

## WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

Resources & Corporate Issues Scrutiny Committee Cabinet Council 16 November 2006 27 November 2006 30 November 2006

## **Disability Equality Scheme and Action Plan**

## Report of the Town Clerk

### 1 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of the Disability Equality Scheme and Action Plan, reviewable annually, is to clarify the Council's approach to disability equality and the actions it will take over the next three years to promote the equality of disabled people, and to prevent unlawful discrimination and the harassment of disabled people that is related to their disability.

#### 2 Summary

- 2.1 Under the Disability Discrimination Act 2005, which comes into force on 4 December 2006, the Council has a statutory responsibility, called the Disability Equality Duty, to promote disability equality in the provision of its services (both those directly provided and those provided through contractors) and as an employer. Council Members are also brought into the scope of the Act in that it will be unlawful for any local authority to discriminate against their elected members in relation to their carrying out of their official business.
- 2.2 We must involve (more than 'consult with') disabled people in our service planning and review processes, and report annually on our progress.

#### 3 Recommendations

- 3.1 Cabinet members are asked to comment on, welcome and approve the report.
- 3.2 Council members are asked to comment on, welcome and note the report.

## 4 Financial & Legal Implications

- 4.1 Financial Implications
- 4.1 There are no financial implications resulting from this report at this time. However, resources may be required in time and these will need to be met from within our existing budgets. *Steve Charlesworth, ext.* 7495
- 4.2 Legal Implications
- 4.2.1 The legal implications of this Act are set out in the body of this Report and its appendices. There are no further legal implications to add at this stage. *Alison Mapp, ext. 7059*

# 5 Other Implications

Other implications	Yes/No	Paragraph references within supporting papers
Equal Opportunities	Yes	Throughout
Policy	Yes	Throughout
Sustainable and Environmental	Yes	Throughout
Crime and Disorder	Yes	Throughout
Human Rights Act	Yes	Throughout
Older People / People on Low Income	Yes	Throughout

# 6 Report Author

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## **DECISION STATUS**

Key Decision	No
Reason	N/A
Appeared in	N/A
Forward Plan	
Executive or Council	Cabinet
Decision	