

Equality of Opportunity Committee

Minutes(EOC(3)-02-07)

Date: Thursday 27 September 2007

Time: 9.30 - 11.15

Venue: Committee Room 2, Senedd, National Assembly for Wales

Assembly Members in Attendance

Ann Jones (Chair), Vale of Clwyd
Angela Burns, Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire
Christine Chapman, Cynon Valley
Mike German, South Wales East
Mark Isherwood, North Wales
Bethan Jenkins, South Wales West
Helen Mary Jones, Llanelli
Lynne Neagle, Torfaen
Joyce Watson, Mid and West Wales

Committee Service

Claire Morris, Clerk
Sarah Bartlett, Deputy Clerk
Gwyn Griffiths, Legal Advisor
Denise Rogers, Members' Research Service
Kathryn Potter, Members' Research Service

Item 1: Introduction, Apologies and Substitutions

1.1 The Chair welcomed Committee Members and Members of the public.

1.2 An apology was received from Mick Bates, Mike German substituted.

Item 2: Discussion of scoping paper for the Committee's scrutiny inquiry into the accessibility of polling stations in Wales

Paper: EOC(3)02-07(p.1) 2.1 Members agreed the terms of reference and proposed witnesses, with the inclusion of Disability Wales.

Actions:

The Clerk to invite Disability Wales to give evidence to the Committee.

Item 3: Discussion of background paper for the Committee's proposed inquiry into issues affecting migrant workers

Paper: EOC(3)03-07(p.2) 3.1 Members discussed the key issues and agreed the focus for the inquiry. **Actions:**

The Clerk to draw up terms of reference and a consultation list which would be circulated to Members before the next meeting.

The Chair to write to Ministers asking for an update on Welsh Assembly Government policies affecting migrant workers.

Item 4: Forward Work Programme

Paper: EOC(3)03-07(p.3) 4.1 Members considered the draft forward work programme. **Actions:**

The Chair to write to the Minister requesting an update on the Government's Equal Pay Campaign.

Members to indicate to the Clerk if they would be interested in sitting on an Equal Pay working group.

The Clerk to include Domestic abuse in the forward work programme.

The Clerk to include discussion with the Refugee Council in the forward work programme.

The Legal Advisor to provide a note to Members on the position of Standing Invitees attending Committees in the Third Assembly.

The Clerk and Chair to discuss mechanisms for monitoring reports and recommendations

The Clerk to add Mainstreaming Equality in the Work of the Assembly as an item for discussion with the Minister on 6 December.

Item 5: Consideration of options relating to the establishment of a Committee to consider children and young people's issues

Paper: EOC(3)03-07(p.4) 5.1 The Committee considered possible options for a Children and Young People's Committee **Actions:**

The Chair to write to Business Committee advising that the Committee would like to see a Children and Young Person's Committee established in its own right.