

ANGUS COUNCIL**POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE****TUESDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 2001****TAYSIDE RACIAL EQUALITY COUNCIL - SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT****Report by the Chief Executive****ABSTRACT**

This report provides Elected Members with an update on Angus Council's relationship with Tayside Racial Equality Council, and recommends that Angus Council enter into a further Service Level Agreement with the organisation.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Policy & Resources Committee agree to enter into a Service Level Agreement as described in this report.

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Elected Members will recall that they were previously advised, (Report No. 903/99 refers), of the poor performance of Tayside Racial Equality Council with regard to their Service Level Agreement with Angus Council. Elected Members at that time agreed that they should await the outcome of 'standards assessment' being undertaken by the Commission for Racial Equality in Scotland with regard to each Racial Equality Council.

Elected Members are now advised that Tayside Racial Equality Council has passed this 'standards assessment'.

3. THE WAY FORWARD

Elected Members are now advised that Officers are now prepared to recommend to the Policy & Resources Committee, that Angus Council enter into a further Service Level Agreement with Tayside Racial Equality Council, which would cover the period from the decision of this Policy & Resources Committee through to 31 March 2002. The contents of the Service Level Agreement would be the subject of ongoing and regular monitoring, and should any difficulties arise with regard to the fulfilling of the requirements of the Service Level Agreement, their officers will bring back immediate reports to Committee.

Elected Members are asked to note, that whilst no Service Level Agreement has been formally in place since April 1 2000, Tayside Racial Equality Council has continued to provide "generic support to residents of Angus who require their assistance". Details of work undertaken by Tayside Racial Equality Council in Angus has been prepared by the organisation and is attached as Appendix 1 to this report. Members may wish to note that some of the work undertaken relates to bodies other than Angus Council.

It is suggested that the work to be included in the proposed Service Level Agreement, include the following:-

- a) Work set out in Appendix 1 which has been provided by Tayside Racial Equality Council, and
- b) work set out in Appendix 2, this being the work which would be undertaken by the organisation in Angus, during the next 15 months.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications of entering the proposed agreement is that the £5,000 available in the Council's budget with respect to support for Tayside Racial Equality Council during the current financial year be paid to them immediately, and the £5,000 which is anticipated would be made available during the next financial year to cover the Service Level Agreement with the organisation during that period, be paid in full to the organisation, on the following basis:

- a) One payment of £1,250 on 1 April 2001.
- b) One payment of £1,250 on 1 July 2001.
- c) One payment of £1,250 on 1 October 2001.
- d) One payment of £1,250 on 1 January 2002.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS

There are no human rights issues arising from this report.

6. CONSULTATION

All Departments have been consulted during the preparation of this report through their Equal Opportunities Corporate Group representatives, and specifically the Director of Finance, Director of Law & Administration and the Director of Personnel have been consulted.

A B Watson
Chief Executive

Note: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this paper.

APPENDIX 1

Objective 3 Application	Ethnic Food Safety Training Advised and fully supported Angus Council Economic Development Officer and European Officer to attain funding for the project.
Risk Assessment	Helping Environmental and Consumer Protection department to launch a seminar in Angus for ethnic minority businesses. Meetings are ongoing to tackle this task.
Translation/Interpretation	This service provided to facilitate translation of complex material related to GM modified foods and food & hygiene.
Uniformed Services	This is an area of work which is primarily focused on raising awareness of opportunities available in the Uniformed Services to ethnic minorities. A lot of groundwork has been done in Angus in this area.
Tayside Police	Actively support the Police in various areas, specifically recruitment matters, training (racial and cultural awareness issues), Lay Advisory Group (a citizens panel to be set-up which will advise and help the police to work more efficiently in the community).
Newsletters	Quarterly newsletter which provides detailed coverage of TREC activities, distributed all over Angus.
Racial Discrimination and Harassment	Number of cases reported to TREC from Angus citizens. Advice and assistance given to individuals, including liaison as appropriate with housing, education and social work departments. Work includes partnership work with Tayside Police Eastern Division.
Angus Schools Competition	Successful competition amongst P5 Primary Schools in Angus. Exhibition and presentation in Forfar, attended by Provost Duncan, Councillors G Middleton, S Welsh, Director of Education and Angus Artist B Robertson (26 October 2000).
Housing Associations/Scottish Homes	Tayside, Grampian and Fife Forum of Housing Associations and Scottish Homes —conference organised April 2000, Conference Report produced, subsequent TGF/REC meetings hosted.
Noranside Prison	Advice and assistance to Prison Governors, Visitors and Staff.
Environmental & Consumer Protection Department	Training on racial equality undertaken.

Victim Support Angus	Referrals as required.
Students/Voluntary Organisations	Advice and assistance as required.

Misc 2001 Range of Activities TREC have provided Appendix 1

1. **SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE AGENCY**

TREC will provide a service to Angus Council, including advice and assistance to citizens and Council Departments on the effective implementation of the Race Relations Act 1976, in accordance with Commission for Racial Equality recommendations.

2. Provide translation of a variety of service information leaflets.
3. In liaison with a representative of the Education Department, identify ways in which a school in Angus might be provided with support, advice and assistance to assist pupils and their families who are from minority ethnic background.
4. In liaison with a representative of the Law & Administration Department, identify ways in which those from minority ethnic backgrounds can be provided with additional assistance in making application for licenses.
5. TREC will ensure that:-
 - (a) Staff levels (including volunteers) are adequate for the range of services to be provided.
 - (b) Service users are aware of, and take part, where practicable, in the planning and provision of services.
 - (c) A complaints procedure will be available to service users and their representatives.
 - (d) Adequate and appropriate insurance cover will be maintained by TREC, and the Council thus indemnified.
 - (e) Confidentiality will be maintained relating to service users.

