

Brief for Scrutiny

ACTIVE AND COHESIVE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Topic to be Scrutinised
Review of Locality Working (Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs) Review)
Questions to be Addressed
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) What do LAPs do and how are they organised currently? (2) What areas of working undertaken by the LAPs can be done better? (3) What needs to happen to improve the LAPs? (4) Can the LAPs deliver localism or does more need to be done in terms of locality working?
Outcome
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The further development of the LAPs into bodies which can deliver actions which reflect the identified needs of each locality in the Borough. (2) Improved and enhanced communications for LAPs. (3) A system of locality working which is genuinely local and which reflects all the key elements of each locality to the benefit of that locality.
Background Materials
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Previous studies by the Active and Cohesive Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on locality working (2008). (2) Cabinet report on Locality Working – February 2010. (3) Localism & Decentralisation Bill 2011. (4) Public Sector Reform White Paper (2010). (5) Open Public Services White Paper (2011).
Evidence and Witnesses
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) LAPs Chairs and other local community representatives. (2) Partner organisations, including Staffs CC, FARS, Police and Aspire (3) Third sector representatives. (4) Elected Members.
Method of Scrutiny
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Updates to the Active and Cohesive Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee – review has taken place and the Committee is a key part of overseeing delivery of the recommendations coming out of the review, ensuring that stated deadlines are met and benefits realised. (2) To consider representations from key stakeholders (as outlined above) where relevant and where value is added. (3) Input from elected Members.
Timetable
<p>Start Date: 22 August 2011.</p> <p>Dates of Meetings: Updates to meetings of Active & Cohesive Committee in October 2011 and March 2012.</p> <p>Draft Report: 22 August 2011 (initial report, also going to Cabinet on 7 September – so considered by Scrutiny first).</p>

Final Report:	5 March 2012 (final report on the process of change and updates on the development of locality working in light of ongoing legislative change)
Report to Council:	28 March 2012.
Constraints	
(1)	Review has taken place, including detailed activity from key stakeholders – role for scrutiny is not around the review process, rather the implementation of change and the benefits realised from changes to locality working.
(2)	National legislative framework.
Members to Undertake the Scrutiny	
Councillor Mrs Heames Active and Cohesive Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Support	
Head of Business Improvement & Partnerships Partnerships Manager Partnerships Team Chief Executive	
Newcastle Borough Council Corporate Plan Priority area (s)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a cleaner, safer and sustainable Borough. • Creating a Borough of opportunity. • Creating a healthy and active community. • Transforming our Council to achieve excellence. 	
CfPS Objectives:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides and critical friend challenge to executive policy makers and decision makers. • Enables the voice and concerns of the public to be heard. • Is carried out by independent governors who lead and own the scrutiny role. • Drives improvement in public services. 	
Brief Approved by Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee	
Signed:	
Date:	