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| Subject: | Update on the Reference Group on Older People |
| Date: | 22nd September 2022 |
| Reporting Officer: | David Sales, Director of City and Neighbourhood Services |
| Contact Officer: | Kelly Gilliland, Neighbourhood Manager Margaret Higgins, Lead Officer, Community Provision |

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| Restricted Reports | |
| Is this report restricted? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted? | |
| After Committee Decision | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| After Council Decision | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Some time in the future | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Never | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| Call-in | |
| Is the decision eligible for Call-in? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| 1.0 | Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues |
| 1.1 | The purpose of this report is to report to committee on the key issues discussed at the Reference Group on Older People Meeting held on 22 nd August 2022. |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Note the report and approve the minutes from the Reference Group on Older People meeting held on 22nd August 2022 |

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| 3.0 | Main report |
| | <p data-bbox="272 226 421 255"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="165 327 1453 405">3.1 The Reference Group on Older People is a working group of the People and Communities Committee which consists of an elected member from each of the political parties.</p> <p data-bbox="272 477 1461 555">The minutes from the Reference Group on Older People are brought before the Committee for approval.</p> <p data-bbox="165 627 1046 656">3.2 The key issues discussed at the 22nd August meeting were:</p> <p data-bbox="272 728 608 757"><u>Election of Chairperson</u></p> <p data-bbox="165 828 1334 857">3.3 Alderman Copeland was appointed Chairperson for the period ending June 2023.</p> <p data-bbox="272 929 935 958"><u>Update on Age-Friendly Belfast Plan 2022-2026</u></p> <p data-bbox="165 1030 1469 1160">3.4 The draft Age Friendly Belfast 2022 -2026 has been presented to all the Departmental Management Teams and will now be presented to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for agreement to go to public consultation.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1232 1469 1361">3.5 The Age Friendly Plan focuses on the 4 themes of; infrastructure, social connections, health and wellbeing and financial security. Members agreed they were content to proceed with the actions under each theme.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1433 1469 1462">3.6 The Members were informed that an Age Friendly Officer would be appointed later this year</p> <p data-bbox="165 1534 1469 1664">3.7 Concerns in regard to the pending energy crisis, in response, it was stated that advice and guidance on the benefits system would be available at the 4 “Be Prepared” events which would be taking place across the city.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1736 1219 1765"><u>Update on Extreme Weather and Winter Planning with Older People</u></p> <p data-bbox="165 1836 1469 1915">3.8 The Reference Group were provided with an update on the work of the Age Friendly winter planning group</p> |

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| 3.9 | The Chairperson requested information on the Warm and Well project (which was left in members room) and agreed also that external advice on pension credit, by way of a presentation, be provided to all Members. |
| 3.10 | These Pension credit sessions have been arranged and will be delivered by Advice NI via zoom at 5.15pm 12th September and 5.15pm on 6th October 2022 . Members should already have details of these. |
| 3.11 | Elected members requested if it might be possible for the Council to waiver its fee for Building Control Inspections for insulation. It was agreed that officers would bring this request to colleagues in the relevant department and bring a further update back to the reference group members. |
| | <p><u>Update on Age-Friendly Events</u></p> |
| 3.12 | Members were informed of the extensive range of Age-Friendly events planned for 2022. |
| | <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> |
| 3.13 | All events and activities are met within existing resources. |
| | <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> |
| 3.14 | There are currently no equality or good relation implications in relation to this report. |
| 4.0 | Appendices – Documents Attached |
| | Appendix 1 - Minutes of Reference Group on Older People Meeting held on 22 nd August 2022 |