

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO CABINET EQUALITIES COMMITTEE

28 APRIL 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – OPERATIONAL AND PARTNERSHIP SERVICES

FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2016 - 2017

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet Equalities Committee approval for a proposed Forward Work Programme for 2016 – 2017 (Appendix 1).

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

2.1 The Forward Work Programme supports the committee in monitoring the council's equality duties, broadens the committee's understanding of local and national equalities issues and supports the council's Strategic Equality Plan, Customer Care Programme and compliance with the Welsh Language Standards.

2.2 This report also supports the following corporate priorities:

- Priority 2: Helping people to be more self-reliant
- Priority 3: Smarter use of resources

3. Background

3.1 The remit of the Cabinet Equalities Committee is wide ranging. An annual Forward Work Programme allows the committee to consider key national and local equality issues alongside its regular business items.

4. Current situation / proposal.

4.1 Appendix 1 sets out a proposal for the committee's regular business items and key equality issues to be considered from July 2016 to March 2017.

4.2 The proposal is based on:

- elements of the Strategic Equality Plan 2016 – 2020 such as improving Community Relations in the county borough;
- ongoing implementation of the new Welsh Language Standards including updating the committee on bilingual service developments;
- suggestions from the committee such as closer monitoring of council employee data and information;
- national and local equality issues including the prevalence of Islamophobia in the county borough and issues facing gypsy and traveler communities;
- established reporting arrangements for the Welsh Language Standards and Strategic Equality Plan
- consideration of the council's priorities and external reports

4.3 The 2015/16 Forward Work Programme includes a workforce report as an agenda item for 28 April 2016. This has been deleted and replaced with this report with the agreement of the Committee Chair. A new style workforce report has been agreed with the Committee Chair and Director of Resources and is included as an agenda item for 14 July 2016.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules

5.1 The report has no direct effect upon the policy framework or procedure rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

Whilst no Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out, this forward Work Programme will positively support the authority in meeting its equality duties.

7. Financial Implications.

7.1 There are no financial implications within this report.

8. Recommendation.

8.1 That Cabinet Equalities Committee approves the proposed Forward Work Programme 2016-17.

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Date: 18 April 2016

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Background papers: None.