

Report to:	Lanarkshire Valuation Joint Board
Date of Meeting:	30 August 2010
Report by:	Assessor and Electoral Registration Officer

Subject:	Gender Equality Scheme – Annual Report
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Present to members of the Joint Board a progress report on the Board's Gender Equality Scheme which was adopted on 25 June 2007 which is attached as an appendix.
- ◆ The Gender Equality Scheme has been replaced with a Single Equality Scheme to assist the Lanarkshire Valuation Joint Board in meeting its existing equalities duties and those within the Equality Act.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Board is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the content of the report is noted.

3. The Duty on Gender

3.1. The General Duty

The gender equality duty was introduced by the Equality Act 2006. This Act amended the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 to place a statutory duty on public authorities, when carrying out their public functions to have "due regard" to the need:

- ◆ To eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment.
- ◆ To promote equality of opportunity between men and women.

From April 2007, public authorities in Scotland must be able to evidence towards eliminating discrimination as well as promoting equality between women and men. This requires public bodies to analyse which of their activities (employment, policy making, service delivery, regulatory etc) could make a difference to gender equality and to prioritise action to achieve clear outcomes.

3.2 The Specific Duty

To support progress in delivering the general duty, there is also a series of "specific duties". These require "listed" public bodies to:

- ◆ Gather information on how their work affects women and men, boys and girls.
- ◆ Consult employees, service users, trade unions and other stakeholders such as parents' groups and the local community.
- ◆ Assess the different impact of policies and practices on both sexes and use this information to inform their work.

- ◆ Identify priorities and set gender equality objectives.
- ◆ Plan and take action to achieve those objectives.
- ◆ Publish a gender equality scheme by 29 June 2007, report annually and review progress every three years.

The Annual Report is intended to demonstrate how the Joint Board is progressing in its duties under the Act.

4. Employee Implications

4.1. None.

5. Financial Implications

5.1. None.

6. Other Implications

6.1. None.

7. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

7.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.

8. Privacy Impact Assessment

8.1 This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.

Edward P Duffy
Assessor and Electoral Registration Officer

4 August 2010

Previous References

- ◆ Gender Equality Scheme Annual Report: Report 01 June 2009
- ◆ Equality and Diversity – Single Equality Scheme: Report 07 December 2009

List of Background Papers

- ◆ LVJB Gender Equality Scheme
- ◆ LVJB Single Equality Scheme

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Edward P Duffy, Assessor and Electoral Registration Officer

Phone: 01698 476078

E-mail: assessor@southlanarkshire.gov.uk