



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Consultation: HSCNI - Personal and Public Involvement Strategy
Date:	23 August 2011
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
Contact Officer:	Catherine Taggart, Community Development Manager, ext 3525 Barbary Cook, Policy & Business Development Manager, ext 3620

Relevant Background Information	
1.1	Council has been asked to respond to the Health and Social Care Board's proposals for a Personal and Public Involvement strategy. The consultation document shows how they plan to improve their way of working with local people and groups to improve health and social care services. In particular it addresses how they intend to encourage users, carers and the general public to influence the planning and delivery of services. The key priorities of the strategy show how they will:
1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- integrate this way of working into their organisational culture- raise awareness and understanding about the approach among staff- develop the skills that staff and the public will need- measure the impact of their approach- create and sustain stakeholder support- communicate and coordinate the strategy- develop and structure their action plan.
1.3	There are 8 questions for the Personal and Public Involvement consultation. The first asks for your views on whether the aims of the strategy are clear and if the priorities and recommendations are right. The latter questions ask for examples where personal and public involvement can bring benefits. Finally there are general questions for any other comments and equality issues.
1.4	The full proposal is attached as appendix 1.

1.5	The consultation document was sent to us on the 15 th July and comments are required to be returned by the 15 th September.
1.6	This strategy is closely linked to the recent HSCNI Community Development Strategy. In fact it could be considered to be part of the implementation plan for that broader strategy. Consequently we sent both documents to relevant officers across council and arranged a workshop to discuss their implications.

	Key Issues
2.1	The Strategy appears to be a sensible outline to produce a more detailed action plan at a later stage.
2.2	There are elements of the strategy that will be of relevance to the Council's Community Development strategy, especially the training of staff and the general public in how to engage with each other and how to contribute to the development of agreed local priorities and improvement actions.
2.3	This HSCNI Personal and Public Involvement strategy makes no reference to their Community Development strategy which is also out for consultation.
2.4	The HSCNI Personal and Public Involvement strategy may benefit from more emphasis to encouraging individual staff to adopt the principles of personal and public involvement. It may also be useful to include a risk assessment and communication plan as part of the final personal and public involvement action plan.

	Resource Implications
3.1	There are no resource implications.

	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
4.1	There are no Equality and Good Relations implications.

	Recommendations
5.1	Members are asked to approve the draft BCC response to the consultation and raise any additional issues, relating to the consultation document, that they would like to be included.

	Decision Tracking
Timeline: August 2011	Reporting Officer: Barbary Cook

	Documents Attached
Appendix 1 "Valuing people, valuing their participation: Consultation document" Health and Social Care Board July 2011.	
Appendix 2 "Draft HSCNI Personal And Public Involvement"	