

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO CORPORATE PARENTING CABINET COMMITTEE

13 JULY 2010

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR - CHILDREN

REVIEW OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING CABINET COMMITTEE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2009/10

1. Purpose of Report.

1.1 To review and approve the Committee's Informal Forward Work Programme and propose any additional topics for inclusion.

1.2 To identify plans, policies and strategies for inclusion in its Forward Work Programme and finalise the Forward Work Programme for the period 1st September 2010 to the 31st December 2010.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Plan / Other Corporate Priority.

2.1 The proposed Programme links with the corporate theme of Young Voices.

3. Background.

3.1 An Informal Forward Work Programme was agreed following the Committee's inception. The Programme is now reviewed at each meeting to enable adjustments to be made and for new items to be added.

3.2 The Committee is required to determine its Forward Work Programme for the period 1st September 2010 to the 31st December 2010.

4. Current situation

4.1 It is proposed that further topics now need to be considered by Committee for inclusion in its Informal Forward Work Programme.

4.2 The items previously agreed at committee for inclusion in the Committee's Informal Forward Work Programme were as follows:

- twice yearly report on findings from Members' rota visits, to include number of visits undertaken;
- twice yearly performance information in relation to looked after children, with reference to the Members' guide "If it were my Child" (WAG 2009);

- young people's session, content to be determined by the young people themselves;

Update reports, to include:

- Wales Audit Office study report on education of looked after children;
- Residential review;
- Work experience/apprenticeship scheme for BCBC.

4.3 All the items above were incorporated into the Informal Forward Work Programme and duly reported on in terms of the activity stimulated by the programme, upto and including the July meeting 2010. One item only remains: the outcome of the youth offending service's two recent inspections will be reported to the Committee at its September meeting.

4.4 Suggested topics for future meetings could include regular items such as:

- rota visiting;
- performance data and analysis of the Looked After Children population;
- engagement with young people. .

Additional topics could include updates on;

- residential review implementation;
- educational attainment of looked after children;
- Looked After Children Project ;
- work experience and the apprenticeship and trainee schemes.

Presentation of case studies may also be a useful way of illustrating how the Council is undertaking its corporate parenting responsibilities, with a possible emphasis on younger children and their families.

4.4 There are currently no plans to produce new policies or strategies in relation to the Forward Work Programme.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework& Procedure Rules.

5.1 None

6. Legal Implications.

6.1 None

7. Financial Implications.

7.2 None

8. Recommendation.

It is recommended that the Corporate Parenting Cabinet Committee:

- i) identifies topics for inclusion in its Informal Forward Work Programme;
- ii) identifies any plans, policies and strategies for inclusion in its Forward Work Programme and finalises the Forward Work Programme for the period 1st September 2010 to the 31st December 2010.

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