

## **Participation Request - Decision Notice**

This Decision Notice relates to the Participation Request made by Loreburn Community Council regarding “Delivery of the project to build a “Flood Defence Scheme at Whitesands”.

Loreburn Community Council is a “community participation body” in terms of Section 20(1) of the Act and Dumfries and Galloway Council is a “public service authority” in terms of Section 21 and Schedule 2 of the Act. The Participation Request was assessed to comply with the Regulations and was given a Validation Date of 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

The Council agrees to Loreburn Community Council’s request to participate in an outcome improvement process as requested in the recent application to ensure that:  
*“the views of local residents are adequately represented throughout the development of this project. The active involvement of the community council will be essential in ensuring that the final design is more responsive to the diverse needs of the community.”*

Enabling greater opportunity for the involvement of the Community Council to deliver their priorities as outlined:

*“A key objective of public relations in this context is to establish a more effective means of engagement with those who live and work in the area. The Community Council is well placed to assist the local authority in this regard”.*

### **Summary of Dumfries and Galloway council response – Agreed:**

- *Loreburn Community Council be included as a key stakeholder in the Whitesands Communication and Engagement Working Group, that is responsible for the development and implementation of the Whitesands Project Communications and Engagement Plan 2025, ensuring that the diverse needs of Loreburn Community Council constituents are met.*

### **Outcome Improvement Process:**

Dumfries and Galloway Council (DGC) understands that Loreburn Community Council currently have a duty to articulate the views and concerns of local people in their area on a wide range of issues of public concern and make representations to DGC, other public sector bodies and private agencies on matters within their area of interest and acknowledge the significant role the Community Council has in the Whitesands Regeneration Project.

The Project has an evolving, draft, Communications and Engagement Plan that aims to ensure the effective engagement of all key stakeholders during the design development. A place on the Communications and Engagement Working Group will be extended to a representative of Loreburn CC given your interest in this element of the project, providing opportunity to influence the planning and delivery of communications and engagement moving forward

In addition it is anticipated that Loreburn Community Council may choose to include actions within the Plan in line with the Community Councils role as laid out in the Scheme of Establishment and its role to *articulate the views and concerns of local people in their area on a wide range of issues of public concern and make representations to DGC, other public sector bodies and private agencies on matters within their area of interest. It is essential that these views be demonstrated to be accurately representative of the community. Accordingly, the community council will have in place, in consultation with the local authority, recognised consultative mechanisms to validate their views and devise strategies to secure greater involvement by all sectors of the community.*

Activity relating to design contracts and commissioning may come into the discussion further down the line if they are relevant to improving the above outcome.

*It is recognised that this Outcome Improvement Process will complement Loreburn Community Council's existing Participation Request relating to engagement with the community on car parking at Greensands.*

Your group is entitled to make written submissions in relation to modifying the proposed Outcome Improvement process. Any such submission must be made within 28 days of receipt of this Decision Notice. If you suggest any modifications to the process, we will contact you within 56 days of the date of this Decision Notice with details of the Outcome Improvement Process that will be established.

We will publish a redacted version of this Decision Notice on the Council's Participation Request webpage on the Dumfries and Galloway Council website at:

[www.dumgal.gov.uk](http://www.dumgal.gov.uk)

Kirsty Peden (she/her)  
Community Engagement Manager  
Community Planning and Engagement  
Thriving Communities  
Education, Skills and Community Wellbeing Directorate  
Dumfries & Galloway Council  
Militia House  
English Street  
Dumfries  
DG1 2HR

**Email:** [ParticipationRequests@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:ParticipationRequests@dumgal.gov.uk)

**Web:** [Participation Requests | Dumfries and Galloway Council](#)