

Community Cohesion Strategy

Summary

This report introduces the draft Community Cohesion Strategy and recommends Safer Stockton Partnership to both endorse the document and its action plan, taking responsibility for any related targets where appropriate.

Background

Stockton Renaissance established a Community Cohesion Sub-Group in November 2006, tasked with producing a Community Cohesion Strategy for the borough.

This group, which has enjoyed wide representation from across Renaissance partners, has developed the draft document which is informed both by national priorities, in particular "Our Shared Future" the report of the Commission on Integration and Cohesion, as well as key local drivers affecting cohesion within Stockton-on-Tees. The strategy contains eight objectives: equality of opportunity; community belonging and pride; meeting needs and aspirations; celebrating diversity and commonality; creating boundaries; reducing conflicts and tension; myth busting and empowerment.

The document also includes a number of case studies highlighting the excellent work which is already underway to promote community cohesion in Stockton-on-Tees as well as a detailed action plan which highlights further activities to promote cohesion across the borough.

Recommendations

Safer Stockton Partnership is recommended to:

- (i) Consider and approve the draft Community Cohesion Strategy, signing up to the commitment to promote cohesion.
- (ii) Consider the draft action plan, amending or creating new actions if necessary and agreeing to take responsibility for delivery of actions where appropriate.