



POLICY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 20TH APRIL 2010

**SUBJECT: INFORMATION ON THE SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT BETWEEN
CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL AND THE VALLEYS
REGIONAL EQUALITY COUNCIL (VALREC)**

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To respond to a member's request for information regarding the Service Level Agreement in place between Caerphilly County Borough Council and VALREC.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The current 3 year SLA covers the period 2009-2012 and is for £24,480 a year.
- 2.2 For the financial years 2000/2001 to 2005/06 VALREC received £17,000 per year in quarterly grant payments from the Community Regeneration Fund. Since 2006/07 it has been £24,480 annually, again in quarterly payments but now from the Grants to the Voluntary Sector budget.
- 2.3 Monitoring of the SLA has been undertaken by the Policy Unit.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

3.1 The Policy Unit SLA with VALREC links to Equalities and other cross-cutting policies and strategies:-

- The Community Strategy
- Community Cohesion
- Race Equality Policy

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The current 3 year SLA with VALREC covers the period 2009-2012 and is for £24,480 a year and was developed following a review of the previous arrangements in 2008/09.
- 4.2 For the financial years 2000/2001 to 2005/06 VALREC received £17,000 per year in quarterly grant payments from the Community Regeneration Fund. Since 2006/07 it has been £24,480 annually, again in quarterly payments but now from the Grants to the Voluntary Sector budget.
- 4.3 The new SLA is a far more detailed agreement compared with the previous version, and was tailored to the Caerphilly area specifically whereas the previous one was a general SLA used by VALREC across all the councils in South Wales with which they have agreements in place.

4.4 Further to the above, the Directorate of Education and Leisure part-funds one post within VALREC. This is currently £12,000 a year and it has been provisionally agreed that this sum will be added to the Policy Unit SLA for 2010/11 in order to ensure that no duplication of work occurs and to clarify actions and responsibilities for all parties.

4.5 There have also been contributions made to the annual Caerphilly BME Young Achievers Awards from the Policy Unit's Equalities Budget towards the costs of running the event, which are not covered by the SLA.

4.6 Monitoring of Racist Incidents in Schools is undertaken by the Directorate of Education and is covered by the Policy Unit SLA.

4.7 Monitoring of the new SLA is about to be done for an end-of-financial-year report - this will be ready during April and will detail progress against targets and any areas that have been amended in the SLA for 2010/2011 onwards. A review meeting is planned for early April to progress this work.

4.8 Ongoing monitoring is done via reports and verbal updates from VALREC to the MAF (the regional multi-agency forum for equality against harassment) of which Caerphilly CBC is a member.

4.9 Staff from the Policy Unit attend VALREC's quarterly executive meetings at which updates are also provided and attend the Annual General Meeting.

4.10 A copy of the 2009-2012 SLA is attached for members' information.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no financial implications resulting from this information report.

6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no personnel implications resulting from this information report.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 The draft report was circulated to the consultees (shown at the end of this report) and any additional information and comments received have been reflected in this final version.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 It is recommended that members note the content of the report.

9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 The report provides information on the VALREC SLA following a request by a member at the Policy and Resources Scrutiny meeting on 2nd March 2010.

10. STATUTORY POWER

10.1 Local Government Act 2000.

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Jackie Dix, Acting Manager, Policy Unit
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Background Papers -

VALREC SLA 2009-2012 (attached)

Previous SLAs and MAF minutes are available electronically on request.