

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**REPORT TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

28 APRIL 2014

**REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE –
LEGAL & REGULATORY SERVICES**

UPDATE OF INCLUSION PROGRAMME BOARD AND THE INCLUSION SERVICE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of changes to the Inclusion Programme Board and the Inclusion Service.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives / Other Corporate Priorities.

- 2.1 The key improvement objectives identified in the Corporate Plan 2013-2017 have been embodied in the Overview & Scrutiny Forward Work Programmes. The amended Corporate Improvement Objectives adopted by Council on 3 April 2013 formally set out the improvement objectives that the Council will seek to implement between 2013 and 2017. The Overview and Scrutiny Committees engage in review and development of plans, policy or strategies that support the Corporate Themes.

3. Background.

- 3.1 At its meeting on 27 April 2011, the Committee received a report on the Educational Inclusion Programme. At that meeting, the Committee appointed an ALN Champion to sit on the Inclusion Programme Board and feed back to the Committee. Since that time, a number of different members have fulfilled that role.

4. Current Situation / proposal.

- 4.1 The officer's report at Appendix A sets out a number of changes that have taken place within the Inclusion Service. Specifically, the work of the Inclusion Board has been incorporated into the new Children's Change Programme Board.
- 4.2 The current membership of the Children's Change Programme Board is set out in Appendix A, paragraph 4.3. Members will note that there is currently no elected member representation on the Board.
- 4.3 Members may wish to consider whether it would be beneficial to recommend that a representative of the scrutiny committee should attend meetings of the

Children's Change Programme Board, however, the Committee should note that careful consideration would also need to be given to the precise role of any committee representative, to ensure that the potential for future conflicts of interest is minimised. The Committee may wish to further consider whether it wishes to take this opportunity to consider other methods of maintaining its awareness of changes within the Children's Directorate.

- 4.4 Whilst the previous arrangements worked well for the specific issues of Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion, the remit of the new Board is naturally broader than those of the issue specific Boards it replaces. Potentially, this could mean an increased time commitment and an increased risk that the focus of updates becomes too broad to be meaningful.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

- 5.1 The work of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental well being in the County Borough of Bridgend.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 The equality implications are outlined in the officer's report attached as Appendix A.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 The financial implications are outlined in the officer's report attached as Appendix A.

8. Recommendation

The Committee is asked to:

- i. Consider and discuss the information within the attached report;
- ii. Explore issues consistent with its challenge and support role;
- iii. determine whether it wishes to make any comments or recommendations relating to these reports.
- iv. Consider whether it wishes to recommend that a representative of the committee be nominated to attend meetings of the Children's Change Management Board.

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Background Documents:

None