

West Dunbartonshire Council

Report by the Director of Education and Cultural Services

Children's Services Committee: 13 December 2006

Subject: Disability Equality Scheme - Presentation

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1** To provide Members with information on the education component of the Disability Equality Scheme.

2. Background

- 2.1** The Disability Discrimination Act 2005 requires Councils to publish a Disability Equality Scheme 2006-2009 by 4 December 2006. Education authorities are required to publish recognisable schemes.
- 2.2** Authorities are required to involve disabled people in the formulation of the scheme and provide an action plan. They should promote positive attitudes towards disabled people, encourage their participation in public life, and seek to eliminate harassment. These responsibilities should be underpinned by a willingness to treat disabled people more favourably than others if this is required to achieve equity of outcomes.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** The education component of the scheme is based on the ongoing work on the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 and the Accessibility Strategy.
- 3.2** The education component addresses all of the elements required by statutory guidance and code of practice, and identifies where action will be taken in areas that are most critical for children and young people with a disability and for their families. The Disability Equality Scheme is attached as Appendix 1.

4. Personnel Issues

There are no personnel issues.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1** There are no financial implications.

6. Conclusions

- 6.1** The presentation will aim to provide information for Members on the education plan to implement this duty.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1** Members of the Children's Services Committee are asked to note the contents of the Disability Equality Scheme, approved by the Social Justice Committee on 8 November 2006.

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Background Papers: Disability Discrimination Act 2005 – The Duty to Promote Disability Equality: Statutory Code of Practice (Scotland) 2006

Wards Affected: All Wards affected