

# COUNCIL

## 9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2022

### CARMARTHENSHIRE DEMOCRATIC PUBLIC PARTICIPATION STRATEGY

#### RECOMMENDATIONS / KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

To consider and adopt a public participation strategy for the Authority.

#### REASONS:

It is a requirement of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 that each principal Council prepare and publish a strategy ("a public participation strategy") specifying how it proposes to comply with the duty in section 39 of the Act.

The Democratic Public Participation Strategy needs to align with the Corporate Participation /Engagement Strategy.

Scrutiny Committee consulted	Not applicable
Cabinet Decision Required	NO
Council Decision Required	YES

Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder(s): Cllr Emlyn Dole - Leader

<b>Directorate</b>  <b>Name of Head of Service:</b> Linda Rees Jones  <b>Report Author:</b> Linda Rees Jones Gaynor Morgan	<b>Chief Executive's</b>  <b>Designations:</b> Head of Administration & Law  Head of Democratic Services	<b>Tel Nos.</b> 01267 224012 LRJ 01267 224026 GM  <b>E Mail Addresses:</b> <a href="mailto:Lrjones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">Lrjones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:gmorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">gmorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a>
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**COUNCIL**  
**9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2022**

**CARMARTHENSHIRE DEMOCRATIC PUBLIC  
PARTICIPATION STRATEGY**

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 provides a duty on principal councils to encourage participation in decision making in local government.

Each principal council must prepare and publish a strategy (“a public participation strategy”) specifying how it proposes to comply with the duty in section 39.

A public participation strategy must, in particular, address—

- (a) ways of promoting awareness among local people of the principal council's functions;
- (b) ways of promoting awareness among local people of how to become a member of the principal council, and what membership entails;
- (c) ways of facilitating access for local people to information about decisions made, or to be made, by the principal council;
- (d) ways of promoting and facilitating processes by which local people may make representations to the principal council about a decision before, and after, it is made;
- (e) arrangements made, or to be made, for the purpose of the council's duty in section 62 of the 2011 Measure (bringing views of the public to attention of overview and scrutiny committees);
- (f) ways of promoting awareness among members of the principal council of the benefits of using social media to communicate with local people.

A public participation strategy may address how a principal council proposes to comply with a duty imposed by any enactment.

The Democratic Public Participation Strategy will need to align with Corporate Participation Strategy currently being developed.

The report presents a draft public participation strategy for members' consideration, which can then be incorporated within the Corporate document.

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES – Democratic Participation Strategy**

## IMPLICATIONS

**I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :**

**Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

### **Policy**

The Democratic Public Participation Strategy needs to align with Corporate Participation Strategy.

### **Legal**

It is a requirement of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 that each principal Council prepare and publish a strategy ("a public participation strategy") specifying how it proposes to comply with the duty in section 39 of the Act.

## CONSULTATIONS

**I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below**

**Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law**

- 1.Scrutiny Committee** Not applicable
- 2.Local Member(s)** Not applicable
- 3.Community / Town Council** Not applicable
- 4.Relevant Partners** Not applicable
- 5.Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** Not applicable

### **Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information**

**List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

**THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:**

<b>Title of Document</b>	<b>File Ref No.</b>	<b>Locations that the papers are available for public inspection</b>
Council Constitution – Part 4.1		<a href="http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/2027081/part4-1.pdf">http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/2027081/part4-1.pdf</a>