

CABINET

15 MARCH 2011

REPORT OF THE SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITY SELECT COMMITTEE

Title: Community Cohesion Scrutiny Review	For Comment
<p>Summary</p> <p>The Safer and Stronger Community Select Committee (SSCSC) has completed its in-depth review of how the Council can support the Voluntary and Community Sector in building community cohesion. The draft final report setting out the Select Committee's findings and recommendations has been circulated to all Members of the Council under separate cover.</p> <p>In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Part C, Section H, paragraph 8, the draft final report is presented to the Cabinet before being passed to the Assembly to be formally adopted. The Cabinet can, if it wishes, issue a response to the report and recommendations which will be consideration by the Assembly on 30 March 2011 alongside the Select Committee's report.</p> <p>Following adoption of the report by the Assembly, the SSCSC will ask the relevant departments and organisations to respond to the recommendations and an action plan for implementation will be drawn up. A report setting out the progress against the recommendations will be presented to the SSCSC after six months for monitoring purposes.</p> <p>Wards Affected: All</p>	
<p>Recommendation(s)</p> <p>The Cabinet is asked to consider the Safer and Stronger Community Select Committee's final report and, if appropriate, make comments to inform the Assembly on 30 March 2011.</p>	
<p>Reason(s)</p> <p>To assist the Council to achieve the Community Priority "Fair and Respectful".</p>	
<p>Implications</p> <p>Financial: It is envisaged that recommendations adopted within this report can be contained within existing Council-wide budgets and resources.</p> <p>Legal: This report concludes a review of how the Council can support the Voluntary and Community Sector in building community cohesion. There are legal duties under the Equality Act (2006) for public agencies to work towards positive community cohesion. These duties are overseen by the Equality and Human Rights Commission and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Eliminating unlawful discrimination,- Promoting equality of opportunity,- Promoting good relations between people of different groups. <p>The recent review of the commission's role by the Cabinet Office has confirmed its</p>	

retention with a greater focus on its core regulatory functions such as those highlighted above.

Section 38 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 introduced a duty on all governing bodies of maintained schools to promote community cohesion.

The report's 21 recommendations are in line with the legislation as stated.

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