

REPORT TO: Policy and Resources Committee 13th November 2006

REPORT ON: Disability Equality Scheme

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Communities and Depute Chief Executive (Support Services)

REPORT NO: 660-2006

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report details contents of the Council's Disability Equality Scheme which requires to be published by 4th December 2006 in order for the Council to meet a statutory Disability Equality Duty under new disability discrimination legislation, and requests a decision on approval of same.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Committee is asked to:-

1. Approve the proposed Disability Equality Scheme.
2. Note that the Council's corporate Disability Action Group has a responsibility to report annually on progress on the Disability Equality Scheme 'Priorities for Action' and 'EQIA Action Plan'. Monitoring of Actions arising from the scheme will be carried out through the Strategic Plan Monitoring Database.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The cost of this work has been allowed for in the Leisure and Communities Equality and Diversity Fund and departmental budgets

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Meeting the Council's new duty under the legislation will assist with implementation of the council's 'Sustainability Policy' aims by creating more sustainable communities under the following policy principles; BUILT ENVIRONMENT and COMMUNICATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING. A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is not required as screening identifies low impact and the report fulfils the policy framework aims and objectives for tackling poverty and social exclusion

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Meeting the Council's new duty under the legislation will assist with more accessible communities and services, which meet the needs of all abilities. A FULL Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) is not required as screening identifies low adverse impact. The report will have a positive impact on the key themes of equal opportunities.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 The Disability Equality Scheme is prepared in accordance with the specific duties imposed on the Council by the Disability Discrimination (Public Authority) (Statutory Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2005.

6.2. A copy of the scheme has been passed to each group secretary and is also available for inspection in the councillor's lounge.

7.0 CONSULTATION

Consultation has taken place with the Dundee City Council Management Team in the preparation of this report.

8.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 8.1 "The Duty to Promote Disability Equality, Statutory Code of Practice, Scotland" produced by the Disability Rights Commission

Stewart Murdoch
Director of Leisure and Communities
Date:

Patricia McIlquham
Depute Chief Executive (Support Services)

Date: