

MAJOR REVIEW – COMMUNITY COHESION – WITNESS SESSION

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REASON FOR ITEM

To hear from further witnesses to enable the Committee to gather evidence as part of their major review into Community Cohesion.

OPTIONS OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE

1. Question the witnesses.
2. To consider the scoping report (appendix 1) and to make amendments if necessary
3. To make a note of possible recommendations for the review

INFORMATION

1. This is the final witness session for the Committee's review into Community Cohesion and in particular how Council's services were accessed by all individuals of all backgrounds and groups and sections of the community. At the last meeting of the Committee held on 16 October, Members heard from representatives from the Council's Community Services, namely, Adult Education, Library Services and Sports and Leisure Services.
2. The session helped the Committee understand the range of services and activities which were provided by Council Services to all residents of the Borough. Details of the information provided by the witnesses is included in the Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee which are attached to this agenda.
3. Members agreed that the challenge was getting messages across to those people who did not normally engage with public authorities. The Council's website and Hillingdon People provided good opportunities for the Council to reach out to all people and to promote greater integration and interaction of all individuals.

Witnesses

4. For this meeting community representatives such as from Women's Groups and the Chair of Hillingdon Inter Faith Network have been invited to attend to help the Committee with their review and to hear their experiences of accessing Council services and how successful this has

been. In addition at the last meeting, Members asked that the Council's new Head of Corporate Communications be invited to provide the corporate perspective on what the Council could do to help individuals from all groups, access all Council services.

PAPERS WITH THE REPORT

Scoping Report (Appendix 1)