

Durham County Council  
Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Information request



<b>Reference Number:</b>	<b>FOI20186742JW</b>	18 May 2018
<b>Date Received:</b>	<b>11-Apr-18</b>	
<b>You Requested:</b>	<b>Requestor: Joy Warren</b>	

Between 1st August 2016 and 5th October 2016, Durham County Council went out to consultation to the public and to special interest groups with the aim of establishing its oral health strategy.

The results of the consultation are apparently not in the public domain.

1. Please provide a scanned copy of the Oral Health Strategy consultation document and questionnaire.
2. Was the consultation advertised in the local press or radio? If so, please name the newspapers and radio stations.
3. How did members of the general public come to hear about the consultation if the answer to (2) is "no"?
4. How many members of the general public responded?
5. If the consultation was not intended for the general public, how many members of the public belonging perhaps to Special Interest Groups, were invited to respond?
6. Were there any selected members of the lay public who were invited and who were not included in (4) and (5) and how many responded?
7. How many dental health professionals were invited and how many responded ?
8. How many employees of PHE were invited and how many responded?
9. How many people in the Children and Families Partnership were invited and how many responded?
10. How many people in the CYP Overview and Scrutiny Committee were invited and how many responded?
11. How many people in the AWH Overview and Scrutiny Committee were invited and how many responded?
12. How many people responded who attended the Big Tent Event on 5th October 2016?
13. What was the total number of responders?
14. Please provide a summary of the results. For this I would like to see how many people were in favour of or against each oral health intervention discussed in the consultation document.
- 14a. As a sub-set of Item 14, how many members of the public (Questions 4,5 and 6) were in favour of, or against each oral health intervention discussed in the consultation document
15. Please provide the itemised conclusion which was used to form the basis of the current oral health strategy.

**Our Response:**

1. Please see document attached.
- There was no separate questionnaire. The consultation had two key questions which were available on the website and were shared at meetings and forums. These were:

- Do you have any comments on the proposed approach to improve the oral health of our residents?
- Is there anything else you think we need to consider?

2. There were no articles on the initial consultation rather than the launch of strategy itself: The original invitation to consult was on the Durham County Council website. Please follow link below.

<http://www.durham.gov.uk/article/8133/Have-your-say-on-Oral-health-in-County-Durham>

The Press coverage was about the strategy rather than the consultation:

[http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/council/durhamcountycouncil/15161374.Plan\\_to\\_tackle\\_poor\\_oral\\_health\\_in\\_County\\_Durham\\_revealed/](http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/council/durhamcountycouncil/15161374.Plan_to_tackle_poor_oral_health_in_County_Durham_revealed/)

<https://consettmagazine.com/2017/03/12/poorer-people-worse-dental-health-durham-county-council-finds-94611/>

3. The consultation information and questions were on the DCC Website. The website link was promoted through Area Action Partnerships and across a range of partnership meetings and events.

4. No individual members of the public responded to the consultation

5. The consultation was on DCC website for all to access and promoted through Area Action Partnerships (AAP's) – AAPs have lay membership and the board meetings are open to the general public to attend

6. The consultation was on DCC website for all to access and promoted through AAPs

7. The consultation was shared with the strategy group for wider dissemination, including the Local Dental Committee, and oral health professionals within the Foundation Trust.

8. The Consultant in Dental Public Health is a member of the advisory group for County Durham.

9. 24 people attended the CFP meeting. The draft strategy was discussed at the meeting and 4 comments were made at the meeting.

10. 10 members attended and welcomed the strategy. 2 comments were made at the meeting which are noted in minutes. (Relevant minute of CYP OSC meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2016). <https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=24379>

11. 10 members attended and the strategy was welcomed. 6 comments were made at the meeting which are noted in the minutes. (Relevant minute of Adults, Wellbeing and Health OSC meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016) <https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=24391>

12. 9 people attended oral health work shop at the Big Tent event.

13. We can confirm per s(1) (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do not hold the requested information. This is because we are not in a position to provide an exact figure as it was shared in many group forums

14. The consultation did not ask people to show their support for specific elements of the strategy but the strategy as a whole.

15. As answer in Q14, the consultation did not ask people to show their support for specific elements of the strategy.

16. Cabinet endorsed the oral health strategy following consultation.

**Attachments:** Draft Oral Health Strategy for County Durham.pdf

**Exemptions Applied:** None

**The Public Interest Test:** None

**Review Procedure**

I hope that this information is of assistance. However, if you feel that this particular request has not been complied with fully under the terms of the Act then please put your grounds in writing stating exactly why our interpretation of the Act and guidance has been incorrect and email that to: [foi@durham.gov.uk](mailto:foi@durham.gov.uk).

After you have exhausted our internal appeals procedure, you also have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at: Telephone: 01625 545 745 Email: [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

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