



Orkney Community Planning Partnership Orkney Equality Forum

Annual Report 1 June 2013 to 31 May 2014

1. Introduction

Orkney Equality Forum is a multi-agency group which provides a forum within Orkney's community planning framework for championing the 'Promoting equalities' principle of the community plan.

2. Membership

Orkney Equality Forum has a core membership and co-opts representatives from other organisations with an interest in specific equality issues. Membership encompasses the main public and voluntary agencies.

The Chair of the Forum is Frazer Campbell, Service Director of Blide Trust.

3. Meetings

Meetings were held on the following dates:

- 13.09.13
- 13.12.13
- 10.03.14

4. Stonewall Scotland

In November 2013 one of Stonewall Scotland's policy officers visited Orkney and a special meeting of the Forum was held to allow members to meet her during her time here. She gave advice on good practice and a range of LGB&T (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) issues were discussed. Stonewall Scotland is a charity working to achieve equality and justice for LGB&T people.

5. Presentations

As well as discussing a wide range of agenda items the Forum heard presentations from members and invited guests which included:

- Mental Health Issues and the Work of the Blide Trust – Frazer Campbell, Service Director, Blide Trust
- Orkney Foodbank – Rhoda Walker from Orkney Foodbank

6. Leaflet

The Forum developed a short informative leaflet on the Equality Act 2010 and this was published in February 2014. The leaflet sets out in plain language how the Act protects people and ensures they are treated fairly. It is available to the public through the Orkney Community Planning Partnership's partner organisations and on the Orkney Communities website: [Leaflet: Equality - What's it got to do with me?](#)

7. Orkney Community Plan, incorporating Orkney's Single Outcome Agreement, 2014-17

The Orkney Community Plan 2014-17 ('the Plan') sets out the long term vision for the Partnership. It also functions as Orkney's Single Outcome Agreement with the Scottish Government and explains how the Orkney Community Planning Partnership will contribute to achieving the Government's 16 national outcomes. The Forum has lead responsibility for national outcome 7 **We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society.**

In March 2014 members updated the Equalities section of the Plan and selected the following performance indicators for inclusion in the Plan to demonstrate progress on equality:

7.1	Number of hate crime incidents reported per 10,000 population (source: Police Service of Scotland)			
	2013-14 Baseline	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
	2	5 or fewer	5 or fewer	5 or fewer
7.2	Equal opportunities policy – percentage of highest paid 5% of earners among council employees that are women (source: Audit Scotland)			
	2013-14 Baseline	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
	25%	33%	33%	33%
7.3	Public Access – percentage of public service buildings that are suitable and accessible to disabled people (source: Audit Scotland)			
	2013-14 Baseline	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
	55%	58%	59%	60%
7.4	Number of people with support needs enabled to volunteer (source: Voluntary Action Orkney Annual Report)			
	2013-14 Baseline	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
	41	43	46	47
7.5	Membership of Clubhouse (community mental health support) (source: Blide Trust)			
	2013-14 Baseline	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
	76	Maintain above 60	Maintain above 60	Maintain above 60

6. Consultations

In December 2012 the Forum submitted a response to the Council's Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places.

Members of the Forum and their individual organisations were invited to take part in the Council's consultation on its proposed Placemaking Scheme. There were a number of workshops with different user groups at the formative stage in the process.

7. Culture Fund Bid

The Forum made a successful bid to the Council's Culture Fund. The funding award will be used to hold an Equality and Diversity Conference in Orkney and to bring Mara Menzies, an African Storyteller, to Orkney.

Mara Menzies previously visited Orkney in 2011 when her workshops in schools had been a huge success. The Conference will include representatives of the Equality and Human Rights Commission and Stonewall Scotland along with local groups.

Both events will take place later in 2014 and will be reported on in the next annual report.

This document is also available in large print and other formats and languages upon request. Please contact Marie Love on 01856 873535, or email marie.love@orkney.gov.uk