

Overview and Scrutiny recommendations	Officer Commentary	Cabinet Decision (Accept or reject)	Action to be taken (if any) and timescales for completion
<p>Recommendation 1: Officers work with Ward Councillors to ensure there is a clear feedback mechanism in place for all forms of ward level engagement.</p>	<p><u>This recommendation is supported</u> The website is currently being redeveloped and the aim is to ensure that there is an area within there that will be dedicated to feeding back to residents from the Community Conversations and the Mayor's Listening events. We will also use feedback on general issues raised in engagement to inform future content of the Our North Tyneside newsletter , which is issued four times a year.</p>	Accept	Immediate action has been taken and will continue to be on going.
<p>Recommendation 2: Officers in North Tyneside Homes review Area Housing Forums where positive outcomes are not being met and work with Ward Councillors and tenants to identify a replacement that contributes to the ward engagement model, focusing on wards and issues local to residents.</p>	<p><u>This recommendation is supported</u> North Tyneside Homes are continuing looking at ways of improving the involvement and engagement with residents. A review of the Area Housing Forums will take place as part of the work to improve engagement and consultation at a local level</p>	Accept	A new approach using the Longbenton area will be piloted at the end of November. This approached will be evaluated and depending on the evaluation will be rolled out to other areas.

<p>Recommendation 3: As part of the estate based working review, estate walkabouts are refreshed or replaced. This will produce a greater involvement from Ward Councillors and a focus on improving neighbourhood standards for all residents.</p>	<p><u>This recommendation is supported</u> North Tyneside Homes have been looking at new, more inclusive ways of Ward Councillors engaging with residents at an estate level. They will ensure that Ward Councillors know when estate walkabouts are going to take place so that they can either attend or ensure that they have an opportunity to feed in any issues.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Information on when estate walkabouts are going to take place will be shared with ward members.</p>
<p>Recommendation 4: Officers ensure that appropriate mechanisms and support be put in place to ensure that Ward Councillors are able to build closer links with young people through attendance at school council meetings.</p>	<p>We support the principle of young people have a strong voice within North Tyneside. However the running of the school council is up to the school. Schools are independent organisations and do not have a consistent model for school councils. However we will be working with the Young Mayor and Young Cabinet to improve the two way communication with members and work with them to find more ways of the voice of young people at ward level. This includes improved understanding of how young people can contact their ward councillors.</p>	<p>Reject</p>	<p>We will be raising awareness with young people and school staff of the role of ward members and how they can talk to them. We will also be raising awareness of the role of elected members as part of Local Democracy Week and ensuring that issues of concern to young people are shared with ward members.</p>

<p>Recommendation 5: The Participation and Engagement Team liaise with the Policy, Performance and Research Team to ensure that information is included in Members Briefings in relation to youth engagement and participation.</p>	<p><u>This recommendation is supported</u> The new Young Mayor was elected on the 22nd November and will be agreeing their priorities for the coming year with the new Young Cabinet. This information will be shared with all elected members and other stakeholders</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>The New Young Mayors priorities will be shared with all members through the weekly members briefing. We will also hold a joint Youth Council and Cabinet meeting.</p>
<p>Recommendation 6: All Ward Councillors, in conjunction with local residents and officers, set the agendas for ward level meetings within their area.</p>	<p><u>This recommendation is supported</u> We have introduced “Community Conversations” events that take place at a ward level. The first round of these took place from the end of October. Ward members are being supported to help identify future topics for these meetings.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>Community Conversations have started in all 20 wards. These are lead by the ward councillors, who set the agenda and chair the event. Officers are invited by the ward councillors to attend these events.</p>
<p>Recommendation 7: As a minimum guideline, each ward holds a meeting on a quarterly basis and arranges additional events as required to meet demand.</p>	<p>We support the principle that there should be a guideline on the minimum number of meetings per ward each year but experience with the first round of Community Conversation events would suggest that this should be three times a year. This would enable regular discussion with residents and balance the resource commitment required to support the meetings. However it is recognised that should there be a particular issue which arises then additional events can be</p>	<p>Reject</p>	<p>The Participation and Involvement Team continue to work with ward councillors to identify and support a wide range of methods of engaging with residents on ward level issues.</p>

	organised. Also, the type of event will vary depending on the issue and will include, for example, walkabouts, events and coffee with your councillor, hot spot focused activity, joining in with your councillor and pop up discussions.		
Recommendation 8: Where agreeable amongst Ward Councillors, the ward level meetings operate on a 'revolving chair' basis to allow all Ward Councillors to fulfil their role as a community leader and develop the necessary skills required.	<u>This recommendation is supported.</u>	Accept	This action has been implemented as part of the community conversations events
Recommendation 9: Action plans be developed for each ward forum which highlight 3 priorities for that area and allow the activities of each forum to be coordinated appropriately.	Agree in principle, however it is important that ward level engagement can respond to current issues. We want to ensure that the focus is on ward councillors and residents spending time together to discuss and identify solutions to local issues.	Accept	
Recommendation 10: The task and finish group established to develop the website give priority to the inclusion of tools that will allow greater interaction and engagement with residents.	<u>The recommendation is supported</u>	Accept	We will be holding a number of workshops in January that will involve members and residents as part of the website development

<p>Recommendation 11: That the work currently being undertaken in relation to Ward Councillor communications recognises the new role for Ward Councillors in delivering ward level meetings and prioritises ways to improve access to clear, concise and up-to-date information.</p>	<p><u>This recommendation is supported</u> The council is implementing a range of measures to help ensure that members have access to up to date information from services. This includes carrying out some briefings with senior managers to help them understand what members need to fulfil their role as ward councillors. Any training needed to support members in fulfilling their role can be considered.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>We have started to develop ward level information; this information will be available on the ward pages of the website.</p>
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