



REPORT TO: COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE 1 DECEMBER 2009

SUBJECT: DISABILITY EQUALITY SCHEME & RACE EQUALITY SCHEME ANNUAL REPORTS

BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The Communities Committee is asked to review and approve publication of the Disability Equality Scheme and Race Equality Scheme annual reports.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section H(12) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to formulating, supervising the implementation of and review as necessary the policies and practices of the Council in relation to its arrangements for promoting, fostering and maintaining equal opportunities.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **The Communities Committee is asked to review and approve publication of the Disability Equality Scheme and Race Equality Scheme annual reports.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The equalities legislation places requirements on the Council to publish annual reports relating to the separate equalities strands. The Council must publish Disability Equality Scheme and Race Equality Scheme annual reports.
- 3.2 These reports need to be published to state what progress has been made with regard to meeting the Disability Equality duty and the Race Equality Duty.
- 3.3 The Communities Committee is asked to review the Disability Equality annual report (**Appendix 1**) and the Race Equality annual report (**Appendix 2**).
- 3.4 These reports will be made available to the public by publishing them on the Council website.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Single Outcome Agreement/Service Improvement Plan

The publication of these reports will assist the Council to achieve National Outcome 7 which states "We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society". In addition, the Council has made a

commitment to develop a culture, which encourages both equal opportunities and the observance of equal opportunities.

(b) Policy and Legal

The Council has a legal duty to publish annual reports relating to the Equality Schemes. The risk of not meeting our duties is prosecution for non-compliance.

(c) Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)

There are no additional resources arising from this report.

(d) Consultations

There have been no specific consultations on this report.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 The Communities Committee is asked to review and approve publication of the Disability Equality Scheme and Race Equality Scheme annual reports.

Author of Report: Fiona Simpson, Equal Opportunities Officer

Background Papers:

Ref:

Signature:



Date : 18/11/09

Designation:

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Name: ALASTAIR KEDDIE