



Subject:	Update on the Reference Group on Older People
Date:	10 April 2018
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
Contact Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Assistant Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department Damien Connolly Environmental Health Manager

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"/>

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

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 20 th March 2018.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Approve the minutes and the recommendations from the Reference Group on Older People meeting held on 20th March 2018.

3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
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. The minutes from the Reference Group on Older People are brought before the Committee for approval.
3.2	The key issues discussed at the 20 th March meeting were:
	<u>Older Volunteer of the Year Awards – 2017</u>
3.3	The Age-friendly Older Volunteer Awards recognise and celebrate the valuable contribution made by people aged 60 and over to the work of organisations, groups and communities across Belfast. It provides an opportunity for groups and organisations to recognise and celebrate their older volunteers and the difference they make both to the organisation and to life in the city.
3.4	Volunteers were recognised across 5 categories: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Older Volunteer of the Year Award 2. Marie Mathews Participation Award 3. Take 5 Active Ageing Award 4. Arts and Culture 5. Team or group
	<u>Update on Age-friendly Belfast</u>
3.5	By the middle of this century, it is estimated that more than a third of Belfast's population will be over 60 years old. The Belfast Agenda in recognition of this committed the City, as a member of the World Health Organisation's Global Network of Age Friendly Cities, to work with the Healthy Ageing Strategic Partnership (HASP) to promote active ageing and to improve how our city and its services meet the diverse needs of our ageing population. This is achieved through implementing a continuous cycle of evaluation, planning and delivery.
3.6	We are now at the end of the first delivery cycle (2014-2017 AF Action Plan) and HASP are currently evaluating progress, updating the Age friendly baseline, and developing a new 3 year plan 2018 -2021.

3.7	<p>The Age-friendly Belfast Plan 2018-2021 will be presented to the BSP and the Councils SP&R Committee in June prior to a twelve week public consultation. An internal Belfast City Council Age-friendly Plan will be presented to the next All Party Reference Group.</p>
3.8	<p>The plan will be amended after consultation and launched in the City Hall at the Age-friendly Belfast Convention on 1st October 2018, which is also international Older Peoples Day.</p>
	<p><u>Review of Positive Ageing Month 2017</u></p>
3.9	<p>Age-friendly Belfast Positive Ageing Month has become an annual event integral to Belfast's civic calendar, it happens the whole month of October.</p>
3.10	<p>It has grown over the years and 2017 saw around 200 events and free services for older people. Highlights included tea dances, film archive events, paper craft, movies, dancing and singing. These events have made a significant impact on health and well-being of older people, as well as helping to support loneliness and isolation issues.</p>
	<p><u>Update on Age-Friendly Belfast Events</u></p>
3.11	<p>Throughout the year there are also a number of Age-friendly Events, tea dances across the whole city, and 'Be Prepared' information events.</p>
	<p><u>Update of Age-friendly Network for Northern Ireland</u></p>
3.12	<p>There is Age-friendly Northern Ireland Network supported and promoted by Age NI, The Public Health Agency and The Department for Communities to support Age-friendly work across Northern Ireland. Belfast is leading the way.</p>
	<p><u>Update on Age Sector Platform</u></p>
3.13	<p>A very successful Belfast Pensioners' Parliament was held on 9th March 2018 in the City Hall where over 100 older people were able to raise local and regional issues, affecting them. There was a councillors panel made up of Cllr Heading, Cllr Armitage and Cllr McGimpsey</p>
	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.14	<p>All events and activities are met within existing resources.</p>
	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.15	<p>There are currently no equality or good relation implications in relation to this report.</p>

4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 - Copy of minutes of the Reference Group on Older People meeting on 20 th March 2018.