

Equality of Opportunity Committee

Minutes EOC(3)-10-09

Date: Tuesday 30 June 2009

Time: 9.15 - 10.45 am

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

Assembly Members in Attendance

Ann Jones, Vale of Clwyd (Chair)

Eleanor Burnham, North Wales

Janet Ryder, North Wales

Jonathan Morgan, Cardiff North

Joyce Watson, Mid and West Wales

Officials in Attendance

Bethan Webber, Clerk

Rita Phillips, Deputy Clerk

Denise Rogers, Members' Research Service

Helen Roberts, Legal Adviser

Others in Attendance

Ieuan Wyn Jones AM, Deputy First Minister and Minister for the Economy and Transport

Sioned Rees, Head of Enterprise, Welsh Assembly Government

Dr Brian Gibbons AM, Minister for Social Justice and Local Government

Cherry Chapel, Financial and Corporate Business Manager, Welsh Assembly Government

Item 1: Introduction, apologies and substitutions

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

1.2 There were no apologies or substitutions.

1.3 There were no declarations of interest.

1.4 The Chair thanked Committee members for attending the informal meeting at which the Committee's Reports on the Equality Bill and Home Maintenance and Adaptations Services for Older People in Wales were agreed.

1.5 The Chair reminded members that the Report on Home Maintenance and Adaptations Services for Older People in Wales would be launched on 16 July 2009.

Item 2: Inquiry into Older People and Employment Discrimination

Paper: EOC(3)-10-09(p.1)

2.1 The Deputy First Minister and Sioned Rees responded to questions from the Committee.

Actions:

Deputy First Minister to provide further information on the numbers and a case study on the outcomes of older people who have been helped into self-employment following redundancy.

Deputy First Minister to provide figures for the uptake of older people to services provided by the Department for Economic Development and Transport.

Deputy First Minister to provide details of the numbers of older people who have been assisted by the ReAct and ProAct Schemes.

2.2 The Chair thanked the Minister and Sioned Rees for attending the Committee meeting and for submitting a paper in advance.

2.3 The Minister for Social Justice and Local Government and Cherry Chapel responded to questions from the Committee.

Actions:

Chair to write to each Welsh Government Minister to ask for details about how the Single Equality Scheme will help address discrimination against older people in the workplace in settings where the Welsh Government has legal powers and provides funding.

2.4 The Chair thanked the Minister and Cherry Chapel for attending the Committee meeting.

Committee Service

June 2009