REPORT TO: FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT AGENDA ITEM: 8

COMMITTEE

DATE OF 15th JUNE 2017 CATEGORY: MEETING: DELEGATED

REPORT FROM: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPEN

CORPORATE SERVICES

MEMBERS' KEVIN STACKHOUSE (EXT. 5811) DOC

CONTACT POINT: REF:

SUBJECT: CORPORATE EQUALITIES ANNUAL

REPORT 2016/17 AND ACTION

PLAN 2017/18

WARD(S) ALL TERMS OF

AFFECTED: REFERENCE

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That Members approve, for publication, the Corporate Equalities Annual Report for 2016/17. This is attached in **Appendix A**.

1.2 That Members approve the Corporate Equalities and Safeguarding Action Plan for 2017/18, attached at **Appendix B.**

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To seek approval for the Corporate Equalities Annual Report 2016/17. This will be published on the Council's website.
- 2.2 To approve the Corporate Equalities and Safeguarding Action Plan for 2017/18.

3.0 <u>Detail</u>

- 3.1 The Equality Act 2010 places a duty on public bodies such as the Council to consider the needs of all individuals in its day-to-day work when developing policies, delivering services and in relation to its own employees.
- 3.2 The Act includes the Public Sector Equality Duty. Those subject to the Equality Duty must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
 - eliminate unlawful discrimination
 - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not
 - foster good relations

- 3.3 To demonstrate compliance, the Council must publish relevant and appropriate information. This can be evidenced in a variety of ways, such as the minutes of a meeting or the publication of data, providing it is accessible to the public.
- 3.4 The publication of the Corporate Equalities Annual Report (Appendix A) shows the impact of the Council's approach to employment on its staff and how service users are affected by its policies and practices.
- 3.5 A number of case studies have been used in the Corporate Equalities Annual Report to showcase our work.

Activities planned for 2017/18

- 3.6 The Council will continue to deliver activities in line with its Equalities Policy. These are described in **Appendix B** but include:
 - Sharing details of the work and successes achieved by the Corporate and Equalities Safeguarding Group throughout the authority
 - Publishing progress on our equalities and safeguarding activities through the Corporate Equalities Annual Report
 - Review and, where required, refresh the training plan to ensure awareness of equality and safeguarding responsibilities are clearly defined
 - Meet the new legislative requirements of gender pay gap reporting

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 The Council's commitment and approach to having due regard to the Equality Duty is set out in its Policy Statement and Corporate Equalities Annual Report.

6.0 Community Implications

- 6.1 In supporting our vision of making 'South Derbyshire a better place to live, work and visit,' the Council has a number of 'values' that lie at the core of everything it does. These help us to make a difference for both our employees and our communities within South Derbyshire.
- 6.2 The Council wants all of its communities to be strong places of togetherness and belonging. This is again demonstrated in the Corporate Equalities Annual Report.