

SUBJECT:	COMMUNITY INTEGRATION
DIRECTORATE:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND TOWN CLERK
REPORT AUTHOR:	CHERYL EVANS, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES AND ELECTIONS MANAGER

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To consider initial evidence on whether further scrutiny review activity is required on community integration.

2. Background

2.1 The Community Leadership Scrutiny Committee held an informal workshop in June 2021 to consider topics for future scrutiny reviews. Further to this workshop, a meeting was held between the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Director for Communities and Environment and the Democratic Services and Elections Manager to consider the suggestions made and to draft the initial scoping documentation.

2.2 The first topic under consideration is community integration. A scoping document for this scrutiny activity is attached at Appendix A to this report. The meeting is seeking initial evidence to ascertain whether a scrutiny review should proceed to build on previous work undertaken by the Committee on integrated communities.

2.3 The terms of reference for this scrutiny activity are as follows:

(1) To review the topic of community integration by considering:

(a) a particular focus on community integration, including social isolation, to understand the challenges facing communities as we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic. How have those challenges changed and are there particular areas of the city to provide a focus on? What good examples of work emerged during the pandemic that we should seek to maintain post pandemic.

(b) Following above, reflect on and review the continued appropriateness and progress of previous recommendations from this Committee.

(2) To develop recommendations based on the evidence received as part of (1)(a) and (1)(b) above.

2.4 The scoping document outlines potential key contributors the Committee might wish to speak to in seeking initial evidence. The following key contributors are due to speak to the Committee on 7 September 2021:

- Councillor Sue Burke, Portfolio Holder for Reducing Inequality
- Siân Wade, Lincoln Active Faith Network
- Ben Rollet, Chief Executive of the Voluntary Centre Services
- Simon Walters, Director for Communities and Environment (City of Lincoln Council) - Befriending Services / Helpline
- Paul Carrick, Neighbourhood Manager – Sincil Bank (City of Lincoln Council) Engaging with Communities / Lincoln Embracing All Nations (LEAN)

2.5 At the conclusion of the meeting on 7 September, the Committee will be asked to consider whether any further scrutiny review activity is required on this topic.

3. Strategic Priorities

3.1 Let's reduce all kinds of inequality

The Committee will consider information from key contributors to ascertain whether further scrutiny review activity is required on the topic of community integration.

4. Organisational Impacts

4.1 Finance (including whole life costs where applicable)

There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report.

4.2 Legal Implications including Procurement Rules

There are no direct legal implications.

4.3 Equality, Diversity and Human Rights

The Public Sector Equality Duty means that the Council must consider all individuals when carrying out their day-to-day work, in shaping policy, delivering services and in relation to their own employees.

It requires that public bodies have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities

This report has no direct impact on equality in itself. However, the Committee will consider whether any further scrutiny review activity is required on the topic of community integration, and for any such activity identified, Equality & Diversity will be fully considered at that time.

5. Risk Implications

5.1 (i) Options Explored – n/a

5.2 (ii) Key risks associated with the preferred approach – n/a

6. Recommendation

6.1 In considering the information received at the meeting, the Committee is asked to determine whether any further scrutiny review activity is required on this topic.

Is this a key decision? No

Do the exempt information categories apply? No

Does Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (call-in and urgency) apply? No

How many appendices does the report contain? Appendix A – Scoping Document

List of Background Papers: None.

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