



## **VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE – 17TH JUNE 2015**

**SUBJECT: DIGEST OF CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report from Caerphilly CBC contains a digest of committee reports of items of interest for the voluntary sector. If there are reports of particular interest Members can request the committee report author to attend a future meeting of the Voluntary Sector Committee to prepare a further report/take questions.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 A quarterly summary of Caerphilly CBC committee reports selected as they contain areas of interest for the voluntary sector.

### **3. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

- 3.1 All Caerphilly CBC reports relate to aspects of the Caerphilly County Borough Community Strategy.

### **4. THE REPORT**

- 4.1 The following reports have been selected as having particular interest on voluntary sector issues (note Members can request a full hard copy of any of the reports included) :-

#### **CABINET – 15TH APRIL 2015**

**PROPOSAL TO INCREASE FIXED PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR LITTER AND DOG CONTROL ORDER OFFENCES AND TO SET FIXED PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR COMMUNITY PROTECTION NOTICES AND PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS**

The level of fine for Fixed Penalty Notices issued in relation to littering offences under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 is increased to £100 (or £75 if paid within 7 days of the issue).

The level of fine for Fixed Penalty Notices issued for breaches of Dog Control Orders under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 is increased to £100 (or £75 if paid within 7 days of the issue).

The level of fine for Fixed Penalty Notices issued for Community Protection Notices and Public Space Protection Orders offences under the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 is set at £100 (or £75 if paid within 7 days of the issue).

## **CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 19TH MARCH 2015**

### **DOMESTIC ABUSE PROCESSES FOR VICTIMS**

The Safer Caerphilly Community Safety Partnership (SCCSP) addresses domestic abuse and support to victims through direct intervention by Gwent Police in supporting victims and investigating crimes, and through the support and refuge provision provided by third sector and funded agencies.

This report summarises the level of domestic abuse across the county borough and how victims are dealt with and supported by statutory and third sector agencies. In particular the support available outside normal working hours is set out in the body of the report.

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse is: any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:

- psychological
- physical
- sexual
- financial
- emotional

Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim. This definition includes so called 'honour' based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group. Whilst this definition of domestic abuse is both gender neutral and age specific the overwhelming majority of the most severely affected victims are women (British Crime Survey 2004) and an increasing proportion of incidents refer to younger people both within their familial and intimate relationships.

## **EDUCATION FOR LIFE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 20TH MAY 2015**

### **PHYSICAL ACCESS STRATEGY FOR SCHOOLS**

The First Physical Access Strategy for Schools was produced in 2009, this document was reviewed in January 2015 with the revised Strategy detailing the current access status of all Caerphilly Schools in line with the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010. The Strategy has previously concentrated on the accessibility arrangements for pupils and employees in line with legislative duties, however this version of the strategy includes advice on the provision of access for disabled parents, this is increasingly an area of discussion, with parents seeking adjustments to be made to accommodate their disabilities. Although all schools seek to support parents with disabilities and provide safe access to the school site to ensure participation in their child's education, the access provided must not compromise the safety of children or others on the school site. With this in mind the scope of reasonable adjustments for disabled parents in line with the Equalities Act 2010 is included in the revised version, in addition specific reference is made within the strategy to cover parents who use mobility scooters.

The amended strategy shows a great improvement since 2009 in the number of schools which are able to accommodate pupils with physical and medical needs, this is due to investment in school buildings and consultation at the planning stage with relevant officers to ensure that accessibility is a key factor in school design, whether designing a new school building or refurbishment of an existing site.

## **5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Equalities implications have been taken into account for a number of reports submitted to Cabinet and other committees.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 None, this is an information paper only on the contents of Caerphilly CBC reports which contains items of interest for the Voluntary Sector Committee.

## **7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 None arising.

## **8. CONSULTATIONS**

- 8.1 Not applicable.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 Members are invited (if they feel appropriate) to select any report for further consideration by the Committee by requesting the report author to attend a future meeting of the Voluntary Sector Committee to take questions/prepare another report.

## **10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 10.1 To ensure Members are fully briefed on items of interest for the Voluntary Sector.

## **11. STATUTORY POWER**

- 11.1 Local Government Act 2000.

Author: John Elliott, Senior Research Officer  
Consultees: Jackie Dix, Policy & Research Manager