



Department
for Work &
Pensions

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Review of UK Advisory Forum on Ageing – Moving on

UKAFA : 25 September 2013



Previously ... Short-term parking

- To best represent an ageing society UKAFA should be more diverse and intergenerational
- Develop a communications strategy for UKAFA as it is not easy to find information
- Terms of Reference are fit for purpose
- Need to know and understand “fit” with wider environment, e.g. Minister for Older People debate, Lords Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change report

Currently we know ...

- Other commitments make it difficult for members to engage on UKAFA generated activity outside meetings
- Feedback from members suggests you feel that time in these meetings could be more effectively managed
- Age Action Alliance has a positive delivery role that many of you are involved with
- Membership gives this group a distinctive quality, and a unique opportunity to reflect on and learn from what is happening across all four nations
- Other Government Departments are interested in using opportunities for Open policy-making



Open policy-making is ...

- Engaging the public & experts from beyond the “Westminster village” in debates about policy & the policy-making process
- Establishing a new relationship with citizens, as valued partners in identifying problems, discovering new thinking, and proposing solutions
- Seeking & welcoming public opinion, ideas and contributions in the development of Government strategy & policy

Which means ...

- Ministers will always determine and have responsibility for the overall strategy and key objectives of Government
- Engagement is about inclusion - not just hearing the views of those with vested interests, lobby groups, and “the usual suspects”
- The purpose and limits of engagement must be clear, and feedback provided
- Success and impact of public engagement in policy making must demonstrate value for money and improved outcomes.

So things to think about ...

- What can UKAFA offer that is not available elsewhere?
- What needs to be done to ensure UKAFA is seen as a trusted source of expertise for officials involve?
- What can you do to help us better manage the time at these meetings?
- How can we demonstrate to Government that UKAFA delivers Value for Money?
- How can you be confident that you are fairly representing the views of the groups you are here to speak for? Have you become “the usual suspects”?

And where next ...

- What UKAFA can't be
- What UKAFA should be
- How do we get there?