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| Report on | Ageing Well initiative proposed development of tendering process and application to World Health Organisation for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities |
| Date of Meeting | 9 th November 2021 |
| Reporting Officer | Fiona Mc Clements |

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| Is this report restricted for confidential business? If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon | Yes | |
| | No | X |

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| 1.0 | Purpose of Report |
| 1.1 | <p>The purpose of the report is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To update the Committee on progress with the Ageing Well Initiative as part of community planning and seek approval for support for the development of a tender process to support the Age Friendly Co-ordinator for the future delivery of the initiative. To seek approval of the application to the World Health Organisation with commitment to the network cycle of continual improvement. |
| 2.0 | Background |
| 2.1 | Members will be aware that the work on an Age Friendly initiative has been progressed through the existing Community Planning partnerships structures with Mid Ulster Council being the lead partner. |
| 2.2 | The Ageing Well Initiative seeks to ensure that the Mid Ulster District Council area is an area that supports older people. Mid Ulster District Council has received funding from the Public Health Agency for the development of an Age Friendly Alliance, an Age Friendly Charter, an Age Friendly Strategy and an Action Plan. This work is being developed by the Age Friendly Co-ordinator. |
| 3.0 | Main Report |
| | <u>Proposal for a consultant</u> |
| 3.1 | To learn from good practice, the Age Friendly Co-ordinator has been liaising with other Councils to gauge how they have developed their Age Friendly networks. This includes the development of an Age Friendly Alliance which involves partnership working with statutory organisations in the health, housing, and transport sectors, and the community and voluntary sectors such as the Older People's Network. |
| 3.2 | To support Council in the development of the initiative and the targets set by the Public Health Agency including the Age Friendly Alliance, an Age Friendly Charter |

and an Action Plan, permission is being sought to seek suitably qualified and experienced individuals/organisation to provide facilitation services for the design and development of an Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan. This would cover the Mid Ulster Council area and would use a co-design and co-production approach with statutory partners and the community & voluntary sectors.

3.3 A consultant will help support the Age Friendly Co-ordinator to set up a number of Age Friendly workshops to consult with members of the Age Friendly Alliance including statutory, community and voluntary partners. The series of workshops led by the consultants will bring to the forefront the Age Friendly agenda and initiate conversation and discussion with the Alliance members.

3.4 Due to the diverse interest and vast array of partners that will sit on the Age Friendly Alliance, the work of the consultant will bring a more formalised and structured approach to take forward the Age Friendly work focusing on the community needs. The consultant with their expertise in the field will aim to lead on new thinking and innovative actions. As the Age Friendly initiative is a new concept the consultant will also help to avoid common project delays and issues that could arise otherwise. With the Age Friendly Co-ordinator working alongside the consultant in the short term it is anticipated that this will help with long term project planning for the Age Friendly initiative making it more sustainable.

3.5 It is proposed that MUDC follow a similar process to other councils to help in the development of an Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan for the Mid Ulster council area and support the Mid Ulster Age Friendly alliance to ensure that the group's objectives are met effectively, with clear thinking, good participation and full buy-in from everyone who is involved. The Age Friendly Co-ordinator has attended some workshop meetings held by another Council and has found it a very worthwhile process. Within the current funding arrangement there is a budget for programme costs and it is proposed that the PHA are approached for their approval to use this budget for this work. It is envisaged that the Age Friendly Co-ordinator will provide support and compile the necessary documents along with Council procurement.

Application to World Health Organisation for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities

3.6 Members will be aware that one of the targets set out by PHA is to join the World Health Organisation (WHO) Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. The Age Friendly Co-ordinator has successfully joined the Centre for Better Ageing UK Age Friendly network. The Age-Friendly Co-ordinator now has access to a range of benefits and resources to strengthen, accelerate and amplify their work including assistance with applying to the WHO network. All ongoing work by the Age-Friendly Co-ordinator is contributing towards the enhanced criteria that has been set in order to submit a successful application to WHO including Age Friendly activities to date, engagement with older people and Council's commitment.

3.7 In order to proceed with the application, a letter from the Council (municipal administration) is required indicating their commitment to the network cycle of continual improvement. A draft letter is attached at Appendix 1 and requires a

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| | signature from Council before moving forward. The online application form further outlines the criteria to be met: Application Form - Age-Friendly World (who.int) |
| 4.0 | Other Considerations |
| 4.1 | Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications |
| | Financial: Budget cost to be covered by the existing PHA funding if approved. Approx. costings £5,000-£6,000 |
| | Human: N/a |
| | Risk Management: N/a |
| 4.2 | Screening & Impact Assessments |
| | Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/a |
| | Rural Needs Implications: N/a |
| 5.0 | Recommendation(s) |
| 5.1 | Members to note the content of the report and agree to the procurement of external expertise to support the development of the Age Friendly Alliance, Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan. |
| 5.2 | Members are requested to approve the application to the World Health Organisation with commitment to the network cycle of continual improvement and request that the Chair of MUDC forwards the attached letter of commitment and formal application. |
| 6.0 | Documents Attached & References |
| 6.1 | Appendix 1 – Draft letter for application to World Health Organisation for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities |