPENDIX 1



# Aberdeenshire Council

## Integrated Impact Assessment

### Stonehaven Participatory Budgeting Sport and Leisure

Assessment ID	IIA-000079
Lead Author	Claire D Thomson
Service Reviewers	John Cornfield
Subject Matter Experts	Audrey Michie, Susan Forbes, Lynne Gravener
Approved By	John Cornfield
Approved On	Wednesday August 18, 2021
Publication Date	Wednesday August 18, 2021

# 1. Overview

This document has been generated from information entered into the Integrated Impact Assessment system.

Live Life Aberdeenshire capital budget for Sport and Leisure infrastructure in Stonehaven. Delivery through a participatory budgeting process. This process will engage the wider community in the creation of ideas and allow all to vote on the final project.

During screening 3 of 10 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 3 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

- Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty
- Health Inequalities
- Town Centres First

In total there are 7 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 0 negative impacts, all impacts have been mitigated.

A detailed action plan with 1 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by [john.cornfield@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.cornfield@aberdeenshire.gov.uk).

The remainder of this document sets out the details of all completed impact assessments.

## 2. Screening

Could your activity / proposal / policy cause an impact in one (or more) of the identified town centres?	Yes
Would this activity / proposal / policy have consequences for the health and wellbeing of the population in the affected communities?	Yes
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect greenhouse gas emissions (CO2e) in the Council or community and / or the procurement, use or disposal of physical resources?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the resilience to extreme weather events and/or a changing climate of Aberdeenshire Council or community?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the environment, wildlife or biodiversity?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have an impact on people and / or groups with protected characteristics?	Yes
Is this activity / proposal / policy of strategic importance for the council?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy reduce inequality of outcome?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's rights?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's wellbeing?	No

## 3. Impact Assessments

Children's Rights and Wellbeing	Not Required
Climate Change and Sustainability	Not Required
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	No Negative Impacts Identified
Health Inequalities	No Negative Impacts Identified
Town Centre's First	No Negative Impacts Identified



## 4. Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty Impact Assessment

### 4.1. Protected Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Age (Younger)	Yes			
Age (Older)	Yes			
Disability	Yes			
Race		Yes		
Religion or Belief		Yes		
Sex		Yes		
Pregnancy and Maternity		Yes		
Sexual Orientation		Yes		
Gender Reassignment		Yes		
Marriage or Civil Partnership		Yes		

### 4.2. Socio-economic Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Low income		Yes		
Low wealth		Yes		
Material deprivation		Yes		
Area deprivation		Yes		
Socioeconomic background		Yes		

### 4.3. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Age (Older)	The participatory budgeting process is inclusive, within this older people will be encouraged to contribute and vote on the future sport and leisure infrastructure. The results will lead to improved opportunities to participate locally and increase health and well being outcomes.
Age (Younger)	The participatory budgeting process is inclusive, within this young people will be encouraged to contribute and vote on the future sport and leisure infrastructure. The results will lead to improved opportunities to participate locally and increase health and well being outcomes.

Impact Area	Impact
Disability	The participatory budgeting process in inclusive , within this people with disability will be encouraged to contribute and vote on the future sport and leisure infrastructure. The results will lead to improved opportunities to participate locally and increase health and well being outcomes.

#### 4.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Other Evidence	Aberdeenshire LOIP	<p>Mental Health and Wellbeing is an important contribution to our wellbeing in Aberdeenshire as we recover from and live with COVID-19. Most often mental health focus is on services and the challenges of accessing the right service at the right time. Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership (ACPP) recognises that to help reduce the burden on services and to promote a mentally flourishing Aberdeenshire action needs to be taken early. Research indicates that a few simple actions can go a long way to promote mental wellbeing, prevent poor mental health, reducing stigma and promote recovery.</p> <p>In April 2021, the HEAL Strategic Partnership Group was formed with the aim to support people living in Aberdeenshire to have a healthy weight. The group have adopted a 'Whole System Approach' (WSA) evidence-based method to identify and focus on action that will make healthy eating and active living possible and achievable for Aberdeenshire communities</p>	increased requirement for health and wellbeing support in our communities

#### 4.5. Engagement with affected groups

Engagement will take place with diverse community groups, individuals, key professionals and local activists. The methods of engagement will vary to ensure accessibility for all.

#### **4.6. Ensuring engagement with protected groups**

Extensive planning has ensured engagement with a wide range of groups and services. Targeted communication and focus groups will be provided to ensure participation and involvement from those with protected characteristics.

#### **4.7. Evidence of engagement**

Planning is underway with staff from HSCP to ensure input.

#### **4.8. Overall Outcome**

No Negative Impacts Identified.

Participatory budgeting offers an inclusive process for the community to take democratic decisions. The process will actively engage those who would not normally feel they can contribute.

## 5. Health Inequalities Impact Assessment

### 5.1. Health Behaviours

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Healthy eating		Yes		
Exercise and physical activity	Yes			
Substance use – tobacco		Yes		
Substance use – alcohol		Yes		
Substance use – drugs		Yes		
Mental health	Yes			

### 5.2. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Exercise and physical activity	Improved Sport and leisure infrastructure in the community. Leading to ability to offer and support a greater choice and opportunities.
Mental health	Improved Sport and leisure infrastructure in the community. Leading to ability to offer and support a greater choice and opportunities. A quality and inclusive environment my support improved mental health outcomes

### 5.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Other Evidence	Aberdeenshire LOIP	<p>Mental Health and Wellbeing is an important contribution to our wellbeing in Aberdeenshire as we recover from and live with COVID-19. Most often mental health focus is on services and the challenges of accessing the right service at the right time. Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership (ACPP) recognises that to help reduce the burden on services and to promote a mentally flourishing Aberdeenshire action needs to be taken early. Research indicates that a few simple actions can go a long way to promote mental wellbeing, prevent poor mental health, reducing stigma and promote recovery. In April 2021, the HEAL Strategic Partnership Group was formed with the aim to support people living in Aberdeenshire to have a healthy weight. The group have adopted a 'Whole System Approach' (WSA) evidence-based method to identify and focus on action that will make healthy eating and active living possible and achievable for Aberdeenshire communities</p>	Services to support health and wellbeing outcomes are essential for recovery

## 5.4. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

Improved Sport and leisure infrastructure in the community. Leading to ability to offer and support a greater choice and opportunities. A quality and inclusive environment my support improved physical and mental health outcomes.

## 6. Town Centre's First Impact Assessment

### 6.1. Local Factors

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Town centre assets		Yes		
Footfall		Yes		
Changes to road layouts		Yes		
Parking		Yes		
Infrastructure changes	Yes			
Aesthetics of the town centre		Yes		
Tourism		Yes		
Public safety		Yes		
Town centre business		Yes		
Cultural heritage and identity		Yes		
Social and cultural aspects	Yes			

### 6.2. Positive Impacts

Impact Area	Impact
Infrastructure changes	Improved Sport and leisure infrastructure in the community to the value of 1.8million. Developed and voted for by the community
Social and cultural aspects	Improved Sport and leisure infrastructure in the community provide a range of opportunities to support the social community.

### 6.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Other Evidence	Aberdeenshire LOIP	<p>Mental Health and Wellbeing is an important contribution to our wellbeing in Aberdeenshire as we recover from and live with COVID-19. Most often mental health focus is on services and the challenges of accessing the right service at the right time. Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership (ACPP) recognises that to help reduce the burden on services and to promote a mentally flourishing Aberdeenshire action needs to be taken early. Research indicates that a few simple actions can go a long way to promote mental wellbeing, prevent poor mental health, reducing stigma and promote recovery.</p> <p>In April 2021, the HEAL Strategic Partnership Group was formed with the aim to support people living in Aberdeenshire to have a healthy weight. The group have adopted a 'Whole System Approach' (WSA) evidence-based method to identify and focus on action that will make healthy eating and active living possible and achievable for Aberdeenshire communities</p>	Infrastructure required to support the health and wellbeing in our communities
Internal Data	Property assessment	Significant improvements required to the existing leisure facilities in the town of Stonehaven.	Improvements required to bring to good standard

## 6.4. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Identified.

Capital Investment to the community of Stonehaven

## 7. Action Plan

Planned Action	Details	
<p>Deliver a quality PB process which engages the whole community and delivers quality sport and leisure infrastructure which delivers long term options to support the community health and well being and positively impacts the town.</p>	<p><b>Lead Officer</b> <b>Repeating Activity</b> <b>Planned Start</b> <b>Planned Finish</b> <b>Expected Outcome</b> <b>Resource Implications</b></p>	<p>Claire D Thomson No Saturday May 01, 2021 Thursday March 31, 2022 Improved sport and leisure offer in Stonehaven and community buy into the PB process LLA capital budget 1.8million</p>