

Appendix 2: Action Plan (2021-2024)

Objective 1: Being a leading employer				
Action		Division	Outcome	Timescale
1.	Promote our commitment to the Disability Confident Employer scheme and act to improve how we recruit, retain, and develop disabled people	People Management	Drawing employees from the widest possible pool of talent	2021-24
2.	Continue to close and monitor pay differences and continue to publish an annual Workforce Pay Gap report	People Management	Workforce Pay gaps continues to close	2021-24
3.	Improve our workforce equality information and Welsh language skills data from current and new staff	People Management / IT & Corporate Policy	Increased number of staff disclosing equality and Welsh language data	2021-24
4.	Mainstream Equality and Diversity in our Learning & Development opportunities	People Management	Increased number of staff completing E&D opportunities	2021-24
5.	Ensure that staff involved in recruitment and management receive effective training around unconscious bias	People Management	Increased number of staff completing opportunities Increased awareness of unconscious bias	2021-24
6.	Continue to support and promote our staff Well-being through various initiatives such as the 'Time to Change' pledge	People Management	Improved staff well-being	2021-24

7.	Review existing policies (e.g. adoption, maternity, paternity, and parental leave) to ensure that they use gender neutral language throughout	People Management	Drawing employees from the widest possible pool of talent	COMPLETED
8.	Promote and monitor our workplace policies, such as Flexible Working, Equality and Diversity and Behavioural Standards	People Management	Drawing employees from the widest possible pool of talent	2021-24
9.	Promote and enact our membership with the Stonewall Diversity Champions programme	People Management / IT & Corporate Policy	Drawing employees from the widest possible pool of talent	COMPLETED Formal submission to Stonewall Cymru in September 2021
10.	Develop Transgender guidance to support our employees and managers in understanding the experience and process of transitioning and the potential barriers that may inhibit a trans person in reaching their potential in the workplace	People Management	Improved support for Transgender employees	COMPLETED
11.	Promote key workplace messages based on the Carmarthenshire Equalities and Diversity Calendar	People Management	Improved awareness of protected groups Improved involvement of protected groups	2021-24
12.	Support the EHRC pledge 'Working Forward' which supports pregnant women and new parents	People Management	Improved support for new parents	2021-24
13.	Introduce a diversity mentoring scheme to enable staff from under-represented groups to reach their full potential	People Management	Improved involvement of protected groups Improved workplace participation	2021-22

14.	Reflect and consider the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our workforce and workplace	People Management	<p>Improved understanding of the impact on our workforce and workplace</p> <p>Key actions to promote the support available to our staff</p>	<p>2021-22</p> <p>Evidence of initial reflection as part of the SEP Annual Report for 2021-21</p>
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Objective 2: The needs and rights of people with Protected Characteristics shape the design of services

Action	Division	Outcome	Timescale
15. Ensure that 'due regard' is given to all Protected Groups through our Integrated Assessment process and that support / challenge is provided on key managerial and policy-based decisions	IT & Corporate Policy	Improved information for Elected Members on which to base their decisions Improved decisions, with a clear evidence base of consideration across key pieces of legislation	2021-24
16. Ensure that our Elected Members have the best possible evidence and information, on which to base their decisions	IT & Corporate Policy / Democratic Services	Improved information for Elected Members on which to base their decisions	2021-24
17. Implement the Socio-Economic Duty for Wales across all departments (The socio-economic duty is a duty on public authorities to address the inequality that arises from socio-economic disadvantage, and to place this objective at the core of their policies and programmes)	IT & Corporate Policy	Improved outcomes for those who experience socio-economic disadvantage	2021-24
18. Strengthen our relationship with Protected Groups through forums such as Equality Carmarthenshire, the Carmarthenshire Disability Partnership, and the 50+ Forum	IT & Corporate Policy	Improved involvement of protected groups	2021-24
19. Enable the Carmarthenshire Disability Coalition to influence policy decisions and key developments, in partnership with other public sector bodies	IT & Corporate Policy	Improved involvement of protected groups	2021-24 Case study included within the SEP Annual Report

20.	Encourage and support age-friendly communities	Integrated Services / IT & Corporate Policy	Communities where age is not a barrier to living well and where the environment, activities and services support and enable older people	2021-24 Initial discussions held with the Older People's Commissioner's Office
21.	Encourage and support Dementia friendly communities	Integrated Services	Communities where people with dementia are understood, respected, and supported	2021-24 Dementia Friendly Communities led by Community Connector
22.	Review and develop our Involvement Policy to establish a range of consultation and involvement methods	IT & Corporate Policy	Improved involvement across all communities and protected groups	2021-22
23.	Support County Youth Council/Youth Forum structures to be as inclusive as possible and informed by and linked to their local democratic structures	Curriculum & Well-being	Improved involvement with young people	2021-24
24.	Identify and address any gaps in the groups / forums of young people engaged for consultation and engagement to ensure they are fully inclusive	Curriculum & Well-being	Improved involvement with young people	2021-24
25.	Create and implement a new Children and Young Peoples Participation & Children's Rights Strategy to ensure the Council delivers on its statutory and moral obligations for ensuring children and young people have their say on decisions that affect them	Curriculum & Well-being	Improved involvement with young people in the council's decision-making processes	2021-24
26.	Revisit and review the 2015 Children's Rights Promise that sets out a clear commitment to children's rights	Curriculum & Well-being	Children's Rights are considered in our decision-making processes	2021-24

27.	Adopt the National Standards for Children and Young People's Participation and work with 5 services to complete National Standards Self-Assessments	Curriculum & Well-being	Improved involvement with young people	2021-24
28.	Reflect and consider the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our communities, building on the information on our Community Impact Assessment and national research	IT & Corporate Policy	Improved understanding of the impact on our communities Involvement across all protected groups in the redesign of services Key actions to promote the support available to our communities	2021-22

Objective 3: Safe and Cohesive communities that are resilient, fair, and equal

Action		Division	Outcome	Timescale
29.	Continue to raise awareness of hate crime and to signpost potential victims to report and support services	Homes & Safer Communities	Increased awareness of hate crime and ways of reporting Potential increase in number of hate crime cases	2021-22 Hate Crime awareness is part of the Equality & Diversity Calendar and the Community Cohesion Team workplan
30.	Monitor and respond to community tensions relating to the Brexit process	Homes & Safer Communities	Increased number of interventions and de-escalations	Constant Tension monitoring held throughout the Covid-19 pandemic
31.	Signpost EU citizens living in Carmarthenshire to the Home Office EU Settlement Scheme and provide the appropriate level of local authority support	Homes & Safer Communities	Increased number of EU citizens resident in Carmarthenshire who apply to the scheme	Clear communication of the EUSS through various channels
32.	Implement the Carmarthenshire Equality and Diversity Calendar and review the focus on an annual basis. Examples will include Black History Month, Hate Crime Awareness Week, the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia and White Ribbon Day	Homes & Safer Communities / IT & Corporate Policy	Increased awareness of protected groups and significant events / days Increased number of campaigns	2021-24 Good progress made during the first year of implementation; however, further work to be done on consistency of messaging
33.	Implement and promote the 'Every Learner Matters' strategy, to promote equity, Well-being, Inclusion and Excellence in our learning communities	Curriculum & Well-being	Diversity amongst learners is valued and supported Barriers within learning environments are reduced	2021-24

34.	Support Carmarthenshire Schools to develop and monitor their Strategic Equality Plans and Objectives	Education & Inclusion	Strategic Equality Plans are promoted and monitored across all schools	2021-24
35.	Support Carmarthenshire Schools to monitor and address Identity Based Bullying	Curriculum & well-being	<p>Improved monitoring of identity-based bullying</p> <p>Improved consistency and support across schools in relation to identity-based bullying</p>	<p>2021-24</p> <p>Specific task & finish group established to support Transgender young people within schools and to lead on the development of a clear policy and resources</p>

Objective 4: Improving access to our services and access to our environment

Action		Division	Outcome	Timescale
36.	Work within the ethos of the Social Services and Well-being Act to ensure that people have received the right information and advice when needed	Integrated Services	Improved information and advice Increase in number of referrals	2021-24
37.	Work with individuals and organisations from the sensory loss community to embed the All Wales Standards for Accessible Communication and information	Marketing & Media / IT & Corporate Policy	Improved accessibility across all forms of communication	2021-22 Accessibility guidance published on the corporate intranet site. Constant monitoring of information being published
38.	Identify a consistent approach to diversity monitoring of service users and citizens	IT & Corporate Policy	Consistent approach across all services in monitoring questions Increased returns from citizens across Carmarthenshire Improved use of data in influencing policy decisions	2021-22
39.	Work with key stakeholders to ensure inclusive design principles for all new premises and developments	Property Services	Increased involvement of protected groups Access considerations across all new premises and developments	2021-24

40.	Reflect and consider the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our communities and how are services are being accessed	Across departments	Involvement across all protected groups in the redesign of services Key actions to promote the support available to our communities	2021-22
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