

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

Subject: Draft Response to the Plymouth Fairness Commission
Committee: Cabinet
Date: 12 August 2014
Cabinet Member: Councillor Penberthy
CMT Member: Tracey Lee, Chief Executive
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Ref:
Key Decision: No
Part: I

Purpose of the report:

Plymouth City Council welcomes the final report of the Plymouth Fairness Commission and presents its draft response to the recommendations outlined in their report.

The Brilliant Co-operative Council Corporate Plan 2013/14 -2016/17:

The Plymouth Fairness Commission was set up as an independent body in April 2013 at the request of the leader of Plymouth City Council. It aimed to make recommendations on making Plymouth a fairer place to live and work. Plymouth City Council had cross party representation on the Fairness Commission and continues to provide support to enable the Commission Secretariat. Commissioners have agreed to meet annually for up to five years to monitor progress towards a fairer city.

Fairness is identified as one of four co-operative values outlined in the Brilliant Co-operative Council's Corporate Plan – 'we will be honest and open in how we act, treat everyone with respect, champion fairness and create opportunities'.

Furthermore, the Corporate Plan objective is to create a fairer Plymouth where everyone does their bit, and more specifically, to promote a fairer, more equal city by investing in communities, putting citizens at the heart of decision-making, promoting independence and reducing health and social inequality.

Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications: Including finance, human, IT and land

There are financial implications associated with the delivery of the Plymouth Fairness Commission's recommendations. Plymouth City Council has for example, already introduced the Living Wage with the associated costs included in our budget and Medium Term Financial Forecast. Further details of financial costs will emerge as the responses are worked through in more detail with partner organisations, for example the recommendations around affordable credit, addressing standards in the private rented housing, strengthening local communities and providing additional support where appropriate to young people and young adults.

This is expected by the end of 2014, during which time finance will support all departments to examine the costs associated with delivery of the recommendations, and can ensure that any additional costs are included in the 2015/16 budget.

Other Implications: e.g. Child Poverty, Community Safety, Health and Safety and Risk Management:

The Plymouth Fairness Commission’s final recommendations are aligned with, and serve to strengthen the city’s response to tackling child poverty as outlined in the Child Poverty Matters strategy and action plan 2013-2016. Specific recommendations also reinforce strategic intentions outlined in several citywide strategies and plans including the Commissioning Plan for the Plymouth Domestic Abuse Partnership 2012-2019 and the Strategic Alcohol Plan for Plymouth 2013-2018.

Equality and Diversity

An EIA will be developed for Plymouth City Council’s response to the Plymouth Fairness Commission.

Recommendations and Reasons for Recommended Action

Cabinet is recommended to refer the draft response to the Plymouth Fairness Commission’s recommendations, to the City Council for approval.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None. The Commission has requested a response from the Council to its final recommendations.

Published work / information:

Plymouth Fairness Commission Final Report http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/pcc_fairness_bro_lr.pdf

Background papers:

Title	Part I	Part II	Exemption Paragraph Number							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Invitation from the Plymouth Fairness Commission to submit a response	Yes									

Sign off:

Fin	djn14 15.34	Leg	16964 (2) 230714	Mon Off	16964 (2) 230714	HR		Assets		IT		Strat Proc	
Originating SMT Member: Giles Perritt													
Has the Cabinet Member(s) agreed the contents of the report? Yes													