

## **City of York Council – Community Cohesion approach and plans**

### **Summary**

1. This report summarises the council's proposed approach to Community Cohesion.
2. SIWG is requested to consider the approach and provide feedback about it.

### **Background**

3. In simple terms, community cohesion is about respect fairness and inclusion for everyone who lives in York.
4. The national definition of Community Cohesion, also used by the Inclusive York Forum, is:

“Community Cohesion is activity that enables different groups of people to get on well together.

It has three foundations:

- o People from different backgrounds having similar life opportunities
- o People knowing their rights and responsibilities
- o People trusting one another and trusting local institutions to act fairly

And three key ways of living together:

- o A shared future vision and sense of belonging
- o A focus on what new and existing communities have in common, alongside a recognition of the value of diversity
- o Strong and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds.”

5. The Council's Fairness and Inclusion strategy makes a commitment to develop a Community Cohesion Strategy/Action Plan by July 2010.

6. Community cohesion is very important, if we are to sustain the quality of life currently experienced by York residents. As results council officers are currently developing a plan of action to embed community cohesion in everything the Council and its partners do. They aim to share the plan with local partners for them to agree the approach and identify their contribution to the plan.

7. During the meeting officers will present further details, and seek the Group's view so that SIWG can influence the council's approach to community cohesion.

### **Consultation**

8. Over the coming months the approach will be widely consulted upon, starting with the SIWG and Inclusive York Forum.

### **Options**

9. N/A

### **Analysis**

10. N/A

### **Corporate Priorities**

11. The Plan will contribute and underpin every aspect of the Corporate Strategy.

### **Implications**

12. **Financial** – None

13. **Human Resources (HR)** – None

14. **Equalities** – The Plan will enhance fairness and inclusion in the city.

15. **Legal** - None.

16. **Crime and Disorder** – The Plan will incorporate activity that aims to prevent and minimise crime and disorder in the York,

especially where it is likely to impact on people from the strands negatively.

17. **Information Technology (IT)** - None

18. **Property** - None

19. **Other** - None

### **Risk Management**

20. None, at this stage.

### **Recommendations**

21. Following a presentation by officers, SIWG is requested to offer feedback about the approach to the plan.

Reason: To help officers put in place a fair and inclusive community cohesion plan and to give SIWG the opportunity to influence the plan at the earliest opportunity possible.

### **Contact Details**

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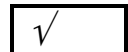
**Report**  
**Approved**



**Date**

**Wards Affected:**

**All**



**For further information please contact the author of the report**