

Ministerial Advice

To: [REDACTED] 2. Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty

From: [REDACTED]

Date: 8 December 2015

Subject: Policy - Publication of Summary Report for the Consultation on Transgender Action Plan

MATS Reference number: MA - P/LG/1253/15

When is a decision required from the Minister? Thursday 10 December

1. What is the issue you are asking the Minister to consider?

The Minister is asked to approve the summary report on the Transgender Action Plan consultation.

Fairer Futures ran a 12 week consultation over the summer on our proposed actions for a Welsh Government Transgender Action Plan to further equality for trans people.

2. What action(s) are you recommending to the Minister?

You are asked to approve the publication of the Consultation Summary Report at Doc 1.

3. Deputy Director, Statement of Assurance

☒ [REDACTED] confirm I have quality assured this advice.

I am satisfied the recommended decision or action, if agreed, would be lawful and affordable. Welsh Government policy priorities and cross portfolio implications have been fully considered.

Advice

4. Context - What is the situation that has led to this advice?

In November 2014, you responded to a Welsh Liberal Democrat debate on Support for the Transgender Community.

During the debate, you committed to lead on a Transgender Action Plan as Minister with overall responsibility for Equality.

Between June and September 2015, Fairer Futures ran a 12 week consultation

period on the actions we proposed to include in the Action Plan. During this period, we held 3 focus group events with members of the transgender community. We estimate around 70 members of the community attended these events.

We received 62 responses which ranged from Individuals, Local Authorities, youth groups, transgender groups and third sector organisations.

The Consultation Summary Report summarises the responses received, both written and those from the consultation events. It aims to give an overview of the breadth and depth of responses and to provide an indication of the issues which were raised most frequently.

We do not intend to publish the responses in full due to the personal nature of some of the responses. We are also withholding the names of individuals who have responded to ensure their anonymity.

Key Issues Raised

Many of the responses focused on Health and Children and Young People.

Health responses focused heavily around the need for Welsh based treatment, the length of current waiting times and the lack of transgender awareness within the Health Service.

Education issues focussed mainly on raising awareness, educating people from a young age and again, raising transgender awareness for all those people working with young people.

Within the other sections (Hate Crime, VAWDA, Housing, Sport, Public Transport, Striving for Equality), responses strongly focused on ensuring services were inclusive for trans people, those providing services were aware of trans issues and trans people be involved in decision making, service design and training.

Next Steps

Using the responses from the consultation, Fairer Futures officials are currently working with colleagues across the organisation to finalise the actions to include in the Transgender Action Plan. Advice on the publication of the Action plan will be submitted to the Minister in due course.

5. What is your advice to the Minister?

You are advised to agree to the publication of the Consultation Summary Report at Doc 1.

The consultation closed on 11 September 2015. It is best practice to publish a summary of the consultation responses on the Welsh Government website within 3 months of the consultation closing.

6. What legal or policy obligations are relevant to this advice?

Impact Assessments

An Equality Impact Assessment and a Children's Rights Impact have been drafted at the start of the consultation process and continue to be updated until the final Transgender Action Plan is agreed, we will then publish the assessments alongside the Action Plan.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The summary report of our consultation on a Welsh Government Transgender Action Plan fits with the 'a more equal Wales' goal in the Act. The Action Plan seeks to improve equality for transgender people.

The Action Plan will also seek to improve the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of transgender people in Wales by contributing to the seven well-being goals.

Welsh Language

The Consultation Response Report will be published bilingually and is compliant with A Living Language: a Language for Living Welsh Language Strategy 2012–17. All consultation documents were also published bilingually.

7. What are the financial implications of Ministers agreeing to this advice and which budget will this be paid through?

There are no financial implications related to this briefing.

This consultation summary does not introduce any proposals affecting expenditure.

The Minister will be asked to approve the final version of the Transgender Action Plan in due course and will be provided with further advice about financial implications.

Any associated administration costs can be met from within the Education and Public Services Delegated Running Costs budget.

The EPS Operations Team has reviewed this MA and is content it complies with Interim Finance Notice 01/15 (EPS/LG/0351/15)

8. What communication or media activity is planned following this decision?

The Consultation Summary Report will be published on the Welsh Government website bilingually. Fairer Futures suggest the Minister tweet to notify interested parties when the summary report has been published. This has been included in the Minister's forward look communications plan.

Annex A: Copy Recipients

All mandatory copy recipients (as indicated in the guidance).

Additional copy recipients specifically interested in this advice:

- PS Minister for Education and Skills, PS Minister for Public Services, PS Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism, PS Minister for Economy, Science and Transport, PS Minister for Health and Social Services, [REDACTED], [REDACTED] Fairer Futures Mailbox, EPS Submissions, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]