



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 SA1 4PE

On: Monday, 11 March 2019

Time: 9.30 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 and S Pritchard

Co-opted Members: Dr G Calder

Agenda

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|---|---|---|
| 1 | Apologies | |
| 2 | Declaration of Personal or Prejudicial Interest | |
| 3 | 9.30am Joining the Dots Team - Consultation | 1 |
| 4 | 10.30am Equality and Human Rights Commission | 2 |
| 5 | Work Programme | 3 |

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Huw Evans'.

Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
Date 27 February 2019

Contact: Michelle Roberts, Scrutiny Officer

Agenda Item 3

Equalities Scrutiny Inquiry Panel – Joining the Dots Team 11 March 2018

Representatives from the Joining the Dots Team have been invited to attend the panel.

Joining the Dots are a large group of parent-carers who support children/young people with additional learning needs (ALN).

The issues you have highlighted for consultation sessions include:

1. Issues around accessibility of Council Services including Digital Inclusion
2. Have you experienced any unfair barriers to accessing a service with the Council? Please give examples
3. Do you believe Swansea Council is committed to ensuring staff and service users are treated with equal dignity and respect?
4. To what extent do you believe the Council takes equality and diversity issues seriously?
5. Do you believe there is real commitment to continuing to improve performance on equality and diversity at Swansea Council?
6. Do you have any suggestions about anything that you believe would lead to a more inclusive environment?
7. What steps do you think the organisation could take to promote equality of opportunity and increasingly reflect society's diversity?
8. Have you ever engaged with the Council's 'democratic structures' e.g. attended a council meeting, asked a question to full council, met with your local councillor? Did you have any issues? Did you find it useful?
9. Have you ever considered standing for the Council? Please explain why/ why not.

Agenda Item 4

Equalities Scrutiny Inquiry Panel – Equality and Human Rights Commission 11 March 2018

A representative from the Equality and Human Rights Commission (Wales) has been invited to attend the panel.

Ruth Coombs, Head of Wales



Ruth Coombs has been invited to discuss the following issues with the Panel:

1. The role of the Equality and Human Rights Commission in Wales
2. What they do in safeguarding and enforcing the laws that protect people's rights to fairness, dignity and respect.
3. How they use their unique powers to challenge discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and protect human rights.

Some background information:

The Equality and Human Rights Commission

The Equality and Human Rights Commission is Great Britain's national equality body and has been awarded an 'A' status as a National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) by the United Nations.

Our job is to help make Britain fairer. We do this by safeguarding and enforcing the laws that protect people's rights to fairness, dignity and respect.

As a statutory non-departmental public body established by the Equality Act 2006, the Commission operates independently. We aim to be an expert and authoritative organisation that is a centre of excellence for evidence, analysis and equality and human rights law. We also aspire to be an essential point of contact for policy makers, public bodies and business.

We use our unique powers to challenge discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and protect human rights. We work with other organisations and individuals to achieve our aims, but are ready to take tough action against those who abuse the rights of others.

Vision

We live in a country with a long history of upholding people's rights, valuing diversity and challenging intolerance. The Commission seeks to maintain and strengthen this heritage, while identifying and tackling areas where there is still unfair discrimination or where human rights are not being respected.

Agenda Item 5

Scrutiny Inquiry into Equalities Timetable of Work

When / Where	What / Who
*Pre Inquiry Working Group 1 11 Oct 18	<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
Evidence gathering phase	
*Session 2 24 Oct 18 at 10.30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree Terms of Reference and programme of work 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 18	Q&A session Director of Resources and Human Resources.
Session 4 15 Jan 19 - 9.30am	Network 50+ Forum focus group meeting - Item on the Agenda for panel to discuss equalities issues with Forum (Discovery Room, Central Library, Civic Centre)
Session 5 18 Jan 19 - 11.am	Workshop with young people 11-18 years old at the Big Conversation Event (St Teilos Cwtch, Portmead)
*Session 6 21 Jan 19 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)
Session 7 23 Jan 19 1.30pm	LGBT Forum meeting – Item on their Agenda Venue: Waterfront Museum
*Session 8 31 Jan 19 10.30am	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10.30 Departmental Equality Representatives 11.30 Q&A session Director of Education
Session 9 13 Feb 19 10.30am	Carers (1 hour focus group) (At Swansea Carers Centre)
Session 10 20 Feb 19 - 9.30am	Workshop with young people 7-11 years old at the Big Conversation Event (St Teilos Cwtch, Portmead)
*Session 11 11 Mar 19 9.30am (CR3a)	9.30am Joining the Dots Team Consultation 10.30am Equality and Human Rights Commission – Ruth Coombs, Head in Wales
Session 10 13 Mar 19 – 10.00am	Disability Forum meeting – Item on their Agenda (Purple Room, Civic Centre)
Session 12 27 Mar 19 -10.30am	EYST BME Forum meeting – Item on their Agenda
Session 13 Date TBA	Veterans
Finalising Inquiry phase	
11 April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and discuss staff survey results Start to draw together evidence and discuss emerging themes arising from the inquiry
*TBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Final Report (discussed, amend and agree)

*public panel meetings