



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Democratic Services Committee

14 November 2019

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND CHIEF DIGITAL OFFICER –K JONES

Matter for Information

Wards Affected:

All Wards

Report Title:

Disability Audit Group- Update

Purpose of the Report:

To update the Democratic Services Committee on the work that has been undertaken by the Disability Audit Group following a recent audit.

Background:

The Council commissioned Proudlock Associates to provide an audit of areas accessed by members within the two main buildings of Neath and Port Talbot Civic Centre.

A 'light touch' audit and a walk-through of the premises was carried out on 15th April 2019. The work commissioned was to make an

initial inspection of the buildings in an approach to identify the considerations that should be made and to formulate some initial recommendations. Proudlock Associates took notes and measurements for around 2 hours (in each building). The auditor was then accompanied immediately afterwards by elected members and staff in a walk-through of the building where the auditor explained the recommendations being considered, to give reasons and discuss any options / preferences. The recommendations were based on the guidance towards meeting the Equality Act 2010 and Building Regulations Part M.

The Democratic Services Committee established a Disability Audit Group made up of interested elected members to receive the final recommendations of the audit and to consider their implementation and how they would be prioritised.

The Disability Audit Group have met to consider the recommendations from each location. For each recommendation they;

- decided whether they agreed or did not agree with the findings
- agreed or disagreed to implement the recommendations
- ranked the recommendations in list of priority
- suggested alternatives where the original recommendation could not be implemented.

Next steps include inviting estates and accommodation group officers for their professional input and building plans before a final and conclusive report with a list of prioritised recommendations accompanied by officers' comments are submitted to the Democratic Services Committee.

Financial Impacts:

There are no financial impacts from this report however there are likely to be costs associated with the implementation of any recommendations from the final report.

Integrated Impact Assessment:

There is no requirement to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment.

Valleys Communities Impacts:

No implications.

Workforce Impacts:

There will be no workforce impacts from this report. However, there could be impacts associated with the implementation of any recommendations from the final report.

Legal Powers:

No implications.

Risk Management Impacts:

There are no risks associated with this report.

Consultation:

There is no requirement for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations:

That Members note the update from the Disability Audit Group.

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