

# Current Participation Methods



## Conversation Café

A method which makes use of an informal cafe setting for participants to explore an issue by discussing it in small table groups. Discussion is held in multiple rounds of 20-30 minutes, with the cafe ambiance intended to allow for more relaxed and open conversations to take place.

### Where do we use this method?

Joint Cabinet



## Penny for Your Thoughts

A method using asking participants to either note down or exchange with a facilitator their thoughts on a topic for a penny.

This could be figuratively, or you can use chocolate coin.

### Where do we use this method?

Arran Locality Partnership priorities engagement



## Discussion Dinners

a method which makes use of a dinner setting for participant to explore an issue by posing a different discussion point for each course of the dinner.

Discussion happens in small groups.

### Where do we use this method?

NA Family Learning Team – Kilwinning Academy



## Breakfast Blethers

A method which makes use of a breakfast setting for participants to explore an issue by discussing it in small table groups over breakfast.

### Where do we use this method?

NA Family learning team – Kilwinning Academy

Irvine Youth Forum - Saturday Breakfast Club



## Chit Chats

An informal method where you listen and consider the views of local people in small groups. There is a facilitator at each group to take notes and support the conversat.

### Where do we use this method?

North Ayrshire CLD Locality Teams



## Citizens Jury

A method of deliberation developed by the Jefferson Centre where a small group of people (between 12 and 24), representative of the demographics of a given area, come together to deliberate on an issue (generally one clearly framed question), over the period of 2 to 7 days [Citizens' Jury | involve.org.uk](http://involve.org.uk)

### Where do we use this method?

Locality Partnership Priority identifications  
Police Scotland EVA's



## Peoples' Panel

This is a representative, consultative body of local residents. They are typically used by statutory agencies, particularly local authorities and their partners, to identify local priorities and to consult service users and non-users on specific issues [Final-report.pdf \(northayrshire.communicty\)](http://northayrshire.communicty)

### Where do we use this method?

People's Panel



## Mini Publics

This is an assembly of citizens, demographically representative of the larger population, brought together to learn and deliberate on a topic in order to inform public opinion and decision-making [Mini-publics: examples and resources | What Works Scotland](http://whatworkscotland.org)

### Where do we use this method?

NAC Budget Engagement  
New School Development Engagement  
NAC Locality Planning



## Participatory Budgeting

This is a method which enables people to directly vote on how local money should be spent [PB Scotland - Participatory Budgeting in Scotland](http://pb.scotland.gov.uk)

### Where do we use this method?

North Ayrshire Locality PB  
North Ayrshire Youth PB  
North Ayrshire Street Scene PB  
Garnock Valley Community Council PB



## Questionnaire

This is s a method that consists of a set of questions or other types of prompts that aims to collect information from a respondent. A questionnaire may or may not be delivered in the form of a survey, but a survey always consists of a questionnaire

### Where do we use this method?

NAC review of halls centres and libraries  
NAC period poverty engagement  
NA Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

# Areas for Further Exploration



Developing the use of Discussion Forums including the local, face-to-face or online ChitChats in local community spaces. Throughout the pandemic Teams and Zoom have been used. There is potential to reach a wider cross-section of communities by linking into other regular meetings like Breakfast Clubs, to hear people's views.



Improving the engagement with citizens using digital channels.



Introducing Citizen engagement reference groups in an ongoing way to keep local people engaged as the initiatives develop and throughout delivery. Stakeholder reference groups are currently set up to develop the methodology and focus for engagements and consultation.



Engaging more widely using Shaping North Ayrshire – Consul to make sure everyone can take part. This is a digital tool for debating and voting, currently used for consultations and debates.



Moving public engagement in policy development forward into early stages so that communities have increased influence.



Developing more effective and engaging use of social media channels, following the successful Facebook Live events which have been held to discuss the Covid -19 Pandemic, the Council Budget and the launch of the Community Wealth Building Strategy.



Reviewing the Locality Partnerships, which, have been in place for 6 years, for efficacy. Arran Locality Partnership has piloted a joint approach with Health and Social Care's Locality Forum, providing valuable learning.



Extending the partnership working with communities in the Locality Hubs, which were set up in the pandemic and now have a mix of staff and community coalescing around them.



Considering the role of Community Associations and their capacity Strengthening Community Councils, which provide an independent voice and have rights to be asked for their view during planning and statutory consultations. Not all areas are represented by Community Councils and they an important part of local democracy. to support the community needs revealed by the pandemic, like local food larders.



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Exploring the role of Citizens' Assemblies and Citizens' Panels/Juries, which are groups of people who are brought together to discuss a specific issue or issues in depth and reach a conclusion about what they think should happen.



Responding to national discussion about moving beyond mainstreaming participatory budgeting and participation requests to co-production of commissioned services and considering what that means for CPP and Council services.



Strengthening local voices in Planning, Housing, Economic Growth and Town Centre policy - twenty-minute neighbourhoods have featured prominently in recent place-making policy discussion. Since 2020, many have worked from home and related differently to their hometown as it has become the centrepiece