

Cabinet Meeting: Monday, 09 December 2024

Question from: Brenda Whisker

Question to: Councillor Dacre

Labour councils: Blackpool, Cheshire East, Hounslow, Islington, Merton, Redbridge, Southend and Warrington have withdrawn from the Stonewall Diversity Programme along with the Scottish Parliament, BBC, EHRC, CPS, Government Equalities office and Sports England.

How can Calderdale council justify expenditure of £2,000 on rejoining the Stonewall programme which is supplementary to their internal EDI training, when they are stopping vital services such as gritting roads which will significantly prevent inclusion of elderly and disabled residents in the community during severe winter weather?

RESPONSE

The Council subscribes to a specific Stonewall programme, Diversity Champions, which is focused on workforce support and development.

In common with all HR & OD subscriptions it will be reviewed at renewal date (March 2025). As on previous occasions, budgetary considerations, value for money and views of staff will be considered.

The Council listened to residents concerns and took the decision to stop the proposed winter service schedule reverting back to the previous gritting programme.