

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To examine opportunities to ensure that Darlington Borough Council functions in a way that is open and inclusive, with processes accessible to residents and stakeholders and with opportunities for wide involvement in its policy and decision making. The effective use of the Scrutiny function will form part of the review.

The review will focus, in particular, on the following :-

- (a) ways to make Council (all) meetings more accessible and understandable to the public. This would include looking at venues (and layout of the Council Chamber), at advance publicity for meetings, at guides/summaries of proceedings, and other examples of good practice;
- (b) enabling all Council meetings to facilitate more debate, exchange of ideas and contribution from stakeholders; and
- (c) other models of engagement in local authority activity, (taking forward the outcome of Enquiry Group 6).