

REPORT TO: COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD ON 27 AUGUST 2009

SUBJECT: EQUALITY MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK

BY: CORPORATE POLICY UNIT MANAGER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 The Community Planning Board is asked to note the new framework for monitoring progress towards equality and human rights.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Community Planning Board is asked to note the new framework for monitoring progress towards equality and human rights.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Equalities Measurement Framework (EMF) (**Appendix 1**) has been developed to provide information for government and public bodies to inform policy, public services and campaigning priorities. It will also be a resource for journalists, voluntary sector groups and academics to find out more about the state of equality and human rights in Britain.

3.2 A list of 48 indicators has been identified indicating a list of fundamental things people need in order to thrive in life. This range includes things such as being healthy, engaging in lifelong learning and an adequate standard of living. The EMF aims to monitor how people are doing, how they are treated by others, and the level of choice and control they have in various aspects of their lives.

3.3 The EMF will in large part use existing information sources from national surveys and administrative data sets to populate the data. This will cover all equality groups set out in the Equality Act 2006, age, disability, gender, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation. Specific recommendations have been made for a focus on groups that are often invisible in data such as Gypsies and Travellers, transgender people and those living in institutions.

3.4 The aim of this new framework is to ensure a comprehensive and robust way to monitor progress in eradicating inequality. This framework is to provide a baseline of evidence for evaluating progress and deciding priorities.

3.5 A web-based tool will be developed early next year and will show how individuals and groups are faring in relation to the 48 indicators. This tool will allow public bodies and other users to easily investigate the data from a number of perspectives. It will provide data that may help Government and other public bodies to prioritise their activities to meet the public sector duties on equality.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) National Outcomes and the Single Outcome Agreement

The Equalities Measurement Framework will assist the Partnership achieve National Outcome 7 which states “We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society”.

(b) Policy and Legal

The Community Planning Partnership has a legal duty to comply with their statutory equality duties when developing proposals or making policy decisions, including those about finance and service provision.

(c) Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)

The risks of not complying with our legal duty is prosecution for non-compliance.

(d) Consultations

There have been no specific consultations on this report.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 The Community Planning Board is asked to note the new framework for monitoring progress towards equality and human rights.

Author of Report: Fiona Simpson, Equal Opportunities Officer
Background Papers: The Equality Measurement Framework
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