



City and County of Swansea

Notice of Meeting

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

Scrutiny Inquiry Panel - Equalities

At: Committee Room 5 - Guildhall, Swansea

On: Monday, 26 November 2018

Time: 10.30 am

Convenor: Councillor Louise Gibbard

Membership:

Councillors: V M Evans, T J Hennegan, Y V Jardine, S M Jones, L R Jones, E T Kirchner, H M Morris, S Pritchard and L V Walton and Dr G Calder (Co-opted)

Agenda

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| 1 | Apologies for Absence | |
| 2 | Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interest
www.swansea.gov.uk/disclosuresofinterests | |
| 3 | Education Directorate
Invited to attend: Nick Williams, Director of Education | 1 - 2 |
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| 5 | Equality Review 2017/2018 - for background | 4 - 32 |

Next Meeting: Friday, 30 November 2018 at 10.30 am

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Huw Evans'.

Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
Date: 19 November 2018

Contact: Michelle Roberts, Scrutiny Officer

Agenda Item 3

Equalities Scrutiny Inquiry Panel 26 November 2018

Education Directorate

Invited to attend this session:

Nick Williams (Director Education)

Background/context to questions

The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not

The key question for the inquiry is '*How effectively is the Council meeting and embedding the requirements under the Equality Act 2010 (Public Sector Equality Duty for Wales)*'.

Questions sent in advance of the meeting

- a) In your opinion whose responsibility is it to implement and embed equalities in the organisation?
- b) How do you ensure a consistent approach to the completion and the quality of Equality Impact Assessments within your directorate?
- c) Do you have staff who are specifically trained on the procedures and the practice of EIAs? Who in your directorate monitors these for quality?
- d) How do you ensure equalities are embedded in everything that is done within your directorate? What does this involve?
- e) Who are the key influencers with regards to equality in your directorate? For example Cabinet Member, Equality Champions (councillor and/or staff)
- f) What training plan do you have relating to equalities matters? How are staff training needs assessed in relation to these training needs?
- g) What changes will you need to make in your directorate to address the requirements/duties under the Equalities Act (public sector duty) and Future Generations Act, social service and wellbeing act etc. in order to fulfil those your directorates equality duties.
- h) What is your directorate doing to identify and remove any barriers to accessing services?
- i) How do you work with equality organisations, services users and other key partners to deliver your services in line with equalities legislation for example through co-production?
- j) Can you take the panel through those aspects in the Equality Plan that relate to your Directorate in particular the attached objectives as shown in the recently published [Equality Review Report 2017/2018](#)? Those aspects of the Equality Plan detailed as actions for Education Directorate are as follows:

Equality Objective 3 - Develop a whole council approach the UNCRC on the Rights of the Child, to meet our commitments contained within the Children and Young People's Rights Scheme (All Departments).

Equality Objective 5 – Improve pupil attainment and continue to close performance gaps

Equality Objective 6 – Provide equality support for schools.

Equality Objective 13 – Continue to improve staff and Member awareness of equality and diversity issues (All departments)

Equality Objective 14 – Comply with the Procurement and Assessment of Impact regulations set out in the equality act 2010 (All Departments)

Agenda Item 4

Scrutiny Inquiry into Equalities Timetable of Work

When / Where	What / Who
Pre Inquiry Working Group 1 11 Oct 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of subject area (Cabinet member and lead officer) Planning the Inquiry: panel discuss the key question, lines of inquiry and evidence gathering required
Survey by panel and background information to be sent to the panel throughout inquiry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short survey for equalities groups/partners organisations, staff? Any legislation, relevant directives/announcements and other useful relevant evidence Good practice examples Swansea and elsewhere 	
Evidence gathering phase	
Session 2 24 Oct 2018 at 10.30am (235)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree Terms of Reference, programme of work and consultation plan Look at the latest Swansea Equalities Plan (including Action Plan) in detail with Richard Rowlands Look at the Equality Impact Assessment screening process and documentation with Rhian Millar
Session 3 8 Nov 2018 10.30am (CR5)	Q&A session Director of Resources and Human Resources. <i>To discuss equalities aspects within their remit including: how progressing with their Equalities Objectives, embedding of duties, staff knowledge, training, co-production plus any relevant performance data</i>
Session 4 26 Nov 2018 10.30am (CR5)	Q&A session Director of Education <i>To discuss equalities aspects within their remit including: how progressing with their Equalities Objectives, embedding of duties, staff knowledge, training, co-production plus any relevant performance data</i>
Session 5 21 Jan 19 (CR3a) 10.30am	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10.30 Q&A session Director of Place 11.15 Q&A session Director of Social Services (Include Co-production in Social Services) <i>To discuss equalities aspects within their remit including: how progressing with their Equalities Objectives, embedding of duties, staff knowledge, training, co-production plus any relevant performance data</i>
Session 6 31 Jan 2019 (CR3a) 10.30am	Sessions to speak to interested people/groups <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Departmental Equality Representatives Councillor Champions? TBA
Session 7 21 Feb 18 TBA	Sessions to speak to interested people/groups <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Equalities Community, partner groups and organisations
Session 8 11 Mar 2019 10.30am (CR3a)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Equality and Human Rights Commission – Ruth Coombs Head in Wales
Finalising Inquiry phase	
Mar 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and discuss consultation outcomes including any surveys/consultation carried out by the panel and any relevant survey results already available from within Council Findings Report - Start to draw together evidence and discuss emerging themes arising from the inquiry. (Start to put together final report for SPC and then Cabinet).



Equality Review Report 2017/18 (Year ending March 2018)

Equality Review Report 2017/18

1. Introduction

This is the City and County of Swansea's Equality Review Report for 2017-18. This is our seventh review under the Public Sector Equality Duty and reflects the reporting regulations for Wales, which were introduced in 2011.

This report contains details on:

- The second review of progress for our Equality Objectives 2016 - 2020
- Equality information
- Employment and training information
- Additional information relevant to our legislative duties.

2. Reviewing the Equality Objectives

The annual review of progress took place during April – May 2018 and all departments provided details of their progress. All of the information can be found at Appendix 1.

Our refreshed Strategic Equality Plan for 2016 – 2020 was adopted by Council in March 2016 and is available at www.swansea.gov.uk/sep in full, summary and easy-read versions.

3. Equality Information

Analysis of equality information has been maintained and developed in the last year, with additional and updated demographic information included on the Council's 'Statistics' web pages where available. This includes local social and-demographic data from Census and other official sources.

A range of analysis, in part linked to protected characteristics, was included in the Public Service Board (PSB)'s Assessment of Local Well-being, as required by the Well-being of Future Generations (WFG) Act 2015. The assessment was finalised and agreed by the PSB in April 2017, and this has in turn informed the Board's Local Well-being Plan and objectives. In future, further analysis of equality information will be required as part of the well-being measurement framework being developed by PSB partners.

New versions of the local area profiles, including updated data/information where available, were completed in January 2018 for Wards, Community Areas (as defined in the WFG Act) and Delivery Areas (former Communities First areas). A review of profile content is planned before the next versions are prepared later in 2018.

Monitoring and analysis of available statistics around people with protected characteristics also continues to be undertaken for the Welsh Government's Community Cohesion programme. As part of this and to support other tasks and projects, staff maintain awareness of developments in data and information on protected characteristics.

We continue to use equality information to inform our Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs); this varies according to the EIA subject, relevance and focus.

The CYP Super Survey has come to the end of its contract with Viewpoint and therefore we will be going through a process to take stock of other surveys in circulation and identify any opportunities/need for alternative mechanisms to feedback the views of children and young people to those making decisions that impact upon them.

4. Employment and Training Information

Please see Appendix 2 for this information. In addition, our gender pay gap report has been published at <https://www.swansea.gov.uk/genderpaygap>.

5. Additional information

This section briefly details some of our other work relevant to the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty during 2017-18.

5.1 Councillor Champions

Our Councillor Champions cover a wide range of equality issues in addition to wider themes such as health and wellbeing, carers and domestic abuse.

The Champions provide a voice for traditionally under-represented groups or issues, which need to be kept at the forefront of Council business although they may not be the responsibility of any individual or Committee.

They make sure that the issue or group that they are championing is taken into account when Council policy is being developed and decisions are made.

For more details, visit

<https://democracy.swansea.gov.uk/mgListOtherPosts.aspx?bcr=1&LLL=0>

5.2 Equality Impact Assessments (EIA)

We continue to use our expanded EIA process, which includes the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), carers, community cohesion, poverty, social exclusion and Welsh language. As always, our focus has been on ensuring that the process remains user-friendly, effective and workable for colleagues across the organisation. This year we have improved the process still further by incorporating the key principles of a human rights approach and expanding the engagement element of the report template. We have also developed additional guidance for colleagues.

Our Equality and Engagement protocol (to ensure that EIAs are tracked and monitored through the Council's reporting and decision making process) continues to be very useful in ensuring that equality issues are considered and addressed where needed.

Our Service Planning process also incorporates EIA guidance and tools.

All completed EIA reports continue to be published alongside relevant corporate reports at

<https://democracy.swansea.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?bcr=1&LLL=0?Lang=en>
g.

The Council's budget is also subject to the EIA process.

5.3 Consultation and Engagement

Information about our consultation and engagement methods and arrangements are available at <http://www.swansea.gov.uk/haveyoursay>.

Further updates are provided in Appendix 1 – please see Equality Objective 11.

We have continued to develop our relationship with local community groups:

➤ LGBT Forum

The Swansea Bay LGBT Forum began in February 2012 and is run by Swansea Council in partnership with South Wales Police. Membership includes employees or volunteers from local and national organisations who represent the interests of LGBT citizens.

Forum members take part in and support annual events such as,, International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia (IDAHOT), LGBT History Month and Bi Visibility Day. This year a small working group of forum members started planning for the first Swansea Pride event in many years known as Spring Pride 2017 led by Cllr King, the LGBT champion. This event took place at the National Waterfront Museum.

The forum have been instrumental in setting two equality objectives for the Council's Strategic Equality Plan 2016-20. As a result of that in 2017, we hosted a Gender Equality seminar entitled 'Boys will be boys'. It involved contributions from Stonewall Cymru and Swansea University. It was very well attended and received, with lots of positive feedback from both attendees and speakers.

The second objective was around the need for LGBT guidance in schools. A document is under development aiming to give clear information for schools who may have pupils transitioning or coming out, so that they can receive the right care and support.

➤ BME Forum

Following last year's review and subsequent discussion about a regional forum, the regional BME network was introduced this year. Led by EYST as part of the Welsh Government's Equality and Inclusion Programme, the

network has now met three times and drafted an action plan. We continue to provide support to EYST as the network progresses.

➤ Disability Liaison Group

The Disability Liaison Group allows for 2-way dialogue between the Council and disabled people and/or their organisations. The group is made up of local disabled people and disability organisations as well as Swansea Council for Voluntary Services.

During 2017-2018, this group met 7 times. It is important to note that the group sets the agenda for these meetings in conjunction with the Access to Services Team and requests to meet (from both group members and different Council departments) continue to increase.

Meetings have included information and discussions on:

- Kingsway
- Swansea Central
- Corporate complaints
- Adult Social Services commissioning reviews
- Education
- Castle square

5.4 Co-production

The following activities have taken place since the previous update:

- The Co-production Development Officer, based in the third sector has continued to promote co-production awareness, knowledge and support to the council, health partners, Western Bay, third sector partners and citizens
- The Co-production Network for Swansea is being launched on the 24th May 2018, following the successful launch of the Regional Co-production Network hosted by Swansea agencies in March 2018.
- We are continuing to open up the procurement process to support Co-Productive approaches; we are co-producing a service specification for Independent Professional Advocacy and are involving citizens in the tender process. We are also involving citizens in the re-modelling and re-tendering of Supported Living.
- We are working alongside individuals who receive direct payments and parent carers to map Direct Payments processes in Swansea with a view to undertaking a critical analysis of the current process. We have worked hard to co-produce the meetings ensuring an equal balance of staff and citizens, shared decision-making about meeting times and how to run the sessions to ensure the principles of co-production are delivered throughout this process.
- We are working with citizens to Co-produce elements of a new Adult Services Practice Framework. A small planning group made up of local authority officers, the co-production development officer and citizens are planning an event in May 2018 to hold a conversation about what good social work looks like and what a good assessment looks like.

This work will inform the development of a Swansea Practice Framework and a Social Work Assessment Guide to help people prepare for their assessments.

- We are working with health colleagues to re-shape their service user engagement post into a co-production post to deliver a strategy for citizen involvement in mental health services within health
- The Strategic Commissioning Groups are continuing progress towards operating co-productively and in Mental Health and Physical Disability we are supporting citizens to prioritising the areas for Co-Productive action within the commissioning strategies. This has already taken place in Learning Disability Services
- Adult Services are leading on the development of a Directorate strategy for co-production, self-assessment tool, training package for staff teams and a toolkit to support the implementation of co-production across the Directorate
- Supporting People co-produced the underlying principles and outcomes to inform the design and delivery of floating support within Swansea.
- Exploring Co-Productive approaches within the re-commissioning of domiciliary care, particularly in relation to service design and tendering.

5.5 Hate Crime

We have developed a Swansea Hate Crime Stakeholder Action Plan with key partners (to link to the Welsh Government's 'Tackling Hate Crime and Incidents: A Framework for Action'). Our Plan has 3 strategic objectives:

- Prevent Hate crime
- Increase reporting and access to supporting victims
- Improve the multi-agency response to hate crime

It is a dynamic document and is maintained by the multi-agency Planning Group that meets quarterly.

Hate Crime E-learning course reviewed and is being accessed by staff as a mandatory course.

To increase the reporting of hate crime, awareness training has been delivered by Victim Support & Swansea Council to partner agencies and Council staff. A 'train the trainer' event was also developed by the Council and Victim Support and delivered to staff and partners.

The Council continues to promote Victim Support, the Official National Hate Crime Report and Support Centre for Wales.

To mark Hate Crime Awareness Week, we arranged an awareness raising seminar entitled 'What if...it was you?' where council staff heard from a range of speakers including Disability Wales, Stonewall Cymru, EYST, South Wales Police and Victim Support.

For more information please visit <http://www.reporthate.victimsupport.org.uk/>

5.6 Community Cohesion

The Welsh Government has agreed to fund the Community Cohesion programme for another year (2018-19). The new programme will focus on 4 objectives:

- Work at a strategic level to break down barriers to inclusion and integration across marginalised groups
- Work at a local level to break down barriers to inclusion and integration for particular groups and communities
- Supporting migrants, refugees and asylum seekers and host communities during the integration process
- Tackling discrimination, hostility, tensions and extremism

This new approach by Welsh Government will hopefully allow each council to identify local priorities. The Welsh Government will publish the new Delivery Plan.

Swansea Social Services has recently established a Strategic Working Group who are looking to develop internal referral pathway, and safeguarding leads within the department to effectively deal with Modern Slavery related issues.

5.7 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

Our Children and Young People's Rights Scheme sets out the arrangements we have to ensure compliance with the due regard duty for embedding the UNCRC into the local authority policy framework.

A UNCRC Action plan exists and is based on clearly identified priorities, which encompasses a whole council approach to Children's Rights. There are six key areas which focus on:

1. Making such arrangements as is considered suitable to promote and facilitate participation by children in decisions of the authority which might affect them, as required in the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010.
2. Developing knowledge and understanding of the UNCRC through training for all staff and decision makers within the City and County of Swansea including other statutory and key voluntary partners.
3. Promotion and awareness raising of the UNCRC
4. Ensuring appropriate and robust mechanisms in place to receive feedback and complaints in relation to the UNCRC
5. Ensuring compliance, accountability and impact of the UNCRC due regard duty which is evidenced based
6. The third progress report on the due regard duty for embedding the UNCRC into the local authority policy framework was produced in September 2017 and informs objectives within the annual action plan.

Children's Rights are fully incorporated into our EIA process and Strategic Equality Plan. All service areas have been required to set at least three UNCRC objectives with a focus on:

1. Training & an increased knowledge and understanding of the UNCRC
2. Promotion and Awareness raising of the UNCRC by making the explicit link to the relevant articles and use of "Dilly". (Children's Rights logo for Swansea)
3. Compliance with the EIA process.

5.8 Education and schools

Over half of Swansea's schools are now using My Concern to record all instances of safeguarding/well-being concerns. The safeguarding software eliminates the need for paper-based files, by monitoring and managing all well-being concerns of the children and young people. We are currently looking at how best to utilise the software to give the Council an overview of the types of instances being recorded. This would provide us with a high-level overview and allow us to target support efficiently and effectively.

5.9 Work with Older People

➤ Ageing Well Plan/ Swansea's Local Wellbeing Plan

Swansea's Wellbeing Plan was agreed in May 2018, Live Well, Age Well was agreed as one of four key objectives for partners to focus on. The Ageing Well work will be aligned with work in the Local Wellbeing Action Plan.

➤ Events and Engagement Activities

An Ageing Well Engagement Event was held in April 2017 to promote services and information and to gather views about what Ageing Well means to people as well as what an Age Friendly City centre would look like.

- Over 200 people attended
- Over 60 people gave their views

An event to mark UK Day of Older People was held in October 2017 at the Grand Theatre Studio and the following is a snapshot of feedback:

- Over 200 people attended
- Over 40 exhibitors
- UNCRC team and Early Years team in attendance
- 25 electric blankets /safety checks
- 60+ people had a Medicine /Blood pressure check

No AGM was held in 2017, but instead a Christmas Party took place to bring everyone together. The next AGM is scheduled for July 2018 and will be run adjacent to the Dementia Friendly Swansea AGM to try and bring together the two groups.

Future Forum events will be merged with Dementia Friendly Swansea activities.

5.10 The Well-being of Future Generations

The Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 requires the Council:

“To act in a manner which seeks to ensure the needs of present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.

This essentially means actively considering impacts on ‘the unborn’ when we make decisions across all services. The Council is committed to ensuring our actions contribute as fully as possible to the social, economic, cultural and environmental well-being of Swansea and its residents both now and in the future. By maximising the Council’s contribution to the national well-being goals we create the conditions ensuring greater equality for all.

Swansea’s Sustainable Development Policy adopted this central principle in 2012. All departments now take into account (to an increasing degree) the long term impact on future generations when designing, planning and delivering services. We ensure that we adopt the Sustainable Development Principle in everything we do; this includes consideration of the long term.

The genuine integration of sustainable development has been reflected in mainstreaming of activities previously centralised within a Sustainable Development Unit. Similarly the work of the Future Generations Board has been integrated into mainstream governance mechanisms.

5.11 Poverty

Tackling Poverty is a corporate priority and one of five key objectives within Swansea’s Corporate Plan; A revised Tackling Poverty Strategy for Swansea “Working towards prosperity for all” was published in 2018 that accompanies Swansea Council’s first Prevention Strategy for Swansea, also published in 2018.

<https://www.swansea.gov.uk/povertystrategy>

Swansea’s revised Tackling Poverty Strategy sets out as definition of poverty in a Swansea context as:

- Income below the Minimum Income Standard
- Inadequate access to necessary services of good quality
- Inadequate opportunity or resource to join in with social, cultural, leisure and decision making activities.

Furthermore, the Council sets out its vision for Swansea, aspiring to achieve a Swansea in which:

- Income poverty is not a barrier to doing well at school, having a healthy and vibrant life, developing skills and qualifications and having a fulfilling occupation.

- Service poverty is tackled through targeting resources where they have the most effect, with decisions about that made in conjunction with service users.
- Participation is enjoyed by all our residents, who have the opportunity and resources to join in with social, cultural and leisure activities and decision-making.
- Residents maximise their Income and get the most out of the money that they have.
- Residents avoid paying the 'Poverty Premium', the extra costs people on low incomes must pay for essentials such as fuel and transport.
- Barriers to Employment such as transport and childcare are removed.
- People from Swansea's most disadvantaged communities are not excluded and Inequalities are Reduced between and within communities.

A cross departmental Delivery Plan sets out commitments across the council ensuring that tackling poverty is everyone's business. This approach is further supported through Swansea Council's Poverty Forum and the Swansea Partnership Poverty Forum, promoting the message and developing projects and services that support this principle.

The Prevention Strategy for Swansea builds upon the preventative approach that Swansea has always taken. Borne from a longstanding recognition that prevention activity is better, less time consuming and ultimately less costly and damaging to individuals and organisations than cure. The agenda is not driven by savings, but, rather, more personalised and joined up services.

Prevention is an underpinning principle of Swansea's Corporate Priorities and Well-Being Objectives, taking into account both the Well-Being of Future Generations Act and the Social Services and Well-Being Act.

A cross departmental approach is also taken to deliver the Prevention Strategy for Swansea with commitments across the Council supported by Swansea Council's Poverty Forum and Swansea Partnership Poverty Forum.

5.12 Lifelong Learning Service

The Lifelong Learning consists of three core areas of learning:

- Essential Skills and Family Learning
- Non-accredited Learning for Life
- Digital Literacy and IT.

The Service has historically delivered non-accredited Adult Community Based Learning across Swansea directed by demand from ongoing provision and our cohort of current learners. This will continue so we: 1) meet the demand raised from our existing learner base, and 2) provide a critical income necessary for our sustainability as a service.

In addition to the above, we are refining our model of service delivery to enable a greater capacity for provision that meets the needs identified through

learner consultation, partnership work and strategic endeavours identified locally and regionally. In real terms this means our selection of courses will go beyond the existing provision which addresses social inclusion, good health and wellbeing, to targeting specific needs for those on low incomes and/or with low skills. Of course, we continue to develop the service's provision of Learning for Life which impacts Social Inclusion and Health & Wellbeing with future activities planned for a Learning Festival, Adult Learners Week and our Summer Exhibition.

Non-accredited informal learning in Beginners IT, Creative Arts and Well-being, takes place across the city giving existing learners a focus for progression and an opportunity to engage new recruits into learning. This service supports a diverse group of individuals including those who are hard to reach, economically inactive and marginalised, providing appropriate advice, guidance and support to progress learners through their chosen area of learning.

Bespoke and co-delivered Digital Support, Family Learning, Essential Skills, and Learning for Life courses continue to expand with the refocus of our service, into projects that include Healthy Living/Eating, UC Digital Support, Work Club Support and multi-agency project delivery.

Essential Skills tuition and development is a primary part of the Lifelong Learning service, critical in the transformation it makes to learners' lives. The work is delivered out of multiple venues and supports individuals in literacy, numeracy and employability. Accreditation is given for Pre-Entry to Level 2 in Essential Skills Wales (ESW) and Agored Cymru. Family Learning is also delivered in partnership with schools across Swansea, promoting positive attitudes to learning for parents and their children, while developing the Essential Skills of our learners. The Essential Skills team also support Fast Track attainment of Level 2 ESW qualifications – equivalent to GCSE A-C grades while our IT programme supports Agored Cymru accreditation from Entry Level 3 to Level 1, as well as qualifications in ECDL levels 1 and 2.

As a whole, the service provides a range of life-changing outcomes for individuals that addresses social exclusion, promotes community cohesion and develops progression. Learners find confidence developed from their experience of learning helps support a more positive attitude towards their lives.

5.13 Welfare Reform

The Financial Inclusion Steering Group (FISG) continue to meet on a quarterly basis. FISG has recently reviewed and updated its Terms of Reference, is currently developing a revised action plan and now functions also as the 'Prosperity Sub-Group' for the Swansea Poverty Partnership Forum.

Full Service Universal Credit continues to be rolled out to claimants living in Swansea, who have a change of circumstances that ends their entitlement to their current benefits or have to claim a means tested benefit for the very first

time. Following the Welfare Rights mini ESA take up campaign, the Government have now agreed to review nationally awards of Employment and Support Allowance following migration from Incapacity Benefit. Lifelong learning have a tutor based in Swansea Job Centre to upskill Universal Credit claimants.

The Welfare Rights Team continues to provide appeal representation at first tier and Upper Tribunal hearings in respect of Social Security Welfare Benefit and Tax Credit hearings. The team delivers a range of training courses focusing on the main welfare benefits to staff of the Local Authority, partner agencies and other organisations. This ensures that our workforce (and staff in other organisations) are kept up-to-date with changes in legislation. The team raised £3,569.45 from selling courses and trained 56 Council Staff saving the Authority from paying outside organisations. The team also provide policy advice and support and respond to consultations on welfare reform. The Welfare Rights Advice Line continues to provide specialist advice to front-line staff to assist them with their clients benefit issues.

5.14 Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence

Strategic work has been strengthened by the development of our partnership approach to tackling violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV). The new Swansea Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Strategy 2018 - 2022 has been published this year following a full consultation process with professionals and community members. This Strategy gives a longer term commitment to our goals of ensuring prevention, protection and support of VAWDASV.

The Domestic Abuse One Stop Shop (OSS) continues to develop its services through a multi-agency partnership approach. The range of services on offer are across the continuum of need, from crisis drop-in through to the Freedom Programme, Nurturing Programme, and coffee and crafts sessions. Surgeries on a range of issues are on offer including legal advice, substance misuse and debt advice. The OSS services are monitored by the Partnership Group who aim to provide services that cover a continuum of care from prevention, crisis and after care and are accessible by all members of the community. Work is being started to look at implementing specific support for male victims and those from the LGBT community.

To reinforce our preventative agenda we have implemented the Domestic Abuse Hub, following the Council's Domestic Abuse review - part of a Council review of Family Support services through the Sustainable Swansea programme.

The review saw the launch last year of a new Domestic Abuse Hub bringing together Swansea Council and its partners in health, police and the third sector to help children and families experiencing domestic abuse or escalating relationship problems. Council staff, service providers, partner agencies, charities and survivors have all contributed to its design.

The DA Hub provides a whole family approach to ensure children, young people and their families feel safe, and not afraid, now and in the future, by being supported by the right people at the right time, so that they get the help they want and need. It has a multi-agency focus and is simplifying the pathways into support services, including mental health and substance misuse.

5.15 Easy read

Last year we published our annual review in three formats:

- full report
- summary
- easy-read.

We will do the same this year to ensure the information is accessible as possible.

5.16 Wales Interpretation & Translation Service (WITS)

As a result of our membership of the WITS partnership, we have a co-ordinated approach to all interpretation and translation, including telephone and face-to-face provision. This does not include in-house Welsh-English translation through our translation unit.

The top five languages requested in 2017 – 2018 were:

1. Arabic
2. Polish
3. Kurdish (Sorani)
4. Bengali
5. Romanian

5.17 Change Fund

Through the Third Sector Change Fund in 2017-18, a total of 16 third sector and voluntary organisations were financially supported through grants to deliver services and projects across Swansea. A number of these organisations work with, or represent the interests of, people with protected characteristics. In 2018 a Third Sector Compact Agreement was refreshed outlining how Swansea Council and the sector will work together in the future.

5.18 Children and Young People LGBT Funding

Grant funding was made available from April 2013 to provide a pilot support service to LGBT young people aged 13 to 25. Grants were awarded to two organisations to work jointly to provide the pilot service. This service has been successful and will be reviewed in 2018 to ensure this support continues in the future.

6. Concluding comments

This annual report has allowed us to assess our progress during the second year of our refreshed SEP. Progress has been made against all of our Equality Objectives and the amount of additional information we have to report over and above our Equality Objectives continues to grow, which is very positive. This demonstrates both our ongoing commitment to the equality agenda and the additional progress that is being made.

Equality Objective 3 – Develop a whole council approach to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), to meet our commitments contained within the Children and Young People’s Rights Scheme

Corporate Priority link: Safeguarding vulnerable people

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
Corporate Actions		
<p>Increase knowledge and understanding of the UNCRC by ensuring all staff attend/participate in the UNCRC corporate training</p>	<p>2017</p>	<p>In progress:</p> <p>Child & Family: Staff have been encouraged to attend training and a register of attendees is now in place and follow up training will be offered to ensure 100% compliance. Presentations have taken place at SMT and team meetings throughout the service.</p> <p>Education: All staff are encouraged to attend/participate in the UNCRC corporate training.</p> <p>Highways: Safeguarding Children training being carried out by whole service – Ongoing</p> <p>CBPS: All employees within CBPS have received Safeguarding awareness training of which the UNCRC is a key part of this training.</p> <p>Poverty & Prevention:</p>

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
		<p>Funded projects supported by the CYP Fund are required to evidence how children & young people are involved in the planning and delivery of services, in line with the UNCRC</p> <p>Workforce development opportunities offered by Life Stages Team through Poverty and Prevention, Education and Child and Family Services training programmes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNCRC training provided to new Councillors upon induction • Bespoke workforce development opportunities offered by Life Stages Team as requested and necessary.
<p>Promote and raise awareness of the UNCRC by embedding children's rights within day to day practice and utilising the Children's Rights logo in all promotional activity</p>	<p>2017</p>	<p>In progress:</p> <p>Child & Family: This is achieved in day to day practice via the SOS Practice framework.</p> <p>Education: The Education Department promotes and raises awareness of the UNCRC at every opportunity.</p> <p>Highways: Safe Routes in Communities and Walking Routes to Schools ensure children's rights are being considered – Ongoing</p> <p>Legal: Children's rights are considered by both legal and access to services officers during the report clearance cycle and in decision making process.</p>

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
		<p>CBPS: Safeguarding awareness and updates are a regular item on the monthly team briefings held with all employees.</p> <p>Poverty & Prevention: The Children's Play Team feature 'Dilly' in all relevant publicity and information and contribute to UNCRC awareness events, significantly International Children's Rights Day (20th Nov). UNCRC due regard information is disseminated by The Children's Play Team at every opportunity to support awareness and responsibility across departments and members.</p> <p>Continued use of 'Dilly' the children's rights logo:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a Dilly flag flies during planned periods from the Civic Centre Building • #DillyDragon #DdraigDilly linked to the Corporate Facebook and Twitter • Promotional materials like pens, headphones, water bottles, posters and badges have been circulated; • Consistent use of Dilly uniform for staff at public event <p>Partners have linked pieces of work and the UNCRC to Dilly's work. This includes promoting Dilly on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Playful Schools' plaques and signage • 'Smoke Free Beach' and Smoke Free School Gates' signage • Throughout the Best Start Campaign

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> regular posts to the Children's Commissioner's 'Rights Hour' Twitter feed <p>Digital & transform: There is the recent children and young people's data protection policy as an example of how we have ongoing work to actively promote children's rights – www.swansea.gov.uk/youngpeopleprivacy</p>
Ensure quality opportunities for Children & Young People's voice in policy/service developments that affect them	Ongoing with annual monitoring	<p>In progress: Child & Family: CFS Participation strategy is in place – April 2018</p> <p>Education: The Education Department ensures that the voice of children and young people is heard with all major policy and service development by utilising the Pupil Voice Forum, the Big Conversation, School Councils and pupil specific consultation meetings.</p> <p>Adult Services: A Carers Strategy is in the process of being developed; this will reflect the views of young carers.</p> <p>Highways:</p>

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
		<p>Children consulted in Safe Routes in Communities and Walking Routes to School – Ongoing – Leading to successful application for SRIC Grant Funding for Gower 2018/19</p> <p>CBPS: Always considered, an example being their involvement on our “More Homes” project where local children designed safety posters that were displayed on the site</p> <p>Poverty & Prevention: Children and young people engaged in the consultation process for both the Poverty and Prevention Strategies. Easy read documents were produced to accompany the full documents which supported Pupil Voice sessions held during the autumn of 2017</p> <p>For the Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA) a cyp summary was produced and distributed via schools and face to face which explains why there is a duty to secure sufficient play, what the findings were, what we will do and allows an opportunity to say whether they feel we are doing enough and what they would like to see.</p> <p>Consultation processes are used at every opportunity with the regards to the development of any play spaces</p> <p>Specific consultation and engagement with pre-school children was undertaken to identify their wants and needs as part of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA).</p>

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
		<p>As their number one request was for play, particularly, outdoors, this was a major focus for delivery, funding and training during 2017/18 with a wide range of new opportunities made available.</p> <p>6,087 children and young people had opportunities to have their voices heard through Big Conversation mechanisms co-ordinated by the Life Stages Team including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Big Conversation forums - Pupil voice forums - Forums for care experienced children and young people - Specific consultations such as the consultation on the play and childcare sufficiency assessments - Voting in the UK Youth Parliament - CYP Super Survey <p>Cultural Services: The overall EIA for Swansea Museum was revised in 2015 to take account of “Due Regard” to the UNCRC. Ongoing projects such as Kids in Museums, Sharing Treasures Project and the overall education programme continue to involve targeted children and young people.</p> <p>A bid has been submitted to WAG for the re-development of a temporary exhibition gallery back to a permanent gallery dedicated to natural history and science. If funding is secured the bid contains a substantial element for consultation with</p>

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
		young people, schools and community groups. If funding is not secured a smaller scale consultation will be undertaken.
Poverty & Prevention		
Continue to embed Children's Rights in all practice and procedures within the department and with partner commissioned organisations	2017	<p>In progress: UNCRC Standards have been included in the template for all Social Care Contracts for 18/19</p> <p>Children's rights are embedded in the following corporate plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Equality Plan • Democratic Services Reporting • Health & Safety Emergency Planning. • City of Culture plans • City Centre Redevelopment plans. • Strategic Equality plans in schools • Corporate Parenting Strategy • Swansea's Early Years Strategy • Healthy and Sustainable Pre-School Scheme • Play Sufficiency Assessment • Young People's Service plans. • Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Plan • Swansea's Wellbeing Plan
Raise awareness of "Big Conversation Mechanisms", ensuring children & young people have an understanding of a variety of opportunities to have their voice heard	2017	<p>In progress: A sustained increase of participants in Big Conversation has continued with 2399 children and young people engaging in face to face forum activity.</p>

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New opportunities to extend the age range of Big Conversation were planned and promoted.
Develop a communication strategy and campaign plan with key objectives to be delivered across the whole of Swansea	2016	<p>Complete: Communication strategy to promote Children's Rights has been developed as above, and in line with the Corporate Communication and Engagement team.</p>
Establish a working group to explore issues around gender stereotyping	2017	<p>Complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted a Gender Stereotyping Seminar on 12th Oct 2017 with over 60 colleagues from across the authority attending to hear talks from Stonewall Cymru & Swansea University in relation to the impact of gender stereotyping on children & young people. Held a Pupil Voice Forum on 31st January 2018 to explore issues around identity and equality & to promote inclusion within schools. 30 Primary/Secondary pupils attended aged 10-18 Yrs. (7 Secondary & 6 Primaries) Supported a Gender Equality talk on 8th March 2018 for International Women's Day with 20 colleagues in attendance. Held a Big Gender Equality Conversation on the 18th of May 2018 with 72 comprehensive school aged pupil from 9 comprehensive schools at Gorseionon Youth Club to consider the impact and explore solutions and consider how schools might tackle the issues raised.

		•
	2017	
	2016	

Equality Objective 5 – Improve pupil attainment and continue to close performance gaps

Corporate Priority link: Improving pupil attainment

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
Education and Poverty & Prevention		
Children and young people from ethnic minority backgrounds continue to achieve at least as well as their peers at end of Key Stage 4 (KS4)	Annual analysis of Key Stage 4 results in autumn term.	In progress: 64.1% in 2017 compared to 57.7% for other pupils.
Learners from Asian / Bangladeshi backgrounds achieve at least as well as their peers at end of Key Stage 4	Annual analysis of Key Stage 4	In progress: 53.7% in 2017 compared to 57.7% for other pupils.

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
	results in autumn term.	
Maintain improving trends in assessment of boys and girls at Key Stage 2 (KS2) and Key Stage 3 (KS3)	Annual analysis of Key Stage 2 and 3 results in autumn term	<p>In progress: KS2: results for both boys and girls have improved over five years and the gender gap has reduced slightly.</p> <p>KS3: results for both boys and girls have improved over five years but the gender gap has widened.</p>
Close the performance gap between boys and girls	Annual analysis of results in autumn term	<p>In progress: KS2: gender gap -6.0% in 2015 improved to -4.1% in 2017.</p> <p>KS3: gender gap -6.6% in 2015 widened to -8.5% in 2017.</p>
Close the performance gap between pupils who receive free school meals (FSM) and those who don't	Annual analysis of results in autumn term	<p>In progress: KS2: five-year upward trend in FSM results, but FSM remain over 16% below non-FSM.</p> <p>KS3: Strong upward trend for FSM pupils, but results remain over 18% below non-FSM.</p>
Reduce inequalities in school readiness	2019	<p>In progress: Flying Start Programme continued to operate with the Foundation Phase Profile adapted for pre-school children and the Wellcomm speech and language screening tool rolled out across all childcare settings.</p> <p>Further development of the Best Start Campaign through Social media, posters and events.</p>

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
		<p>Consolidation of the Jig-so Project supporting young parents during their child's 1st 1000 Days.</p> <p>Collaboration with the Health Board and Public Health Wales to facilitate a 1st 1000 Days multi-agency event to inform a new action plan.</p>

Equality Objective 6 - Provide equality support for schools
Corporate Priority link: Improving pupil attainment

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
Continue progressive improvement to access to infrastructure in schools	Annual return to Welsh Government, March	In progress: The Council's bid for 21 st Century Schools (Band B) funding has been approved subject to individual business cases receiving approval. This will continue the progressive improvement to access to infrastructure in schools.
Young people from Gypsy and Traveller communities are offered appropriate access to secondary education and support in engaging with those opportunities	2017 with termly monitoring	In progress: A revised Gypsy and Traveller multi agency group oversees this work led by Head of Service within the Education Department. Further consultation has taken place this year, with further work on future service options being explored by the group.
Launch tool for Recording of Identity Based Bullying across all schools	August 2016 with termly analysis	In progress: The tool was launched but with limited success. A large number of schools are now using software called My Concern to record all incidents of Safeguarding. We are promoting this software to schools and are looking to get overarching view of all incidents at a Council level.

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
Review guidance to schools on Strategic Equality Plans and present update to Headteachers at a termly meeting and via the schools newsletter	2016	Complete: The guidance was reviewed and a refreshed SEP template was rolled out to schools alongside a bespoke equality impact assessment template.
Continue the contractual agreement with UNICEF UK to embed the Rights Respecting Schools Award in all schools in Swansea	2017	Complete: The contractual arrangements with UNICEF UK have ceased in 2017 as all schools either have reached level 1 or are working towards this status. A sustainable plan for peer led assessment is in development for roll out in 18/19 so the status of schools Rights Respecting Schools wards can be maintained in the future
Ensure schools are protecting children and young people from being drawn into terrorism by having robust safeguarding policies in place to identify children at risk, and intervening/supporting them as appropriate.	2020 - with action plan reviewed and updated annually	Complete: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referral process in place. • 87 schools (2361) members of staff have received Prevent awareness training in total. • Schools advised to include Prevent in their safeguarding policies during the awareness training and wording provided when requested.
Ensure schools are directed to relevant Welsh Government guidance so this can be practiced in schools, for example: provision of counselling, specific equality-related advice and information and any relevant training for school staff, pupils and governing bodies	As guidance is issued	In progress: There is a section on Staffnet to provide schools with all the latest information and a new section is being created on the national Hwb platform going forward.
Develop and publish Transgender Guidance for schools	2017	Complete: The guidance has been developed with the support of Stonewall and is available to all schools.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •
All departments		
Continue to provide and promote service-specific equality training / information where needed	Ongoing via annual updates	<p>In progress: Examples from across the organisation include:</p> <p>Education: All staff are required to complete the online corporate equalities training module.</p> <p>Adult Services: Adult Services has developed a Training Needs Analysis which will inform an all Adult Services Workforce Development Plan. Equality Training will form part of this.</p> <p>Highways: Mandatory training is delivered. Rolling programme of all staff receiving equality training particularly front line staff</p> <p>Communications:</p>

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
		<p>The Communications team helps promote equality issues via our internal Communications platforms to all staff and training opportunities are promoted and discussed within the team.</p> <p>Poverty & Prevention: Funded play projects receive training in and awareness of inclusion as an essential requirement of funding.</p> <p>The Early Years Training Booklet continues to include training for providers around Disability Awareness/ Confidence, Fun with Welsh, and sessions on sex trafficking and similar.</p>

Equality Objective 14 - Comply with the Procurement and Assessment of Impact regulations set out in the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
<p>When procuring works, goods or services, we will have due regard to whether it would be appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for the Pre-Qualification and/or award criteria for that contract to include considerations to help meet the general duty • to stipulate conditions relating to the performance of the contract to help meet the three aims of the general duty 	<p>Review effectiveness every six months</p>	<p>In progress: All procurement activity undertaken by the Council must have due regard to the general equality duty. In addition, all procurement activity with a potential cross border interest must comply with the EC Treaty principles which ensure fairness and transparency.</p>

Associated actions	Deadline	Progress 2018
Continue to operate the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) process across the organisation	Review effectiveness every six months	<p>In progress: This process continues to be applied to the subject of all corporate reports submitted to Corporate Briefing, Cabinet and Council (as well as other Committees). It is also applied to the budget setting process, major projects as well as all commissioning reviews.</p>
Continue to quality assure completed EIA screenings and reports, providing feedback to departments	Review effectiveness every six months	<p>In progress: Officers are supported by the Access to Services Team via meetings, initial informal feedback and bespoke team sessions on request. The EIA quality assurance process includes officers with expertise in equality, children's rights, poverty, Welsh language, consultation and engagement.</p>

Teachers

Count of Employee Number	Gender		
	Female	Male	Grand Total
Permanent - Full Time	859	387	1246
Permanent - Job Share	9		9
Permanent - Part Time	275	22	297
Temporary - Full Time	238	92	330
Temporary - Job Share	1		1
Temporary - Part Time	159	21	180
Grand Total	1541	522	2063

Teachers Age Profile

