

People Select Committee
Review of Disability Inclusive Borough
Outline Scope

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Which of our strategic corporate objectives does this topic address?	
<p>The review will contribute to the following Council Plan 2020-23 themes and objectives:</p> <p><u>A place where people are healthy, safe and protected from harm</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People live in cohesive and safe communities • People are supported and protected from harm • People live healthy lives <p><u>A place with a thriving economy where everyone has opportunities to succeed</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A growing economy • Job creation and increased employment • Improved education and skills development 	
What are the main issues and overall aim of this review?	
<p>The vision for the borough set out in the council plan is that Stockton-on-Tees will be ‘a place where people are healthy, safe and protected from harm’ and ‘a place with a thriving economy where everyone has opportunities to succeed’. This review will explore how Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council can contribute to a more disability inclusive borough.</p> <p>Disabled people have been one of the most disproportionately affected groups by Covid-19 and going forward, it is important they are no longer marginalised and have equal opportunities to participate in the social, cultural, and economic activities within the borough.</p> <p>In the UK, approximately 1 in 5 people have a disability. If disabled people faced less barriers, the social and economic well-being of the area is likely to improve.</p> <p>Potential outcomes from this review could include better engagement with disability groups to understand barriers disabled people face going forward and a process for the council to consider and implement recommendations from these groups. Where relevant, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council could also champion disability inclusion in its partnership work with its public, private and voluntary sector stakeholders.</p>	

<p>The Committee will undertake the following key lines of enquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do the council communicate with and implement recommendations from disability groups and how can this be improved? • How can the council improve services for those with hidden disabilities? • How can the council go beyond statutory minimum standards and beyond providing wheelchair access? • Are there any quick wins the council can implement to support a more disability inclusive borough? • What have other local authorities done to improve disability inclusion? 	
<p>Who will the Committee be trying to influence as part of its work?</p> <p>Cabinet, Service Departments.</p>	
<p>Expected duration of review and key milestones:</p> <p>8 months: (reporting to Cabinet in January 2022) Approve scope and project plan – 24 May 2021 Receive evidence – June – September 2021 Draft recommendations – October 2021 Final report – November 2021 Report to Cabinet – January 2022</p>	
<p>What information do we need?</p> <p>Existing information (background information, existing reports, legislation, central government documents, etc.):</p> <p>Council Plan 2020-23, background information, existing reports.</p>	
<p>Who can provide us with further relevant evidence? (Cabinet Member, officer, service user, general public, expert witness, etc.)</p> <p>Council Officers</p> <p>Representatives from another Council</p> <p>Teesside and District Society for the Blind</p> <p>Bright Mind Big Futures (BMBF)</p>	<p>What specific areas do we want them to cover when they give evidence?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Context setting. Information on existing policies, forums, and engagement with disabled people across the borough. Is there anything we can improve upon? • What is their approach to disability inclusivity? Is there anything we can learn? • How do they assist and support people with visual impairments? Is there anything we can learn? • How does disability inclusion form part of the activities and ethos of BMBF?
<p>How will this information be gathered? (e.g. financial baselining and analysis, benchmarking, site visits, face-to-face questioning, telephone survey, survey)</p>	

<p>Committee meetings, desk top research, evidence from other Councils.</p>
<p>How will key partners and the public be involved in the review?</p> <p>As above.</p>
<p>How will the review help the Council meet the Public Sector Equality Duty?</p> <p>The Equality Act 2010 protects everyone from discrimination on grounds of nine Protected Characteristics including disability.</p> <p>Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's Workforce Equality Action Plan for 2020-21 states, "Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's aim is to have a workforce that reflects the diversity of our residents, customers and stakeholders and we recognise that promoting equality, benefits public services for all."</p>
<p>How will the review contribute towards the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, or the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy?</p> <p>This review will contribute to the Stockton-on-Tees Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities 2019-2023:</p> <p>All children and families get the best start in life. All people in Stockton-on-Tees live well and live longer. All people in Stockton-on-Tees live in healthy places and sustainable communities.</p>
<p>Provide an initial view as to how this review could lead to efficiencies, improvements and/or transformation:</p> <p>The creation of a policy for all council directorates and service areas to consider disability inclusion in their work which could potentially be trialled in one service area first. All new council policies and projects could also consider disability inclusion.</p>

Project Plan

Key Task	Details/Activities	Date	Responsibility
Scoping of Review	Information gathering	April/May 2021	Scrutiny Officer Link Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss aims and objectives of review	12 May 2021	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member(s), Director(s), Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Agree Project Plan	Scope and Project Plan agreed by Committee	24 May 2021	Select Committee
Publicity of Review	Determine whether Communications Plan needed	TBD	Link Officer, Scrutiny Officer
Obtaining Evidence	Background presentation Presentation of best practice from IPSOS MORI rep Focus on various platforms Focus on previous/ongoing SBC consultations Presentation from another council Evidence from super-users	28 June 2021 26 July 2021 27 September 2021	Select Committee
Members decide recommendations and findings	Review summary of findings and formulate draft recommendations	25 October 2021	Select Committee
Circulate Draft Report to Stakeholders	Circulation of Report	October 2021	Scrutiny Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss findings of review and draft recommendations	TBA	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member(s), Director(s), Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Final Agreement of Report	Approval of final report by Committee	29 November 2021	Select Committee, Cabinet Member, Director
Consideration of Report by Executive Scrutiny Committee	Consideration of report	18 January 2022	Executive Scrutiny Committee

Report to Cabinet/Approving Body	Presentation of final report with recommendations for approval to Cabinet	20 January 2022	Cabinet / Approving Body