

REPORT TO: CABINET

DATE: 6 DECEMBER 2018

TITLE: REFERRAL FROM FULL COUNCIL –
ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY
WORKING PARTY

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: COUNCILLOR LANIE SHEARS, PORTFOLIO
HOLDER FOR GOVERNANCE, EQUALITY AND
DIVERSITY

LEAD OFFICER: COLLEEN O’BOYLE, INTERIM HEAD OF
GOVERNANCE (01279) 446099

CONTRIBUTING OFFICER: ADAM REES, GOVERNANCE SUPPORT OFFICER
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This is not a Key Decision

It is not on the Forward Plan. The following exemption applies:

It is a decision on an operational or procedural matter

The decision is not subject to Call-in Procedures for the following reason:

It is a decision on an operational or procedural matter

This decision will affect no ward specifically.

RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- A** Establishes a Religious Diversity Working Party with the terms of reference attached as Appendix A.
- B** Appoints Councillors to the Working Party as set out in Appendix B to the report and grants delegated authority to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Portfolio Holder for Governance, Equality and Diversity to appoint religious leaders in the community to the Working Party.

REASON FOR DECISION

- A** Full Council passed a motion on 1 November 2018 which requested that Cabinet establish a body to explore what measures could be taken to build confidence in religious communities throughout the town.

BACKGROUND

1. On 1 November 2018, Full Council passed a motion which requested that Cabinet establish a body to explore what measures could be taken to build confidence in religious communities throughout the town.

ISSUES/PROPOSALS

2. It is proposed that the terms of reference attached as Appendix A are adopted, including an end date of 31 December 2019. If the Working Party has not finished its work by this time, Cabinet can agree to change the end date. All members of the Working Party, including the religious representatives, will have full voting rights. In line with the Council's Constitution, the Working Party will not have decision making powers. It will refer any decisions to Cabinet for approval.
3. It is also proposed that the Councillor membership of the Working Party is approved as set out in Appendix B. Delegated authority will be given to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder to appoint religious representatives.

IMPLICATIONS

Place (Includes Sustainability)

None specific.

Author: Jane Greer, Head of Community Wellbeing on behalf of Graeme Bloomer, Head of Place

Finance (Includes ICT)

None specific.

Author: Simon Freeman, Head of Finance

Housing

As contained within the report.

Author: Andrew Murray, Head of Housing

Community Wellbeing (Includes Equalities and Social Inclusion)

Increasing understanding of religious diversity will enable the promotion of social inclusion, community cohesion and equality of opportunity.

Author: Jane Greer, Head of Community Wellbeing

Governance (Includes HR)

As contained within the report.

Author: Colleen O'Boyle, Interim Head of Governance

Appendices

Appendix A – Terms of Reference

Appendix B – Membership of the Panel (to be circulated separately)

Background Papers

None.

Glossary of terms/abbreviations used

None.