

NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The National Standards for Community Engagement are good-practice principles designed to support and inform the process of community engagement, and improve what happens as a result.

They were originally launched in 2005 and since then they have been used to support community engagement, and user involvement, in Scotland in areas such as community planning and health and social care. They have been widely accepted by a range of practitioners as key principles for effective practice.

During 2015/2016, the National Standards for Community Engagement were reviewed and updated. The aim of this review was to reflect the developing policy and legislation relating to community empowerment in Scotland, and to build on the growing range of practice. The review process was very inclusive and drew on contributions from a wide range of community organisations, third sector (voluntary) organisations and public sector bodies. To download a copy of the National Standards please [click here](#).

The Involvement Standard

We will identify and involve the people and organisations who have an interest in the focus of the engagement.

The Support Standard

We will identify and overcome any barriers to involvement.

The Planning Standard

We will gather evidence of the needs and available resources and use this to agree the purpose, scope and timescale of the engagement and the actions to be taken.

The Methods Standard

We will agree and use methods of engagement that are fit for purpose.

The Working Together Standard

We will agree and use clear procedures that enable the participants to work with one another efficiently and effectively.

The Sharing Information Standard

We will ensure that necessary information is communicated between the participants.

The Working with Others Standard

We will work effectively with others with an interest in the engagement.

The Improvement Standard

We will develop actively the skills, knowledge and confidence of all the participants.

The Feedback Standard

We will feedback the results of the engagement to the wider community and agencies affected.

The Monitoring and Evaluation Standard

We will monitor and evaluate whether the engagement achieves its purposes and meets the National Standards for Community Engagement.