

Sharing your engagement activity – guidance on when to use the joint NYSP database

The objectives of the database are:

- To reduce duplication of engagement by different agencies and thereby reduce 'consultation fatigue' among the public
- To allow organisations and the public to see what engagement activities are planned and to participate as they see fit
- To signpost access to the results of engagement undertaken by other agencies to supplement available data about communities

To that end the following should be included:

- All consultation exercises involving postal / email **surveys** of the general public.
- Large scale **strategic** consultations. These may be made up of a range of activities but should be entered on the database as one activity.
- Activities which relate to a **public service**. Staff surveys should not be included.
- Activities which are **large enough** to be relevant to third parties eg consulting on a review of care of looked after children should be included whereas asking a group of children in a care home what activities they would like to participate in should not.
- **Focus groups** and similar activities if related to general service issues and/or strategic decisions.
- Consultations which are on the public **website**.
- All engagement activities carried out **jointly** with other agencies, including district local strategic partnerships' community engagement forums etc.
- **Participatory budgeting** exercises and similar.

Other activities or methodologies, for example, staff surveys or feedback on how well focus groups worked, will also be of interest to partners. In order to ensure that this learning is not lost these should be shared using the online community of practice. If you are not a member, then go to www.communities.idea.gov.uk and, once registered, use the search facility or A-Z index to find the **North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership (NYSP) community engagement and neighbourhood management community of practice** and apply to join.