

Inverclyde Council Participation Requests Annual Report 2021/22

Section 32 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act requires Inverclyde Council to provide information regarding Participation Requests submitted between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022.

In the reporting period 01/04/21 to 31/03/22, no Participation Requests were received by Inverclyde Council.

01/04/21 – 31/03/22	Number
Participation Request received	0
Participation Requests accepted	n/a
Participation Requests rejected	n/a
Participation Requests which resulted in a change	n/a

Action taken by Inverclyde Council to promote and support participation requests during the reporting period:

- Information about Participation Requests is available on the Council's website, <https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/community-life-and-leisure/participation-requests> Guidance is available which is aimed at helping groups who are interested in making a participation request to Inverclyde Council, along with contact details. The guidance provides an overview of the participation requests process and is based on the national guidance produced by the Scottish Government. The website also contains links to Scottish Government Legislation and Guidance.

Other ways to participate in decision making:

- Across Inverclyde, six localities have been created that cover the whole of local authority to ensure that every community has the opportunity to take part. Communications and Engagement Groups (CEG) are forums for public services and communities to come together to design and deliver a plan for their locality and to lead community involvement and engagement activity. We are working with the six Communication and Engagement Groups to build confidence and support those that are most marginalised and facing the greatest inequalities.
- We hold a series of community listening events which are structured and planned events, supported by a facilitator and scribe, allowing each participant the opportunity to have their say.
- We carry out public engagement and consultation to influence the development and delivery of our work as a Council and a Community Planning Partnership, including budget engagement.
- We are focusing on digital inclusion so that our communities have the skills, confidence and equipment to participate online.

- We are further developing and implementing Locality Action Plans to tackle the challenges faced by communities and use this to inform participatory budgeting.
- We have youth engagement mechanisms to support more young people being involved in democratic decision-making.
- While we have participation requests processes and guidance in place we aim to have early dialogue with communities on the issues they are interested in which, we believe, minimises the number of formal participation requests received.

Contact details:

**Corporate Policy Team
Inverclyde Council
Municipal Buildings
Greenock
PA15 1LY**

Tel: 01475 717171 or e-mail: corporate.policy@inverclyde.gov.uk