

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL: 29TH APRIL, 2024

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 21ST MARCH, 2024

“C292 STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN 2024-25 (CEERS) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Cabinet Member presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek Cabinet approval of updated Strategic Equality Plan for the period 2024-25.

Councillor Sivagnanam said that Cabinet had previously agreed to keep the equality objectives of the Strategic Equality Plan 2020 – 2024 for another year so a detailed review of recently published research and information could be undertaken and to develop a new set alongside the development of the Council’s corporate wellbeing objectives for 2025 – 2030.

The Council undertook engagement with key stakeholders and there was support for maintaining the current objectives for a further year and those consulted were supportive of the Strategic Equality Plan.

Councillor Sivagnanam said she was proud to be part of a Council that followed equality law and sought to engage with communities without discrimination, with equality being part of all Council policies to ensure that all Council services were fair, equitable and accessible to all citizens of the Vale of Glamorgan who would be treated with dignity and respect.

Some of the further information to be considered would be from the Equality and Human Rights Commission report ‘Is Wales Fairer’ as well as the Council’s own ‘Let’s Talk About Life in the Vale’ survey, as well as working with those with protected characteristics and groups that advocate for them to understand local context and national trends.

The Leader said that it was good to bring the Strategic Equality Plan in line with the Corporate Plan.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the revised Strategic Equality Plan 2024 - 2025 be approved (as contained in Appendix A to the report) and the Equality Impact Assessment (contained in Appendix B to the report) be noted.

(2) T H A T the Urgent Decision procedure as set out in Section 15.14 of the Council's Constitution be approved so that the revised Strategic Equality Plan could be published by 31st March 2024 (four years after publication of the last Strategic Equality Plan 2020 – 2024).

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To meet the obligation to review the Council's equality objectives no less than every four years."**