

## BUSINESS CASE FRAMEWORK-CORPORATE POLICY REVIEW SELECT

### What is the scrutiny tool for?

#### It helps:

- Identify positive contributions to Stockton's Corporate priorities and to demonstrate good practice
- Identify possible areas of conflict between key priorities
- Address overlaps and gaps
- Maximise benefits

#### It should add value by:

- Allowing transparency during the scrutiny process
- Stimulate dialogue and debate
- Generating new ideas
- Encouraging 'joined-up' thinking
- Increasing awareness of issues

### Analysis

Potential criteria for selecting topic	comments
➤ Issue identified by members as key issue for public (through members surgeries and other contact with constituents)	
➤ Poor performing service (evidence from performance indicators/benchmarking)	
➤ Service ranked as important by Council's community (e.g. through market surveys/citizens panels)	
➤ High level of user/general public dissatisfaction with service (e.g. through market surveys/citizens panels/complaints)	
➤ Public interest issue covered in local media	
➤ High level of budgetary commitment to the service/policy area (as percentage of total expenditure)	
➤ Pattern of budgetary overspends	
➤ Council corporate priority area (see analysis below)	
➤ Central government priority area	Civic Renewal and Community Engagement
➤ Issues raised by External Audit Management Letters/External audit reports	
➤ New government guidance or legislation	
➤ Key reports or new evidence provided by external organisations on key issue	
➤ Others?	
<b>Potential criteria for rejecting topic</b>	
➤ Issue being examined by the cabinet	
➤ Issue being examined by Corporate Working group / officer group: changes imminent	
➤ New legislation or guidance expected within the next year	
➤ Others?	
<b>Potential criteria for selecting health items</b>	
➤ Key report or Evidence of major health or health inequality concern	
➤ Formal referral by a Patient and Public Involvement Forum *	
➤ Proposal for substantial service change (or NHS notification of a proposed change which may possibly be a substantial service change)*	
➤ Request for a health scrutiny to be carried out, received from a local authority, NHS body or other representative body with an interest in health	

**COUNCIL PRIORITIES****(Reference should be made to current Council Plan)****What contribution does this make to: Corporate Consultation**

Consultation with clients, the public and partner organisations underpin the Council's principles and priorities. The Council's commitment goes beyond statutory requirements reflected in the Consultation Strategy. The five key policy themes are founded on consultation and involvement via Renaissance. In addition, as a listening Council, the annual consultation plan includes residents' panels (Viewpoint, Youth Viewpoint, Black and Minority Ethnic Viewpoint and Disability Viewpoint) as well as providing a Commendations, Comments, and Complaints procedure. The results of consultation underpin service development plans

(Amended from Draft Council Plan 2006-9, pages 8-9)

**Children and Young People****Objective****Contribution****Healthier Communities and Adults****Objective****Contribution****Safer Communities****Objective****Contribution****Economic Regeneration and Transport****Objective****Contribution****Liveability****Objective****Contribution****People Development and Learning****Objective****Contribution****Service Delivery****Objective****Contribution****Resource Management****Objective****Contribution**

## **Summary based on analysis**

Stockton BC has extended the application of consultation beyond statutory requirements involving and empowering stakeholders within the decision making process using a variety of methods with which to engage interested parties.

The corporate framework was introduced to co-ordinate consultation exercises to:

- Ensure Members and Officers were informed about forthcoming consultation events;
- Avoid unnecessary duplication of time and resources.

## **What is the rationale for selection?**

To allow an examination of the effectiveness of the Consultation Strategy and departmental approach to consultation.

To determine how the Council finds out how the needs, priorities and attitudes of different community groups (e.g. young people, BME) are heard and how the views are used to shape service delivery.

To maintain high levels of public contact exploring new and innovative approaches to consultation.

## **What evidence is there to support the need for this review?**

The current consultation strategies have been in place for a number of years and will be reviewed to determine their continued effectiveness.

## **What is the desired outcome?**

To provide all interested parties (individuals, resident groups etc) the appropriate fora to supply views and information that can influence council service delivery.

## **What priority should this review be given?**

Medium