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?