

CABINET

MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, SOUTHPORT

ON THURSDAY 10TH JUNE, 2010

27. EQUALITIES WORKING GROUP REPORT

The Cabinet considered the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) Equalities Working Group which undertook a scrutiny inquiry into the equality of access to services provided to members of the public.

Councillor Papworth, Lead Member of the Working Group outlined the key findings and recommendations of the Scrutiny inquiry and responded to questions from Cabinet Members.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Sefton Equalities Partnership be commended for its achievements to date in progressing the Equality Framework for Local Government;
- (2) the Strategic/Service Directors be recommended to:
 - (i) develop the mainstreaming of equality and diversity into the core business of departments; and
 - (ii) develop a more consistent approach to training in the application of Impact Assessments across all Council departments.
- (3) The Head of Procurement be recommended to amend the Procurement Equalities Questionnaire Form, as indicated in Appendix 10 to the report, in order to reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and simplify procedures for small businesses of 5 employees or less, wishing to tender for work with the Council; and
- (4) the Assistant Chief Executive be recommended to consider the inclusion of an Equalities Impact Statement on the Council's Committee Report template and the Sefton Equalities Partnership be requested to give guidance on the suggested content of such statement.