

## CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

5 MARCH 2009

REPORT OF THE  
CORPORATE  
MANAGEMENT TEAM

### CABINET DECISION

Access and Communities – Cabinet Member - Councillor David Coleman

#### REVIEW OF AREA PARTNERSHIPS

1. Summary

A review of the Area Partnerships, which feed into Stockton Renaissance, has been undertaken to strengthen their community leadership role and their supporting arrangements. A structure diagram highlighting the links between Stockton Renaissance, the Area Partnership Boards and thematic partnerships is attached at Appendix 1.

2. Recommendations

1. The review be noted.
2. That Cabinet endorse the implementation of the Area Partnership Board Improvement Plan.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)

The purpose of this report is to consider ways of improving the community leadership role of the Area Partnerships in the borough and strengthening their role on Stockton Renaissance.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members with voting rights) should consider whether they have a personal interest in the item as defined in the Council's code of conduct (**paragraph 8**) and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with paragraph 9 of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest in the item, he/she must then consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest (**paragraphs 10 and 11 of the code of conduct**).

A Member with a prejudicial interest in any matter must withdraw from the room where the meeting considering the business is being held -

- in a case where the Member is attending a meeting (including a meeting of a select committee) but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under statutory right or otherwise, immediately after making representations, answering questions or giving evidence as the case may be;
- in any other case, whenever it becomes apparent that the business is being considered at the meeting;

and must not exercise executive functions in relation to the matter and not seek improperly to influence the decision about the matter (**paragraph 12 of the Code**).

**Further to the above, it should be noted that any Member attending a meeting of Cabinet, Select Committee etc; whether or not they are a Member of the Cabinet or Select Committee concerned, must declare any personal interest which they have in the business being considered at the meeting (unless the interest arises solely from the Member's membership of, or position of control or management on any other body to which the Member was appointed or nominated by the Council, or on any other body exercising functions of a public nature, when the interest only needs to be declared if and when the Member speaks on the matter), and if their interest is prejudicial, they must also leave the meeting room, subject to and in accordance with the provisions referred to above.**

## **AGENDA ITEM**

## **REPORT TO CABINET**

**5 MARCH 2009**

## **REPORT OF THE CORPORATE MANAGEMENT TEAM**

### **CABINET DECISION**

#### **REVIEW OF AREA PARTNERSHIPS**

A review of the Area Partnerships, which feed into Stockton Renaissance, has been undertaken to strengthen their community leadership role and their supporting arrangements. A structure diagram highlighting the links between Stockton Renaissance, the Area Partnership Boards and thematic partnerships is attached at Appendix 1.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

3. The review be noted.
4. That Cabinet endorse the implementation of the Area Partnership Board Improvement Plan.

#### **DETAIL**

##### PURPOSE

- 4.1 The purpose of this report is to consider ways of improving the community leadership role of the Area Partnerships in the borough and strengthening their role on Stockton Renaissance.

##### ROLE OF THE AREA PARTNERSHIPS

- 3.1 At a Stockton Renaissance seminar on 19 March 2006, which looked at the changing role of the Area Partnerships, it was agreed that the Area Partnerships would:
  - Be the local guardians of Stockton Renaissance activity, looking at delivery of Community Strategy objectives and seeking to influence with service providers the way that local priorities are met.
  - To be the vehicles for consultation within the local areas on the development of the Community Strategy and other related service provider strategies within the Renaissance framework.
  - To provide a structure to link with the Thematic Partnerships and the opportunity for community and voluntary sector representatives, representatives from the parish councils, ward Councillors and people from the private sector to sit around the table with service providers to develop delivery priorities for their communities.

## METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The review was carried out through web based research using national partnership assessment toolkits and a questionnaire (attached at appendix 2) which was followed up by Focus Groups for Area Partnership members. The review was also informed by the results of a questionnaire sent out to the Community Empowerment Network in the summer.
- 4.2 Each of the Area Partnerships had already completed the Council's corporate Partnership Healthcheck earlier in the year and had made improvements to governance arrangements arising from that which included the introduction of roles and responsibilities documents and risk registers for each area partnership.

## ISSUES ARISING

### **Area Partnership Questionnaire**

- 5.1 A questionnaire was circulated to Area Partnership members during November 2008. The questionnaire asked for area partnership members' views and feedback on knowledge and understanding of the role of the area partnerships, influence and impact, support and agenda management, support from Area Partnership Coordinators, performance and governance.
- 5.2 75 questionnaires were sent out, with a response rate of 23%. A copy of the questionnaire is attached at Appendix 2.
- 5.3 The following observations can be made from the responses to the questionnaire. The majority of respondents:
  - Were aware of the role of Stockton Renaissance.
  - Had an understanding of Stockton Renaissance and how the Area Partnership Boards feed into it.
  - Agreed that the geographical partnership boundaries are still relevant.
  - Felt able to influence policy/services in their area.
  - Felt able to impact on policy/ services in their area.
  - Felt that engagement with different sectors could be improved, particularly with the statutory and business sector.
  - Felt that their membership on the Area Partnerships has made a difference to their resident/community group or organisation.
  - Felt able to influence key decisions, issues and strategies.
  - Would like the Area Partnerships to continue to meet on a monthly basis.
  - Agreed that the location of the venues is suitable, special requirements are catered for and the meetings are accessible for all.
  - Knew how to get support for their group for funding.
  - Feel that the Partnership meetings provide them with the opportunity to talk to service providers.
  - Provide verbal and written reports to a variety of groups, organisations and residents.

- Agenda items were relevant and did not need improving, but would like the opportunity to further influence the items on the agenda.
- Satisfied with the support received from the Area Partnership Coordinators.
- Felt that papers arrive on time.
- Prefer the current meeting format and would not like to break up into discussion groups.
- Felt that the Chair should continue to be in post for 2 years.
- Knew how to raise a particular issue.
- Were happy with the way meetings are conducted and felt that the area partnership board election process works.
- Were aware of Declarations of Interest and the Code of Conduct.
- Felt that there was a lack of awareness of the Compact between Stockton Renaissance and the Third Sector.
- There was a mix of views with regards to the Website being up to date.
- Felt that feedback mechanisms could be made stronger through the use of a briefing note or newsletter and greater use of WebPages.

5.4 A number of other issues were raised, including:

- The role of area partnership members needed to be clarified, particularly the relationship between Ward Councillors and representatives from the voluntary and community sector.
- Improved communication at meetings.
- The meetings are often 'top down' and area partnership members are consulted on items that they do not have any real influence or decision over.
- Encourage members of the public to attend meetings and provide more feedback to the wider public through the media.
- Further delegation of budgets to the Area Partnerships.
- Improve the membership of the Area Partnerships.

### **Area Partnership Focus Groups**

5.5 All 70 members of the four Area Partnership Boards were given the opportunity to attend a choice of focus group session, either a morning or afternoon session, on the 18th November 2008. In total 16 people attended both workshops and the spread across the partnership boards was as follows-

Central - 7  
 Eastern - 1  
 Northern - 5  
 Western – 3

5.6 The Area Partnership Board Focus Groups provided an opportunity to explore in greater detail a number of key areas included in the Area Partnership Board Questionnaire. The Focus Group sessions were extremely useful in providing qualitative discussion which expanded on the key improvement issues arising from the questionnaire. The headline findings from the focus groups are set out below- :

#### Decision Making and Meeting Format

- Suggested the format of the minutes could be changed to ensure less wasted space

- Agenda items – group felt there should be more clarification on whether an item is on an agenda for information or for a decision to be made
- More feedback on decisions which have been made
- Concern expressed over lack of consultation prior to decisions being made

#### Governance

- Newly elected Chairs should be advised to attend training and a list of competencies to be created for Chairs to assess any training needs. It was also suggested by the groups that there should be a Chairs induction process to ensure that all new Chairs have the ability to move meetings forward and ensure everyone is able to get their views across
- Groups felt that the length of meetings are right and tend to be agenda related.
- Area Partnership members were aware of the Area Partnership Boards election process

#### Membership

- Needs to be greater representation from statutory sectors and consistent attendance should be encouraged
- All agreed that the Business sector role is very important
- Suggested that the timings of meetings could be altered to encourage attendance from the statutory and business sectors and to encourage young people to attend

#### Funding Support

- Groups felt that it would be useful to have some guidance on where and what funding is available
- More signposting could be done for available funding

#### Feedback

- Groups felt that the feedback received from the Area Partnership Boards in general was very good
- Everyone agreed to ensure that they feedback to their own resident/nominating group after meetings
- The focus group suggested the introduction of a summary of what has been discussed at meetings so representatives from each area can feedback and discuss further within their own groups
- Suggested that a centralised briefing note for all the Area Partnership Boards be produced and made available for feedback to members with the possibility of it to be distributed via SRCGA
- Suggested a Renaissance annual report be produced and distributed

5.7 The following was also raised during the focus group discussions:

- Venues to be used where possible which have hearing loops
- Renaissance and the Area Partnership Boards to be widely publicised
- Area Partnership Boards to work more collectively
- Code of Conduct at meetings, including preventing the use of mobile phones at partnership meetings to be enforced by Chairs

- Important that speakers at meetings either stand up when presenting or use a microphone if available
- Area Partnership members should be briefed more on what has been discussed at Renaissance and thematic partnership board meetings. A briefing sheet could possibly be produced for Area Partnership Board chairs to feedback at their area partnership meetings.

## **Community Empowerment Questionnaire**

- 6.1 As reported to Stockton Renaissance in October 2008, the CEN questionnaire, which was also circulated to the Black, Minority and Ethnic Network within the CEN, was intended to determine the level of understanding of the LSP and its role/function within the Community and Voluntary sector and to identify future training/support needs compared to the previous questionnaire results. A number of key headline results emerged from the CEN/BME Questionnaire–
- 78% of respondents were aware of the Area Partnership Boards that operate across Stockton.
  - Positive constructive feedback was given in terms of CEN officers support and the pre-agenda service provided.
  - A high percentage of respondents feel that the Community Empowerment Network has an influence/impact on other partnerships (61%) and 59% feel they have the opportunity to influence and shape the Community Empowerment Network.
- 6.2 The questionnaire indicated the following future support needs for the CEN:
- Potential to change the format of CEN meetings
    - To ensure that all CEN members have the opportunity to attend and feed into meetings, look at the possibility of holding meetings at different times and in different locations across the Borough and potentially hold regular themed meetings to cover emerging issues.
  - Continue to address funding support for the CEN/BME Networks
    - To inspire confidence within the CEN/BME Networks that the support of the network will continue.
  - Increasing the influence/impact that CEN members have on the network
    - To increase CEN members' perceptions of the influence/impact they have on the CEN and thereby their feelings of ownership of the Network, a possible development could be the establishment of a focus group, made up of CEN members, which could help inform the milestones/service level agreement in the coming year.

## **Discussions with Other Key Stakeholders**

- 7.1 To support the review a meeting was held with Julie Derbyshire and Kelly Brown from Stockton Residents and Community Groups Association (SRCGA), who provide support for the Community Empowerment Network, to gather intelligence on any other area partnership board development issues that had been raised with them and to test out the emerging results of the area partnership questionnaire and focus groups. A number of key issues were raised during this discussion, including:

- Behaviour at meetings
  - CEN members felt strongly that Blackberry's and mobile phones should not be used by any partnership members or advisors during Renaissance or Area Partnership Board meetings
  - Code of Conduct needs to be adhered to
  - Respect and how to speak to each other is a key issue
- Funding information to be distributed more widely. Encourage Area Partnership Boards to provide support letters for funding bids where appropriate
- Terms of Reference to be amended stating that it is compulsory for all Chairs to attend a Chairing course
- Partnership Roles and Responsibilities documents should be amended to outline the role of the Chair

## **Toolkits**

8.1 The following toolkits were examined as part of the review process of the Area Partnership Boards:

- 'A Fruitful Partnership – effective partnership working' - Audit Commission
- 'Partnership Self Assessment Toolkit – a practical guide to creating and maintaining successful partnerships' – East Leeds Primary Care Trust
- 'Developing Productive Partnerships' – Audit Commission
- 'Community Engagement Self Assessment Tool' – Audit Commission

8.2 The toolkits were used for evidence gathering and helped to inform the approach for the Area Partnership Board review and the development of the improvement plan.

## **COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT NETWORK**

9.1 The longer term funding issues for the support of the Community Empowerment Network are under discussion with SRCGA and are being considered as part of the Council's Medium Term Financial Planning process. In the meantime the cost of the Network has been underwritten from April 2009 to the end of June, 2009 to allow uninterrupted service while these discussions take place.

## **AREA PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS**

10.1 The Council's Area Partnership Co-ordinators provide secretariat support for the area partnerships which includes induction and training support, agenda management, liaison with service providers, dissemination of information to the partnerships, publicity, partnership healthchecks and the development and implementation of policy relating to the area partnerships. It was recognised that Billingham had historically had different support arrangements from the other area partnerships and that it would be possible to offer them the same support in line with the others. Billingham Partnership employs an independent manager funded through the Council's Voluntary Sector Support Fund. This fund provides support for around eleven voluntary/community sector organisations in the Borough. That fund is currently under review to ensure that it is being utilised in the most effective way to contribute to delivery against some of the key indicators that the council will be judged on in the Comprehensive Area Assessment, most particularly NI 7- A thriving third sector. The review is being undertaken by the



Council and Catalyst, the Borough's strategic voluntary sector umbrella organisation

## INVOLVING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE AREA PARTNERSHIPS

11.1 This review has also taken account of a discussion around engaging children and young people more proactively in the work of the area partnerships at the Children's Trust Board meeting in December, 2008. It was suggested by one of the young people present that area partnerships specifically for young people should be established to feed into the renaissance area partnerships. Work is underway to look at opportunities to do this

### **WAY FORWARD**

12.1 There are a number of actions to be undertaken by the Area Partnership Boards, following on from the review, which will be incorporated into an Area Partnership Board Improvement Plan, a draft of this is set out below:

#### Area Partnership Board Improvement Plan

<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Date to be completed</b>
<b>Communication</b>		
Provide the appropriate means for everyone to be involved in the meetings, with the use of hearing loop, microphones and accessible venues, where possible.	APB Coordinators and APB Members	On going
Amended format and template of minutes to be piloted with the area partnerships	APB Coordinators	February 2009
Funding information to be distributed more widely via the Area Partnership Boards	APB Coordinators & SRCGA	On going
Introduction of quarterly briefing notes at Area Partnership Board meetings highlighting the work of Renaissance, thematic partnerships and other Area Partnership Boards	APB Coordinators	End of March 2009
Agenda items will include more clarification on whether an item is for discussion or for a decision to be made	APB Coordinators	February 2009
Look at asking speakers at meetings either to stand up when presenting or to use a microphone if available	APB Coordinators & APB Chairs	On going
More feedback to area partnership meetings on decisions which have been made	APB Coordinators	On going
Declarations of Interest (DOI) process to be prepared in conjunction with Legal.	APB Coordinators	On going
<b>Engagement</b>		
To ensure that all area partnership members have the opportunity to attend and feed into meetings, look at the possibility of holding meetings at different	APB Coordinators	On going

times and in different locations across the Borough and potentially hold regular themed meetings to cover emerging issues.		
Working in partnership with SRCGA to Increase the influence/impact that CEN members have on the CEN's development	APB Coordinators/CEN	On going
Encourage area partnership members to shape agendas	APB Coordinators and APB Members	Ongoing
Improve the engagement of children and young people in the area partnership  Explore opportunities for area partnerships for young people.	CESC Strategic Manager (Partnerships) and APB Coordinators	March,2009
Improve the engagement of sectors within the Area Partnerships, particularly for the statutory, business and public sector	APB Coordinators	Ongoing
<b>Governance</b>		
Look at opportunities to harmonise the support arrangements for the partnerships.	APB Coordinators	Autumn 2009
Newly elected Chairs to be encouraged to attend training on Chairing and conflict management	APB Coordinators & SRCGA	On going
Changes to be made to the Roles and Responsibilities document for the Area Partnership Boards to include, an outline of the role of the Chair, greater explanation of the respective roles of area partnership members particularly that of the community representatives and the ward councillors and greater emphasis on the Code of Conduct	APB Coordinators	March 2009

12.2 An Improvement Plan will be drawn up for the Area Partnership review and will be monitored continuously by the Area Partnership Coordinators and progress will be reported to the Area Partnership Boards on a six monthly and annual basis. An annual progress report will be presented to Stockton Renaissance at the February 2010 meeting.

12.3 Any improvements which have been recommended from this report will come into effect for the Area Partnership Boards from February 2009. The improvement plans for the Area Partnerships will be presented to the Area Partnerships at their February 2009 meetings.

12.4 Desktop work will also be conducted by the Area Partnership Coordinators to identify any further improvement needs for the individual partnerships.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

This matter is categorised as low risk.

## **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS**

The LSP contributes to the delivery of all 8 of the Sustainable Community Strategy themes

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

An equalities impact assessment will be completed on the final agreed improvement plan.

## **CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS**

All wards - Consultation has taken place with the Councillors that are members of the Area Partnerships. All councillors were informed the review was taking place.

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### Background Papers

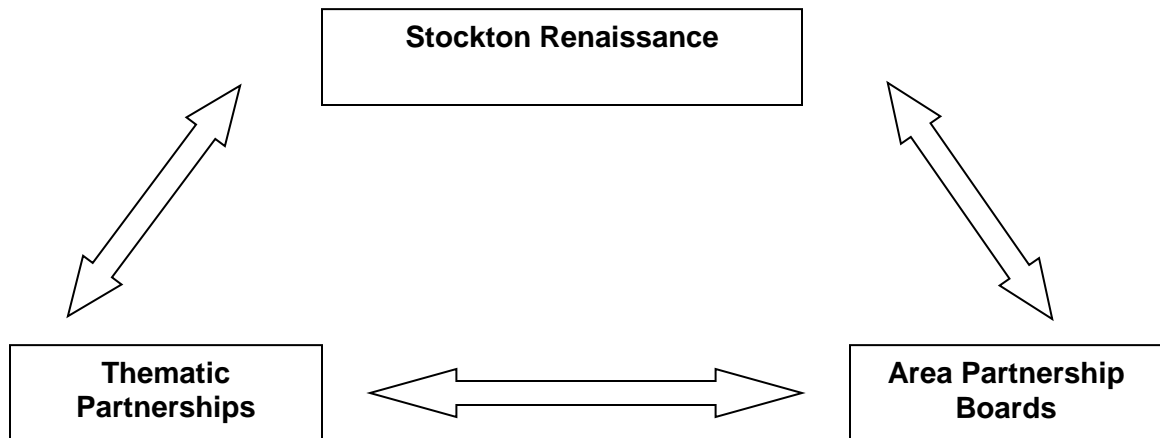
No background papers.

### Property

No implications in relation to Council property.

## Appendix 1

### Area Partnership Board Structure



The above structure highlights the reporting, feedback and decision making mechanisms for the Area Partnership Boards.

The Area Partnership Boards are represented on the thematic partnerships and feedback information both ways, informing key plans such as the Older Peoples Strategy.

The Chairs of the Area Partnership Boards are represented on Stockton Renaissance and feedback key decisions, as well as raising issues of importance from the Area Partnership Board to Stockton Renaissance, such as the Area Transport Strategy Steering Groups change of protocol.

The thematic partnerships have representatives on Stockton Renaissance and feedback through to Stockton Renaissance via Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement reporting.

Stockton Renaissance has delegated responsibility to the thematic partnerships to enable them to work in partnership to deliver on their specified thematic targets. Stockton Renaissance has delegated responsibility to the Area Partnership Boards through local funding allocations.

## Appendix 2

### Area Partnership Board Questionnaire

Stockton Renaissance, the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) for the borough of Stockton-on-Tees brings together the different parts of the public sector as well as the private, business, community and voluntary sectors to work together to promote economic, environmental and social well being.

The Area Partnership Boards have an important role within the Stockton Renaissance process. Community Partnerships and Residents Associations feed into the Area Partnerships, who underpin the Stockton Renaissance process.

The Area Partnership Boards bring together representatives from the voluntary and community sector, local business, local agencies and residents associations to give local people a chance to influence services provided within their area.

To help us continue to develop the Area Partnership Boards it would help us if you could complete this short questionnaire. All your answers will be treated confidentially. Please return your questionnaire in the prepaid envelope by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2008. If you have any questions please contact Nicola Hall on (01642) 527823 or Sarah Upex on (01642) 526498.

#### SECTION 1 – KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

1. **Are you aware of the Area Partnership Boards role within Stockton Renaissance?**

Yes  No

2. **Do you have an understanding of Stockton Renaissance and how the Area Partnership Boards feed into it?**

Yes  No

3. **Which Area Partnership Boards are you represented on? (Please tick all that apply)**

Central  Eastern  Western  Northern

4. **Do you feel the geographical partnership boundaries are still relevant?**

Yes  No

**If no, please tell us why below?**

## SECTION TWO – INFLUENCE AND IMPACT

5. Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree
I feel able to influence policy/services in my area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel able to impact on policy/ services in my area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Do you feel that engagement with different sectors could be improved?

Yes  No

If yes, please tell us how below?

7. Do you feel that your membership on your Area Partnership Board has made a difference to your resident/community group or organisation?

Yes  No

If yes, please tell us how below?

8. Do you feel able to influence key decisions, issues and strategies?

Yes  No

9. Please tell us how frequently you would like Partnership Board meetings to be held?

Monthly  Bi-monthly  Quarterly

10. Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree
The location of the venue is suitable	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Special requirements are catered for	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The event is accessible for all	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Do you know how to get support for your group for funding?

Yes  No

If no, please tell us below if there is anything that the Area Partnership Board could do to assist with support?

12. Do you feel that Partnership Board meetings provide the opportunity to talk to service providers?

Yes  No

13. Please write any comments you have about the Partnership Board meetings?

### SECTION THREE – SUPPORT AND AGENDA

14. Please provide the name of the groups you feedback information to?

15. Please tell us how you provide the feedback?

16. Do you feel the feedback mechanisms could be stronger?

Yes  No

If yes, please tell us how you think greater feedback could be achieved?

17. Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree
Agenda items are relevant	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am able to shape agendas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

18. Do you feel agendas could be improved?

Yes  No

If yes, please tell how we could improve them?

19. Are there any issues you feel should be covered at the Area Partnership Boards that have not been previously covered?

### SECTION FOUR - SUPPORT FROM AREA PARTNERSHIP BOARD COORDINATORS

20. Do you receive support from the Area Partnership Board Coordinators?

Yes  No

21. Do you feel that this support could be improved?

Yes  No

If yes, please tell us how we can improve support?

22. Please tell us what further information is required (if any) to support decision making at meetings?

23. Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following?

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree
Papers arrive on time	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Website is kept up to date	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I prefer the current meeting format	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I prefer to break into discussion groups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

24. Chairs are currently in post for 2 years, do you agree with this?

Yes  No

If no, please tell us how long you think a Chair should be in post? (Please tick one option only)

One year  Three years  Four years  Longer

25. If you had concerns about a particular issue would you know how to raise this?

Yes  No

**SECTION FIVE - PERFORMANCE**

26. Please state what you think are the three key achievements of your partnership?

1. ....  
.....  
.....

2. ....  
.....  
.....



3. ....  
.....  
.....

**27. What are your top three priorities for 2008/09?**

1. ....  
.....  
.....

2. ....  
.....  
.....

3. ....  
.....  
.....

**SECTION SIX – GOVERNANCE**

**28. Are you happy with the way that meetings are conducted?**

Yes  No

**29. Do you feel that the election process works?**

Yes  No

**If no, please state how you feel this could be improved?**

**30. Are you aware of the following for the Area Partnership Boards? (Please tick all that apply)**

Declarations of interest  Code of conduct  Compact

**SECTION SEVEN – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**31. If you have any other comments or suggestions you would like to make about anything to do with the Area Partnership Boards or Stockton Renaissance, please detail them below.**