



Community Involvement and Consultation

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 Following the appointment of the Head of Communications and Consultation in May 2005, the Consultation Support Team - CST - is now progressing a number of actions to review and update the consultation strategy, which will form an integral element of the new corporate communications strategy.
- 1.2 The majority of actions in the proposed action plan are part of the consultation strategy review process. We are consulting with users of the consultation support team's services including service managers, chief officers, partners, representatives from the advisory committees and relevant cabinet members. We are reviewing best practice in consultation activities in both the public and private sector to help inform the development of a revised consultation strategy. The revised strategy will be subject to further consultation with members, chief officers and the DCP Board to seek endorsement of proposed new corporate consultation standards.

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Background papers:	Community Regeneration Commission's Report on Community
List of appendices:	Involvement and Consultation
	Appendix 1 – Implications
	Appendix 2 Community Involvement and Consultation Action Plan

<h2>IMPLICATIONS</h2>

Financial

1. The consultation review process and development of a revised strategy is being managed by members of the consultation support team. Any proposals within the new strategy to employ new approaches to consultation, such as changes to the Derby Citizen's Panel, use of new technology to improve information and feedback processes could have additional resource implications.

Legal

2. The Council has a duty to carry out consultation within the Local Government Act 2000. The revised corporate consultation strategy will provide the overarching framework and principles for any statutory consultation requirements, for example, under the new Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (Sept 2004), the Council is legally required to produce a Statement of Community Involvement for Planning.

Personnel

3. Work relating to the actions proposed within the action plan essentially form part of the review work for the consultation strategy, which is being undertaken by the Consultation Support Team and is led by the Head of Communications and Consultation.

Equalities impact

4. Equal access is an important issue in all consultation. The review work on the consultation strategy is paying particular attention to new and innovative methods of consultation that can help support equality of access.

Corporate objectives and priorities

5. The proposed actions further the Council's priority **to improve customer service** and the values of **developing effective partnerships with all stakeholders, especially Derby's residents** and **adopting new ways of working wherever these will help us to do things better and provide value for money, customer-focused services**.