

# Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report 2006/07



Stockton-on-Tees  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

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# FOREWORD

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the first annual scrutiny report as Chair of the Executive Scrutiny Committee. The Annual Report explains how overview and scrutiny operates at Stockton Council and outlines the work of the Council's Select Committees during 2006/07.

The Council established new scrutiny co-ordination arrangements at the beginning of 2006. The overall aim of the new arrangements was to establish a more inclusive approach to policy development, developing links between Select Committees and the Cabinet decision making role, a stronger co-ordination of scrutiny work and increased scrutiny of outside organisations. The changes have included:

- Extending the remit of the Executive Scrutiny Committee to include co-ordination of an overall scrutiny work programme with all Scrutiny Chairs becoming members of this new overview committee
- A Scrutiny Liaison Forum of Scrutiny Chairs, Cabinet Members and Corporate Directors
- Establishing six thematic Select Committees focusing on time limited policy development work
- Increased dedicated officer support to the Overview and Scrutiny function

## Key scrutiny achievements during 2006/07 include:

- Strengthened co-ordination of scrutiny work through the Executive Scrutiny Committee
- Improvements in the planning and project management of reviews
- Stronger links between Cabinet and Select Committees through policy development work resulting in the completion of 10 in-depth scrutiny reviews during the year
- Closer working with Services through designated link officers who provide specialist and technical support to the Committees
- Introduction of new monitoring arrangements in respect of completed scrutiny reviews to track progress on implementation and the impact of review recommendations
- Scrutiny of performance management and budgetary information on a quarterly basis by the Executive Scrutiny Committee
- Improvements to the Council's scrutiny web pages

In addition, a review of the new scrutiny co-ordination arrangements took place during the autumn of 2006. The review involved a survey and a series of discussion groups to assess the Council's scrutiny function against the principles of good scrutiny set out in the Centre for Public Scrutiny's "Good Scrutiny Guide". An improvement plan is being developed to address the issues raised during the review.

We would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard to put in place the new scrutiny co-ordination arrangements over the past year and Councillors, our partners, residents and officers who have contributed to our reviews during the year.

We look forward to the continued development of Overview and Scrutiny during 2007/08. This promises to be an interesting and exciting year with the introduction of Government legislation and guidance extending the role and powers of scrutiny.

**Councillor Ken Lupton**  
Chair, Executive Scrutiny Committee

**Councillor Bill Noble**  
Vice-Chair

## PART ONE

# INTRODUCTION TO SCRUTINY AT STOCKTON COUNCIL



Scrutiny enables Councillors to review decisions, policies and performance that affect the Borough. It is a Councillor-led process which helps to ensure that the Council's services and policies meet the needs of local people according to the Council's own aims and standards. The scrutiny process not only provides a means of reviewing the Council's own achievements against its planned targets but can also examine services provided by other organisations on issues causing public concern. It provides the opportunity for Councillors to champion issues of local concern to residents and participate in the development of new policies.

### Overview and Scrutiny has the following broad functions:

- Policy development and review
- Holding the Cabinet to account
- Investigating issues of local concern
- External scrutiny



The Council has an Executive Scrutiny Committee which has a co-ordinating role, and six Select Committees which provide the opportunity for Members to examine the various functions of the Council under different themes. Councillors can question how decisions have been made, consider whether service improvements can be put in place and make recommendations to achieve this.

Committees carry out the bulk of their work through in-depth investigations or 'scrutiny reviews'. This is when a committee will spend a period of time examining a subject by questioning Cabinet Members, council officers, other organisations and service users. Consultation exercises and site visits may also be carried out together with consideration of independent research.



Once all the evidence has been collected, a select committee is then in a position to make appropriate recommendations in relation to the subject being scrutinised. The evidence and subsequent recommendations are collated into the form of a report. When the committee has agreed the final report, the Chair of the committee presents the report to Cabinet (the Council's main decision-making body) for its consideration.

## THE COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

**Chair**  
Ken Lupton



**Vice Chair**  
Bill Noble

### EXECUTIVE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Acts as an overall co-ordinating body for scrutiny within the Council and is responsible for managing the scrutiny work programme. The Committee is also responsible for dealing with 'call-in' of Cabinet decisions; this is when six or more non-executive Members of the Council request that a Cabinet decision be given further consideration before implementation takes place.

### SIX THEMED SELECT COMMITTEES

#### ADULTS, LEISURE AND CULTURE



**Chair**  
John Fletcher

**Vice Chair**  
Mike Smith

#### CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE



**Chair**  
Maureen Rigg

**Vice Chair**  
Brian Jones

#### CORPORATE POLICY REVIEW



**Chair**  
Bill Woodhead

**Vice Chair**  
Andrew Larkin

#### ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION



**Chair**  
Jennie Beaumont

**Vice Chair**  
Dick Cains

#### HEALTH



**Chair**  
Mary Womphrey

**Vice Chair**  
Ken Dixon

#### HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY



**Chair**  
Allison Trainer

**Vice Chair**  
Julia Roberts

The Select Committees are made up of 13 Councillors and each Committee reflects the political balance of the Council. In addition, some committees have co-opted representatives who represent external interests and use their experience to bring a wider perspective to committee debate. Parent governor and diocesan representatives have voting rights when the Adults, Leisure and Culture and the Children and Young People Select Committees are considering education matters.



## PART TWO

# ADULTS, LEISURE AND CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE

The Adults, Leisure and Culture Select Committee was created as a result of the review and restructuring of scrutiny undertaken in 2005/06. As part of the review, the remit and workload of all committees was examined, resulting in the division of the Education, Leisure and Culture Committee into two committees dealing with education and leisure / culture issues separately. Our remit also includes "Adults", but for variety of reasons, our scrutinies so far have been entirely on Leisure and Culture.

The first review concentrated on the Museums Service and Preston Hall and Park. As part of the review, Councillors examined the newly created Museum Strategy alongside a revision of the visitor experience offered at Preston Hall and Park. Councillors undertook consultation with members of staff and the public as part of the review, alongside comparative work with other local museum and park facilities. As a result of the review, the Committee recommended the creation of a Master Plan that would provide a coherent vision and experience for users of the Hall and Park. I was pleased that the recommendation was agreed at a meeting of Cabinet held in October 2006.

Following completion of this work, the Committee commenced a review of Stockton International Riverside Festival (SIRF) and Billingham International Folklore Festival (BIFF), which was completed in March 2007. The review involved an examination of various issues including the visitor experience, partnership working and the impact of SIRF on the town centre and market.

The Committee recommended proposals to strengthen relations with BIFF and market traders, improve public transport arrangements, improve the festival experience for people with disabilities and increase the involvement of Stockton's minority ethnic communities.

We have had a very positive and constructive year and have not only contributed to the ongoing development of two major leisure and cultural offerings, but have also built positive working relationships with officers, members of the public and various partners.

We look forward to continuing our good work into 2007/08.

**Councillor John Fletcher**  
Chair, Adults, Leisure and Culture Select Committee

**Councillor Mike Smith**  
Vice-Chair

# CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE

The Children and Young People (CYP) Select Committee was formed from the Education, Leisure and Culture Select Committee when reconsideration was given on how best to align overview and scrutiny with Council departments, especially the increased links between children's education and social care.

The CYP Select Committee benefits from the inclusion of diocesan, parent governor and non-voting co-opted representatives which brings a different dimension to the discussions of the Committee all of which helps improve the outcomes and recommendations put forward for consideration.



The extended remit of the CYP Select Committee to include social care gave Members of the Committee an opportunity to investigate the issue of teenage pregnancy. Although the number of teenage pregnancies was comparatively low each year, Stockton's percentage increase was higher than many other authorities at a time when there was a government drive to reduce the numbers.

The Committee was keen to engage with the four key mainstream agencies – the Primary Care Trust, Education, Social Care and Youth Services/Connexions to determine the partnership working that was continuing to be developed to reduce conception and pregnancy figures. Particular focus was given to sex education in schools as a national awareness raising campaign was launched by Channel 4 TV at the same time as this review.

One of the Committee's recommendations was that schools be encouraged to ensure that all young people have equality of access to the wide range of Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) information and services available and that Head Teachers, Governing Bodies and the Teenage Pregnancy Partnership be encouraged to consider ways of integrating SRE into the curriculum of all primary schools in the Borough.

The second review came from children and young people highlighting bullying as a problem for them. Nationally, bullying has remained an intractable problem for young people that can have a debilitating effect for those subjected to systematic and regular torment and hurt. Similar to the teenage pregnancy review, the timing of the review of bullying coincided with national recognition of the problem as a House of Commons' Select Committee review investigated similar concerns.

The CYP Select Committee was keen to learn from education professionals what actions were being undertaken to reduce the likelihood or effects of bullying for young people in the Borough. The Committee was especially pleased to hear the views from representatives of Stockton's Youth Assembly and Stockton Community Campus Youth Forum that attended the evidence gathering event.

The Committee was pleased to learn of the priority being given by dedicated officers from the Children, Education and Social Care Department and also staff within Stockton's schools that has seen the introduction of a number of initiatives to tackle this pervasive problem. In particular, the move to accreditation for schools should ensure the highest standards are met to counteract the harmful effects that bullying causes.

**Councillor Maureen Rigg**  
Chair, Children and Young People Select Committee

**Councillor Brian Jones**  
Vice-Chair

## CORPORATE POLICY REVIEW SELECT COMMITTEE

This year the Corporate Policy Select Committee carried out a comprehensive review of corporate consultation and a short review of meeting venues.



The Committee chose to review the Council's approach to corporate consultation as the Council's Corporate Consultation Strategy had been produced in 1999 and it was therefore considered timely to examine whether the Strategy was still fit for purpose and to identify any improvements. The Committee consulted with all Members and held discussion groups with residents as part of the review.

The Committee concluded that overall there was a need to strengthen co-ordination of consultation activity, make better use of the information collected and improve the sharing of skills and knowledge and agreed a series of recommendations to achieve this. The Committee recommended that co-ordination of consultation activity should be strengthened through stronger links between services and the corporate consultation unit and that there was scope to develop the Consultation Plan as a wider

communication tool. The Committee felt that there should be robust business case justification for consultations and arrangements for post-consultation review.

Meeting venues was selected as a short and focused piece of review work with a view to reducing the pressure on corporate meeting venues and ensuring consistency in the standard of the venues and facilities offered. The review revealed that there was a wide range of operational meeting venues within the Council's offices.

A key recommendation from the review is to make information on all internal meeting venues available on the Council's intranet. It is hoped that providing more information will help officers to identify suitable accommodation for meetings and make informed judgements on the best choice of meeting venues.

The Committee was pleased to have had help from members of the Stockton Disability Advisory Group who accompanied Members on site visits to a range of meeting venues. Their input was invaluable and helped Members to understand the problems that people with different disabilities might have in accessing meeting rooms.

We look forward to continuing our good work into 2007/08.

**Councillor Bill Woodhead**  
Chair, Corporate Policy Review Select Committee

**Councillor Andrew Larkin**  
Vice-Chair

## ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION SELECT COMMITTEE

Over the last year, the Environment and Regeneration Select Committee has carried out two in depth investigations into areas highlighted as being of high priority for the Council. The first involved an examination of the Council's street lighting services and the second review focused on the future development of cemeteries within the Borough.

The review of street lighting services was identified as a result of rising energy costs and ageing street lighting columns. Members received an overview of technical and contractual issues, and compared the Council's service with other similar Councils to assess the benefits of different financial schemes such as Private Finance Initiatives and prudential borrowing. Members recommended that a data verification and cost benefit analysis should be carried out in respect of the different investment schemes to assess the level of finance required for an 'invest to save' programme. The review was completed in November 2006 and fully endorsed by Cabinet.

The second review focused on the future development of cemeteries. The objectives for the review were to ensure that there was adequate provision for future burial needs, to identify improvements to existing cemeteries and to provide an extended choice of burial options to residents of the Borough. The Committee heard from Council officers and also sought the views of residents, funeral directors and faith groups.

The review resulted in a series of recommendations which seek to provide an enhanced service to the public and raise awareness on the full range of burial options. The Committee found that there was a projected shortage of burial space across the Borough and recommended that the situation should be addressed through extension to existing cemeteries and identification of new burial land where possible. The Committee also made recommendations to maximise remaining space within cemeteries and explore more space efficient ways of interring cremated remains. In addition to future provision, the Committee made suggestions to improve existing cemeteries including improvements to the cemetery maps in conjunction with section signage. The Committee acknowledged that a number of the recommendations would depend on funding and that some initiatives such as the redevelopment of disused chapels and the possibility of a crematorium in Stockton would need to be subject to further feasibility work.

The Committee has found the subjects extremely interesting and has learnt a lot throughout the review process. The Committee has also benefited from a positive working relationship with the services concerned and are looking forward to the next review to be undertaken in 2007/08 which will continue to focus on cemeteries through a review of memorials within cemeteries.



**Councillor Jennie Beaumont**  
Chair, Environment and Regeneration Select Committee

**Councillor Dick Cains**  
Vice-Chair

## HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE



This year, the Health Select Committee has prioritised health issues concerning the Primary Care and Hospital Trusts in the Borough.

A major issue facing the community was the reorganisation of services across University Hospital North Tees (UHNT) and University Hospital Hartlepool (UHH). In particular the suggested loss of consultant led maternity and paediatric services from UHNT to UHH was of such concern that the Health Select Committee, following its initial review and report, referred the issue to the Secretary of State for Health to reconsider the decision.

The Independent Reconfiguration Panel was asked by the Secretary of State to advise how best resolve the issues raised. The Panel met with the Select Committee along with all other interested parties and in December 2006 advised the Secretary of State to support the majority of the Select Committee's recommendations thereby ensuring the retention of a Women's and Children's Centre of Excellence at UHNT.

The Health Select Committee also responded to concerns that the introduction of a new NHS dentist contract was resulting in a loss of dental practices in Stockton Borough willing to provide NHS services. The Select Committee heard from managers from North Tees Primary Care Trust who have responsibility for the contractual arrangements to determine how to improve access to NHS dentists. Unable to overturn national payment arrangements, the Committee proposed ways of targeting provision, especially to areas and groups in most need.

A resulting issue was a proposal to add fluoride to Stockton's water supply. This was referred to the North East Strategic Health Authority, which has responsibility for consultation. If this progresses, the Committee will wish to be involved in the consultation. The increased involvement between the Committee and local health partners is positive.

The scrutiny of health continues to develop and will strengthen the opportunities for local people to influence health provision in the area. The work of the Committee in the past year has provided a sound foundation from which ongoing partnerships between the Council and the NHS can mature and grow.

**Councillor Mary Womphrey**  
Chair, Health Select Committee

**Councillor Ken Dixon**  
Vice-Chair

# HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY SELECT COMMITTEE



This year the Housing and Community Safety Select Committee focused its attention on reviewing various aspects of the Borough's Council housing provision.

The Committee had previously looked at how accessible Tristar services were for its customers. Tristar Homes is the company that is responsible for managing the Council's housing stock. In light of an upcoming inspection by the Audit Commission, during the summer of 2006 the Committee took the opportunity to monitor the results of its previous work in order to ensure that access to Tristar services would be in the best possible shape.

Members of the Committee acted as 'mystery shoppers' in order to test the services that tenants receive. Members logged onto the website, called the repairs call centre and visited housing centres in person. The Committee identified that progress had been made and Tristar Board were grateful for the work of the Committee. The Audit Commission subsequently upgraded their rating from 1 star to 2 stars.

The Committee undertook a major piece of work when it examined the subject of choice based lettings (CBL). CBL is a departure from the traditional points-based method of allocating Council housing and allows applicants to exercise choice through 'bidding' for suitable, advertised properties. The Committee spent six months investigating the topic and evidence was gathered from a variety of sources. The Committee heard the views of housing officers, Tristar Homes, neighbouring local authorities and the sub-regional partnership. The Committee also carried out site visits to existing choice based lettings schemes in Newcastle and Middlesbrough and were able to see CBL schemes 'in action'.

Cabinet accepted the Committee's recommendation that CBL should be adopted as the preferred method of distributing social housing in Stockton Borough, and that Stockton Council should work with other Tees Valley authorities to develop a sub-regional scheme.

As part of a previous review of anti-social behaviour, it had been recommended that the police District Commander attend meetings of the Committee in order to provide updates on police performance. The first of such meetings took place in November. The meeting was very informative and future meetings are to be arranged to take place following the publication of annual police performance data. The Government is encouraging closer relationships between scrutiny and local partners; as such it will become increasingly important to develop close links with local police and the Safer Stockton Partnership over the coming year.

The Committee were pleased by the positive approach adopted by all involved during its work over the year and is glad to have had the opportunity to make a tangible impact on service delivery.

**Councillor Allison Trainer**  
Chair, Housing and Community Safety Select Committee

**Councillor Julia Roberts**  
Vice-Chair



## PART THREE

# 2007/08 FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

A review of the Council's scrutiny arrangements was carried out in the autumn of 2006. The review looked at all aspects of scrutiny in Stockton with a view to identifying areas that were working well and those where improvements could be made. Following on from this review, an Improvement Plan for Scrutiny will be developed.

### Areas for development include:

- raising the profile of scrutiny within the wider community
- engagement of the wider select committee membership
- developing our links with the community
- making an impact on service delivery - we will be looking to further strengthen our arrangements for monitoring the progress of recommendations from completed scrutiny reviews, including the establishment of a database in order to have a robust recording system

In line with other service areas, the scrutiny function is seeking to develop a number of performance indicators. These indicators will be measured throughout the year and will help to assess how the scrutiny function is performing in key areas. Councillors will also be asked for their views about how well scrutiny is performing as part of this process.

Following the local government elections in May 2007, it is planned to hold tailored training sessions for Members involved in health scrutiny. This will be in conjunction with the Centre for Public Scrutiny's Health Scrutiny Support Programme and aims to provide Members with the specialist skills required when reviewing the complexities of health service provision.

We must also take into account developments at a national level as the context for scrutiny is continually developing. Recent months have seen the publication of the Police and Justice Act 2006, the Local Government White Paper and subsequently the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill. All of these have implications for the 'way' scrutiny operates in all local authorities and are due to be implemented in April 2008. Broad themes include:

- strengthening the role of scrutiny in scrutinising external bodies and partnerships. Relevant public bodies will be under a duty to co-operate with local scrutiny committees
- enhancing the role of scrutiny committees in 'place shaping' and having a wider overview of public service provision in their local area
- the introduction of the Community Call for Action (CCfA) giving ward Councillors a central role in calling to account the work of agencies throughout the local area. The CCfA will place individual Councillors under a duty to respond to issues raised by members of the public - if issues cannot be resolved satisfactorily by the responsible authority, Councillors will be able to refer the matter to the relevant scrutiny committee for further investigation.

Over the coming year, we will be assessing the impact of these changes and the development of our response to them will be a major part of our work throughout 2007/08.

PART FOUR

# COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2006/07

## EXECUTIVE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Councillor Lupton (Chair)  
 Councillor Noble (Vice-Chair)  
 Councillor Narroway  
 Councillor Mrs Nelson  
 Councillor Cains  
 Councillor Mrs Nesbitt  
 Councillor Dalgarno  
 Councillor Mrs Rigg  
 Councillor Fletcher  
 Councillor Mrs Beaumont  
 Councillor Rix  
 Councillor Frankland  
 Councillor Mrs Trainer  
 Councillor Jones  
 Councillor Mrs Womphrey  
 Councillor Lynch  
 Councillor Woodhead

Diocesan co-opted representative: Mr A Maxwell  
 Parent Governor co-opted representatives: Mr I Bartle and Mrs S Mustafa.

## ADULTS, LEISURE AND CULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE

Councillor Fletcher (Chair)  
 Councillor Smith (Vice-Chair)  
 Councillor Laing  
 Councillor Lynch  
 Councillor Cherret  
 Councillor Mrs Norton  
 Councillor Dixon  
 Councillor Perry  
 Councillor Faulks  
 Councillor Rix  
 Councillor Frankland  
 Councillor Womphrey  
 Councillor Miss Inman

Diocesan co-opted representative: Mr A Maxwell  
 Parent Governor co-opted representatives: Mr P Beach and Mr R Cash.

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs Rigg (Chair)  
 Councillor Jones (Vice-Chair)  
 Councillor Miss Inman  
 Councillor Lupton  
 Councillor Mrs Beaumont  
 Councillor Lynch  
 Councillor Cherrett  
 Councillor Mrs Norton  
 Councillor Coombs  
 Councillor Rix  
 Councillor Harrington  
 Councillor Mrs Trainer  
 Councillor Frankland

Diocesan co-opted representative: Mr A Maxwell  
 Parent Governors co-opted representatives: Mr P Beach and Mr R Cash

Non Voting Co-opted Representatives:  
 Mr G Davies, Mr D Campbell, Mr R G Lupton and Mr B Percival

## HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY SELECT COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs Trainer (Chair)  
 Councillor Mrs Roberts (Vice-Chair)  
 Councillor Mrs Nesbitt  
 Councillor Noble  
 Councillor Brown  
 Councillor Rix  
 Councillor Mrs Fletcher  
 Councillor Teasdale  
 Councillor Frankland  
 Councillor Walmsley  
 Councillor Jones  
 Councillor Woodhead  
 Councillor Laing

## ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION SELECT COMMITTEE

Councillor Beaumont (Chair)  
 Councillor Cains (Vice-Chair)  
 Councillor Mrs Robinson  
 Councillor Salt  
 Councillor Fletcher  
 Councillor Smith  
 Councillor Larkin  
 Councillor Teasdale  
 Councillor Leckonby  
 Councillor Walmsley  
 Councillor Noble  
 Councillor Woodhead  
 Councillor Mrs Norton

## HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs Womphrey (Chair)  
 Councillor Dixon (Vice-Chair)  
 Councillor Mrs Nesbitt  
 Councillor Miss Inman  
 Councillor Mrs Apedaile  
 Councillor Mrs Robinson  
 Councillor Baker  
 Councillor Roberts  
 Councillor Coombs  
 Councillor Sherris  
 Councillor Harrington  
 Councillor Teasdale  
 Councillor Lupton

## CORPORATE POLICY REVIEW SELECT COMMITTEE

Councillor Woodhead (Chair)  
 Councillor Larkin (Vice-Chair)  
 Councillor Lynch  
 Councillor Mrs Nesbitt  
 Councillor Brown  
 Councillor Patterson  
 Councillor Dewison  
 Councillor Mrs Rigg  
 Councillor Mrs Fletcher  
 Councillor Mrs Robinson  
 Councillor Frankland  
 Councillor Mrs Womphrey  
 Councillor Lupton

PART FIVE

# CONTACTING THE SCRUTINY TEAM

The Scrutiny Team provides independent support and advice to the Executive Scrutiny Committee and the six Select Committees. This support includes undertaking consultation activities, work programming, research and report writing.

If you would like more information on our work or the scrutiny process in general, please contact the team.

**Judith Trainer**

Tel: 01642 528158

Email: [judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk)

**Graham Birtle**

Tel: 01642 526187

Email: [graham.birtle@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:graham.birtle@stockton.gov.uk)

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Email: [sarah.connolly@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.connolly@stockton.gov.uk)

**Peter Mennear**

Tel: 01642 528957

Email: [peter.mennear@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:peter.mennear@stockton.gov.uk)



Further information on scrutiny at Stockton Council, including completed scrutiny reports, can be found on our web pages. These can be accessed at the following address:

[www.stockton.gov.uk/scrutiny](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/scrutiny)

If you have a general query regarding scrutiny you may also wish to email us using:

[scrutiny@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@stockton.gov.uk)

PART SIX

# HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

We welcome public involvement in the work of the scrutiny process. Select Committee meetings are open to the public and information on the current work of a committee is displayed on our website. If you are interested in or have any experience of the topics under review, you can get involved by contacting a member of the scrutiny team.

You may also have an issue that you feel a Select Committee should look at as part of its work. All suggestions will be considered and a decision will be made on the most appropriate way forward.

Please note that scrutiny is not the correct forum for dealing with individual complaints about Council services. Scrutiny reviews are conducted as in-depth investigations at the end of which recommendations are put forward to the decision making bodies of the Council and other relevant authorities. In some cases it may be more appropriate to forward your concern on to a ward councillor or the service concerned. There is no guarantee that all requests will be investigated by a Select Committee although you will always receive an explanation of what action has been taken.

If you have any suggestions please complete the attached form and send it to the following address:

### Scrutiny Team

Democratic Services  
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council  
PO Box 11  
Municipal Buildings  
Church Road  
STOCKTON-ON-TEES  
TS18 1LD

Alternatively please email your suggestions to: [scrutiny@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@stockton.gov.uk)



Name .....

Address .....

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Telephone .....

Email .....

Suggested topic for scrutiny review:

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If you would like this information in any other language or format for example large print or audio please contact the 'Diversity Team' on 01642 528334.

欲要這份資訊的其它語言版或其它版式例如大字體印刷/錄音帶，請致電 01642 528334 接洽 '多元化隊' (Diversity Team)

اگر شما این اطلاعات را به زبان یا شکل دیگری مثلا چاپ بزرگ یا بصورت صدا میخواهید لطفا با تیم دایورسیتی (گوناگونی) [Diversity Team] با شما ره 01642 528334 به تماس شوید

إذا كنت ترغب الحصول على هذه المعلومات بلغات أو بأشكال أخرى على سبيل المثال بالطبعة الكبيرة أو بالشريط المسجل فالرجاء الإتصال 'بدايفرستي تيم' [Diversity Team] على هاتف رقم 01642 528334

Si vous souhaitez obtenir ces informations dans d'autres langues ou sous un autre format, par exemple, en gros caractères / version audio, veuillez contacter l'équipe "Diversity" au n° 016 42 52 83 34

اگر آپ ان معلومات کو کسی بھی اور زبان یا انداز، مثلاً بڑے پرنٹ/آڈیو ٹیپ وغیرہ میں حاصل کرنا چاہیں، تو ڈائیورسٹی ٹیم کو اس نمبر پر فون کیجئے 01642 528334 (Diversity Team)

تہ گہر حضرت لئی یہ نهم زانباریہ بہ دہستت بکہ و نت بہ زمانہ کانی تر یان بہ شیوہ بہ کی تر بو نمونہ چاپی گہورہ/یان بہ تیپی تۆمارکراو تکایہ پہ یوہندی بکہ بہ 'تیمی دایفیرستی' [Diversity Team] له سہر زمارہی نہ لہ فون 01642 528334

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਬਣਤਰ ਜਾਂ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਿੱਚ, ਵੱਡੀ ਛਪਾਈ ਵਿੱਚ ਜਾਂ ਟੇਪ/ਸੀ ਡੀ 'ਤੇ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 'Diversity Team' ਨੂੰ 01642 528334 ਨੰਬਰ ਉੱਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।