



EDUCATION FOR LIFE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 14TH JANUARY 2014

SUBJECT: EDUCATION, SCHOOLS AND EQUALITIES REPORT 2013

REPORT BY: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with information on the range of work being undertaken on Equalities issues in relation to discriminatory bullying by the Directorate of Education and Lifelong Learning, the regional Community Cohesion Co-ordinator and the Council's Equalities and Welsh Language team.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report is the first of its kind to be presented to Education for Life Scrutiny and covers the full range of work undertaken by CCBC and partner organisations on Equalities issues, both within the Directorate of Education and in schools and governing bodies, with particular focus on discriminatory bullying.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Equalities issues are crosscutting themes in Caerphilly Delivers - the LSB Single Integrated Plan and fall directly under the Council's Strategic Equality Plan 2012.
- 3.2 Specifically, discriminatory school bullying falls under the Directorate of Education's Anti-Bullying Policy and the Council's Strategic Equality Objective 1 - Tackling Identity Based Hate Crime, as well as wider national hate crime and anti-bullying strategies from the Welsh Government.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The full report is attached as Appendix A.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 No Equality Impact Assessment has been done on this information report, however the work noted as being undertaken already and the future work plan, ensures that the Council is working to create a safe and tolerant learning environment for around 28,000 pupils in the county borough.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications to this report as the information covers work already undertaken and is for information only.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no personnel implications to this information report, beyond the provision of relevant training as part of the continuous professional development of both council and school based staff, and school governor training.

8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The consultees are listed below and all views received during the consultation period have been considered in the final report presented here.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That members note the content of the attached Education, Schools and Equalities report.

10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 In order to comply with the Council's statutory duties in terms of both school bullying issues and Equalities and Welsh Language duties, the range of work being reported on demonstrates that Caerphilly County Borough Council can evidence best practice in many areas.

11. STATUTORY POWER

- 11.1 Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011.

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Consultees Sandra Aspinall, Acting Deputy Chief Executive
Cllr Rhiannon Passmore, Cabinet Member for Education
Anwen Rees, Equalities Training and Promotion Officer
Howard Rees, Programme Manager (Partnership Development and Collaborative Improvement)
Jackie Dix, Policy Unit Manager
John Elliot, Research Officer
Christopher Hunt, Community Cohesion Coordinator (West Gwent)
Keri Cole, Manager, Learning, Education and Inclusion
Lynne Bosanko-Williams, Children and Young People's Co-ordinator
Jacquelyn Elias, ALN Manager, Inclusion Services
Jackie Garland, Service Manager - Social Inclusion
Sarah Ellis, Principal Education Psychologist
Emma Strathdee, Principal Officer (School Effectiveness)
Debbie Hartveld, Gwent Education Achievement Service
Kathryn Peters, Community Safety Manager
Lyndon Samuel, Gwent Police Schools Liaison Coordinator
Darren James Williams, Health Inclusion Project Senior Worker
Zarah Newman, Caerphilly Safeguarding Children's Board Co-Ordinator

Members of the CCBC Community Cohesion Forum

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Education, Schools and Equalities Report 2013

Background Papers:

Strategic Equality Plan 2012

Guidance Documents

*(These are available electronically for information on request or at -
www.caerphilly.gov.uk/equalities)*