Summary

Under the terms of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 NHS Forth Valley is defined as public service authority and is required to publish an Annual Report describing both Community Participation Requests and Asset Transfer Requests. This report is to satisfy the reporting requirements set by the Act. The Annual Report is intended to be published on each organisation’s web site no later than 30 June following the end of the reporting year to which it relates. For the year ending 31 March 2018 the report is as follows.

| Participation Requests Received in year | 0 |
| Asset Transfer Requests Received in year | 0 |

Community Planning in Forth Valley

Research has shown that when communities feel empowered, there is:

- greater participation in local democracy
- increased confidence and skills among local people
- more people volunteering in their communities
- greater satisfaction with quality of life in the neighbourhood

Better community engagement and participation leads to the delivery of better, more responsive services and better outcomes for communities.

In 2015 Parliament passed the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 introducing a renewed vision for Community Planning Partnerships in Scotland and to give new rights to community bodies and new duties to public sector authorities.

NHS Forth Valley is an active participant in Community Planning for the populations served by Falkirk, Stirling and Clackmannanshire Councils. The Community Partners have worked together to identify local challenges and agree priorities for improvement which are set out in the
Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) published for each area and available on the web site of each Local Authority.

The NHS Board co-operates with all other community planning partners in carrying out community planning. In relation to the community planning partnership, the Board contributes funds, staff and other resources as appropriate with a view to improving, or contributing to an improvement in, each local outcome described in the LOIP. The NHS Board also provides information and professional guidance on the progress towards the agreed outcomes.

NHS Forth Valley has a strong tradition and commitment to public participation, consultation and engagement.

“Shaping the Future”, the Forth Valley Healthcare Strategy 2016-21 was developed with extensive public, patient and staff engagement and published in October 2016. In 2017 the Board then published “A Thriving Forth Valley”, the Forth Valley Health Improvement Strategy 2017-21. The Health Improvement Strategy sets out how the NHS Board will work with our local Community Planning Partnerships to enable all of our communities to live healthier lives. The document sets out the priorities in five strategic themes:

- Children and Early Years
- Mental Health and wellbeing
- Worthwhile work
- The effects of substance use on individuals and families.
- Population wide health improvement programmes.

The NHS Board is currently working with Community Planning Partners to

- Ensure very child in Forth Valley has the best possible start in life.
- Support children and young people to become resilient and see themselves as successful.
- Reduce the number of people affected by substance misuse.
- Increase the number of people including school leavers to enter and sustain quality employment.
- Improve the health of the people of Forth Valley.

The NHS Board has a public website, nhsforthvalley.com and has added a link from the Communities area within the Health Promotion section of the website that takes users directly to the information on Community Empowerment published and regularly updated by the Scottish Government.

Participation Requests.
A community participation body may make a request to a public service authority to participate in an outcome improvement process. Public bodies should work with communities to make sure their services do what people need. If a community group has an idea to make services better, they can make a “participation request” to the public body that runs the service. The public body will have to listen to the community group’s idea and talk to them about how it might work. Afterwards the public body must write a report to say what happened, if the service worked better and how the community group helped.

As a public service authority, NHS Forth Valley must publish a participation request report for each reporting year setting out, in respect of the reporting year

(a) the number of participation requests the authority received, and

(b) the number of such requests which the authority

   (i) agreed to, and

   (ii) refused,

(c) the number of such requests which resulted in changes to a public service provided by or on behalf of the authority, and any action taken by the authority—

   (i) to promote the use of participation requests,

   (ii) to support a community participation body in the making of a participation request.

| Participation Requests Received in year | 0 |

30 June 2018
Asset Transfer Requests

A community group can make an asset transfer request for any land or buildings which a relevant authority owns, or rents from someone else. They can ask to buy or lease the land or buildings or have other legal rights, for example to occupy or use the land. Relevant authorities include the Scottish Government, local councils, health boards and some other bodies.

An asset transfer request may be made only by a community transfer body falling within section 80; and references in the remainder of the Act to the making of an asset transfer request by a community transfer body.

NHS Forth Valley is defined as a relevant authority and must publish an asset transfer report setting out, in respect of the reporting year

(a) the number of asset transfer requests the relevant authority received, and

(b) the number of such requests which the relevant authority

   (i) agreed to, and

   (ii) refused,

(c) the number of such requests made to the relevant authority which resulted in—

   (i) a transfer of ownership of land to a community transfer body,

   (ii) a lease of land to such a body,

   (iii) rights in respect of land being conferred on such a body,

(d) the number of appeals under section 85 relating to such requests made to the relevant authority that have—

   (i) been allowed,

   (ii) been dismissed,

   (iii) resulted in any part of the decision of the authority being varied or reversed,
(e) in relation to a decision of the relevant authority reviewed under section 86 or 87, the number of such decisions that have been—

(i) confirmed,

(ii) modified,

(iii) substituted by a different decision, and

(f) any action taken by the relevant authority during the reporting year—

(i) to promote the use of asset transfer requests,

(ii) to support a community transfer body in the making of an asset transfer request.

Asset Transfer Requests Received in year 0