

Corporate, Adult Services & Social Inclusion Select Committee

A meeting of Corporate, Adult Services & Social Inclusion Select Committee was held on Tuesday, 15th September, 2009.

Present: Cllr Mick Stoker (Chairman), Cllr Mrs Lynne Apedaile, Cllr Aidan Cockerill, Cllr Mrs Suzanne Fletcher, Cllr Maurice Frankland (Vice Councillor Mrs Jean O'Donnell), Cllr Miss Tina Large and Cllr Roy Rix

Officers: Mrs B Brown (R); Mrs T Harrison and Mrs J Trainer (LD)

Also in attendance: A member of the public was present

Apologies: Cllr Andrew Larkin, Cllr Mrs Jean O'Donnell, Cllr Mick Womphrey,

CAS 19/09 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

CAS 20/09 **Minutes of the meeting held on 27th July 2009**

Members considered the draft minutes of the meeting held on 27th July 2009.

CONCLUDED that the draft minutes of the meeting held on 27th July 2009 be agreed as a correct record and be forwarded on to Council for consideration.

CAS 21/09 **Scrutiny Review of Communications, Consultation and Engagement**

Members received baselining information on Consultation and Engagement.

Members requested that officers circulated possible recommendations highlighted from the evidence presented to the Select Committee prior to the next meeting to enable Members to formulate their own ideas on recommendations without duplicating officer's recommendations.

Members made the following observations:

- The Youth Forum and over 50's Forum were valuable engagement Forums but could not be relied on as the only engagement method with young people and the over 50's.
- Adequate consultation periods should be allowed.
- Joint agency arrangements could be beneficial, however Stockton Borough Council needed to ensure that it was able to exercise an appropriate level of control especially in relation to consultation.
- Should have officers in related areas who were trained in consultation and engagement who could provide additional support when required.

Members commented that there needed to be analysis on the impact of the funding provided to organisations from Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and whether it benefited the community to inform future decisions.

Members advised that constructive engagement was required with employees, throughout the EIT process and suggested that employee forums could be established to address their concerns and issues.

Members requested a breakdown of the employee survey and were advised that officers would provide the response rates by department.

CONCLUDED that:

1. The Report be noted.
2. Members will provide officers with suggestions for recommendation to be considered at the meeting on 1st October 2009.
3. Officers will provide Members with the response rates of the employee survey by departments.