CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO HOLDER DELEGATED DECISION by COUNTY COUNCILLOR ALED DAVIES PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR FINANCE July 2021

REPORT AUTHOR: Emma Palmer

REPORT TITLE: PCC Consultation Response to the Welsh Government

Race Equality Action Plan

REPORT FOR: Decision / Approval

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek portfolio holder approval to submit the council's corporate response in relation to the Welsh Government Consultation on its draft Race Equality Action Plan.

2. Background

- 2.1 Welsh Government launched a consultation in March 2021 to seek views on their Race Equality Action Plan (REAP) that will help make Wales antiracist.
- 2.2 In March 2020 a commitment was made by the Welsh Government to produce a Race Equality Action Plan, following calls from the Wales Race Forum and broader stakeholders. Following the convening of the First Minister's Black Asian and Minority Ethnic COVID-19 Steering Group work and the Socio-economic Sub Group report recommendations, the work to develop the Action Plan was accelerated.
- 2.3 Following a series of workshops, round table discussions, and in-depth examination of specific policy areas over the last six months, Welsh Government are now consulting on their draft Action Plan. It includes high level goals, actions and outcomes for the policy themes and cross-cutting issues. More information about the development of the Action Plan is set out in the draft Plan itself.
- 2.4 All council services have been given the opportunity to feed into the corporate response and feedback has been consolidated into one response written by the Transformation and Communications team on behalf of the Council. The council's response provides feedback on the following:
 - the vision, purpose and values for an anti-racist Wales

- the different policy areas that should develop tangible goals, actions and outcomes
- areas of government work that may have been missed
- barriers to achieving the goals, actions and outcomes
- the use of language.

3. Advice

- 3.1 That the Portfolio Holder approves the Corporate Consultation response (attached at Appendix A) for submission to WG, ensuring the council's view are represented and considered as part of the consultation process.
- 3.2 This is an important opportunity for Powys County Council to help shape the action plan and feedback any implications for us as a council. Some particular areas of high relevance to the council include Social Services, Democratic Services, Housing, Leisure, Human Resources, Environment and Education.

4. Resource Implications

- 4.1 There are no direct resource implications in relation to this report however we anticipate there will be some resource implications as a result of the final approved REAP.
- 4.2 The Deputy Section 151 Officer acknowledges the contents of this report. The full financial implications and ability to deliver within current budgets will need to clarified following final approval.

5. Legal implications

- 5.1 Legal: the recommendations can be accepted from a legal point of view.
- 5.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) has commented as follows: "I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report".

6. <u>Data Protection</u>

6.1 N/A

7. Comment from local member(s)

7.1 N/A

8. Impact Assessment

8.1 N/A. This is a Welsh Government consultation response and therefore doing an Impact Assessment is not required.

9. Recommendation

9.1 It is recommended that the Portfolio Holder approves Powys County Council's official REAP consultation response (attached at Appendix A) submitted to WG by the deadline of the 15th July 2021.

The recommendation above will ensure:

 Powys County Council's feedback is considered by Welsh Government when finalising the REAP.

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