



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: A Guide for Communities

Place Plan Kickstarter Community Guides





UK Government Wales Llywodraeth y DU Cymru

LANF

# **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** A Guide for Communities

Place Plan Kickstarter Community Guides 3/6

### **Acknowledgements**

Many thanks to Place Studio for their support in the production of this guidance. See <u>www.placestudio.com</u>

# place

# What is this document?

This guide explores community engagement in community-led plan-making.

It considers why and how to plan and deliver a range of engagement approaches and provides a series of practical worksheets to help plan and deliver engagement exercises for your plan.

This guide has been prepared by Planning Aid Wales for Conwy County Borough Council as part of the 'Place Plan Kickstarter' project with funding from the UK Government Wales Community Renewal Fund.

# Who is it for?

This guide has been designed for Community and Town Councils and / or community groups in Conwy that have either:

- Completed a Kickstarter Place Plan and are considering next steps, or:
- Considering producing some form of community plan and are wondering where to start.

The guide is part of a series that explore community-led planning; these guides can be downloaded from <u>www.placeplans.org.uk/conwyguides</u>

# Contents

| Putting your community at the heart of your plan | 4  |
|--|----|
| Why engage the community?                        | 4  |
| Key principles                                   | 5  |
| Who to engage?                                   |    |
| When: stages of engagement                       | 7  |
| Methods of engagement                            | 9  |
| Towards an overall process: 'recipe' making      | 11 |
| Reporting and Evaluation                         | 12 |
| Appendix 1: Worksheets                           | 13 |
| Worksheet 1: Principles and Evaluation           | 13 |
| Worksheet 2: Stakeholders                        | 14 |
| Worksheet 3: The 'Hard to Reach'                 | 16 |
| Worksheet 4: More Detail on Methods              | 17 |
| Worksheet 5: Project Planning Proforma           | 25 |
| APPENDIX 2: GUIDANCE                             | 26 |

# Putting your community at the heart of your plan

A good community plan is based on good quality community engagement and involvement.

Your Community Plan or Place Plan is a vehicle for your community to think about how to make their place better, agree priorities, and take action (often working with others) to make change happen. This Toolkit sets out practical advice on how to build on the community engagement done to date to continue it when working on drafting your Plan.



# Why engage the community?

It is worth a moment thinking about the benefits that can come from effective community engagement. It can:

Draw out and bring together all the issues, ideas, experience, skills and information – a huge potential resource - from all in your community, not just a small number.





Help to address differing views early, rather than when it is too late.



Get to a final and agreed Plan far more quickly.

Give local people a sense of 'ownership' – it will be their plan – and this helps in the future to take forward all the Plan's proposals.

Be enjoyable, build people's confidence and raise wide awareness of local issues.

Demonstrate - to your local authority and others - clear, strong community support for the final Plan.

A possible list of Engagement Principles follows below.

Think about this like preparing a meal for friends. You need to think who they are, what they like to eat, any diet requirements etc. and check this with them (Principles 2 and 4). You need to think about the different courses (Principle 8). You need to think about the possible ingredients (the Methods as in Principle 7). And you can't just throw it together into an inedible mess; you need to have a proper recipe (Principle 1)!



- 1. A whole, planned process is needed; not just a random list of events/activities.
- 2. Develop and agree that process with key people, not just your Working Party or Steering Group.
- 3. Set the scope of your Plan by being clear about what is and is not open to change.
- **4.** Identify all possible target groups, consultees, stakeholders.
- 5. Set up activities that raise awareness and generate enough interest to, ideally, get 'everybody' involved.
- 6. Start early, not when a plan is already drafted and things are already virtually finished.
- **7.** Use a range of different methods workshop, questionnaire, survey, drop-in etc.
- 8. Use methods appropriate to each different stage.
- 9. Report back speedily, regularly and in detail so people can see what difference they are making.
- **10.** At the end, evaluate your engagement work against all the above.
- **11.** Reinvigorate local democracy

It is very rare for any process to tick all the above boxes fully so don't over-worry about that. In order to do the final evaluation, see **Worksheet 1** in the Appendix where you can add notes in the boxes to record what was and perhaps was not done, what went well and so forth.

From here on, this Toolkit covers key points about **WHO** to engage, **WHEN** to engage them and **METHODS** to use. It then offers some guidance about the overall process (a **RECIPE**) using an example. Appendix 1 includes Worksheet 1 as above and some others. Appendix 2 gives you some links to other toolkits and guidance that you may find useful. It should be read together with the other Conwy Place Plan toolkits which are referenced throughout this toolkit.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: A Guide for Communities

# Who to engage?

# Managing it all

Engagement does not just happen; it needs something you probably have already – a Working Party. Ideally the group should have some involvement from or link to CCBC as one of your most important partners for developing and delivering the Plan.

It is also very good to have one person on the Working Party nominated to lead on the engagement work, to check progress and ensure that proper records are kept – an **Engagement Champion**.

## Groups or sectors to target

You clearly need to try to get to 'everybody' in your community but it is also important to identify at the start the specific partners and stakeholders who you want to contribute to your Plan.

Stakeholder groups will differ hugely from community to community. The important thing is that you identify the people and groups who will be affected by your plan and who can influence its eventual success.

These people will range from councillors to landowners to community groups, as well as those from hard-to-reach and minority communities.

By contacting formal groups, often called the 'stakeholders' (e.g. a Civic Society), there is a strong chance that they will be able to encourage all their 'members' to get involved and contribute.

That will get you to far more people, and people with specific interests and knowledge, than is ever possible with something like a general questionnaire. There are then the informal, sometimes termed 'hard-to-reach' groups (e.g. young / elderly people) and they need careful attention.

**Worksheet 2** provides a list of possible stakeholder groups and explains how to not just note them but consider how and when they might be engaged and to set up a list with contact details etc.

**Worksheet 3** provides a chart to note these for your particular area and then some boxes where you can suggest how you might get such groups engaged. There are two key tricks for doing this:

- Do not do it yourselves; work through groups (e.g. an older people's charity or schools) who actually work directly with older people or children.
- Be prepared to go out to them rather than expecting them to come to you (this is called 'outreach').



# When: stages of engagement

The main Stages for developing a full Place Plan or Community Plan, and therefore for the engagement, are explained in the *Guide 1* and simply repeated here:

# Kickstarter

This is the first stage of engagement that contributes to preparing an initial vision, objectives and actions that can be taken on as those priorities most important to the community. At the end of this stage, you will have a 'first stab' or Kickstarter Plan.

Your Kickstarter plan will act as a foundation and springboard for the development of a full Community Plan or Place Plan in the future. The stages for the full Plan would build on the Kickstarter Plan stages to work on identified topics in more depth that will really inform and influence change and development.

# Full Community Plan or Place Plan

These below are the stages of developing a Plan. Stages 1, 2B, 4B and 6B are the main stages for engagement (see the <u>Guide 1</u> for more detail) although getting ideas and information from others is valuable at all stages. Stage 3 offers a slightly different form of engagement because it is about bringing in people to collect evidence on specific aspects or issues (see the <u>Guide 4</u>).

## Stage 1: Brainstorming the Issues for your Plan to address

## Stage 2: Vision and Outcomes:

- 2A: Developing your Vision and Outcomes
- 2B: Sharing these widely

## Stage 3: Collecting Evidence

### Stage 4: 'First Stab' Plan

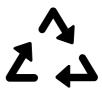
- 4A: Drafting your First Stab Plan
- 4B: Sharing and checking this Plan

## Stage 5: Amending the first stab Plan in light of feedback

### Stage 6: An (almost) Final Plan

- 6A: Producing the Final Plan
- 6B: Final check on this Plan





### After Stage 6 comes the stage during which your Full Plan seek support from CCBC.

The chart used in **Worksheet 2** (see Appendix 1) has a column where you can note the stages at which you think each stakeholder group should be engaged. Not everybody needs to be engaged at all stages. Some need to make their input at the very start, others need to see and comment on just the first stab then final plans.

# **Action planning**

Once your plan has been adopted by CBBC, or even before then if there are some practical projects not covered in your Plan that you think you can start to take forward, you can start some action planning.

This can require engagement with specific groups or people relevant to each of your projects. See <u>Guide 1</u> which includes a chart for action planning and a column stating who each project might be developed with.



# **Methods of engagement**

In working out how to engage your local community, the Principles will help you make sure that people from throughout your community have the opportunity to shape the Plan in ways that are meaningful for them personally as well as for the wider community.

There are three different levels and approaches to engagement that we are setting out in this toolkit, each best done using different methods: Informing, Consulting, Involving.



Different people respond to different methods and different methods are useful at different stages.

Always aim to use a combination of methods over the plan development period, balancing in-person contact with online and survey-based methods, giving people opportunities to be engaged in a variety of ways.

Community representatives involved in the 2022 Kickstarter Plans identified top ways of reaching more people in the community:

- Arrange events e.g. dances / music events at town hall, street parties and themed festivals
- 2. Go where people are e.g. pub, school, Co-op supermarket for example and tie in to / 'piggyback' onto existing events
- 3. Use social media
- **4.** Use ambassadors / champions from different locations and all age groups
- **5.** Use questionnaires to find out what people want
- 6. Co-op table & physical noticeboard
- 7. Place large notices / notice boards around town
- 8. Use incentives to draw people in e.g. wine and cheese
- 9. Try to reach people who fall through the cracks the 'hard to reach'.

There are endless specific methods to achieve the goal of reaching more people in the community as set out above; the chart below includes some basic examples that can be adapted for your place drawing on what you know about your community (for example – what incentives would work for you and your community).

| Туре       | Description   | Example Methods   |
|------------|---|---|
| Informing  | Letting people know about the<br>plan making process – decisions /<br>opportunities / ideas   | Leaflets<br>Websites / Social Media<br>Newsletters<br>Press Releases<br>Stalls at Community Events<br>('piggybacking' onto other local events is<br>often a good idea)<br>Visiting community groups<br>schools/colleges |
| Consulting | Gathering views to inform<br>decisions  | Invited focus groups<br>Pop-up, drop-in events (events held over<br>a long time period where people can turn<br>up at any time)<br>Questionnaires / Surveys<br>1-to-1 meetings<br>Online surveys and voting             |
| Involving  | Enabling people to be part of the<br>process of gathering and<br>evaluating evidence – shaping<br>decisions made about content for<br>the Plan. | Interactive Workshops<br>Evidence Team – see <i>Guide 4</i>   |

Some events you run may event draw on all three of engagement types – for example you run a 'pop-up' event:

- firstly, you need to be sure you inform widely about through a range of methods
- you can **consult** people at the pop-up event (this could be linked to an online questionnaire to capture those who don't come along) and
- during the pop-up event you might have an opportunity for deeper **involvement** by holding some workshops in a room off the main hall.

**Worksheet 4** gives detailed practical guidance on some engagement methods. Also see the Evidence Toolkit. Some of the guidance in Appendix 2 includes more, and sometimes more specific, examples.

# Towards a process: 'recipe' making

This good preparation before you set off will unquestionably save time and possible problems later. And – absolutely critically – you do not need to, in fact you absolutely should not, engage everybody on every issue at every stage using every possible method!

Here's an example of how to plan for that. There is a blank copy of this chart in the appendix **Worksheet 5** that you can use for your own Plan.



| Stage  | Who to engage  | Notes / details  |
|--|--|--|
| 1:<br>Brainstorming<br>Issues  | All in wider<br>community<br>All key groups<br>Hard to Reach<br>groups e.g.; Elderly<br>– to reflect<br>population as<br>shown by census | Inform:<br>Community newsletter – regular updates<br>Notice Board Posters – through the town / village<br>Social Media – promote pop-up and online survey<br>School newsletter - promote pop-up / survey<br><b>Consult</b> : Online survey, Face-to-face outreach<br>Involve: Workshops with specific groups such as<br>schools  |
| 2A: Vision and<br>Outcomes<br>2B: Agreeing<br>Vision and<br>Outcomes | A range of key<br>local groups<br>All in wider<br>community<br>All key groups<br>Hard to Reach<br>groups                                 | Involve: Workshop bringing together<br>representatives of key local groups<br>Inform: Community newsletter – have a regular<br>slot for updates<br>Notice Board Posters – through the town / village<br>Social Media – promote pop-up and online survey<br>School newsletters - promote pop-up / survey<br>Consult: Invite comments / questions by email or<br>via phone                                 |
| 3: Evidence  | Targeted groups  | <b>Engage:</b><br>Drawing on key groups on key issues to collect<br>strong and detailed evidence   |
| 4A: Producing<br>First Stab Plan                                     | <b>Discuss with</b> : Comr<br>Working Party<br>Evidence Team   | nunity Council Officers  |
| 4B: Sharing<br>First Stab Plan                                       | All in wider<br>community<br>All key groups<br>Hard to Reach<br>groups<br>CCBC and others  | Inform:<br>Community newsletter / local newspaper<br>Notice Board Posters – through the town / village<br>Social Media – promote pop-up and online survey<br>School newsletters - promote pop-up and online<br>survey<br>Consult: Pop-up Drop in, Online survey<br>Involve: One workshop bringing together<br>representatives of key local groups, Face-to-face<br>outreach – identify particular groups |

As set out above, the stages in this table reflect those as detailed in the Guide 1

| 5: Amending<br>First Stab Plan | <b>Discuss with</b> : Specific local groups only on 'their' topics where amendment is needed |   |  |
|--------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 6A: Producing                  | Discuss with: Working Party  |   |  |
| Final Plan                     |  |   |  |
| 6B: Confirming                 | All in wider   | Inform:   |  |
| Final Plan                     | community  | As above  |  |
|                                | All key groups   | Consult:  |  |
|                                | Hard to Reach  | Final Online / physical survey to collect any final |  |
|                                | groups   | feedback ahead of adoption for use.                 |  |

This applies to practical projects in or linked to Kickstarter Plans and Full Plans:

| ect |
|-----|
| e   |

# **Reporting and Evaluation**

When you submit your completed plan to CCBC, you should accompany it with the completed chart as above showing what you actually did, plus short reports on the results from each method/activity.

This creates an 'audit trail' from day one through to your final Plan, justifying its contents.



# **Appendix 1: Worksheets**

## **Worksheet 1: Principles and Evaluation**

You can use this at this start of the process to inform you thinking on consultation. **Add brief notes in each blank row** to explain how you will address each principle and come back to this at the end of the process and update it to reflect what you did.

### PRINCIPLES OF CONSULTATION AND EVALUATION

A whole, planned process is needed; not just a random list of events/activities.

Develop and agree that process with key people, not just your Working Party.

Set the scope of your Plan by being clear about what is and is not open to change.

Identify all possible target groups, consultees, stakeholders.

Set up activities that raise awareness and generate enough interest to, ideally, get 'everybody' involved.

Start early, not when a plan is already drafted and things are already virtually finished.

Use a range of different methods - workshop, questionnaire, survey, drop-in etc.

Use methods appropriate to each different stage.

Report back speedily, regularly and in detail so people can see what difference they are making.

Overall, how well did your engagement work against all the above?

# Worksheet 2: Stakeholders

What follows below is a standard list of possible stakeholders as a 'starter for 10'. It has only been minimally adapted for Conwy, so **this is a template for you to adapt – some of the list will apply, some won't**.

The aim is to end up with two lists:

- The first is of those who may not be involved directly but need to be kept in touch, for example Natural Resources Wales.
- The second is of those who need to be directly and actively involved at workshops or public events, and in delivery of the plans aims and actions, for example your Chamber of Commerce.

Some categories may simply not apply, so strike them out. There are blank spaces to add other groups you know of.

If you think that a certain group should just be kept in touch, tick that in the column called '**Inform**'.

If you think a certain group should be involved directly, tick that in the column called '**Involve**' (this includes consulting as in our 3 elements of consultation above).

If you think a certain group should be involved at particular stages (see WHEN section of main Toolkit) note those in the '**Stage(s)**' column with the relevant Stage number(s). If a group needs to be engaged throughout, add 'All'.

Do not add any details of groups in this list, just ticks. Add the details after, along with information on each group such as a key contact person, contact information, website, member types and number, communication and digital / physical outreach methods, events and activities. In developing and keeping this list of contacts and information, be mindful of GDPR rules.

| Sector/Group/Organisation – EXAMPLE LIST                             | Inform | Involve | Stage(s) |
|--|--------|---------|----------|
| Elected Representatives  |        |         |          |
| County Councillors   |        |         |          |
| Town Councillors   |        |         |          |
| Communities/Residents  |        |         |          |
| Residents' Associations, very local to the site                      |        |         |          |
| Residents' Associations, from nearby areas                           |        |         |          |
| Voluntary/Community Sector   |        |         |          |
| Consumer Groups  |        |         |          |
| WCVA (national membership body for voluntary organisations in Wales) |        |         |          |
| Social housing providers   |        |         |          |
| Racial Council Cymru (local group)                                   |        |         |          |

| Community TransportImage: Community TransportCycling groupsImage: Community TransportPedestrians AssociationImage: Community TransportMotorcyclists FederationImage: Community TransportMidlife TrustImage: Community TransportEnvironmental organisations/groupsImage: Community TransportCivic SocietiesImage: Community TransportChidrens' play associationsImage: Community TransportSports organisations/groupsImage: Community TransportArts organisations/groupsImage: Community TransportDisability groupsImage: Community TransportElderly persons' groupsImage: Community TransportYouth groupsImage: Community TransportPre-school providersImage: Community TransportLocal Trusts and grant-giving bodiesImage: Community TransportEthnic organisationsImage: Community TransportFaith bodies (churches etc.) and any 'federations'Image: Community TransportWI / Working mens' clubsImage: Community TransportRotary (etc.)Image: Community TransportGovernment, Related Agencies and PartnershipsImage: Community TransportLocal authority officersImage: Community TransportPolice and other emergency servicesImage: Community TransportNatural Resources WalesImage: Community TransportCADWImage: Community TransportLocal GPsImage: Community TransportSchools and CollegesImage: Community TransportPrivate SectorImage: Community Transport </th <th>Sector/Group/Organisation – EXAMPLE LIST</th> <th>Inform</th> <th>Involve</th> <th>Stage(s)</th>  | Sector/Group/Organisation – EXAMPLE LIST           | Inform | Involve | Stage(s) |
|---|--|--------|---------|----------|
| Cycling groupsImage: constraint of the second s | Community Transport                                |        |         |          |
| Motorcyclists FederationImage: science of the science of |  |        |         |          |
| Wildlife TrustImage: constraints of the second  | Pedestrians Association                            |        |         |          |
| Environmental organisations/groupsImage: constraint organisations/groupsCivic SocietiesImage: constraint organisations/groupsImage: constraint organisations/groupsSports organisations/groupsImage: constraint organisations/groupsImage: constraint organisations/groupsDisability groupsImage: constraint organisations/groupsImage: constraint organisations/groupsElderly persons' groupsImage: constraint organisationsImage: constraint organisationsYouth groupsImage: constraint organisationsImage: constraint organisationsFaith bodies (churches etc.) and any 'federations'Image: constraint organisationsCocal arthority officersImage: constraint organisationsPolice and other emergency servicesImage: constraint organisationsNatural Resources WalesImage: constraint organisationsCADWImage: constraint organisationsImage: constraint organisationsLocal GPsImage: constraint organisationsImage: constraint organisationsPrivate SectorImage: constraint organisationsImage: constraint org   | Motorcyclists Federation                           |        |         |          |
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| Childrens' play associationsImage: Second Secon | Environmental organisations/groups                 |        |         |          |
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| Rotary (etc.)Image: constraint of the second se | Faith bodies (churches etc.) and any 'federations' |        |         |          |
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| Hotel, guest house and restaurant associationsImage: Constraint of the second seco | Larger local companies                             |        |         |          |
| Media: TV, papers and radio etc.Professional associations   |  |        |         |          |
| Professional associations   |  |        |         |          |
| Othere?   |  |        |         |          |
|   | Others?  |        |         |          |

# Worksheet 3: The 'Hard to Reach'

When thinking about who and how to engage your community, you should consider the barriers people may face to participation, and how you can overcome these. Take time to consider who might be 'hard to reach' or frequently excluded groups in your area. That might include:

- Elderly people e.g. digital exclusion
- Younger people e.g. not making it relevant to them
- People with time constraints e.g. work or childcare
- People with disabilities e.g. physically accessible venues
- People living in remote or rural areas e.g. events in inaccessible locations
- People with language or cultural barriers e.g. lack of relevant translations

| GROUP                                     | IDEAS FOR ENGAGING THEM |
|---|-------------------------|
| Blank rows for you to add others          |                         |
| Elderly people                            |                         |
| Younger people                            |                         |
| People with time constraints              |                         |
| People with disabilities                  |                         |
| People living in remote or rural areas    |                         |
| People with language or cultural barriers |                         |
|   |                         |

# Worksheet 4: More Detail on Methods

To help start shaping any kind of community planning event (or thinking through whether one would be useful at all) think about the following questions:

- What do you want to **achieve** from an event?
- What are the **main issues** to be addressed?
- How long should the event (or events) be?
- When should the event be (times and dates) and where should the event be held?
- What specific activities should take place, and in what order?
- Who are the **key people** to invite? How do you raise awareness if an open event?
- What briefing material should be made available or prepared?
- How will the results of the event be used and built on afterwards?

At your events, make sure your activities are:

- inviting and welcoming (and even fun!)
- clearly explained with simple data gathering exercises
- creative and interesting

Overall it is important that people understand why you are asking them for information, views and ideas, and how their input will be used.

TIP: When using photography, film or audio recording at an event, put a poster up at the entrance to notify attendees how this will be used (e.g. social media, printed publication). Make it clear how attendees can let someone know if they do not want to be recorded, photographed or filmed – you can put a bright sticker on this person so they can be identified in any photos and cropped out.

Below is more information and templates for a range of different methods.

## Workshop Template

### Involving people in the process: WORKSHOP

Workshops can be a great way to delve deeper into a particular topic or shape up a project or plan content as you progress from the Kick Starter stage of the project. They can be a simple and effective way to:

- introduce people to the project;
- get people involved and inspired;
- explore and agree key information and actions

Practicalities:

- Invite people who represent that community and any relevant organisations (such as Conwy County Council). Similar workshops may be held with different interest groups (Heritage Society / Young People) and / or can be focus on different topics (eg: community facilities, open space, etc).
- Make the workshop 1.5 2 hours (maximum).
- 2 3 people will be needed to facilitate and lead the workshop planning and delivery.
- Send invites should be sent with no less than 3 weeks advance notice 4/5 weeks better. Ask people to confirm attendance or not, and send reminders a few days before.
- Aim to for around 25 people.
- Think about a good venue location and make sure to avoid times like half term or summer holidays.

For the workshop itself, use a checklist to make sure you have the materials you need:

| What  | Who will make sure this done |
|---|------------------------------|
| Name badges including for team                    | ADD Initials                 |
| Attendance sheet                                  |                              |
| Table numbers                                     |                              |
| Display Material / Information Sheets             |                              |
| EG: A1 Town Map, A1 Agenda                        |                              |
| A1 TOPIC Priority Sheets (1 per topic)            |                              |
| Pencils and small felt tips                       |                              |
| Large post-its                                    |                              |
| Large Pens (to keep the writing large, concise    |                              |
| and easy to read)                                 |                              |
| Blank A4 paper                                    |                              |
| Blank Flip Chart Paper (for the tables or wall to |                              |
| stick post-it notes to)                           |                              |
| Blu-Tac   |                              |

- All post-it notes and flip chart sheets should typed-up for a full record. Keep a record of the key points / issues / actions and share that as a summary with those who came along (and those who were not able to come along but are interested in the Plan).
- When you know who is coming think about room arrangement. Grouping people into small groups of no more than 6 allows people to talk freely and easily about topics the key points of which are then fed back to the whole workshop.
- Provide refreshments show people you value their time.

## **Template Workshop Format**

## <u>Arrivals</u>

Think about getting people settled and they know where to sit. You could also have an arrivals exercise where people can write questions on a post-it note.

### Introduction (15-20mins)

- Facilitator to explain purpose of workshop (don't forget to say that there will be a report capturing key outputs from the workshop)
- Ask anyone who doesn't want their photo to be taken to let X know (can place a bright sticker on them)
- Invite everyone to say who they are
- Answer a selection of questions from the arrivals exercise any outstanding questions can be addressed in the feedback report.

### Group Topic Work (40 minutes)

Work on separate topics (such as housing / community facilities / green spaces) and asked to explore the topic – building on the results of the Kickstarter feedback eg:

### **TOPIC: Housing**

- Challenges confirm / clarify what has been identified to date
- Possible Solutions list ideas
- Delivery how / who is key in delivering those solutions
- Record using flip chart paper

### Feedback (25 minutes)

- Each Topic Group presents feedback to the whole group
- Facilitator records any key observations on flipchart

### Closure (5 minutes)

• This will cover an outline of next steps

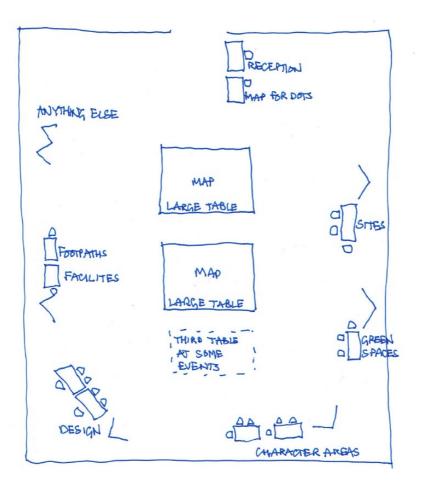
| Activity     | Minutes            | Who                              | Material  | Notes  |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Set-up       | 90                 | WHOLE<br>TEAM                    | ALL   | Really important to<br>give yourselves<br>more than enough<br>time to set up – this<br>means you can be<br>relaxed when the<br>event starts (some<br>people also arrive<br>early!) |
| Arrivals     | 15                 | RT on<br>reception               | A1 Agenda<br>Attendee List<br>Name Badges                         | Expect people to be<br>late / right on time<br>to build in some<br>time to allow for<br>that!  |
| Introduction | 15                 | LM                               | Presentation<br>Slides?   |  |
| etc          | etc                | etc                              | etc   | Etc  |
| -            | Set-up<br>Arrivals | Set-up90Arrivals15Introduction15 | Set-up90WHOLE<br>TEAMArrivals15RT on<br>receptionIntroduction15LM | Set-up90WHOLE<br>TEAMALLArrivals15RT on<br>receptionA1 Agenda<br>Attendee List<br>Name BadgesIntroduction15LMPresentation<br>Slides?   |

#### Workshop planner table - Copy the section in grey to use for your own event

## Involving People: Pop-up / Drop-in events

- These are events where people are invited to drop-in at any time over a few hour period (good to run these so they cover different parts of the day / week eg Wednesday day 11am 3pm / Thursday 4 7pm / Saturday 11am 2pm).
- A range of interactive displays and activities are set up as part of the pop-up to stimulate ideas and obtain feedback. Can be run in a local community space. Can be adapted to be smaller scale and run at a market to capture a wider range of people.
- The event(s) should widely advertised. Important to carefully prepared the displays and activities in relation to the space that you have.

• Results are written up and circulated to all who attended and made available via the platforms you have (eg on your website / link to in a feedback newsletter)



### Above: Diagram showing an example room layout for a drop-in

The diagram shows a 'map for dots' by reception. To get a good idea of where people have come from (and pick up later on any gaps in coverage) everybody arriving simply puts, on a big map, a sticky coloured dot close to where they live.

## Involving people: Interactive Boards

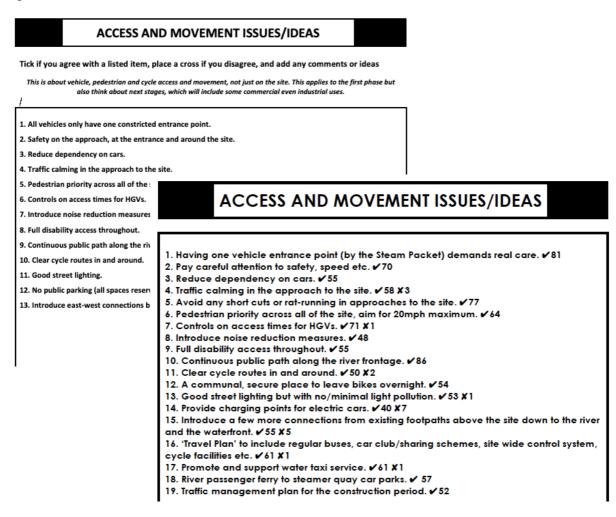
Interactive boards (shown on the diagram above by the wide V shape) are a way of collecting information from people and are a great way to build up an overall picture over the course of a workshop or pop-up drop-in (events that are held over a day or afternoon that people can 'pop into' at any time).

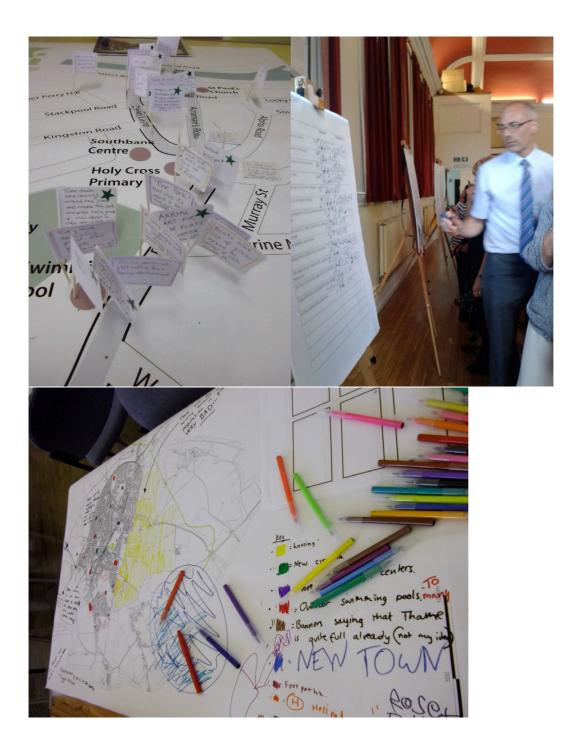
This method can be used with maps or text. Large flipchart sheets or print outs will be needed for this as well as large pens and post-it notes. Make sure you can use the wall, or easels can be a good way to present these boards. Large maps (A1 or A0) can be laid on a table in a place where people can get around it.

Different kinds of interactive boards:

- Prioritising suggestions give people a set number of sticky dots and ask them to place them next to the actions they support the most.
- Feedback on issues / ideas / action plan proposals: A pre-typed large sheet with proposals – people can tick if they agree / place a cross if they do not. Leave space at the bottom or on a blank sheet next for comments (ask people to do this on post-notes – this will also you group comments that follow a shared theme)
- Maps: Mark key community facilities and comments with small flags / ask people to identify the best (green sticky dot) / worst places (red sticky dot) in the town and have post-it notes so people can add comments
- Anything Else Sheet: Always good to have a sheet to collect final thoughts / general comments

Example feedback on Proposals – Blank on the left and a record of the results on the right





## **Consulting people: Draft Plan**

Consulting on your draft Kickstarter Plan, or full Place Plan or Community Plan is an important step in finalising the plans and building wider public awareness and support. If you are preparing a Place Plan this will be an important stage in progressing your Plan to becoming a formal planning document.

Making sure that people who live and work in your plan area are aware of the draft plan and have a chance to comment will be important. Key things to decide:

Prepare - decide on overall approach

- When? (6 weeks is a good time period)
- How to publicise (posters / leaflets / local news / social media / mailing list)
- Methods: Pop-up Drop-in events in a few different locations at different times / presentations to key groups. Consider holding a workshop. See guidance earlier in this toolkit.
- Supporting Material: A leaflet summarising the key features of the Plan and information on how people can find out more / exhibition material / online information
- Feedback mechanism: An online survey with options to respond via a paper copy
- Delivery
- Share the task of attending events between the working party
- Add further events if needed or adapt where necessary during the 6 week consultation period
- Post Consultation
- Analyse feedback
- Amend / Update Plan as necessary
- Prepare a report setting out the consultation results and the ways in the Plan has been amended as a result

### Informing people: Information Posters / Leaflets

- A great online resource where you can great posters / leaflets / images for social media etc for free is Canva https://www.canva.com/create/posters/
- Posters are a great way to raise general awareness or to advertise a specific event. Leaflets can be a excellent way to summarise the key features of your Place Plan.
- Example posters made using Canva:





# Worksheet 5: Project Planning Proforma

| STAGE                                    | WHO TO ENGAGE | NOTES / DETAILS – Method /<br>who to involve / purpose |
|--|---------------|--|
| 1A: Identifying<br>Issues                |               |  |
| Include notes on time scales here        |               |  |
| 1B: Agreeing<br>Issues                   |               |  |
| 2: Collecting<br>Evidence                |               |  |
| 3A: Developing<br>Vision and<br>Outcomes |               |  |
| 3B: Agreeing<br>Vision and<br>Outcomes   |               |  |
| 4A: Producing<br>First Stab Plan         |               |  |
| 4B: Sharing<br>First Stab Plan           |               |  |
| 5: Amending<br>First Stab Plan           |               |  |
| 6A: Producing<br>Final Plan              |               |  |
| 6B: Confirming<br>Final Plan             |               |  |
|  |               |  |

# **APPENDIX 2: GUIDANCE**

There are many, many guides to conducting effective community engagement. The problem is that nearly all of them say far more than here (too much perhaps) about why engage, principles, stakeholders, methods etc. and then offer little in terms of the day-to-day, practical details of running a workshop etc.

We do not suggest that all on your Working Party should read all of those Guides noted below. Our suggestion is that just the Engagement Champion within your Working Party takes a quick look at those Guides noted below to pick out any useful ideas, lists, other methods etc. that might be directly relevant to your Plan. There are, however a few select guidance links:

#### http://www.communityplanning.net

This is the top recommendation for a website that is packed with particularly useful and practical information. This is a fantastically detailed website with a wide range of resources.

#### https://www.conwy.gov.uk/en/Council/Have-yoursay/assets/documents/Community-Involvement-strategy-updated-2021-English.pdf

This toolkit explains the various traditional and digital community engagement tools and techniques available to you, providing an overview of how they work and when best to use them.

https://theglasshouse.org.uk/resources/designing-places-with-people-tips-foryour-community-engagement-strategy/

There are some excellent resources from The Glasshouse. This document gives tips especially designed for people working on transforming buildings and spaces.