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Corporate Management Committee

Thursday, 23 February 2023 at 7.30 pm

Council Chamber - Civic Centre

Supplementary Agenda

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| 5. Great Big Green Week | 2 - 3 |

The Equalities screening for the 2023 Great Big Green Week is set out as follows (based on preferred option 4 as set out in the Committee Report):

| POLICY/FUNCTION/ACTIVITY | LEAD OFFICER |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Great Big Green Week 2023 | Georgina Pacey |

A. What is the aim of this policy, function or activity? Why is it needed? What is it hoped to achieve and how will it be ensured it works as intended? Does it affect service users, employees or the wider community?

The Great Big Green Week is presented as a celebration of local action on climate change with the overarching aim of putting pressure on politicians to raise their ambition and champion action on climate change. The types of activities which take place vary greatly, and include bat walks, bake offs, festivals, concerts, litter picks, plastic free picnics, football matches, film screenings, bike rides, murals, MPs in Electric Vehicles (EVs), seaweed foraging and school projects. Events are mainly hosted by community members such as teachers, bus drivers, sport clubs, artists, builders, local groups, places of worship and others who care about climate change and wished to participate. National organisations, institutions, businesses and media outlets also join in, getting more people involved up and down the country.

The Council’s positive participation in the 2023 Great Big Green Week by running its own events aims to:

- Bring together and engage with our residents (including our young people) and businesses on the important issue of climate change;
- Celebrate local climate change initiatives and encourage more people and organisations to develop their own initiatives;
- Raise the profile of the Council’s response to climate change;
- Provide useful information and signpost other relevant organisations to give people the tools they need to help the Borough transition to net zero carbon by 2050.

It is also proposed that the Council would proactively support and promote the Green Big Green Week and support local groups looking to run their own events.

The Council’s proposed approach to participating in the 2023 Great Big Green Week is not anticipated to affect any employees or service users on the basis of a protected characteristic(s) they have. Any effects that the Council’s participation has on the wider Borough community, including those groups with protected characteristics is likely to be positive but encouraging all residents, including those with protected characteristics, to get involved in the events which are run during the week.

B. Is this policy, function or activity relevant to equality? Does the policy, function or activity relate to an area in which there are known inequalities, or where different groups have different needs or experience? Remember, it may be relevant because there are opportunities to promote equality and greater access, not just potential based on adverse impacts or unlawful discrimination.

The Protected Characteristics are; Sex, Age, Disability, Race, Religion and Beliefs, Sexual Orientation, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Gender Reassignment, Pregnancy and Maternity.

The Council's proposed involvement in the 2023 Great Big Green Week is considered to be relevant to equality, particularly in relation to the proposal to run a number of events. However one of the events is proposed to be developed with the specific aim of engaging young people (this is likely to be young people of school and university age). Young people are generally a hard to reach group when undertaking Council consultations, and as such by actively seeking to secure participation from this group through a bespoke event, the Council's preferred option 4 is considered likely to have positive impacts for people with this protected characteristic.

The general event proposed to be run by the Council would be open to all who wish to attend, including people with protected characteristics. Efforts will need to be made to ensure in particular that this event is accessible for people with disabilities and for people of all ages.

Overall, through running events during the 2023 Great Big Green Week, the Council is seeking to help address the known inequalities experienced by groups with protected characteristics by creating a general event which is open to all and a specific event for young people who are known to be a hard to reach group when developing Council policies/strategies.

If the policy, function or activity is relevant to equality then a full Equality Impact Assessment may need to be carried out. If the policy function or activity does not engage any protected characteristics, then you should complete Part C below. Where Protected Characteristics are engaged, but Full Impact Assessment is not required because measures are in place or are proposed to be implemented that would mitigate the impact on those affected or would provide an opportunity to promote equalities please complete Part C.

C. If the policy, function or activity is not considered to be relevant to equality, what are the reasons for this conclusion? Alternatively, if it is considered that there is an impact on any Protected Characteristics but measures are in place or are proposed to be implemented please state those measures and how it/they are expected to have the desired result. What evidence has been used to make this decision? A simple statement of 'no relevance' or 'no data' is not sufficient.

To address equalities issues, a bespoke event with young people is being planned to ensure that efforts are made to engage this group. Measures will also be explored to ensure that the general event being planned is accessible to people of all ages and those with disabilities to ensure that the event is as inclusive as possible.

Date completed: 15/02/2022

Sign-off by senior manager: Georgina Pacey