AGENDA ITEM No.7

Information and Consultation Sessions (ICS) – Background and proposals for 2022

## **Background**

Information and Consultation Sessions were introduced in East Renfrewshire Council in 2009. The sessions provide elected members with the opportunity to hear about and influence key partnership areas of work. Through the sessions, elected members have the opportunity to ask questions and explore issues that affect their constituents.

The sessions are held up to four times a year and take place prior to Council meetings on a Wednesday evening at 5.30pm. All elected members and Community Planning Partners are invited to attend.

A wide range of topics have been presented over the previous five years including sessions on Corporate Parenting by HSCP colleagues, East Renfrewshire Youth Voice and Grant-making Participatory Budgeting.

With the onset of the pandemic the sessions were put on hold, not least to allow elected members, officers and Community Planning Partners to prioritise and focus resources on the pandemic response. As we progress East Renfrewshire's post-pandemic recovery and renewal, and with a new administration, this is an opportune time to resume the Information and Consultation Sessions.

## **Proposed Sessions**

Two sessions have been identified for the remainder of the calendar year. On the 26<sup>th</sup> October colleagues from East Renfrewshire's Citizen Advice Bureau and Money Advice and Rights Team will present on their plans to respond to the Cost of Living Crisis. On the 14<sup>th</sup> December we aim to do a session with Police Scotland colleagues and the Councils prevention team on fraud prevention.

## **Going Forward**

A number of topic areas are being considered for 2023 and we welcome suggestions for future themes from partners

Please email any suggestions to: julie.breslin@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

