

EXECUTIVE BOARD

21st December 2020

INTERIM REPORT

Equality and Diversity Task & Finish Group (Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic)

Recommendations / key decisions required:

To consider the recommendations within the report –

The Equality and Diversity Task & Finish Group (Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic) recommend to the Executive Board that –

1. Information Boards should be prominently placed near the Picton Monument with due regard to accessibility, and to include a QR code.
2. an Information Board should also be placed on a prominent site within the grounds of the Monument.
3. a further Information Board in the vicinity of the Court Room at the Guildhall, where a portrait of Sir Thomas Picton is displayed.
4. any Information Boards should reference the local history of the area and also the history of Sir Thomas Picton encompassing his military career as well as his known links with slavery.

Reasons:

At its meeting on the 27th July 2020 (minute 8 refers), the Executive Board considered a report setting out its proposals following Council's endorsement of the two Notices of Motion on racism in Carmarthenshire on the 12th February 2020 (7.1) and the 8th July 2020 (7.1). The Board was of the view that the concerns raised by each Motion should be addressed in conjunction with each other and that a politically balanced Task and Finish Advisory Panel should be established, as suggested, to listen to the voice of BAME communities in Carmarthenshire.

The Task & Finish Group agreed to present an interim report ahead of a final report due in February/March 2021.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted	NO
Exec. Board Decision Required	YES
Council Decision Required	NO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Councillor Cefin Campbell –Executive Board Member for Communities and Rural Affairs (including Equalities).

Head of Service:

Noelwyn Daniel

Head of ICT & Corporate Policy

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

21st December 2020

INTERIM REPORT

Equality and Diversity Task & Finish Group (Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic)

The first meeting of the Equality and Diversity Task & Finish Group (Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic) was held on 3 August 2020, whereby terms of reference were agreed, and a work plan for the following six months was initiated. One of the first areas of discussion for the Group was a review of public monuments and street names and the Wales-based review being undertaken via Welsh Government. Members of the Group were aware of public comment and discussion about monuments and memorials across Wales and in Carmarthenshire, noting that the Picton Monument in Carmarthen Town had drawn particular attention. The Group considered all aspects of their work and agreed that the matter of the interpretation and history of Sir Thomas Picton and the monument in Carmarthen Town should be dealt with at the outset. This decision was made in light of the great public and media interest. The Group also agreed at an early stage that in order to move forward and focus on the more significant areas of review, including equality and diversity in the workplace, education and the broader issues effecting BAME communities in Carmarthenshire, this matter should be dealt with first.

The findings of the consultation and additional evidence were considered by the Equality and Diversity (Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic) Task and Finish Group at meetings during October 2020, and the recommendations contained within this report were formulated.

The Group remain focused on bringing a full report to the Executive Board in February 2021.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: Noelwyn Daniel - Head of ICT & Corporate Policy

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO

Finance

Total draft costs	£5,250
Total for Recommendation 1	£750
Total for Recommendation 2	£2,250
Total for Recommendation 3	£2,250

There are opportunities to fund the work required within the recommendations, from current projects within the Museum Service.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Noelwyn Daniel - Head of ICT & Corporate Policy

1. Scrutiny Committee

Not applicable

2. Local Member(s)

Not applicable

3. Community / Town Council

Not applicable

4. Relevant Partners

Not applicable

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

Not applicable

**EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIO
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED**

YES

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Executive Board Meeting 27 th July 2020 - Minutes		https://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=3899&Ver=4