

CABINET COMMITTEE EQUALITIES - WEDNESDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2025

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET COMMITTEE EQUALITIES HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON WEDNESDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2025 AT 10:00

Present

Councillor N Farr – Chairperson

E L P Caparros

P Davies

JC Spanswick

J Gebbie

Present Virtually

A R Berrow
M Lewis

W R Goode

RL Penhale-Thomas

AJ Williams

Apologies for Absence

P Ford, D M Hughes, J Llewellyn-Hopkins, A Wathan and E D Winstanley, M Jones

Officers:

Neil Arbery
Zoe Edwards
Michael Pitman
Susan Roberts

Schools Group - Lead Officer Strategic Development (Primary)
Consultation Engagement and Equalities Manager
Technical Support Officer – Democratic Services
Group Manager School Improvement

Declarations of Interest

Cllr Neelo Farr – Agenda item 4, personal interest in Agenda item 4 as a school governor of Porthcawl Primary and Comprehensive Schools

Cllr Rhys Goode – Agenda item 4, personal interest as his partner runs an LGBT training company for schools

Cllr Amanda Williams – Agenda item 4, personal interest in Agenda item 4, as she is now a Community Governor and not an LEA Governor at Coity Primary School

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

56. Approval of Minutes

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That the minutes of the 06/11/2024 be approved as a true and accurate record.
Date Decision Made	19 February 2025

57. Update on Equalities Work Within Schools (School Year 2023-2024)

Decision Made	<p>The Group Manager School Improvement presented a report which provide Cabinet Committee Equalities (CCE) with information on racial and/or discriminative incidents within schools, as monitored using the Racist Incident Report Form.</p> <p>She explained that the local authority has improved communication with schools around reporting incidents of discrimination, along with information on good practice within schools.</p> <p>She highlighted Appendix A which contained the reported incidences of discrimination by schools across the county borough. There was an increase in the number of reported incidents from the previous year, from 43 to 67.</p> <p>A Member was concerned at the lack of statistics specifically relating to LGBT discrimination and bullying. He believed that this area was being minimized or grouped in with racial incidents which was not appropriate. All aspects of discrimination were important and should be logged separately and reported separately to ensure it was given full attention.</p> <p>He added that training needs to be provided across all schools and we needed to ensure that all teachers and staff understood the differences between each type of discrimination. This would allow the statistics to be much more thorough, uniformed and representative of what was happening across the borough as currently the statistics do not represent truly the levels or types of discrimination.</p> <p>The Leader asked in relation to bullying and discrimination there needs to be a clear separation in the form for these. Something that may be discrimination might not be a recurring issue as well as a bullying issue might not be discrimination. He stressed the importance of full and clear reporting of the incident to ensure that we are tackling the right issues in the right way while ensuring no issues are slipping through the net.</p>
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	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That Cabinet Committee Equalities noted the annual update on racial and/or discriminative incidents within schools.
Date Decision Made	19 February 2025

58. Urgent Items

Decision Made	There were no urgent items.
Date Decision Made	19 February 2025

To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click this [link](#)

The meeting closed at 11:30