

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO CABINET COMMITTEE EQUALITIES
3 DECEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**USE OF THE NAME PICTON IN STREET NAMES AND BUILDINGS THROUGHOUT
BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH – UPDATE REORT**

1. Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet Committee Equalities with information on research taking place into the use of the name Picton in street names and buildings across Bridgend County Borough.

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities

2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objective/objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:

1. **Supporting a successful sustainable economy** – taking steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focussed on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.
2. **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient** - taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.
3. **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the council’s well-being objectives.

3. Background

3.1 The Equality Act introduced a General Duty for public bodies to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Advance equality of opportunity and;
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

3.2 The Equality Act also introduced specific duties which include:

- Setting Equality Objectives and publishing a Strategic Equality Plan;

- Ensuring it engages with people who have an interest in how the council's decisions affect them and;
- Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments and publishing the results if there is a substantial impact on the council's identified.

3.3 An initial report was presented to Cabinet Committee Equalities on 24 August 2020, which recommended that further research be undertaken by a local historian. The report also recommended that Cabinet Committee Equalities await the outcome of the Welsh Government audit of Wales' historic monuments and statues, and the names of streets and public buildings before further consideration is given to action needed within the county borough. A subsequent report outlining progress was presented to Cabinet Committee Equalities on 7 October 2020.

3.4 This report outlines progress made since the last report.

4. Current situation / proposal.

4.1 Streets named 'Picton' in Bridgend County Borough

Bridgend:

Street name	Number of properties
Picton Gardens	61
Picton Avenue	9
Picton Close	9

Porthcawl:

Street name	Number of properties
Picton Avenue	48
Middleton Court, Picton Avenue	60

Kenfig Hill:

Street name	Number of properties
Picton Street	39

Nantyffyllon:

Street name	Number of properties
Picton Place	18
Picton Street	116

4.2 Glamorgan Archives have been commissioned to carry out research on behalf of the council.

4.3 Staff at the archives have started investigating the background of places identified as having links to General Thomas Picton.

Work is progressing, and has included to date:

- Identifying the first appearance of relevant places on official maps
- Establishing the types of buildings to help narrow dates
- Identifying collections of records that may give further details within the archives' collection

4.4 A further report will be produced for Cabinet Committee Equalities in March.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

5.1 The report has no direct effect upon the policy framework or procedure rules but supports the council's statutory duties in relation to equalities and human rights.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 This is an information report to Cabinet Committee Equalities therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is not required at this stage. Further consideration may be given following the outcome of the Welsh Government audit of Wales' historic monuments and statues, and the names of streets and public buildings.

7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications

7.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report. Further consideration may be given following the outcome of the Welsh Government audit of Wales' historic monuments and statues, and the names of streets and public buildings.

8. Financial implications

8.1 There would be significant financial implications for the council and residents associated with changing street names which would include changes to street signage, legal fees and consultation costs. The exact costs would be unknown until the extent of any changes are determined. Glamorgan Archives have been commissioned to carry out research on behalf of Bridgend County Borough Council up to a maximum value of £3,000.

9. Recommendation

9.1 That Cabinet Committee Equalities considers the update report and awaits research from a local historian and the outcome of the Welsh Government audit before further consideration be given to actions that may need to be taken within Bridgend County Borough.

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Chief Executive

Date: 3 December 2020

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Background papers:

Use of the name Picton in street names and buildings throughout Bridgend County Borough – 24 August 2020

Use of the name Picton in street names and buildings throughout Bridgend County Borough – 7 October 2020