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Dear Member

31 October 2016

Future Chair arrangements for the Safer Stockton Partnership

You will recall that a decision was made at the Safer Stockton Partnership AGM in October 2014 to appoint an Independent Chair, following the decision of longstanding Chair, Geoff Lee, to stand down. At the time, members agreed that an independent chair would ensure the partnership continues to discuss issues and challenge developments in an effective and equitable manner, acting as a facilitator for meetings whilst retaining overall accountability.

Members felt that having an independent chair enabled all partners to continue to play a participatory challenging role, whilst ensuring no single partner was perceived as having a controlling influence. As a result of this decision Dave Pickard was appointed to the role.

Following the resignation of Dave Pickard in March 2016, Councillor Steve Nelson agreed to chair the partnership on an interim basis until the next AGM on 22nd November 2016.

As we are nearing the AGM I am writing to provide all partners with the opportunity to provide feedback on their preference for future chairing arrangements. I should be grateful if you would indicate which of the following options you prefer:

Option 1: The appointment of an Independent Chair

Option 2: The appointment of an existing partnership member as Chair

Option 3: The appointment of 'rolling' chair on an annual basis from existing partnership members

Please could you submit your response to steven.hume@stockton.gov.uk by 12 noon on Friday 4th November.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Bob Cook
Leader of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council