

Terms of Reference – Corporate Equality Group

Aim

The Corporate Equality Group (CEG) has responsibility for ensuring that the Council demonstrates fairness in its deliver of services and its employment practices. It will work to develop a culture in which all individuals are treated with dignity and respect, and offensive and discriminatory behaviour and harassment are not tolerated. The CEG is not a decision making body, but can refer issues to others (e.g. Scrutiny, Cabinet, Council, CET, SLT etc) when decisions are required.

Specifically, the CEG will:

- ⇒ Give strategic direction to equality related activities within the council.
- ⇒ Work to embed equality and diversity into all the functions of the council.
- ⇒ Ensure that the council effectively undertakes equality impact assessment of proposals and decisions which may impact on its staff and/or communities.
- ⇒ Ensure that a robust Strategic Equality Plan is in place to enable the council to meet its general and specific duties under the Equality Act 2010.
- ⇒ Monitor and scrutinise delivery of the council's Strategic Equality Plan.
- ⇒ Consider and scrutinise an annual report in relation to the delivery of the council's Strategic Equality Plan.
- ⇒ Drive improvements in delivering equality outcomes through an annual self-assessment process.
- ⇒ Act as a link with SLT to promote effective communication of relevant discussions and proposals from either forum.
- ⇒ Monitor Members and staff training and development programmes in relation to equality and diversity.
- ⇒ Ensure the full engagement and involvement of all staff, Elected Members and service users in equality and diversity issues.
- ⇒ Monitor incidences of prejudice in the community in relation to its activities and provision of services.

Membership

The CEG will consist of:

- ⇒ Lead Member for Equalities: Cllr Hugh Evans (Chair)
- ⇒ Representative from Performance Scrutiny: Cllr Colin Hughes
 - ⇒ Substitute: Cllr Geraint Lloyd-Williams
- ⇒ Representative from Partnerships Scrutiny: Cllr Bill Tasker
 - ⇒ Substitute: Cllr Dewi Owens
- ⇒ Representative from Communities Scrutiny: Cllr Win Mullen-James
 - ⇒ Substitute: Cllr Huw O Williams
- ⇒ Representative from Corporate Governance Committee: Cllr Martyn Holland
 - ⇒ Substitute: Cllr Stuart Davies
- ⇒ 2 representatives from SLT: Mohammed Mehmet & Gary Williams
 - ⇒ Substitutes: Peter McHugh & Leighton Rees
- ⇒ Corporate Improvement Team: Keith Amos
- ⇒ Corporate Equality Officer: Karen Beattie
- ⇒ Other people may be invited to attend from time to time, e.g. representatives from specific council services, or union representatives.

Each member of the CEG will need to understand, and be fully committed to, the values of equality & diversity. CEG members will be expected to act as advocates for equality and diversity in all council-related business. CEG members will also be expected to undertake equality and diversity training.

Members of the CEG will be responsible for approaching their nominated substitute(s) if they are unable to attend a particular meeting. Nominated substitutes must also demonstrate the same commitment to equality and diversity as members of the CEG (as described above).

Administration

CEG will meet quarterly, and meetings will be planned in advance for each financial year. Meeting dates will be in the Council diary.

Notes of actions agreed will be taken, rather than minutes.

No more than 4 agenda items for each CEG meeting.

All reports to be submitted to Isabel Williams, 2 weeks prior to each CEG meeting.