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Bridgend County Borough Council



Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Stryd yr Angel, Pen-y-bont, CF31 4WB / Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB

*Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg.
Rhowch wybod i ni os mai Cymraeg yw eich
dewis iaith.*

*We welcome correspondence in Welsh. Please
let us know if your language choice is Welsh.*



Gwasanaethau Gweithredol a Phartneriaethol / Operational and Partnership Services

Deialu uniongyrchol / Direct line /: (01656)
643147/643148/643696

Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Mrs Julie Ellams

Ein cyf / Our ref:

Eich cyf / Your ref:

Dyddiad/Date: Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Dear Councillor,

CABINET

A meeting of the Cabinet will be held in the Committee Rooms 1/2/3, Civic Offices Angel Street Bridgend CF31 4WB on **Tuesday, 6 September 2016 at 2.30 pm.**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
To receive apologies for absence from Members.
2. Declarations of Interest
To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interest (if any) from Members/Officers in accordance with the provisions of the Members' Code of Conduct adopted by Council from 1 September 2008.
3. Approval of Minutes 5 - 12
To receive for approval the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet of 26 July 2016.
4. Proposed Community Route between Pencoed and Heol y Cyw 13 - 16
To seek Cabinet approval for the creation of a community route between Pencoed and Heol y Cyw and the subsequent adoption of the proposed route as a highway maintainable at the public expense and to inform Cabinet of the current position in respect of Section 106 Agreement funding received pursuant to a Section 106 Agreement dated the 10th October 2007 and the use of this funding for the proposed route.
5. School Modernisation Programme: Outcome of Public Notice On Proposal To Make A Regulated Alteration to Pencoed Primary School 17 - 22
To inform Cabinet of the outcome of the Public Notice on the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Pencoed Primary School, by relocating the school, including the Heol y Cyw campus, to a new build school on the site of Pencoed Primary School playing fields at Penprysg Road, Pencoed with effect from 1st April 2018. To request Cabinet issue a Determination as per the proposal.

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We welcome correspondence in Welsh. Please let us know if your language choice is Welsh

6. School Modernisation Programme: Invitation of Tenders for the Construction of new Pencoed Primary School 23 - 26
To seek Cabinet approval to tender for the construction of the proposed new Pencoed Primary School.
7. Ageing Well in Bridgend 27 - 68
To raise awareness of the key themes of the 'Ageing Well in Wales' plan, the outcomes for older people that are targeted and how this will be planned and delivered within Bridgend County Borough and to approve the plan for Bridgend that has been developed in partnership with the Local Health Board.
8. Urdd National Rugby 7's Competition 69 - 72
To provide information on the benefits of developing a large scale schools rugby event at Pencoed; and to seek Cabinet approval to work with partners to deliver the event.
9. Residential and Nursing Home Contracts 73 - 78
To authorise a waiver under CPR 3.2.3, from the requirement to tender the provision of residential care home services. On the basis that the waiver under CPR 3.2.3 is approved, delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing to enter into contracts with the current and any future residential and nursing care providers on terms to be approved by the Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing in consultation with the Corporate Director - Operations and Partnerships and the s151 Officer.
10. Blue Badge Scheme and Amendment to the Scheme of Delegation of Functions 79 - 82
To seek Cabinet approval to amend the Scheme of Delegation of Functions in relation to the Blue Badge Scheme.
11. Information Reports 83 - 150
To inform Cabinet of the Information Reports which have been published since the last scheduled meeting:

Estyn Inspection Outcomes - Brackla Primary School
Estyn Inspection Outcomes - St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Estyn Report of Central South Consortium
Youth Justice Plan
12. School Modernisation - Garw Valley South 151 - 158
To seek approval to proceed with the Garw Valley South scheme at a revised overall project budget not exceeding £11.2 million and subject to approval above, note that the Chief Executive intends to make a revision to the Capital Programme. Delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Education and Family Support to conduct negotiations, if necessary, with the lowest priced tenderer, in accordance with procurement legislation. Subject to the successful outcome of any such negotiations, delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Education and Family Support to award a contract, the terms to be finalised in consultation with the Corporate Director – Operations and Partnerships and the s151 Officer. Grant approval to modify the decision made by Cabinet on the 1st September 2015, in respect of the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw, by varying the opening date of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw from September 2018 to January 2019.
13. Urgent Items
To consider any items of business that by reason of special circumstances the chairperson is of the opinion should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency in accordance with paragraph 2.4 (e) of the Cabinet Procedure Rules within the Constitution.

14. Exclusion of the Public
 The minutes and reports relating to the following items are not for publication as they contain exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 14 and 16 of Part 4 and Paragraph 21 of Part 5, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.
 If following the application of the public interest test Cabinet resolves pursuant to the Act to consider these items in private, the public will be excluded from the meeting during such consideration.
15. Approval of Exempt Minutes 159 - 160
 To receive for approval the exempt minutes of the meeting of Cabinet of 26th July 2016
16. School Modernisation - Garw Valley South 161 - 168
17. Third Sector Contracts 169 - 176
18. Extension of Hybrid Mail Contract 177 - 180

Yours faithfully

P A Jolley

Corporate Director Operational and Partnership Services

Distribution:

Councillors:

MEJ Nott OBE

HJ David

CE Smith

Councillors

HJ Townsend

PJ White

HM Williams

Councillors

CL Reeves

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD IN COMMITTEE ROOMS 1/2/3, CIVIC OFFICES ANGEL STREET BRIDGEND CF31 4WB ON TUESDAY, 26 JULY 2016 AT 2.30 PM

Present

Councillor MEJ Nott OBE – Chairperson

HJ David

HJ Townsend

PJ White

CL Reeves

Officers:

Randal Hemingway	Head of Finance & Section 151 Officer
Darren Mephram	Chief Executive
Deborah McMillan	Corporate Director Education & Family Support
Mark Shephard	Corporate Director - Communities
Susan Cooper	Corporate Director - Social Services & Wellbeing
Andrew Jolley	Corporate Director Operational & Partnership Services
Andrew Rees	Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees

952. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors CE Smith and HM Williams.

953. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

954. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet of 5 July 2016 be approved as a true and accurate record.

955. BUDGET MONITORING - QUARTER 1 2016-17

The Section 151 Officer reported on an update on the Council's financial position as at 30 June 2016.

He informed Cabinet that Council on 10 March 2016 had approved a net revenue budget of £254.891 million for 2016-17 along with a capital programme of £43.553 million, which was revised to £49.530 million. He reported that the projected position as at 30 June 2016 was a net over spend of £164,000, comprising a £564,000 net over spend on Directorates and a £400,000 under spend on corporate budgets. The Section 151 Officer stated that the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) approved by Council in March 2016 had identified the need to develop recurrent budget reduction proposals, based on the most likely scenario amounting to £35.5 million over the next four years.

He reported on the monitoring of budget reduction proposals in that of the £11.225 million budget reduction proposals for 2015-16, £2.692 million were not met in full, with a shortfall in the financial year of £1.909 million. There remained a shortfall of £1.172 million in 2016-17 against these specific proposals. The sum of £333,000 had been transferred to the earmarked reserve in 2016-17 which will be used to partly mitigate the shortfall on MREC, Blue Badges and School Transport. He reported that of the budget reductions proposals totalling £7.477 million, five of the proposals totalling £1.007 million are Red and thirteen of the proposals are Amber, which total £1.115 million. He stated that work is ongoing to deliver the proposals or alternatives which have been reflected in

the forecast outturn for the year. He summarised the financial position for each main service area by Directorate as at 30 June 2016.

The Section 151 Officer reported on the position on the Council wide budgets which is £43.144m with a projected outturn of £42.744m, resulting in a projected under spend of £400,000 as a result of lower demand than forecast for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme. He stated that this projection could change significantly during the financial year, depending on the cost of redundancies incurred during the financial year, the extent of inclement weather, inflationary changes and demands on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

The Section 151 Officer reported on the monitoring of the capital programme for 2016-17, which was approved by Council in March 2016, and revised in May and July 2016. The revised programme totalled £49.530 million, of which £35.378 million is met from Council resources with the remaining £14.152 million coming from external grants.

RESOLVED: That the projected revenue and capital outturn position for 2016-17.

956. RESIDUAL WASTE COLLECTION DISPENSATIONS PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROPOSALS

The Corporate Director Communities sought approval to enter into public consultation on possible dispensations to the two bags per fortnightly restriction on the collection of residual household waste, from 1 April 2017 for households with a high number of occupants and for households disposing of ash from coal fires.

He reported that the Waste Collections and Household Waste Amenity Sites contract is currently in the process of being re-procured and will operate from 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2024. At present all residual waste presented by householders is collected by the waste contractor. In order to meet very stringent Welsh Government recycling targets changes to the collection arrangements will be required which would be the subject of public consultation. He stated that during the previous eight week public consultation, a number of questions were raised by the public to the proposal to restrict the number of residual bags that householders could present for collection to two bags per fortnight. The public had highlighted the two areas set out above as being of particular concern and whether the Council would consider providing dispensation from the proposed restriction. It was requested that a further round of public consultation be undertaken to inform and develop proposals for dispensation.

He also reported that the issue of the disposal of pet waste had been raised in the previous consultation. He stated that allowing such a dispensation was considered, however due to the need to achieve current and future statutory recycling targets and to reduce the waste disposal costs by the Council, increasing the amount of waste to be disposed to landfill would make this dispensation cost prohibitive and the Council was unable to offer any form of dispensation for pet waste disposal.

The Cabinet Member Communities commented on the need for further public consultation to be carried out in relation to dispensations for the two areas identified but that it was not practical to offer a dispensation for the disposal of pet waste.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet approved public consultation on proposed dispensations from the Council's policy for restricting household residual waste collections to two bags per fortnight from 1 April 2017 in the circumstances detailed below: -

1. Households with a high number of occupants.
2. Households disposing of ash from coal fires.

That Cabinet noted that a further report will be brought forward for consideration by Cabinet, which will set out in detail: -

1. The findings of the public consultation.
2. Recommendations on what dispensations should be granted.
3. Details of the criteria to be used when considering applications from the public for dispensation from the collections restriction.

957. SOCIAL SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing presented her Annual Report for 2015/16 requesting that the judgements reached locally about social care services in Bridgend be noted. She stated that the seventh Annual report was based on the authority's self-assessment of the performance and delivery of social services.

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing reported that aim of the Annual report is to provide the Council and people living in the Borough with an overview of the standard of social care. It also highlighted the progress made during the year and identified where improvements are needed during 2016/17. The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing informed Cabinet that the report is in four parts, with the first part providing an overview of Bridgend and summarising the main achievements in 2015/16 and priorities for social services in 2016/17. The second and third sections provide more detail about the two main service areas of adult social care and safeguarding and family support and on performance and developments. She stated that arrangements in both children and adult services are generally sound, although there is always room for improvement and mistakes do occur. Services are generally effective in meeting the needs of people who require social care.

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing outlined the areas of good practice and areas for improvement and follow-up highlighted by the CSSIW. She stated that in line with the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, the process for producing the Annual Report will change and the arrangements for 2016/17 are being finalised.

The Cabinet Member Adult Social Care and Health and Wellbeing highlighted the good case studies outlined in the Annual Report. He stated that the Annual report had been well received by the Overview and Scrutiny process. The Cabinet Member Children's Social Services and Equalities thanked the officers of the Directorate for their hard work and in particular for driving forward changes to services to children with disabilities and children's social services. The Deputy Leader also commended the Directorate for the work undertaken to remodel adult social care and children's social services.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet noted the Director of Social Services Annual report for 2015/16.

958. SOCIAL SERVICES' FUNCTIONS IN RELATION TO PART 11 OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING (WALES) ACT 2014 UPDATE, AND TO SEEK APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH HMP PARC PRISON

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing reported on the authority's responsibilities in respect of the Secure Estate, following the implementation of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014. The Act introduced responsibilities on local authorities for addressing the care and support needs of all adults and children in the secure estate not just upon discharge but while they are in custody.

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing reported that there is a training and resettlement prison accommodating 1723 males from the age of 18 within the authority's boundary and which the authority is responsible for meeting the care and support needs of individuals with eligible needs. She outlined the responsibilities of the authority with regard to adults and children within the Secure Estate. She stated that the authority will also have responsibilities for looked after children in the Secure estate under Part 6 of the Act both as a home local authority and an authority in which a Secure Estate establishment for children is located.

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing also reported that the Head of Adult Social Care represents the Council on a National Steering Group convened to discuss the implementation of responsibilities of the four local authorities in Wales that have prisons within their boundaries. A Local Implementation Group has been established to develop a local implementation plan. Two senior social work practitioners and a senior occupational therapist had been appointed on temporary 9 month contracts to carry out assessments and develop managed care and support plans for those within the secure estate. This Team will support the work of the existing health board mental health in-reach team, with the posts being funded by the Welsh Government grant.

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing reported that to establish the secure estate service, work has progressed to resolve many of the governance issues associated with the development of this service which had led to a draft Information Sharing Protocol (ISP) and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). She stated that the process had not been straightforward due to the significantly challenging security ICT issues associated with the required security processes at HMP Parc. The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing informed Cabinet that a mapping exercise has been carried out which indicated that there were 20 people waiting for integrated assessment and 40 requiring assessment for aids and equipment to support their daily living. The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing also informed Cabinet that the authority is already working in partnership with HMP Parc on the Invisible Walls Wales project which works with families affected by parental imprisonment, with the aim of reducing the risk of re-offending.

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing informed Cabinet that the Memorandum of Understanding will set out the shared strategic intent and joint commitment of the authority with ABMU Health Board, HMP and Youth Offending Institute Parc under the leadership of G4S and National Offender Management Service to work together to ensure that people within the secure estate have access to appropriate social care support. She stated that the Information Sharing Protocol has been developed to support the regular sharing of personal information between the partner agencies to enable the delivery of effective care and support. An agreement would be entered into with G4S Medical Services Limited to provide appropriate care and support within the secure estate. She stated that this company currently provide such a service within the prison and due to the nature of the prison being an environment of a locked secure premises, outside agencies would need to go through

strict clearance processes in order to provide social care support to individuals in the secure estate. Therefore, G4S Medical Services Limited was technically the only potential provider of care and support services.

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing reported on the financial implications of funding social care for prisoners in that the authority received a Welsh Government grant of up to £236,744 in 2016/17. This funding was one for one year only and thereafter the funding would reduce to £217,448 on an ongoing basis. She stated that as this is a new responsibility and in order to understand the demand for services at HMP Parc, it was intended to establish a pilot team and evaluate the actual demand and cost of the service in the first year.

The Cabinet Member Adult Social Care and Health and Wellbeing commented that this was a new responsibility for local government had been awarded additional funding at the current level for this year only and it was too early to ascertain whether the level of resources was sufficient. The Deputy Leader expressed concern at the new responsibility had been moved from the prison service to local government with the burden for providing the service falling on council tax payers and requested that representations be made to the Welsh Government.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- (1) Noted the information contained in this report; and the additional responsibilities for the Local Authority as a result of the implementation of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014.
- (2) Approved a waiver under Rule 3.2.3 from the requirement to seek competitive tenders for the provision of care and support within HMP Parc on the basis that there is technically only one organisation which can deliver this service
- (3) Delegated authority to the Director of Social Services and Wellbeing in consultation with the Corporate Director for Operational and Partnership Services and the Section 151 Officer to:
 - Finalise and approve the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with HMP Parc Prison and other strategic partners to set out agreed procedures for the provision of care and support for prisoners in the Secure Estate and execute the MOU on behalf of the Council;
 - Finalise and approve the terms of an interagency information sharing protocol (ISP) between Bridgend Council and relevant agencies to support the regular sharing of personal information between those agencies to enable them to deliver effective care and support and execute the ISP on behalf of the Council;
 - Subject to Cabinet's approval of a waiver under Rule 3.2.3, of the Contract Procedure Rules, finalise and approve the terms of a short term 'pilot scheme' agreement on the terms set out in paragraph [4.27] above with G4S Medical Services Ltd and arrange the execution of the final agreement on behalf of the Council.

- (4) Noted that the outcome of the pilot agreement with G4S will be reported back to Cabinet in due course and authority to enter into a longer term agreement, if appropriate, will be sought at that time.
- (5) Make representations to the Welsh Government via the WLGA to seek funding from the Prison Service to be devolved to the authority to enable it to provide services to the Secure Estate previously provided by the Prison Service.

959. SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME - GARW VALLEY SOUTH ACCEPTANCE OF TENDER AND CONTRACT AWARD

The Corporate Director Education and Family Support reported that Cabinet in March 2015 agreed to proceed with a replacement of Betws Primary School on land used as the playing fields for the existing school site, which is also an area of public open space. Cabinet in September 2015 agreed to relocate Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw to the existing Betws Primary School site with effect from September 2018. She stated that a consultation on the appropriation of land at Betws Primary School to change the purpose of the land held for a leisure function to educational purposes was completed and planning approval obtained in May 2016.

The Corporate Director Education and Family Support reported that the procurement and tender process for the scheme was progressed on a two stage process, with officers currently undertaking the second stage of the process, inviting 7 contractors to tender. She stated that the value of the contract is above £5 million and Cabinet approval would normally be sought to award the contract to the most economically advantageous tender, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation. However, the current timetable for the procurement process would result in the contract having to be awarded before the date of the next Cabinet meeting, with a risk of the spend profile not being met which may result in Welsh Government grant funding being lost. Delegated authority was sought to award the contract to the most economically advantageous tender for the construction of Betws Primary School and Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw subject to the cost of the overall scheme being within the budget available.

The Deputy Leader in commending the proposal stated that tenders will be evaluated on the basis of the most economically advantageous tender and also in accordance with quality and that the schools will be involved in the scoring process.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- 1) Delegated authority to the Corporate Director, Education and Family Support to award the Contract to the bidder submitting the most economically advantageous tender, subject to the tender price being acceptable to the S151 Officer, and subject to receipt of Welsh Government funding approval.
- 2) Subject to the Contract being awarded in accordance with paragraph 8.1.1. of the report, delegated authority to the Corporate Director, Education and Family Support to enter into a construction Contract with any relevant ancillary agreements thereto, in consultation with the Director of Operational and Partnership Services, and arrange for execution of the same on behalf of the Council.

3) Noted that Cabinet will in due course receive an Information Report detailing the outcome of the tender process.

960. INFORMATION REPORTS

The Corporate Director Operational and Partnership Services presented a report, the purpose of which was to inform Cabinet of the Information Reports and minutes of a Joint Committee that had been published since the last meeting.

The Deputy Leader congratulated the staff, pupils and governing body of Caerau Primary School on the strong progress made against the post action plan which had been recognised by Estyn.

He also commented on the very positive feedback received from users of adult social care services as outlined in the Social Services Representations and Complaints Annual Report.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet acknowledged the publication of the documents listed in the report:-

Title	Date Published
Social Services Representations and Complaints Annual Report 2015/16	20 July 2016
Corneli Primary School Post Inspection Action Plan	20 July 2016
Treasury Management Activities and Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators 2016-17	20 July 2016
Minutes of the Catalogue Supplies Joint Committee of 9 February 2016	20 July 2016

961. URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

962. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business as it contained exempt information as defined in Paragraph 16 of Part 4 and Paragraph 21 of Part 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

CABINET - TUESDAY, 26 JULY 2016

The Corporate Director Operational and Partnership Services confirmed that this item was not subject to the public interest test for reasons of legal professional privilege and should therefore be considered in private.

963. RE-COMMISSIONING INDEPENDENT DOMICILIARY CARE COMMISSIONING PLAN

The meeting closed at 3.30 pm

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

6 SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITIES

PROPOSED COMMUNITY ROUTE BETWEEN PENCOED AND HEOL Y CYW

1. Purpose of Report.

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet approval for the creation of a community route between Pencoed and Heol y Cyw and the subsequent adoption of the proposed route as a highway maintainable at the public expense .
- 1.2 To inform Cabinet of the current position in respect of Section 106 Agreement funding received pursuant to a Section 106 Agreement dated the 10th October 2007 and the use of this funding for the proposed route.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

2.1 Corporate plan 2016-2020

Priority Two – Helping people to be more self-reliant by enabling community groups and the third sector to have more voice and control over community assets.

3. Background.

- 3.1 In 2006 Rockwool Ltd submitted a planning application to increase the size of their operational facility off Wern Tarw near Pencoed.
- 3.2 During subsequent discussions between Rockwool Ltd and the Council it was agreed that Condition 12 of planning consent P/06/1588/FUL would be superseded by a Section 106 Agreement requiring:
 - A contribution of £20,000 towards a road improvement scheme on Route A473 at Ty Merchant, Pencoed, incorporating traffic management features, kerblines adjustments, pedestrian facilities and enhanced signing and lining.
 - To provide a contribution of £10,000 towards a full signalisation and carriageway widening/improvement of junction 35 m4 to facilitate improved management of the increased level of HGVs utilizing this junction.
 - A contribution of £212,000 towards the following works:
 - Vehicle actuated signing and enhanced street lighting should be provided at the junctions of Wern Tarw/Bryn Garw Road; Wern Tarw/B4280; B4280/Penprysg Road
 - Pedestrian footway/stepping off points at 100 metre intervals, from the property access to the junction of Penprysg Road/B4280 to mitigate pedestrian/HGV

conflict. To include at least two pedestrian crossing points to facilitate safe pedestrian access to public transport facilities.

- 3.3 The scheme was designed by the Council but as part of the proposed works would be located on registered common consent was required from the Planning Inspectorate under Section 194 of the Law of Property Act 1925 (this procedure is now replaced by Section 38 of The Commons Act 2006) to construct works on common land. The Section 194 application process required letters of support from the Commoners Association, the Board of Conservators for the Coity Wallia Common and the Freeholder (the Dunraven Estate) indicating their approval of the proposed scheme.
- 3.4 The Council was unable to obtain these letters of support from the Commoners or the Board of Conservators. Consequently only works on Council owned land were implemented during 2010.
- 3.5 Around April/May 2012 the Heol Y Cyw Community Access Group approached the Council about the proposal to construct a community route from Pencoed to Heol Y Cyw.
- 3.6 The Heol y Cyw Community Access Group subsequently agreed a route that was acceptable to the Commoners Association and the Heol y Cyw Community Access Group. This alternative scheme was discussed with the Rockwool Finance Director & the Operations Director on 19/11/12 and a letter of confirmation of re-allocation of remaining Section 106 funds was received from Rockwool dated 13/12/12. The alternative scheme was then designed and planning approval subsequently obtained. This scheme comprised of the construction of a community route on the opposite side of Penprysg Road to that previously proposed between Pencoed and Wern Tarw Cross, at Wern Tarw Cross move over to the other side of Penprysg Road and continue the construction all the way to Heol y Cyw. A considerable period of time elapsed once again in obtaining written approval/support for the proposal from the Commoners Association and the Board of Conservators. Approval has now been obtained with a view to obtaining consent under Section 38 Commons Act 2006.
- 3.7 It is proposed that the remaining Section 106 monies will be used exclusively on construction of the works between Pencoed and Wern Tarw Cross. The remaining Section 106 monies are not sufficient to construct all of the proposed route from Pencoed to Wern Tarw Cross. Rockwool have conditioned that, in order for the Section 106 monies to be used to fund part of the construction of the route, the Community Group have to gain access to sufficient additional monies to construct the section from Pencoed to Wern Tarw Cross before a build contract is entered into.
- 3.8 It is proposed that when the proposed route has been completed to a satisfactory standard it will be adopted by the Council as a highway maintainable at the public expense. It is anticipated that this may involve phased dedication of sections of the proposed route.

4. Current situation / proposal.

- 4.1 In respect of the proposed scheme identified in paragraph 3.6 above:

- The route has been designed;
- Planning consent has now been obtained;
- An Ecological Survey has been completed;
- The scheme is supported by the Freeholder, the Commoners Association, the Board of Conservators for the Coity Wallia Common and Rockwool Ltd;
- An application will need to be submitted to obtain consent in accordance with Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules.

5.1 There is no effect upon Policy Framework and Procedural Rules

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 The proposed works have been designed in compliance with DDA Regulations and will be constructed similarly. An Equality Impact Assessment screening form has been completed concluding NO FURTHER EIA required.

7. Financial Implications.

7.1 The cost of Communities Directorate Officer time associated with the progression of this scheme will be funded from the Section 106 monies.

8. Recommendation.

8.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approves:

8.1.1 The submission of an application under Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006 to the Planning Inspectorate Wales for consent to construct works on common land.

8.1.2 That the Corporate Director, Operational & Partnership Services is authorised:

- To advertise notice of the section 38 Commons Act 2006 application.
- To enter into a licence with the Landowner (The Dunraven Estate) and the Conservators of the common to enable works to be completed prior to dedication.
- To enter into a Footpath Creation Agreement with the Landowner, the Conservators of the Coity Wallia Common and Commoners Association pursuant to section 25 of the Highways Act.
- To obtain such further consents that are required under the Coity Wallia Commons Act 1976.
- To progress a cycletrack conversion order pursuant to the Cycle Tracks Act 1984 to enable use of the proposed route by cycles.
- Invite tenders and award a contract for the construction of the proposed works.

Mark Shephard
CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES
July 2016

Contact Officer: Zak Shell
 Head of Neighbourhood Services

Telephone: (01656) 643403

E-mail: zak.shell@bridgend.gov.uk

Postal Address Communities Directorate | Bridgend County Borough Council | Civic
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Background documents

None

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET REPORT

6 SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME: OUTCOME OF PUBLIC NOTICE ON PROPOSAL TO MAKE A REGULATED ALTERATION TO PENCOED PRIMARY SCHOOL

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is:

- to inform Cabinet of the outcome of the Public Notice on the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Pencoed Primary School, by relocating the school, including the Heol y Cyw campus, to a new build school on the site of Pencoed Primary School playing fields at Penprysg Road, Pencoed with effect from 1st April 2018;
- to request Cabinet issue a Determination as per the proposal.

2 Connection to Corporate Plan / Other Corporate Priorities

2.1 The school modernisation programme supports many of the corporate priorities, in particular:

- Smarter use of resources
- Supporting a successful economy

3 Background

3.1 On 3rd March 2015, Cabinet approval was received for the Council to adopt revised principles as a framework for school organisation in Bridgend; five key principles were set out to inform the organisation and modernisation of our schools:

- i. Commitment to high standards and excellence in provision.
- ii. Equality of opportunity, so that all pupils can access quality learning opportunities, regardless of which school they attend.
- iii. Inclusive schools, which cater for the learning needs of all their pupils.
- iv. Community focussed schools, where the school actively engages with its local community.
- v. Value for money.

3.2 The Policy and Planning Framework sets out 17 areas where these principles should be applied in practice.

- 3.3 The principles which are particularly relevant in the context of this proposal concern the size of primary schools (to ensure that “all Bridgend’s primary schools are large enough to make the full range of necessary provision”) and value for money, efficiency and effectiveness and the provision of local schools, planning new provision to reflect changes in the distribution of the population.
- 3.4 This report outlines the result of the Public Notice in respect of the proposed relocation and seeks approval to continue the process to the next stage.

4 Current situation

- 4.1 On 16th February 2016, Cabinet approved the consultation on the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Pencoed Primary School by relocating the school, including the Heol Y Cyw campus, to the site of the school playing fields at Penprysg Road, Pencoed.
- 4.2 In order to progress the proposal, consultation was carried out between 23rd March and 9th May 2016 in accordance with the statutory School Organisation Code. A copy of the consultation document was also made available during this time on the Council’s website:

<http://www1.bridgend.gov.uk/services/consultation/hub/pencoed-primary-consultation-2016.aspx>

The consultation document invited views and opinions to be submitted in respect of the proposal.

- 4.3 Cabinet, on 7th June 2016, having considered the outcome of the consultation with all parties as detailed in the consultation report, authorised the publication of a statutory notice outlining the proposals - which was published on 15th June 2016 for a period of 28 days (and formal written objections were invited during this time).
- 4.4 Since no objections were received during the Public Notice period, then Cabinet can now determine the proposal (*Cabinet can accept, reject or modify the proposal*).

5 Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

- 5.1 There is no effect upon the policy framework or procedure rules.

6 Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out as part of the consultation stage and has been further informed by responses to the consultation papers. The assessment has concluded that there is no negative impact on the duties of the Council towards protected groups.

- 6.2 A Welsh Impact Assessment has been carried out as part of the consultation.
- 6.3 A Community Impact Assessment has been carried out as part of the consultation.

7 Financial Implications

- 7.1 The anticipated cost of the proposed new Pencoed Primary School will be funded by the Council and Welsh Government under the 21st Century Schools Programme for which the Authority has received Welsh Government 'approval in principle'. The current budget for the scheme in the Capital Programme approved by Council is £8.8 million. However, as referred to in the reports to Cabinet and Council in May on the Capital Programme, the total scheme cost is likely to exceed that amount due to site abnormalities (e.g. construction of retaining walls and cut and fill exercises due to ground conditions/site levels, drainage works required to adequately attenuate and drain surface water into culverts) , rising construction costs and highways requirements outside of the scope of Welsh Government 21st Century Schools funding (e.g. access junction works required in order to provide a highway access to the school site which meets modern safety standards). An application has been made to Welsh Government for additional funding towards the scheme, and an agreement "in principle" has been secured. A further report will be presented to Cabinet and Council in October to seek additional Council funding to meet the remaining shortfall in scheme costs. The contract following the tender process will not be awarded until all funding sources have been secured. The total estimated budget envelope required for the entire Pencoed Scheme, including all costs (such as furniture and equipment, fees, construction, groundworks, decant, highways works etc.) is £11.1 million.
- 7.2 Pupils will be provided with free transport to the new school in line with Bridgend County Borough Council's school transport policy. Free school transport is currently provided in the County for walking distances greater than 1.5 miles by safe, available walking routes. It is estimated that the school bus service to transfer pupils to the new Pencoed Primary site will cost approximately £40,470 p.a. The existing transport arrangements for the current split site school cost approximately £48,070p.a. The distance between the Heol y Cyw site and the site for the proposed new Pencoed Primary school is only approximately 2 miles. Consequently, journey times for pupils requiring transport will be minimal should the proposal be taken forward and one-way journeys certainly significantly less than 45 minutes.

8 Recommendations

- 8.1 Cabinet is therefore recommended to:
- 1) consider the outcome of the Public Notice as detailed in the report above;
 - 2) approve the implementation of the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Pencoed Primary School, by relocating the school,

including the Heol y Cyw campus, to a new build school on the site of Pencoed Primary School playing fields at Penprysg Road, Pencoed with effect from 1st April 2018, subject to all funding sources being approved.

Deborah McMillan
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Background documents

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Children and Young People's Report February 9th 2009: SCHOOLS OF THE FUTURE – THE SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME

Cabinet Report 28th April 2009: SCHOOLS OF THE FUTURE – THE SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME OVERVIEW AND PROGRESS

Cabinet Report 16th May 2009: SCHOOLS OF THE FUTURE – THE SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME OVERVIEW AND PROGRESS

Cabinet Report, 14th July. 2009, "SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME: PHASE 1 3-11 LEARNING PROVISION IN THE PENCOED AREA"

Cabinet Report 7th September 2010 - SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME: PROPOSED CHANGES IN 3 – 11

Cabinet Report 2nd November 2010 SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME: THE OUTCOME OF CONSULTATIONS ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO HEOL Y CYW AND PENCOED PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Cabinet Report 2nd November 2010: "THE SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME OVERVIEW AND BRIDGEND'S 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS' STRATEGIC OUTLINE PROGRAMME SUBMISSION TO WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT"

Cabinet report 21st February 2012: "SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME: BRIDGEND'S 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS' STRATEGIC OUTLINE PROGRAMME REVISED BAND A SUBMISSION TO WELSH GOVERNMENT"

Cabinet Report 3rd March 2015: "PRINCIPLES DOCUMENT"

Cabinet Report 16th February 2016: "PROPOSAL TO CONSULT ON A REGULATED ALTERATION TO PENCOED PRIMARY SCHOOL"

Cabinet Report 7th June 2016: SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME:
OUTCOME OF CONSULTATIONS ON PROPOSAL TO MAKE A REGULATED
ALTERATION TO PENCOED PRIMARY SCHOOL

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

6 SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

SCHOOL MODERNISATION: PENCOED PRIMARY SCHOOL, INVITATION TO TENDER

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to seek Cabinet approval to tender for the construction of the proposed new Pencoed Primary School.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

2.1 The school modernisation programme supports the corporate priorities:

- Smarter use of resources
- Supporting a successful economy

3. Background

3.1 On the 16th September 2014 Cabinet agreed to participate and be a signatory to the South East Wales Schools Capital Procurement Framework (SEWSCAP Framework) for a four year period, commencing April 2015.

3.2 On 6th September 2016 Cabinet was requested to approve the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Pencoed Primary School, by relocating the school, including the Heol y Cyw campus, to a new build school on the site of Pencoed Primary School playing fields at Penprysg Road, Pencoed with effect from 1st April 2018.

3.3 A planning application for the new school (reference P/16/603/BCB) was submitted on 28th July 2016; it is anticipated that a decision will be made regarding the application in due course.

4. Current Situation

4.1 The tender process for the SEWSCAP Framework was undertaken and administered by Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council, in conjunction with Capita Glamorgan on behalf of all participating Councils, of which Bridgend are one.

- 4.2 Due to the way in which BCBC has developed the in-house design of the Pencoed Primary scheme within the School Modernisation programme, it is necessary to use the JCT Standard Form of Contract with Quantities 2011 edition.
- 4.3 The Strategic Outline Case, which has received approval by Welsh Government, indicated that the SEWSCAP Framework would be used as the procurement route for the scheme. Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council has issued an amendment notice to allow the inclusion of the JCT 2011 Standard Form of Contract with quantities contract within the framework.
- 4.4 Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council is currently working to formalise the use of JCT with Quants under SEWSCAP 2 and have stated that they envisage the process will be complete in time to permit an October 2016 tender date for the Pencoed Primary scheme.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules

- 5.1 This report has no effect on Policy Framework and Procedural Rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 The Council's Equalities Impact Assessment Toolkit has been utilised which indicates that the proposal would have no impact on specific equality groups.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 The cost of the tender exercise will be met from within existing resources.
- 7.2 The anticipated cost of the proposed new Pencoed Primary School will be funded by the Council and Welsh Government under the 21st Century Schools Programme for which the Authority has received Welsh Government '*approval in principle*'. The current budget for the scheme in the capital programme approved by Council is £8.8 million. However, as referred to in the reports to Cabinet and Council in May on the Capital Programme, the total scheme cost is likely to exceed that amount due to site abnormalities (e.g. construction of retaining walls and cut and fill exercises due to ground conditions/site levels, drainage works required to adequately attenuate and drain surface water into culverts) , rising construction costs and highways requirements outside of the scope of Welsh Government 21st Century Schools funding (e.g. access junction works required in order to provide a highway access to the school site which meets modern safety standards).

An application has been made to Welsh Government for additional funding towards the scheme, and an agreement "in principle" has been secured. A further report will be presented to Cabinet and Council in October to seek additional Council funding to meet the remaining shortfall in scheme costs. The tender will not be awarded until all funding sources have been secured. The total estimated budget envelope required for the entire Pencoed Scheme,

including all costs (such as furniture and equipment, fees, construction, groundworks, decant, highway works etc.) is £11.1 million.

8. Recommendation

8.1 Cabinet is recommended to:

8.1.1 Approve the issue of an invitation to tender for the construction of a new Pencoed Primary School (subject to Cabinet determining to approve the implementation of the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Pencoed Primary School, obtaining appropriate planning permission in respect of the planning application and subject to Welsh Government approval of the Full Business Case).

8.1.2 Note that Cabinet will in due course receive a further report seeking Cabinet's approval for the award of the contract to the successful tenderer.

Deborah McMillan

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Cabinet Report 7th June 2016: SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME: OUTCOME OF CONSULTATIONS ON PROPOSAL TO MAKE A REGULATED ALTERATION TO PENCOED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cabinet Report 6th September 2016: SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME: OUTCOME OF PUBLIC NOTICE ON PROPOSAL TO MAKE A REGULATED ALTERATION TO PENCOED PRIMARY SCHOOL

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

6th SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING

AGEING WELL IN BRIDGEND

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To raise awareness of the key themes of the 'Ageing Well in Wales' plan, the outcomes for older people that are targeted and how this will be planned and delivered within Bridgend County Borough.
- 1.2 To approve the plan for Bridgend that has been developed in partnership with the Local Health Board. The plan is attached at **Appendix 1**.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Plan / Other Corporate Priority

- 2.1 The Council's support for older people as a response to Ageing well in Wales contributes to all corporate priorities including:
 - Helping people to be more self-reliant;
 - Supporting a successful economy;
 - Smarter use of resources.

and in particular to support the recognition of the value that older people can make whilst enabling our communities to be age friendly.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Ageing Well in Wales programme aims to ensure that there is an improvement in the Wellbeing of people aged 50 plus in Wales and to ensure that Wales is a good place to live for people of all ages.
- 3.2 The programme is an integral part of the third phase of the National Older Persons Strategy with Wales being the first country in the world to establish a Commissioner for Older People.
- 3.3 The Ageing Well in Wales programme is a partnership approach across local and national government, the NHS, the Third Sector and importantly, older people themselves.
- 3.4 There are links with the Prevention and Wellbeing requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 but it is also about ensuring that older people have lives that have value, meaning and purpose through which older people can contribute to their families, communities and the economy with frailty and dependence not seen as an inevitable part of ageing.

- 3.5 Developing sustainable approaches to supporting older people and creating age friendly communities will also support the objectives of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 3.6 The Ageing Well in Wales programme recognises that older people will need appropriate education, leisure, housing, transport, community facilities and employment to maintain their wellbeing.
- 3.7 The 22 Local Authorities of Wales have committed to the Dublin Declaration and the development of age friendly cities and communities and this fits well with the Ageing Well plan for Wales and Bridgend.

4. Current Situation/proposal

Themes of Ageing Well in Wales

- 4.1 There are five distinct themes identified within the Ageing Well in Wales plan and these include:
- Age Friendly Communities;
 - Falls Prevention;
 - Dementia Supportive Communities;
 - Opportunities for learning and employment;
 - Loneliness and isolation.
- 4.2 There is a National Strategic Action Group bringing high level strategic direction to the programme supported by expert advisory groups relating to the key themes. Older people are represented via the National Partnership Forum for older people.
- 4.3 The local engagement and promotion of Ageing Well in Wales is to be achieved via thematic networks with the involvement of the older peoples/50 plus forums.

Ageing Well in Bridgend

- 4.4 The local response to the national programme is being coordinated by the Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate of Bridgend County Borough Council but the challenge is cross cutting and the broadest range of partners are recognised as contributing to improving the lives of older people on a day to day basis.
- 4.5 Following the engagement of a range of local and regional partners and organisations, a plan has been produced with indicative actions and measures of success that can be used to support the development of local thematic networks or approaches. Some examples are as follows:
- The Llynfi 20 programme has helped the Llynfi Valley to become Bridgend's first Dementia friendly community;
 - Representatives of the Older Persons Commissioner Officer attended the launch of the Ageing Well consultation and have met the local older persons forum;
 - The Love to Walk programme is supporting volunteer led walking networks and has supported memory walk programmes also;
 - New instructors have been trained to encourage older people in care settings to "Move More Often".

- 4.6 The organisations contributing to the content of the Ageing Well in Bridgend plan include Bridgend County Borough Council, ABMU health board, Age Cymru, Shout, BAVO, South Wales Police, Business in Focus and Public Health Wales. A public consultation also secured almost 300 responses on issues relating to the quality of life of older people and partners have supported the gathering of responses. The evaluation report can be seen at **Appendix 2**.
- 4.7 There have been links to existing structures and planned developments in relation to relevant Ageing Well themes including Bridgend Falls Steering Group and the Dementia Strategy Group.
- 4.8 The potential for other collaborations around learning and employment, loneliness and isolation and age friendly communities is being evaluated to form the thematic approaches that will contribute to the Ageing Well in Bridgend programme and in particular, to ensure that the voices of older people are heard.
- 4.9 It is proposed that the progress and performance of the Ageing Well in Bridgend plan is reported periodically to Cabinet as part of the prevention and wellbeing response to the Council.
- 4.10 The Ageing Well in Bridgend plan is intended to be for the period 2016 - 2019 and was submitted in draft form to the Older Persons Commissioner in November 2015. There is ongoing discussion on the plan with the partners and recognition of the ongoing need to refresh proposed actions as the plan progresses.

Aims and Outcomes

- 4.11 The overarching aims and outcomes of the National Programme have been integrated into the content of the Ageing Well in Bridgend plan:
- To make Bridgend a County of Age Friendly Communities;
 - To support older people to reduce their risk of falling, reducing the number of falls amongst older people in Bridgend;
 - To make Bridgend a dementia supportive County by building and promoting dementia supportive communities;
 - To reduce levels of loneliness and isolation and their negative impact on health and wellbeing as experienced by older people in Bridgend;
 - To ensure the experience of older people in Bridgend is optimised through continued learning and employment.
- 4.12 It was recognised that Bridgend would benefit from qualitative consultation data to evaluate the achievement of population based outcomes in relation to older people. To support the Ageing Well in Bridgend plan, local consultation based on the thematic priorities of Ageing Well in Wales has been conducted. In 2016, the Older Persons Commissioner has launched Guidance for Local Authorities on Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessments and this data will be of value in such exercises.

Conclusions

- 4.13 There has been progress made in the development of a local response to the Ageing Well in Wales plan in relation to Bridgend but the real challenge will be to engage partners and communities in jointly tackling the identified themes and issues.
- 4.14 The engagement of partners and older people in the Ageing Well in Bridgend plan has been required to make the plan meaningful at a local level and ensure that all themes are adequately covered. The joint approach being taken with the local health board can be seen as a positive step.
- 4.15 Ongoing engagement will be required to achieve further qualitative data from older people in regard to making Bridgend a great place to grow old.
- 4.16 The performance of the Ageing Well in Bridgend programme and the contributions of partners would benefit from visibility and scrutiny.

5. Effect Upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

- 5.1 There is no impact on policy framework and procedure rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 An equalities impact assessment has been conducted identifying the positive impacts targeted as part of a national policy to improve the lives of older people.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 There is a core budget of £30k to support the promotion and development of the Ageing Well plan in addition to other resources linked to the key themes (e.g. Dementia Strategy, falls prevention, local community coordination).
- 7.2 There is also a focus on supporting external partners to develop opportunities for older people beyond the resources of the Council.

8 Recommendations

- 8.1 That Cabinet approve the Ageing Well plan attached as Appendix 1.

Susan Cooper,
Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing
August 2016

- 9. **Contact Officer:** Andrew Thomas
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10 Background documents

None.

AGEING WELL *in Bridgend*



Action Plan to improve the lives of older people

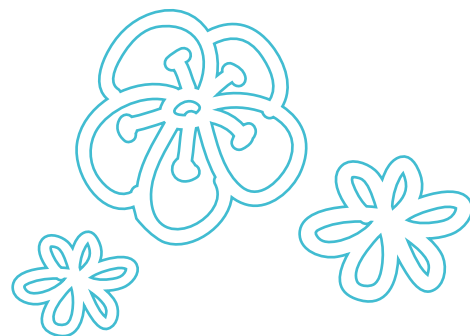
...making Bridgend a great place for older people

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Foreword and Vision



As Cabinet member for the Social Care and Wellbeing Directorate and also as a champion for the needs of older people within Bridgend County Borough Council, I welcome the Ageing Well in Bridgend plan. The approach that we will take to deliver the outcomes of 'Living Longer - Ageing Well' will create an improved quality of life for the older people who reside in our county borough. We recognise the valuable contributions that older people have made, and will continue to make to our society and that they need a sense of purpose and value in their lives. It is essential to strive to maintain daily independence and autonomy and important for older people to feel connected to local communities.

The 'Ageing Well in Bridgend' plan recognises that while care and support are required by some older people, frailty and dependence should not be accepted as inevitable. By working together with partners we can develop a range of preventative services, opportunities and resources that prolong health, quality of life and place older people at the heart of our communities. From the outset our plan will be organic and will work towards joint ownership with key partners, in particular

our local health board. The plan will meet and influence the priorities of Bridgend county Borough Council and will be relevant to the workstreams of our Local Service Board. While projections continue to show a growth in the older population, we believe that by working together we can create an 'ageing but ageless' society. Older people will have more voice and choice over what is important for their wellbeing and their aspirations will not be limited by historical stereotypes. Our plan will target a reduction in the number of older people experiencing functional decline and frailty and with the support of our partners we aim to enable more older people to manage their health, increase their levels of activity and keep themselves more physically and emotionally well.. We will do more to listen to older people and understand how life can be improved and put in place ways in which our performance and progress can be more easily seen. Where care is required, older people will have access to high quality support that meets identified needs. The visibility of older people in our society, their inclusion in community life and maintaining their wellbeing and independence are all outcomes that we will strive to achieve.

Councillor Phillip White

Cabinet member – Social Care and Wellbeing

Introduction

The 'Ageing Well in Bridgend' plan will deliver against the three overarching outcomes within the Strategy for Older People (Phase 3) – "Living Longer, Ageing Well (2013)". This establishes a series of clear objectives that will ensure that all older people within Bridgend County Borough will have the financial, environmental and social resources to age well.

- The single integrated plan 'Bridgend County Together' (2013-18), developed by the Local Service Board, aspires to create: "A healthy, prosperous and safe county where people can reach their full potential."
- The Bridgend CBC Corporate Plan "Working Together to Improve Lives 2013-17" recognises the importance of:
 - Working together to help vulnerable people to stay independent.
 - Working together to tackle health issues and encourage healthier lifestyles.
 - Working together to make the best use of resources.
- Ageing Well in Bridgend will ensure that the needs of older people are identified in relation to responses to key legislation focused on improving wellbeing, in particular the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (2015) and the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.
- The needs of older people will be recognised within Bridgend County Borough Council's Strategic Equality Plan, a plan which is required by the public sector equality duty.
- Bridgend CBC is refining its corporate priorities but continuing to ensure the wellbeing of vulnerable groups will remain important.

The 'Ageing Well in Bridgend' plan is aligned to the objectives of the Local Authority and Local Service Board and supports the targeted outcomes for older people in relation to the five priority areas of the National Strategy. Our integrated approach to working with health will support collaborative working within and across the prioritised themes and progress towards joint ownership of the plan, its outcomes and investment needs.

The five 'Ageing Well in Wales' priority themes are:

- ① Age Friendly Communities
- ② Dementia Supportive Communities
- ③ Falls Prevention
- ④ Opportunities for employment and learning
- ⑤ Loneliness and Isolation

LSB priorities / Corporate priorities The Voice of older people

Bridgend County borough Council recognises the importance of older people having the opportunity to participate in consultation and engagement on issues that affect them as individuals and/or groups.

By working with our older people's forums supported by Age Cymru we will increase the volume of older people's voices when issues are being considered, policies reviewed or decisions made.

We will also put effort into gathering feedback from people on how well they are ageing that will help us to create a series of wellbeing indicators.

Themes

The themes and actions of the 'Ageing Well in Bridgend' plan are provided recognising the critical role of partners and partnership to making progress and achieving success.

It is intended that there will be a networking group that will take ownership of each of the themes and embed 'Ageing Well' priorities into their work.

The network groups will identify responsibilities and also report on progress made and achievement within the themed priority.

Strategic Links and Outcomes

The Ageing Well in Bridgend Plan will link with the outcomes of the 'Ageing Well in Wales' plan (2014-19) and the longer term population outcomes of the Strategy for Older People in Wales (2013-2023), as illustrated below.

STRATEGY FOR OLDER PEOPLE IN WALES 2013-2023

Social Participation - Older people enjoy a better quality of life, have active social lives (if desired) and loneliness and social isolation is minimised. Older people are not subject to abuse.

Diversity - Older people are not discriminated against because of their age and do not experience multiple discrimination on account of gender, ethnicity, disability, religion and belief or sexual orientation.

Access to Information - Older people have access to information and advice about services and opportunities and are not disadvantaged when accessing them.

Learning and Activities – Older people have opportunities to be engaged in lifelong learning and other appropriate social activities.

Healthy Ageing - Older people enjoy good physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing with the aim of being able to live independently for longer, with a better quality of life and continue to work and participate in their communities.

AGEING WELL IN WALES 2014-2019

Age Friendly Communities - To make Wales a nation of age friendly communities.

Dementia Supportive Communities – To make Wales a dementia supportive nation by building and supporting dementia supportive communities.

Falls Prevention - To support older people in Wales to reduce the risk of falling, reducing the number of falls amongst older people in Wales.

Opportunities for learning and employment – To ensure the experience of older people in Wales is optimised through continued learning and employment.

Loneliness and Isolation – To reduce levels of loneliness and isolation and their negative impact on Health and Wellbeing as experienced by older people in Wales.

AGEING WELL IN BRIDGEND 2015-2019



Theme A

Age Friendly Communities





Overarching Aim: To make Bridgend a County of age friendly communities.

Outcomes

- ① The importance of 'Age-friendly Communities' is recognised at all levels throughout Bridgend.
- ② The voices of all generations are heard and actively included in the creation and ongoing development of their Age-Friendly Communities.
- ③ Local and national government support the development of 'Age-Friendly Communities' and inter-generational practice.

Evidence

- Wales has committed to becoming an age friendly nation and Bridgend has signed up to the challenge of the Dublin declaration on age friendly cities and communities. The World Health Organisation (WHO) identifies eight domains of life that can enhance the health and wellbeing of older people. These can be found throughout the 'Ageing Well in Bridgend' plan.
- Bridgend has worked with Age Cymru to consult with older people using the community calculator tool. The priorities for older people have remained consistent since 2010. They include the need to rest and access to toilets in public places as areas for improvement.
- An 'Age Friendly Community' will see people in Bridgend encourage and enable older people to engage with their surroundings and continue to engage socially within their communities thereby maintaining their health, independence and wellbeing.

WHAT ACTION WILL WE TAKE?

A1 Embed the 'Dublin Declaration' and 'Age Friendly Communities' within the local Strategic Equalities Plan when reviewed.

A10 Recognise the diversity of older people and use broader networks (e.g. leisure, libraries etc) to profile the views of the 'Over 50's'.

A2 Expand the use of research to engage with older people and communicate results to stakeholders.

A11 Develop an 'Age Friendly Communities' steering group linked to regional and national structures.

A3 The 'Ageing Well' plan for Bridgend to have synergy with the prevention and wellbeing plan.

A12 Align the philosophy and message of age friendly communities with the local community coordination programme and workforce.

A4 'Positive Ageing' plan and approach developed to better promote Bridgend as a place where older people can live fuller lives.

A13 South Wales Police to support the operation and development of 'neighbourhood watch' and 'street ambassador' schemes with links to social media.

A5 Engage the cabinet to champion 'Ageing Well' and support the development and progress reviews of the identified actions and related impact.

A14 Police to continue to support older peoples groups and to promote the 'Keep Safe Cymru' scheme.

A6 Support the development and growth of the older peoples forum, ensuring it has voice and is consulted and engaged (Age Cymru / Community Voice).

A15 Ensure that 'Age Friendly Communities' are recognised in a range of related forums and groups (e.g. Bridgend Equalities Forum, Bridgend Coalition of Disabled People Local Service Board).

A7 Assess the accessibility of local amenities via 'Disabled Go' and promote details online.


A16 Ensure older people are consulted in relation to travel issues including the active travel bill, public transport.

A8 Utilise the guidance and toolkit being developed to collate local population outcome data relating to health activity levels and happiness (WHO).

A17 Explore with town centre management and planning the opportunities to improve public seating and access to toilet facilities.

A9 Older peoples needs to be recognised within strategic needs analysis work with health.

A18 Ageing Well Voluntary organisations forum to support engagement with the Ageing Well Plan.



Theme B

Loneliness and Isolation



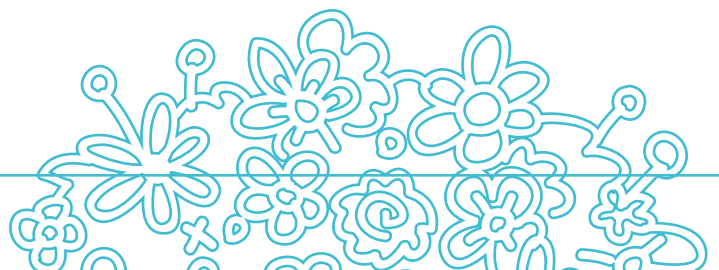
Overarching Aim: To reduce levels of loneliness and isolation, and their negative impact on health and wellbeing as experienced by older people in Bridgend County Borough.

Outcomes

- ① Loneliness and isolation are recognised as public health and safety issues in Bridgend County Borough.
 - ② The main causes and factors of loneliness and isolation amongst older people living in Bridgend are identified and understood.
 - ③ The provision of innovative and accessible support is developed, addressing the impact of changes to life circumstances older people face.
- Loneliness adversely impacts on mental health, cardiovascular disease, hypertension and dementia.
 - Age UK via their national survey indicate that 39% of people over 65 feel lonely and one in five feel forgotten as a result. The ability to talk with people and feel part of their lives is of significant importance. Loneliness and isolation have been described as the 'silent killers' and over 75% of women and a third of men aged 65 plus live alone.
 - The 'Campaign to End Loneliness' identifies older men in Wales as the loneliest group of people in the UK and the WLGA have identified an increasing number of people reporting high levels of social isolation.

Evidence

- The issues of loneliness and isolation have been found to damage health and create social exclusion and do not differentiate by boundaries of social class, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, financial status or geography.



WHAT ACTION WILL WE TAKE?

B1	Use local area co-ordination and community connector roles to connect older people to their communities.	B14	Review issues of sustainability for a range of befriending schemes across the third sector (e.g. community cafes, men's sheds, community companions etc).
B2	Develop accessible information resources on community activities and opportunities for older people.	B15	Utilise 'Supporting People' resources to provide welfare and financial inclusion advice to older people in need of housing assistance (links continued with social landlords).
B3	Promote digital inclusion training for older people to improve accessibility of information.	B16	Develop better understanding of the interests of older people and create programmes with partners to respond, supporting social participation (e.g. arts and culture, sport etc).
B4	Utilise the emerging Welsh Government survey on loneliness to establish local baseline data.	B17	Continue support for maintaining older people's independence and links to communities through housing solutions including extra care, telecare.
B5	Work with partners to promote the 'Campaign to End Loneliness' toolkit as a community resource.	B18	Provide socialisation based learning opportunities for older people with partners such as Care, Cartrefi, Mirus, Carers Centre etc. and contact via mobile library services.
B6	Develop 'Want a Piece of the Action' web resource to promote age friendly activities and events.	B19	Recognise seasonal impact on mobility, health and wellbeing, impact on social opportunities and risks of loneliness and isolation (e.g. Flu Busters, and Shingles vaccinations, fuel poverty information, links to falls prevention).
B7	Maintain internal welfare and financial inclusion advice and support for older people. Review of ability to meet needs.	B20	Improve the engagement of older people in day care and residential care settings in social participation and physical activity (e.g. 'my home life', 'move more often').
B8	Library and Community Centres to recognise their ability to support social participation opportunities (e.g. knit and natter, reading groups, walking activities). Third sector support networks promoted to older people and opportunities to engage in volunteer activities.	B21	Develop cross sector working in hospital settings using volunteers to support facilitated discharged arrangements allowing older people to return home.
B9	Work with BAVO to develop 'Info Engine' resource to centralise information on community opportunities.	B22	Promote free bus pass travel to older people and identify barriers to some older people benefiting from this arrangement.
B10	Encourage older people and carers to engage in activities in the outdoors and natural environment at low or no cost e.g. 'Love to Walk', 'Park Lives' (with related volunteer opportunities).	B23	Continued support for the 'Blue Badge' scheme.
B11	Operate a loneliness and isolation steering group with 'older peoples voice' recognised and links to regional and national structures.	B24	Third sector development of programmes such as Bridgend Community Transport (section 22 licence) and Volunteer Driver Schemes.
B12	Promote active travel to older people including active travel mapping to navigate local communities and walking/cycling groups and tuition.	B25	Address the issues of bereavement and impact on loneliness and isolation.
B13	Deliver mental wellbeing programmes such as mindfulness/depression busters in community settings and alongside broader community activities.		

Theme C

Opportunities for learning and employment





Overarching Aim: To ensure the experience of older people in Bridgend County Borough is optimised through continued learning and employment.

Outcomes

- ① Older people in Bridgend benefit from maximised opportunities for participation.
- ② Older people in Bridgend benefit from maximised opportunities to increase their income.
- ③ Older people in Bridgend feel empowered to plan effectively for their future.

Evidence

- The 'Ageing Well in Bridgend' plan recognises that opportunities for employment and to develop new skills are a material issue for older people. The 'All Wales Strategy for Older People' (2013-23) identifies that older people who are unemployed are more

likely to stay unemployed in the longer term. Around 45% of unemployed people aged 50-64 have been unemployed in excess of a year. Labour market statistics show over 9000 people aged 50-64 years in Wales claiming job seekers allowance.

- Conversely, the need for older people to work longer is evidenced with over 52,000 people in Wales aged over 65 currently employed.
- It has been estimated that there are 3 times as many people aged 50 plus not in employment, education or training (NEET's) in Wales as those under 25.
- The National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE) has also estimated that 42% of people aged 50 plus in Wales are digitally excluded, creating barriers for re-training and entering the labour market.

WHAT ACTION WILL WE TAKE?

- C1** Operate the 'Bridges into Work 2' programme targeting the economically inactive and long term unemployed in non 'communities first' areas.
- C9** Support the development of the 'Age Positive Employer Campaign' and promote through the Bridgend Employer Liaison Programme and network.
- C2** Deliver the 'Active Inclusion' ESF/WCVA supported employment programme targeting unemployed residents over 54 years of age.
- C10** Promote the 'Planning for the Future' online retirement tool being developed nationally and provide free ICT access and support via library services.
- C3** Adult learning programmes linked to themes of learning and prosperity to operate in 'communities first' clusters.
- C11** Support older people seeking to set up a business to be connected to 'Business in Focus' and their related support programme.
- C4** Adult Community Learning (ACL) to develop an extended range of sustainable learning models based on full cost recovery. This approach can respond to and integrate the needs of older people.
- C12** Raise the profile of volunteering and opportunities for older people to develop skills, knowledge and experience whilst supporting local people and communities (including other older people).
- C5** Support learning opportunities including bibliotherapy, digital inclusion workshops, technology for the housebound via mobile provisions and reading groups for improved literacy.
- C13** Healthy lifestyle and physical activity programmes to improve knowledge amongst older people (e.g. Exercise Referral, Foodwise, Smoking cessation).
- C6** Opportunities for 'E learning' to be developed by ACL and promoted across older persons networks and groups.
- C14** Promote local further education opportunities via Bridgend College.
- C7** Pre-employment training for care related services delivered by ACL and promoted to over 50's.
- C15** Connect older people to third sector organisations that can support learning (e.g. U3A).
- C8** Support maintained for Bridgend Carers Centre to develop knowledge and skills of carers and also support community learning opportunities including education and training for employment.

Theme D

Dementia Supportive Communities





Overarching Aim: To make Bridgend a dementia supportive county borough by building and supporting dementia supportive communities.

Outcomes

- ① Bridgend County Borough is an environment where people affected by dementia can feel confident, valued and understood.
- ② People affected by dementia in Bridgend County Borough note an improvement in the timely identification of dementia and support provided before, during and after identification.
- ③ Enhanced and extended education, training, information and advice around dementia is established.

Evidence

- Dementia prevalence is increasing locally, regionally and nationally. The Western Bay Collaboration is projecting a potential increase in people with dementia of up to 31% by 2021. Within Bridgend, the number supported

with dementia increased from 1461 to 1704 between 2001 and 2011. This figure is anticipated to grow to over 3000 by 2030.

- The Alzheimer's Society (2011) predicts that 1 in 3 people aged over 65 will die from a form of dementia and UK dementia reports indicate that there are 5.1% of men and 7.4% of women who will experience dementia.
- There are some identified multifactorial links such as some learning disability conditions and some lifestyle factors also. The Welsh Health Survey identified 43% of adults in Bridgend consuming alcohol beyond recommended guidelines and there have been links with alcohol intake and specific forms of dementia identified.
- The volume of carers and support mechanisms required to support people to live well with dementia is apparent as our population changes.

WHAT ACTION WILL WE TAKE?

D1

Support the development and implementation of the Western Bay Dementia Strategy as part of the regional mental health project.

D8

Review service design and improve access to earlier diagnosis and support (e.g. medication, assistive technology).

D2

Consult with the Stakeholders on the joint BCBC/ ABMU Dementia Strategy and Delivery Plan (2015-2018) to create an adopted strategy and action plan.

D9

Review and improve training for staff and carers in terms of knowledge and awareness of support available.

D3

Actively participate in the national dementia supportive communities network and any regional contributory models.

D10

Develop improved accommodation offers for people with dementia in residential and respite settings.

D4

Support the "Live Well with Dementia" public relations campaign and promote achievement and good practice.

D11

Work with BAVO and the third sector to promote and develop community-based opportunities for people with dementia, including volunteer recruitment and training.

D5

Promote increased understanding of 'Dementia Supportive Communities' and increase the number of organisations, locations or business involved in national recognition programmes.

D12

Promote the 'Dementia Awareness Training' programme to internal and external partner organisations.

D6

Work with key partners (e.g. Police) on community safety initiatives that support people with dementia and carers to avoid becoming victims of crime.

D13

Promote the aspiration for Bridgend to be a 'Dementia Friendly County' and pilot the development of Maesteg and Llynfi Valley as a 'Dementia Friendly Community' as part of the Llynfi 20 programme.

D7

Establish a Dementia Service Delivery Plan with focus on integration, early onset dementia and support needs of carers

D14

Review the research findings of Age Cymru, providing a voice for people living with dementia and carers, and apply to local plans.

Theme E

Falls Prevention





Overarching Aim: To support older people in Bridgend County Borough to reduce their risk of falling, subsequently decreasing the number of falls amongst older people in Bridgend.

Outcomes

- ① Older people and their carers are aware of the preventable causes of falling and know how to reduce their risk.
- ② Current levels of early identification and preventative interventions are mapped and assessed to inform future development.
- ③ Falls prevention is integrated into the older people's health and social care programmes as part of a wider 'ageing well' approach.

Evidence

- The NHS' 1000 lives campaign estimates that for every pound spent on preventative approaches in fallers' homes, a saving of £7.50 is generated via an improved and safe environment.
- Older people, including those who are frail, have been evaluated as being able to improve static and dynamic balance, core strength and leg strength in 8-12 weeks.
- The fear of falling has a Quality Added Life Years burden of 6.4 times that of actual falls or fractures in the elderly and highlights the impact on independence.
- The Sport Wales Active Adults Survey indicates that only 30% of Ogmere constituency adults are sufficiently active compared with 42% in Bridgend (Wales average 39%). The multifactorial issues of age, gender and disability show greater decline over time also. Lower levels of physical activity may result in higher levels of physical frailty.
- The risks of falls increases with age. Falls injuries often require hospitalisation and costly rehabilitation. They are the underlying cause of many functional limitations leading to long term care
- Falls among older people, and the injuries to which they often lead, are the underlying causes of a large share of the burden of disease and disability amongst older people in Bridgend County Borough and a major risk factor for developing frailty.

WHAT ACTION WILL WE TAKE?

- E1

Falls prevention training to be delivered to Healthcare professionals via a multidisciplinary teaching team and collaborative working to reduce falls
- E2

Operate a Bridgend Falls Steering group to co-ordinate awareness of the falls programme and the current and potential roles of the partners.
- E3

Continue the development of Walking Aid Clinics in Bridgend County residential and nursing homes and identify walking Aid champions in-situ.
- E4

Respond to findings and identified actions of the Primary Care Falls Prevention Mapping exercise that has reviewed provision and identified gaps.
- E5

Develop and promote a Falls Prevention Training Resource pack designed for support workers and the third sector including carers.
- E6

Develop a low priority early response physio' role providing physio' falls assessments via Multifactorial falls assessment telephone triage tool.
- E7

Deliver community based falls intervention programmes as part of the National Exercise Referral Scheme
- E6

Promote and support the Healthy Home Check Service offered by Care and Repair to reduce risk of falls in a domestic setting.
- E8

Utilise physical activity based interventions to reduce the onset of functional decline, frailty and sarcopenia including chronic conditions management and the Move More Often programme in care settings (NERS/OTAGO/armchair).
- E9

Develop the paid and volunteer workforce to support older people and carers to live more active and healthier lives.
- E10

Participate in the Falls Prevention Network of Ageing Well in Wales to address early intervention.
- E11

Develop data capture on participants in falls interventions programme and services to monitor customer experience, self-identified gains and barriers.
- E12

Communication on risks and issues identified via key partners (e.g. Police, Fire Service) during other visits to domestic premises.
- E13

Work closely with ABMU using the 1000 lives information to reduce falls in the community and in-patient setting, including Instant Response approach using tele-health, information packs for fallers and development of a falls register.
- E14

Engage with the 'Steady on' campaign to raise falls awareness and subsequent campaigns developed at a national level.
- E15

Promote through partners the 'timed up and go' assessment test as part of local falls prevention work.



How we developed this plan

- The strategic themes of phase 3 of the national strategy were shared with the Local Service Board partners who have provided details of contributions to the five strategic themes.
- Where existing or developing work is in place the identified objectives and evidence have been integrated within the Ageing Well in Bridgend plan.
- Where gaps in data have been identified they have been integrated into the action plan and linked to the related themes.
- The draft plan has been distributed to stakeholders and partners with comments received integrated within the final plan.
- The draft plan has been subject to consultation and managed in accordance with required standards. To find more qualitative information on life in Bridgend County Borough for older people, a wellbeing survey has been conducted that will shape the plan further.
- Where local data and evidence has been available that has been used along with national data where appropriate.
- The Service User and Engagement Group of Social Services and Wellbeing has provided primary data for community integrated services, commissioning services, residential respite and day care services, learning disability, mental health services and carers.

How this plan will be implemented

- The Ageing Well plan will link to reporting on prevention and wellbeing within Bridgend County Borough Council.
- The progress of this plan will be reported to the Local Service Board and will be communicated to the themed workstreams and boards where appropriate.
- The co-ordination of the plan will be by the Active Wellbeing Service within the Social Care and Wellbeing Directorate of Bridgend County Borough.
- Bridgend County Borough Council will support the co-ordination of the Older Persons Strategy and participate in national and regional network groups as required.
- At a local level, groups representing the five themes will operate and link with both existing strategic approaches and regional approaches with a line of sight to the national expert group forums.
- The Active Wellbeing Service will ensure the engagement of older people and citizen voice throughout the process including the development of the older person's forum in partnership with Age Cymru and BAVO in line with the standard set by the Older Persons Commissioner.
- The Corporate Director for Social Services and Wellbeing will report on progress and impact to Cabinet and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- There is an emphasis on cross portfolio working and also working closely with partners from health and the third sector.





Performance and Impact

- The Ageing Well in Bridgend plan recognises the need to do more than nullify disabling conditions and to create environments in which older people can flourish, involving all sectors and the broadest range of support. Such an approach will complement the legal requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014.
- Bridgend County Borough will develop a definition of Wellbeing that is meaningful to older people and recognises the diversity of the population aged 50 and beyond.
- The indicators identified within the Strategy for Older People in Wales 2013-23 will be developed as a local scorecard, recognising existing and future data capture consideration.
- Qualitative data capture relating to older people's perspectives on their sense of value, meaning and purpose as identified in the dimensions of the 'quality of life' model will be progressed throughout the plan.
- Accountability for collecting and sharing performance data across the five themes will be clearly identifiable via the established groups.
- Quantitative data that is appropriate will be built into periodic performance reporting.
- The plan will be reviewed annually and an annual review of on impact and progress made will be conducted.
- Local performance and impact data will be shared with regional and national partners via network groups.

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Ageing well in Bridgend

Consultation report

Date of issue: February 2016

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1. Overview

A public survey reviewing the quality of life for the over 50 population living within Bridgend County Borough was undertaken over a thirteen week period from 1 October 2015 and 24 January 2016. The consultation received 294 responses in total.

2. Introduction

A public survey based on understanding perceived quality of life for residents aged 50+ living in Bridgend County Borough was conducted over a thirteen week period between 1 October 2015 and 24 January 2016. The survey was available to complete online through a link on the consultations page of the council's website¹ or by visiting www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation. Paper copies of the survey were also made available and alternatively, residents could be sent the survey directly upon request in either English or Welsh.

In total there were ten quantitative questions included within the survey. Each question response was optional and all survey responses were anonymous. Comments regarding the survey were also invited via letter, email and phone call.

3. Promotional tools and engagement methods

Details of the consultation were sent to the following stakeholders: councillors; town and community councils; the Bridgend Equality Forum and, members of the Local Service Board (LSB). A link to the survey was also sent to the 63 Citizens' Panel members on 9 November 2015. Twitter and Facebook were both also used to promote the survey.

3.1 Social media

The council tweeted its 6,513 @BridgendCBC followers and posted to its 4,172 Facebook fans about the consultation on several occasions during the consultation period to help raise awareness.

4. Response rate

- In total there were 294 responses to the survey combining online and paper responses.
- One response was received in Welsh.
- No comments were received by letter or telephone call.

¹<http://www1.bridgend.gov.uk/services/consultation/past-consultations.aspx>

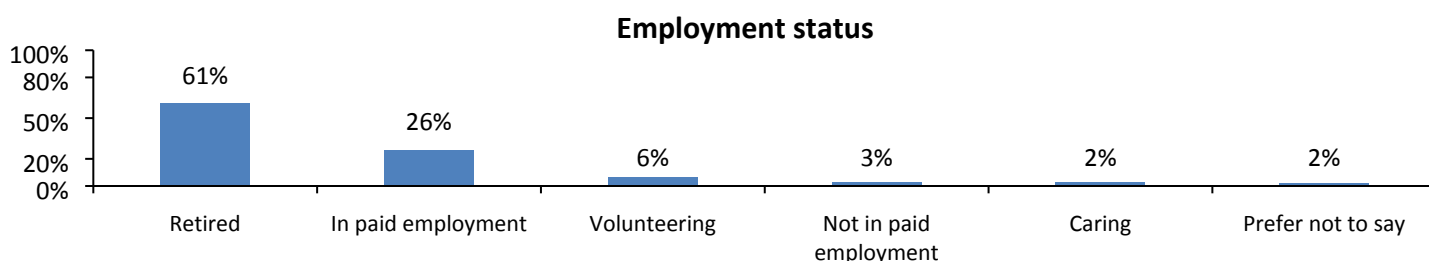
5. How effective was the consultation?

The survey was conducted over a sixteen week period in which various marketing methods were used to create awareness of the consultation and encourage members of the public to engage with the council.

	Under 50	50 - 54	55 - 59	60 - 64	65 - 69	70+	PNTS	NR	Total
#	14	29	28	45	54	115	3	6	294
%	5	10	10	15	18	39	1	2	100

The most popular age response bracket was for 70+ with two in five (39%) selecting this option. Although the survey was predominantly for those aged 50 and over, all residents were allowed to complete the survey, in total four per cent were aged under 50.

Three in five (61%) of the respondents to the survey identified themselves as retired, over one in four (26%) were in paid employment, followed by six per cent who were volunteering.



Only seven per cent of those over 65 were still in work. Similarly, only 15 per cent of those under 65 identified themselves as retired.

	Living with others	Living alone	Living in a care home	PNTS	No response	Total
#	157	89	21	11	16	294
%	53	30	7	4	5	100

Of those living in a care home, four in five (81%) are aged 70 or over however, the most popular living arrangement for this age bracket is to 'live alone' with 53 percent of respondents answering this way. For all other age brackets living with others is the most popular option.

Data validation measures have been undertaken to ensure that the data gathered is representative of the population. A sample of 294 is robust and is subject to a maximum standard error of ± 5.7 per cent at the 95 per cent confidence level on an observed statistic of 50 per cent. Thus, we can be 95 per cent confident that responses are representative of those that would be given by the total 50+ population, if a census had been conducted, to within ± 5.7 per cent of the percentages reported. This means that if the total adult population of Bridgend had taken part in the survey and a statistic of 50 per cent was observed, we can be 95 per cent confident that the actual figure lies between 44.3 per cent and 55.7 per cent.

6. Headline figures

- 6.1 Those who felt their voice was heard increased steadily based upon age from 46 per cent to 65 per cent for those aged 70+.
- 6.2 Nine in ten (88%) feel they can get out and about, but six in ten (59%) state the public transport service does not meet their needs.
- 6.3 Nine in ten (90%) were satisfied with their mental health, and two in three (67%) felt having access to mental healthcare was important.
- 6.4 The large majority of respondents had people looking out for them (85%) and someone they could rely on in a crisis (91%).
- 6.5 One in four (26%) did not know how to get support for themselves or a loved one, and only half (50%) made use of local advice services.
- 6.6 Opportunities to meet young people (44%) or chances to meet old and young residents together (43%) is considered difficult locally.
- 6.7 Four in five (79%) believe their community is a safe place for all ages. Those aged 70 or over feel significantly less safe walking alone after dark (38% against an average of 52%).
- 6.8 Quality of residents living environment and how people feel better by living at home increases by age to 96 per cent for those aged 70+.
- 6.9 Just over half (53%) were aware of the community transport service. It is least recognised by those aged between 65 and 69 with two thirds (63%) having no awareness of the service.
- 6.10 Over nine in ten (92%) stated the importance of access to public toilets, yet only two in five (40%) believe there is sufficient availability.

7. Question and Analysis - Consultation Survey

Section seven of the report looks at the questions asked in the consultation survey – with 294 respondents in total.

7.1 Being listened to and respected

Of the five statements related to being listened to and respected, the most agreeable statement was for 'I feel I am treated fairly' with over four in five (83%) choosing agree or strongly agree. Two statements received more support for disagree than agree which were 'younger people listen to older peoples' opinions/ideas' and 'I want more opportunities to use Welsh in my daily life' with 46 per cent and 26 per cent respectively in terms of agreeability.

Statement	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Overall support (%)
I feel I am treated fairly (280)	26	204	40	10	82
I feel safe from harm in Bridgend (286)	35	138	59	9	73
My voice is heard and valued (275)	19	139	100	17	57
Younger people listen to older peoples' opinions / ideas (279)	9	121	125	23	47
I want more opportunities to use Welsh in my daily life (268)	15	54	129	70	26

From the age of 55+ agreement with the 'my voice is heard and valued' steadily rises from a low of 46 per cent to 65 per cent of those aged 70 or over. This is also true for the statement 'I feel I am treated fairly' where satisfaction averages 74% for those aged between 50 – 64.

Those aged 70 or over are the most inclined to wanting more opportunities to use Welsh daily with 30 per cent agreeing with the statement (4% above the average).

7.2 Doing things that matter to you

All statements associated with the topic 'doing things that matter to you' are positively agreed upon by all respondents. The majority (90%) feel satisfied with their mental health, can get out and about (88%), regarding getting out three in four (76%) also have access to a car. The statement to receive the lowest level of agreement was in relation to public transport with three in five (59%) stating the transport met their needs.

Statement	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Overall support (%)
I am satisfied with my mental wellbeing / mental health (285)	100	156	22	7	90
I feel I can get out and about (286)	113	139	25	9	88
I can walk / move around my community (283)	113	137	24	9	88
I can easily get into shops and public places (286)	105	134	39	8	87
I can afford the things I need (287)	55	188	37	7	85
I feel healthy enough to get out / do things that matter (285)	93	144	39	9	83
I can get to all the places in my local area I want to (287)	73	164	42	8	83
I have access to a car / own a car (275)	106	111	32	26	76
Public transport meet my needs (272)	46	115	87	24	59

Respondents aged between 60-64 were significantly more likely to agree with 'I feel I can get out and about' with 98% agreeing with the statement.

Those aged 70+ had three key variations to the overall average: I can get to all the places in my local area I want to (73%), I can easily get into shops and public spaces (73%) car access (59%).

Public transport had the widest variation of responses with 55-59 year olds averaging 48% acceptance and 65-69 averaging 67%.

7.3 Getting the help that you need

The most supported statement was regarding having someone to count on in a crisis with 91 per cent agreeing with the statement, only one respondent selected strongly disagree. One statement received a 50/50 split response: 'I make use of local advice services'.

Statement	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Overall support (%)
I have someone I can count on in a crisis (288)	108	156	22	2	91
I have people who look out for me (287)	79	164	31	13	85
I am satisfied with the care and support services I receive (263)	40	170	44	9	80
I know where to get help and how to access it (284)	45	169	59	11	75
I make use of the internet to find information (273)	72	129	40	32	74
I feel I belong to my neighbourhood (283)	56	161	58	8	74
I know how to get care and support from health social care or other organisations for myself or a loved one (286)	55	157	63	11	74
I make use of the telephone to find information (280)	39	150	65	26	67
I make use of local advice services (275)	22	115	117	21	50

When analysing the responses in cross-comparison to the age of the respondents, there were four key deviations from the averages highlighted in the table above. Those aged between 65-69 scored significantly higher on making use of the telephone to find information (83%). Finally, those aged between 60-64 scored the lowest for having someone to look out for them with 76 per cent of this age range agreeing with the statement.

Three responses revealed large variances between ages. The statement 'I make use of local advice services' was used most by those aged 50-54 (62%) in comparison to those aged 60-64 (41%). Similarly, the 50-54 year old bracket also scored lowest for knowing how to get care (61%) in comparison to those aged 70+ scoring the statement the highest (78%).

Two responses varied based on the age of respondents. Over nine in ten (93%) of those aged between 55-59 used the internet to find information this fell steadily to those aged 70+ with just over half (55%) of respondents finding information through internet usage. The statement 'I am satisfied with the care I receive and support services I receive' rose from 71 per cent to those aged between 50-54 to 87 per cent for those aged 70 or over.

7.4 Where you live

Three statements were not supported by the majority of respondents regarding the 'where you live' section of the survey. How easy it was to meet young people outside of their family (44%), meeting younger people locally (43%) and having access to public toilets (40%). Positively four in five (81%) believed their local area to be a friendly and safe place, yet only 52 per cent felt safe walking alone after dark. The top three most supported statements all referenced the respondents' living arrangements.

Statement	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Overall support (%)
My home / place I live makes me feel better about my life (289)	88	175	21	5	91
I am satisfied with the quality of my living environment (285)	76	183	23	3	91
My home is designed to meet my needs	64	189	30	3	88
I have access to local places (284)	62	184	30	8	87
It is easy to meet with friends (282)	43	193	42	4	84
My local area is a good place to grow old (281)	62	166	48	5	81
My community is a friendly, safe place for people of all ages (280)	49	172	51	8	79
I have access to places to rest when I am out locally (278)	19	148	89	22	60
I feel safe / fairly safe walking alone after dark (279)	29	117	98	35	52
It is easy to meet young people outside my family (271)	18	102	138	13	44
There are enough chances for older and younger people to meet together locally	15	100	129	24	43
I have access to public toilets when I am out locally (283)	15	98	128	42	40

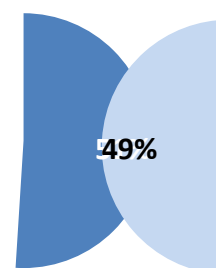
Three in four (71%) of those aged between 55-59 believed their home was designed to meet their needs, the result was 16 per cent lower than the average. Those aged between 50-54 found it significantly easier to meet young people outside of their family with 61 per cent selecting agree or strongly agree. Those aged over 70 felt less safe walking alone after dark (38%), 20 per cent lower than the average.

Having access to local places was rated highly for 65-69 year olds with 98 per cent, those aged over 70 both rated the access as 77 per cent respectively. My community is a friendly place was rated significantly higher by 65-69 year olds (88%) than those aged 50-54 (69%).

Responses gathered revealed the older the respondent, the more they feel their home makes them feel better about their lives from 82 per cent for 50-54 year olds to 96 per cent for those aged over 70. Similarly, the quality of living is rated more favourably the older the respondent is from 83 per cent for 50-54 year olds to 96 per cent for those aged 65 or over.

7.5 Community Transport

Just over half of respondents surveyed (53%) were aware of community transport available within the county borough. In particular, those aged 50 – 54 (39%) and 70+ (61%). Those aged between 65-69 had the lowest level of awareness with two in three (63%) having no knowledge of the service.



7.6 What's important to you?

Feeling safe in your community (98%), telephone access (98%) and getting out and about (96%) were the three most important factors highlighted. Overall each statement was regarded generally as either fairly or very important.

Statement	Very important	Fairly important	Not very important	Not important at all	Very / fairly important (%)
Feeling safe in your community (281)	227	50	3	1	98
Having access to a telephone (279)	225	48	4	2	98
Getting out and about (281)	233	39	5	4	96
Having access to local places (275)	173	89	10	3	95
Belonging to your neighbourhood (278)	142	117	18	1	93
Having access to public toilets when out (274)	176	76	17	5	92
Having access to a car (276)	174	69	13	20	88
Having access to places to rest (276)	143	99	28	6	88
Having access to local advice and services (274)	94	140	34	5	86
Meeting new people (279)	92	139	46	2	83
Having access to the internet (276)	168	49	26	33	79
Public transport meeting your needs (276)	114	89	55	18	73
Having access to mental healthcare (267)	100	80	64	23	67

Comparing the importance rated in the table above with previous questions highlights the satisfaction with what respondents consider important factors within the survey. Each statement receiving a rating of over 90 per cent were detailed below.

Importance (%)	Statement	Agreeability (%)
98	Feeling safe in your community	79
98	Having access to a telephone	67*
96	Getting out and about	88
95	Having access to local places	87
93	Belonging to your neighbourhood	74
92	Having access to public toilets when out	40

*Percentage compared 'using telephone to find information' not direct access.

Having access to public toilets (40%) was the only area of significant importance to receive less than 50 per cent agreeability. Having access to a telephone was rated as 67 per cent however, the agreeability is measuring those who use a telephone to find information not those who have access to a telephone unit.

One in five (21%) did not say they felt safe within their community which was viewed as the most important statement put forward.

7.7 Older people within the community

All statements within the section were deemed overall as being either fairly or very important. Gaining skills and knowledge for life and employment was the least important statement (85%). Confirming the importance of 'community' highlighted in section 7.6, the statement regarding reducing isolation and loneliness was supported by 100 per cent of respondents. Supporting dementia (99%), reducing injuries through falling (99%) and helping communities to become more age-friendly (98%) were all significantly supported statements.

Statement	Very important	Fairly important	Not very important	Not important at all	Very / fairly important (%)
Reducing the number of people feeling lonely or isolated (280)	237	42	1	0	100
Supporting people with dementia and their wellbeing (279)	240	36	3	0	99
Reducing the injuries to older people through falling and their fear of falls (276)	238	35	3	0	99
Helping communities to become more age-friendly (278)	204	69	4	1	98
Gaining skills and knowledge for life and employment (275)	145	88	35	7	85

8. Conclusion

From the responses received, the data has been collated to provide a holistic overview of individuals' situations, community perception and which factors are considered most important.

8.1 As individuals

The majority of respondents feel healthy enough to do things (83%) and also feel they are treated fairly (82%). Despite this only three in five (57%) felt their voice was heard, when asked specifically how well the younger generation listened to older peoples' ideas this fell to 47 per cent.

Positively over nine in ten (91%) had someone they can rely on and 85 per cent had someone that looks out for them. Despite four in five have access to a car, one in six (15%) felt they could not afford the things that they needed.

In relation to living arrangements, respondents were satisfied with their environment (91%), the majority feel their home is designed to meet their needs (88%) and that their home makes them feel better about life (91%).

When finding information 67 per cent use a telephone and 74 per cent use the internet. The usage of Internet declines from 96 per cent for 55-59 year olds to 61 per cent of those aged 70 or over.

Over four in five (85 per cent) felt it was important to gain skills for life / employment with one in four (26 per cent) wanting more opportunities to use Welsh in their daily life.

8.2 As a community

Respondents feel they can get out and about (88%), walk around their community (88%) and get to all the local places they would like to (83%). When considering the transport available, three in five (59%) felt public transport met their needs.

It is easy to meet with friends (84%) however only 44 per cent felt it was easy to meet young people outside of their family. 43 per cent felt chances for older and younger people to meet locally. Almost all respondents (98 per cent) felt that it was important to help communities become more age friendly.

Overall respondents feel safe from harm (73%), believe their local area is a safe and friendly place (79%) yet only 52 per cent feel safe walking alone after dark – interestingly those aged over 70 rated this significantly lower at 38 per cent. When out in the local area 60 per cent felt they had sufficient access to places to rest in comparison to 40 per cent who felt they had sufficient access to public toilets.

When considering possible aid, three in four (74%) knew where and how to access help, yet only half (50%) make use of local advice services.

8.3 What is important?

Feeling safe in the community was regarded as the most important factor asked in 'what's important to you', with 98 per cent of respondents selecting either fairly or very important.

Two in five (40%) believed there is access to public toilets when out locally, accessibility to public toilets was the only important factor (92%) to score poorly.

In supporting older people within the community: reducing loneliness (100%); supporting dementia (99%); and, reducing injuries from / fear of falling (99%) were all considered of utmost importance.

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

6 SEPTEMBER 2016

JOINT REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES & WELLBEING AND THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITIES

THE POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE URDD NATIONAL RUGBY FESTIVAL AT PENCOED

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is:

- To provide information on the benefits of developing a large scale schools rugby event at Pencoed; and
- To seek Cabinet approval to work with partners to deliver the event.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Plan / Other Corporate Priority

2.1 The report links to the following priority in the Corporate Plan:

- Supporting a successful economy;
- Smarter use of resources.

3. Background

3.1 The Urdd has traditionally supported a large scale schools rugby festival as an annual calendar event. The interest in this event has grown progressively and an opportunity has been identified to work in partnership with the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) to increase the profile and participation at the event.

3.2 Similar types of events and festivals have been operated in the Pencoed area previously due to the accessibility and infrastructure in terms of playing fields. The Urdd Eisteddfod is also scheduled to take place during 2017 at Pencoed.

4. Current Situation / Proposal The Partners

4.1 The key partners involved in the organisation, marketing and management of the festival would be the Urdd and the Welsh Rugby Union.

4.2 Within the Council there would potentially be roles for the Parks and Playing Fields service and the Active Young People's department. This would range from preparation of playing fields to promotion of the event to local schools and engagement of volunteers.

4.3 At a community level, the support of Pencoed Town Council, Pencoed RFC and Pencoed Comprehensive School has been established in principle but would subsequently need to be formalised.

- 4.4 There is an opportunity identified to engage with the local community who would support a central hub for the event and potentially benefit commercially.
- 4.5 There is also the potential to engage Bridgend College and its sports academy structure in supporting the programme.

Event Details

- 4.6 This event would be the largest schools sevens rugby tournament in Wales and would be endorsed by the Welsh Rugby Union.
- 4.7 The Urdd and WRU would launch the event in September and include rugby personalities and partners raising the profile of Bridgend County Borough.
- 4.8 The event will be bilingual and include opportunities for Welsh medium and English language schools. The event will also provide opportunities for boys and girls over a 3 – 4 day period promoting gender equity.
- 4.9 It is anticipated that there would be 3,000 players participating and distributed across 3 sites including Felindre Road, Pencoed Comprehensive School and Woodlands playing fields over the duration of the event.
- 4.10 There would be schools attending from across Wales and media coverage through TV, social media and press.

Additional Benefits

- 4.11 Although this is a pilot project approach, there is the potential for it to evolve into an annual event that raises the profile of Bridgend County Borough.
- 4.12 Pencoed Comprehensive School will benefit from installation of some improved equipment and also be provided with free access/entry for teams.
- 4.13 There will also be the opportunity for young people to volunteer and develop project coordination skills as part of the programme linked to academic studies.

Conclusions

- 4.14 The proposed event provides the opportunity to work in partnership with national organisations and to establish a profile event for young people within Bridgend County Borough.
- 4.15 The event is a positive response to promotion of the Welsh language amongst young people in Bridgend County Borough and builds positive relations with a National organisation promoting the Welsh language to young people.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

- 5.1 There is no impact on the policy framework and procedure rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 An equality impact assessment will be conducted during the project planning phases of the event if supported. Sport and leisure is an area of focus within the strategic equalities plan.
- 6.2 The event would be the responsibility of the Urdd and WRU with BCBC providing a supporting role only.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 The Urdd and WRU confirm that they are responsible for costs in respect of the event and related staffing, equipment and marketing costs.
- 7.2 There is a potential for the local authority to support elements of the organisation of the event and its development as an in-kind contribution.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1 It is recommended that Cabinet
- notes the content of this report; and
 - approves that Bridgend County Borough Council work in partnership with local and national partners to deliver this event.

Susan Cooper
Corporate Director Wellbeing
August 2016

9. **Contact Officer:** Andrew Thomas
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10. **Background documents**
None

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RIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

6 SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – SOCIAL SERVICES & WELLBEING

RESIDENTIAL AND NURSING CARE CONTRACTS

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to:

- 1.1 Authorise a waiver under CPR 3.2.3, from the requirement to tender the provision of residential care home services.
- 1.2 On the basis that the waiver under CPR 3.2.3 is approved, delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing to enter into contracts with the current and any future residential and nursing care providers on terms to be approved by the Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing in consultation with the Corporate Director - Operations and Partnerships and the s151 Officer. Such contracts to take effect for the terms set out in Section 8 (Recommendation) of this report.

2.0 Connection to Corporate Plan

- 2.1 This report links to the following improvement priorities in the Corporate Plan 2016-20:
 - Helping people to be more self-reliant;
 - Smarter use of our resources.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 In February 2014, Cabinet approved a waiver under Contract Procedure Rule 3.2.3, from the requirement to competitively tender the provision of residential and nursing care home services. The waiver was approved on the basis that, at that time, the contracted providers were the only tenderers who could technically provide such a service, due to statutory restrictions in respect of the Council's obligation to set appropriate fees.
- 3.2 Cabinet was advised that this statutory restriction dates from the implementation of the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990, when the funding of residential care homes passed from the Department of Social Services in central government to local authorities and that the subsequent National Assistance Act (Choice of Accommodation)(Wales) Directions 1993, imposed on local authorities the duty of determining the amount that they would expect to pay for assessed needs. Furthermore, that

the discretion to set such fees was tempered by the provisions of Section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970, which states that local authorities, in performing their functions, must 'act under' the guidance of the Welsh Ministers and that the most recent guidance was the 'Fulfilled Lives, Supportive Communities: Commissioning Framework Guidance and Good Practice" (August 2010). For these reasons, Cabinet was asked to authorise a waiver from the requirements to competitively tender the Residential Care Home fees under CPR 3.2.3 as there was technically no competitive market available.

- 3.3 Cabinet is asked to note that these statutory restrictions remain in force with the result that there is no competitive market place available for these services and for these reasons, the situation remains that the current contracted providers are the only tenderers who could technically provide such a service.
- 3.4 The Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate operates a quality assurance system for older person's residential and nursing care. Contracting arrangements in place with residential and nursing care home providers are in the form of:
 - Pre-placement agreement – the overarching contract in place with the home, which sets out the Council's required quality standards, health and safety standards, the monitoring arrangements and financial payment terms.
 - Individual service agreements (ISA's) – which are the individual spot-purchasing contracts entered into when specific placements are made at a home, these will include the personal details of individual including the cost of the placement and how their care needs are to be met.
- 3.5 Spot-purchasing is a process which allows the Local Authority to place an individual based on their level of need as and when required, rather than committing to block purchasing arrangements, which can tie the Local Authority to a certain number of placements at a fixed cost.
- 3.6 This practice is in keeping with a number of other Local Authority's social care arrangements, and has enabled the directorate to provide timely and flexible responses to a range of needs, as and when they are required.
- 3.7 In addition to the contractual arrangements outlined in paragraph 3.2 above, there are monitoring and safeguarding procedures in place to ensure the services that are commissioned meet the Local Authority's requirements, in terms of the provision of good quality care.
- 3.8 One of the key mechanisms in place is the Regional Quality Framework (RQF), whose aim is to provide a clear vision for quality for individuals living within care home settings, in order to improve the lives of people and promote positive outcomes. Co-produced in partnership with local care home providers, a Quality Standards assessment tool has also been developed, which sits beneath the RQF. This allows the Council to assess and monitor a

home's performance against the RQF and contract, with the aim of driving quality up still further, whilst also ensuring value-for-money for the Council.

- 3.9 The contracts that are in place with residential and nursing providers are BCBC contracts. However the Council contracts on behalf of Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board (ABMU) for the Nursing Care element only. This is in keeping with the close partnership working relationship that the Council has with health.

4.0 Current Situation

- 4.1 The Social Services and Wellbeing Directorate currently has commissioning arrangements with 20 older people's residential and nursing care providers in the borough, and on average there are approximately 280 weekly funded placements across the residential and nursing care home sector.
- 4.2 In February 2014, Cabinet approved for the contracting arrangements in place with these providers to be extended by a period of 24 months, which expired on 31st March 2016. This was due to a number of factors including the implications of the new Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014 and clarification from Welsh Government on the changes.
- 4.3 Since early 2016, Local Authority officers across Wales have been in dialogue with the Welsh Government to discuss and assess the impact of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act. Officers have also been working closely with colleagues in health (ABMU), who have advised of changes needed to the contract and service specification in relation to the nursing elements of the contract.
- 4.4 Discussions with Welsh Government and ABMU concluded in June 2016, following which officers finalised a model for residential and nursing care, which takes account of implications of the Act. The model has also been updated to reflect more recent, wider changes in residential and nursing care, such as the implications for the model in relation to the Regional Quality Framework, developed as part of the Western Bay Programme, which was approved by Cabinet in June 2015.
- 4.5 To ensure existing providers also had an opportunity to contribute towards the development of the new model, officers presented an early draft of the model/contract at the Residential and Nursing Care Forum in March 2016, highlighting the main differences between the revised model, and the current model in place. The main differences were that, for the first time, the right for self-funding placements is to come under the Local Authority's contractual arrangements. In addition, the new arrangement has also included an update of the Care Fees Quality Payment Scheme where the standards are aligned to the Regional Quality Framework (RQF) as agreed through the Western Bay collaborative, and for the first time aligned to key aspects of the contract itself. This initial engagement was followed up with a final draft being circulated in July 2016, offering providers a further opportunity to provide comment and

feedback. On both occasions, the response was generally positive from providers, with very little negative feedback.

- 4.6 In light of the above, officers wish to seek approval to enter into new contracts for the 20 existing providers, as whilst the market cannot be competitively tendered, there would be considerable risks to both the Council and the residents if the Council does not enter into new contracts with the current care home providers. Therefore, it is imperative that the Council has a contract in place with each provider, to enable the authority to continue to place residents in these homes.
- 4.7 For the model and contract to be responsive to future legislative changes, as well as any new strategic drivers from both a Local Authority and ABMU perspective, it is felt that a relatively shorter-term contract would be more appropriate. Given this, it is proposed that an initial contract period of two years (with an option to extend by up to 24 months) would be appropriate, as it would mean that timely changes could be made, if required.
- 4.8 It is recognised that the needs of individuals are continually changing, and it is also recognised that the shape of the care home market can change at very short-notice. Even though officers feel there is already a robust and responsive market in place across the county borough, officers also wish to seek approval to enter into new contracts with any new residential and nursing care providers that may be required during this (up to) four year period, to be able to continue to have a robust market that meets need and demand.
- 4.9 There is a requirement under Regulation 19 (1) (a) of The Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015 that by April 2018 there will be a pooled fund across ABMU for Care Home placements. At this stage the implications are being considered by finance and legal officers before a new pooled fund agreement can be drafted and implemented.

5.0 Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

- 5.1 In February 2014, Cabinet approved a waiver under the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs), from the requirement to competitively tender for the provision of future residential care homes contracts on the basis that under CPR 3.2.3, the current providers are the only tenderers who can technically provide such a service due to statutory restrictions in respect of the Council's obligation to set appropriate fees, which means that there is no competitive market place available for these services.

6.0 Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report, therefore an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 During the 2015/16 financial year, the Local Authority commissioned 20 in-county providers and spent approximately £8.5 million on the delivery of older person's residential and nursing care in the borough.
- 7.2 There are no additional financial implications to the proposal of entering into the new contracts, as the costs are already committed.

8.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 8.1 Authorise a waiver under CPR 3.2.3, from the requirement to tender the provision of residential care home services on the basis that the Council has a statutory obligation to set the fees, which means that there is technically no competitive market available for these services.
- 8.2 On the basis that the waiver under CPR 3.2.3 is approved, delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing to enter into contracts with the current residential and nursing care providers on terms to be approved by the Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing in consultation with the Corporate Director - Operations and Partnerships and the s151 Officer. On the basis that (if approved) the reasons for a waiver under CPR 3.2.3 would have applied on any earlier date that the statutory restrictions as set out in this report were in force, Cabinet is asked to authorise such contracts on a retrospective basis, from the 1st April 2016. The contracts are to be in place for an initial period of two years, with an option to extend for further periods of up to two years.
- 8.3 On the basis that the waiver under CPR 3.2.3 is approved, delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing to enter into contracts with any new residential and nursing care providers on terms to be approved by the Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing in consultation with the Corporate Director - Operations and Partnerships and the s151 Officer, provided that such new contracts shall be co-terminus with the contracts referred to in 8.2 above

Susan Cooper

Corporate Director – Social Services and Wellbeing
August 2016

9.0 Contact Officer

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10.0 Background documents

Cabinet Report of the 4th February 2014 – Commissioning and Award of Contracts in Respect of Adult Social Care

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

6 SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR - OPERATIONAL AND PARTNERSHIP SERVICES

BLUE BADGE SCHEME AND AMENDMENT TO THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

1. Purpose of Report.

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet approval to amend the Scheme of Delegation of Functions in relation to the Blue Badge Scheme.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 The Scheme of Delegation of Functions provides the authority for Cabinet Members and Officers to undertake their respective duties. The Scheme therefore directly affects the ability of the Authority to process the Corporate Improvement Plan and all Corporate Priorities.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Blue Badge (Disabled Persons' Parking) scheme was introduced in 1971 under section 21 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970. The scheme provides a national arrangement throughout the UK of on-street parking concessions for people who experience the greatest barriers to their mobility when seeking to access community based facilities. The scheme is open to eligible people who may be travelling as a driver or a passenger.
- 3.2 The Welsh Government is responsible for the policy and legislative framework for the scheme in Wales.
- 3.3 Local authorities are responsible for the day to day administration and enforcement of the scheme provided under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970. They are responsible for receiving applications, determining such applications and where relevant issuing badges, administering appeals and dealing with enforcement procedures and potential referrals to legal Services where appropriate.
- 3.4 Until the end of September 2012 the responsibility for administering the scheme on behalf of the Council was with the Wellbeing Directorate. The responsibility was transferred to Customer Services on 1st October 2012. During the recent restructure of the Corporate Management Board, Customer Services has moved in to the Operational and Partnership Directorate. The scheme of delegations is required to be updated to reflect the current position.

4. Current situation / proposal

- 4.1 It is proposed that the following insertion is made to the Scheme of Delegation of Functions at Scheme B2 as a function allocated to the Corporate Director – Operational and Partnership Services:

3.66	To assess an individual's eligibility for a badge defined in sections 21-21C of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970 and where appropriate to issue the badge or process an appeals procedure.
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3.67	To do anything which the Council has a power or duty to do that is necessary for the enforcement of Section 117 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and to recommend to the Corporate Director Operational and Partnership Services the institution of criminal proceedings arising from any breach of those provisions.
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- 4.2 It is further proposed that the 'Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984' be inserted into the list of enactments at Scheme B2 paragraph 3.54 as a function allocated to the Corporate Director – Operational and Partnership Services.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules.

- 5.1 The Scheme of Delegation of Functions will require amendment.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 A screening for equality impact has been undertaken and the Blue Badge Scheme will not have any negative impact on how the Authority complies with its duties relating to equalities.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 None.

8. Recommendation.

- 8.1 It is recommended that Cabinet note the report and approve the amendment to the Scheme of Delegation of Functions at paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2.

P A Jolley
Corporate Director – Operational and Partnership Services

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Background documents
None

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

6 SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OPERATIONAL AND PARTNERSHIP SERVICES

INFORMATION REPORTS FOR NOTING

1. Purpose of Report .

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet of the Information Reports which have been published since its last scheduled meeting.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives.

- 2.1 The report relates to the Corporate Priority Smarter Use of Resources by improving the way we communicate and engage with citizens.

3. Background.

- 3.1 At a previous meeting of Cabinet, it was resolved to approve a revised procedure for the presentation to Cabinet of Information Reports for noting.

4. Current situation / proposal.

4.1 Information Reports

The following information reports have been published since the last meeting of Cabinet.

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date Published</u>
Estyn Inspection Outcomes for Brackla Primary School	31 August 2016
Estyn Inspection of St Mary's Catholic Primary School.	31 August 2016
Estyn Report of Central South Consortium	31 August 2016
Youth Justice Plan	31 August 2016

4.2 Availability of Documents

The documents have been circulated to Elected Members electronically via Email and placed on the BCBC website. The documents have been available from the date of publication.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

5.1 This procedure has been adopted within the procedure rules of the Constitution.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 There are no negative equality implications arising from this report.

7. Financial Implications.

7.1 There are no financial implications regarding this report.

8. Recommendation.

8.1 That Cabinet acknowledges the publication of the documents listed in this report.

P A Jolley
Corporate Director Operational and Partnership Services
30 AUGUST 2016

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Background documents: Report referred to in this covering report.

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

INFORMATION REPORT TO CABINET

6 SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

ESTYN INSPECTION OUTCOMES FOR BRACKLA PRIMARY SCHOOL

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report informs Cabinet Members of the outcomes of the recent Estyn inspection of Brackla Primary School.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives / Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 The information in this report relates to the strategic priority in the Corporate Plan 'supporting a successful economy'.

3. Background

- 3.1 Brackla Primary School was inspected by Estyn in June 2016, and the report was published on 9th August 2016. The full text of the report is available on the Estyn website: www.estyn.gov.uk

- 3.2 In June 2016, Inspectors reached the following judgements:

Current Performance	Good
Prospects for Improvement	Good
How good are outcomes?	Good
Standards	Good
Wellbeing	Good
How good is provision?	Good
Learning experiences	Good
Teaching	Good
Care, support and guidance	Good
Learning environment	Good
How good are leadership and management?	Good
Leadership	Good
Improving quality	Good
Partnership working	Excellent
Resource management	Good

- 3.3 The school's current performance is good because:

- Nearly all pupils make good progress and are enthusiastic learners;
- The school provides pupils with a purposeful, caring environment;
- Standards of wellbeing are very good;

- Teachers provide pupils with a stimulating and varied curriculum;
- Most teaching is good;
- The school building is well maintained and supports pupils' learning well;
- The school's outdoor provision is good and provides pupils with range of exciting opportunities to learn.

3.4 Prospects for improvement are good because:

- The headteacher provides effective leadership, which focuses purposefully on raising standards;
- Leaders have high expectations of learners and staff;
- Governors challenge the school to improve effectively;
- The school has very robust and productive self-evaluation processes;
- Leaders use performance data well to track pupils' progress;
- It has a good track record in making improvements;
- There are very effective strategic partnerships, especially with parents;
- Leaders manage the school finances well to support improvements.

3.5 Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales, Estyn, made the following recommendations:

R1 To improve standards of Welsh writing in key stage 2

R2 To improve provision for numeracy across the curriculum

R3 To increase opportunities for pupils to use Welsh skills outside of Welsh lessons

3.6 The school will draw up a post inspection action plan which will show how it will address the recommendations.

3.7 The Local Authority with the Central South Consortium will support the school to continue to improve outcomes and address all the recommendations.

3.8 The school has been asked by Estyn to prepare a written case study, describing the excellent practice identified during the inspection related to partnership working.

4. Current situation / proposal

4.1 These recommendations provide the structure for the Post Inspection Action Plan (the PIAP).

4.2 Progress against the PIAP will be monitored by the Challenge Adviser from Central South Consortium and reports will be made to the Local Authority.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

5.1 There is no effect upon the Council's Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 There are no equality impact implications arising from this report.

7. Financial Implications

7.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this information report.

8. Recommendation

It is recommended that Cabinet:

8.1 Note the content of this report and that the school's current performance and prospects for improvement are judged "Good" by Estyn and that at the invitation of Estyn, the school will also prepare a written case study, describing the excellent practice identified during the inspection.

Deborah McMillan Corporate Director – Education and Family Support

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Background documents

Estyn Inspection Report of Brackla Primary School

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

6 SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL PROGRESS (INFORMATION REPORT)

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report informs Cabinet Members of the outcomes of the recent Estyn inspection of St Mary's Catholic Primary School.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives / Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 The information in this report relates to the strategic priority in the Corporate Plan 'supporting a successful economy'.

3. Background

- 3.1 St Mary's Catholic Primary School was inspected by Estyn in June 2016, and the report was published on 9th August 2016. The full text of the report is available on the Estyn website: www.estyn.gov.uk

- 3.2 In June 2016, Inspectors reached the following judgements:

Current Performance	Good
Prospects for Improvement	Good
How good are outcomes?	Good
Standards	Good
Wellbeing	Adequate
How good is provision?	Good
Learning experiences	Good
Teaching	Good
Care, support and guidance	Good
Learning environment	Good
How good are leadership and management?	Good
Leadership	Good
Improving quality	Good
Partnership working	Good
Resource management	Good

- 3.3. The inspection team reported that, whilst the school is mostly good, there are a small number of specific areas that required monitoring by the local authority to ensure improvement. In its report, published on 9th August 2016, the inspection team recommended that 'The local authority will monitor the school's progress'.

- 3.4 The school's current performance is good because:

- Most pupils make good progress from their starting-points;

- Most pupils' speaking and listening skills are very good;
- Pupils' thinking skills develop exceptionally well;
- Most pupils make good progress in developing their reading skills;
- Nearly all pupils display positive attitudes to learning and are very enthusiastic in lessons;
- All pupils behave extremely well;
- The quality of teaching is good across the school and a few lessons are excellent;
- A strong Catholic ethos supports pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development very well.

3.5 Prospects for improvement are good because:

- The headteacher has a clear vision for the school and shares this effectively with staff, governors and pupils;
- He is an exemplary role model who actively supports and challenges staff and pupils to do their best;
- There is a good sense of team work across the school and staff embrace new ideas positively;
- Governors undertake their responsibilities conscientiously and have a strong interest in the day-to-day life of the school;
- The school demonstrates a good commitment to addressing national and local priorities; for example, the Foundation Phase has been embedded well;
- There is thorough analysis of all aspects of the school's life and work, including pupils' wellbeing;
- The school has an excellent range of partnerships, which have a significant impact on pupils' achievement and wellbeing; for example, there is a highly effective partnership with the University of Exeter, which has helped to improve pupils' thinking skills.

3.6 Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales, Estyn, made the following recommendations:

R1 Raise the standard of most pupils' extended and creative writing

R2 Improve pupils' skills in Welsh

R3 Raise pupils' attendance

R4 Ensure a better balance of leadership responsibility across the leadership team

3.7 The school will draw up a post inspection action plan which will show how it will address the recommendations. The Action Plan will set out the work proposed to enable the school to make sufficient improvement to address the recommendations by Estyn as soon as possible. The Local Authority with Central South Consortium will support the school to improve outcomes and address all the recommendations.

3.8 The school has been asked by Estyn to provide a case study about the excellence identified for thinking skills, cognitive development and partnerships.

4. Current situation / proposal

4.1 These recommendations provide the structure for the Post Inspection Action Plan (the PIAP).

4.2 Progress against the PIAP will be monitored by the Challenge Adviser from Central South Consortium and reports will be made to the Local Authority.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

5.1 There is no impact on the Council's policy framework or procedure rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 There are no equality impact implications arising from this report.

7. Financial Implications

7.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this information report.

8. Recommendation

8.1 It is recommended that Cabinet note the content of this report, that the school's current performance and prospects for improvement are both judged "good " by Estyn and that at the invitation of Estyn, the school will also prepare a written case study, describing the excellent practice identified during the inspection.

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Background documents

Estyn Inspection Report of St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

INFORMATION REPORT TO CABINET

6 SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR- EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

Estyn Report of Central South Consortium

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to present the findings of the Estyn Report on the Central South Consortium.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 The information in this report relates to the strategic priority in the Corporate Plan 'supporting a successful economy'.

3. Background

- 3.1 Consortia were established by the previous Labour government in 2012 and have taken some time to become established across Wales. Consortia are funded to deliver school improvement services on behalf of Local Authorities. This means providing challenge and support in the form of a Challenge Adviser to each school and commissioning sources of support for schools to draw upon in their improvement planning.
- 3.2 Central South Consortium covers 400 schools across Wales and over a third of the children in Wales. It is one of the most deprived regions in Wales and in 2012 it was one of the lowest performing regions. All five constituent authorities, Bridgend, Cardiff, Merthyr, Rhondda Cynon Taf and the Vale of Glamorgan were in a form of Estyn monitoring.
- 3.3 Since 2012 the region has seen the fastest improvement of any in Wales. Results in all key stages have risen to or above the national average and the pace of improvement at key stage four has been more than double that seen nationally. At the same time all five authorities have been removed from monitoring by Estyn and in all cases the contribution of the Consortium was noted.
- 3.4 In 2014 the five authorities in Central South Consortium launched "The Central South Wales Challenge" which set out a school led strategy for improvement. This was designed to identify and support schools to lead improvement across the region at both a system level and at a school level. At the same time there were changes to the challenge adviser function and many more seconded head teachers were encouraged to become challenge advisers.
- 3.5 Estyn inspected the Central South Consortium in March 2016. It was the first Consortium to be inspected under a new Consortia Inspection Framework.

- 3.6 The report was mostly positive recognising the scale of improvement across schools within the Central South region since the Consortium working began in Wales in 2012. It gave 'good' judgements for leadership, self evaluation and improvement planning and partnerships.
- 3.7 Judgements for support for school improvement and resource management remained 'adequate' which in Estyn terms means 'strengths outweigh areas for improvement'. There were four recommendations for the Consortium to take on board ahead of a likely revisit by Estyn in the Autumn of 2017.
- 3.8 The Consortium was the first of the four consortia to be inspected. All four have now been inspected.
- 3.9 The inspection took two weeks and involved 9 inspectors. More than 50 head teachers and governors were interviewed as were all Council Leaders and Cabinet Members, Chief Executives, Directors, S.151 officers, the senior team of the Consortium and many staff. The inspection was supported by a survey of all head teachers and governors, to which more than 50% of schools responded, which was undertaken in January.
- 3.10 The report (Appendix A) was published on the 26th May and it is expected that all consortia will be revisited to measure progress against their recommendations from the autumn of 2017 onwards.

4. Current situation / proposal

- 4.1 The report made five judgements within its framework with a context section on performance and outcomes. Against each area the judgements were:-
- a. Support for School Improvement – adequate
 - b. Leadership – good
 - c. Improving Quality – good
 - d. Partnerships – good
 - e. Resource Management – adequate
- 4.2 The report recognised the rapid improvement across the five authorities in the region, the fastest improvement nationally and that the Consortium was now sitting at or above the national average in all indicators. However, it also noted that performance across the local authorities is "too variable".
- "In 2015, over half of the schools in the region are in the higher 50% when their performance is compared to that of similar schools for all the main indicators in the Foundation Phase and key stages 2, 3 and 4. This is the only region where this is the case. Overall, performance in this region has improved at a faster rate than in the other regions over the last three years, although for several indicators this has been from a low base.*
- 4.3 The report recognised a number of areas of strength in the way that Consortium operates and delivers impact. In particular it noted:-
- a. Increased consistency and quality of challenge advisers, use of data and implementation of the categorisation process;

- b. The wide range of professional learning opportunities for schools across the region delivered as part of the self improving school system;
- c. Effective leadership and appropriate governance of the Consortium by the five authorities working together;
- d. Effective self evaluation and improving planning processes reflected in the Consortium Business Plan 2016/17;
- e. Clarity of vision and strategy within the self improving school system strategy work and the strength of engagement with head teachers and authorities, also the effective use of resources.

“The consortium has a clear vision and strategy to improve schools that is understood by most stakeholders and underpins the support for school improvement well. Almost all schools across the regions are engaging purposefully with schools-to-school working.”

“Over the last two years, the consortium has developed into a reflective organisation that is committed to evaluating and improving its own practice and performance.”

- 4.4 There were also a number of areas for improvement in the four recommendations within the report. These were to:-
- 1. Ensure that school improvement services address the variability of performance across schools and local authorities, particularly at key stage 4.
 - 2. Improve the accuracy of the evaluations of schools by Challenge Advisers in order to ensure a greater focus on improving teaching and leadership.
 - 3. Strengthen the procedures for monitoring and evaluating the impact of school improvement work.
 - 4. Evaluate progress against the regional consortium’s operational plans more effectively.
- 4.5 The Consortium has reviewed action plans against the recommendations and added to them where necessary. Attached at Appendix B is a summary of each of the recommendations with actions and impact against them. These sit within the business plan and are monitored monthly as part of our self evaluation processes.
- 4.6 Following the inspection, stakeholders and Directors in the region carried out a stocktake to review progress and to identify further areas where focus was needed. These included:-
- a. A need for a focus on strengthening leadership succession planning and future leadership capacity also recruitment of core subject (mathematics particularly) teachers in the region;
 - b. A focus on developing pedagogy and joint practice development at teacher level through school to school working;
 - c. A focus on engagement in particular with teachers, governors and elected Members about the role of the consortia and impact to schools which do not make sufficiently rapid progress;
 - d. A focus on consistent intervention and a sharp response to schools which do not make sufficiently paid progress;
 - e. A need to review the role of challenge advisers with a view to increasing impact and sharpening reporting;

- f. A need to engage with pace on national strategies and agendas in the region in a way that builds capacity and streamlines change management.
- 4.7 Actions arising from these areas have also been reflected in our action plans underpinning the business plan which are monitored monthly.
- 4.8 There are risks to the delivery of these recommendations in the next year particularly including:-
- a. The implementation of the new qualification for core subjects at key stage 4 may well destabilise the improvement seen across the region hitting schools which serve deprived areas hardest. This is being monitored and we are working with these schools particularly to support their planning;
 - b. Leadership capacity and particularly capacity to recruit core subject staff remains a significant issue for the region. The four consortia are working together on a national recruitment campaign for the autumn;
 - c. National priorities change as the new government establishes itself leading to reduced impact and a need to further communicate strategies and progress;
 - d. Financial resources remain tight and will become more so. The Consortium is taking a small cut to revenue resources in 2016/17 and 2017/18 and judge this to be manageable, but major changes to grant will affect our ability to deliver school to school strategies for improvement. We are working with Welsh Government to reflect and address these issues within the context of increasing delegation to schools.
- 4.9 These risks are on the Consortium's risk register and being monitored closely.
- 4.10 The Consortium has reviewed action plans as set out in this report and will report against progress to the Advisory Board and the Joint Committee termly.
- 4.11 Each Scrutiny Committee also receives an annual report in the late autumn / early spring term from the Consortium which will also focus on progress against these recommendations.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules

- 5.1 There is no impact on the Council's policy framework or procedure rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 There are no equality impact implications arising from this report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this information report.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1 Cabinet should note the inspection report and recommendations (Appendix A) and the actions to address recommendations (Appendix B).

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Appendices:-

Appendix A Estyn published report for Central South Consortium
Appendix B Summary table of recommendations, actions and impact.

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Arolygiaeth Ei Mawrhydi dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru
Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales



WALES AUDIT OFFICE

SWYDDFA ARCHWILIO CYMRU

A report on the quality of the school improvement services provided by the Central South Consortium

**Central South Consortium
Tŷ Dysgu
Cefn Coed
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February 2016

by

Estyn, Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales

Every possible care has been taken to ensure that the information in this document is accurate at the time of going to press. Any enquiries or comments regarding this document/publication should be addressed to:

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Context

Regional profile

Central South Consortium provides school improvement services for a region of five local authorities: Bridgend, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf and the Vale of Glamorgan.

The number of pupils of compulsory school age in the region in 2015 was 111,121. This represents 31% of all pupils in Wales. There are 398 maintained schools in the region, 25% of all maintained schools in Wales (PLASC, 2015).

In 2015, 20.7% of pupils in the region are eligible for free school meals. This is above the Wales average and only 0.1 percentage point below that of the region with the highest proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals.

In the region, 11% of people aged three and over say that they can speak Welsh compared to the Wales average of 19% (2011 Census, ONS).

As of 31 December 2015, ethnic minorities account for 7% of the population in the region, and this is just above the Wales average.

As of 31 March 2015, 2,015 children in the region are looked after by a local authority and this represents 36% of looked-after children in Wales.

Performance profile

There has been strong improvement in the outcomes for pupils in the main indicators for performance in all the key stages over the last three years across the five local authorities served by the central south consortium. However, since September 2012, only a minority of secondary schools inspected have been judged good or better for their standards. This is a marginally lower proportion compared to the rest of Wales.

In 2015, over half of the schools in the region are in the higher 50% when their performance is compared to that of similar schools for all the main indicators in the Foundation Phase and key stages 2, 3 and 4. This is the only region where this is the case. Overall, performance in this region has improved at a faster rate than in the other regions over the last three years, although for several indicators this has been from a low base.

Over the last three years, performance in the Foundation Phase indicator and key stage 2 core subject indicator has increased at the fastest rate in Wales. When inspected, a higher proportion of primary schools in central south Wales have been judged good or better for their standards compared to those in the rest of Wales.

The proportion of pupils gaining the expected level in the core subject indicator at key stage 3 has improved rapidly in central south Wales over the last three years, and at a faster rate than the Wales average. In 2015, performance was close to being the highest in Wales. The majority of schools in the region are in the higher 50% when their performance is compared to that of similar schools.

The percentage of pupils achieving the level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A*-C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics has improved at a particularly rapid pace over the last three years. Performance in every local authority in the region met or exceeded the benchmark target set by the Welsh Government in 2015. Almost two-thirds of schools in the region are in the higher 50% compared to similar schools, and only around one-sixth of schools are in the bottom 25% when compared to similar schools. The performance of pupils eligible for free school meals has improved at a faster rate than in the other regions over the last three years, albeit from a very low base. The gap in performance between girls and boys is the smallest for any of the four regions. However, boys' performance across the local authorities is far too variable.

At key stage 4, performance in the average capped wider points score has improved well over the last three years. Performance in four of the five local authorities in the region met or exceeded the benchmark target set by the Welsh Government in 2015. Just over half the schools in the region are in the higher 50% when their performance is compared to that of similar schools, and one-fifth of schools are in the bottom 25% compared to similar schools.

Although performance in the level 1 threshold at key stage 4 has improved, performance in the region has been the lowest in Wales for the last two years. However, despite this, half of the secondary schools are in the higher 50% when their performance is compared to that of similar schools.

The proportion of pupils achieving five A* or A grades or at GCSE or equivalent has been above the Wales average for the last two years, having improved at the fastest rate across the four regions. However, performance across the local authorities is too variable.

Performance in English is particularly strong in the region. Performance at level 2 is above the Wales average in 2015 and nearly two-thirds of secondary schools are in the higher 50% when their performance is compared to that of similar schools.

Performance in mathematics is the weakest of the core subjects, although central south Wales is the most improved region over the last three years.

Attendance has improved well in the region in recent years, increasing at a slightly faster rate than the Wales average. Attendance rates in a majority of primary and secondary schools place them in the higher 50% compared to similar schools in Wales.

Recommendations

- R1 Ensure that school improvement services address the variability of performance across schools and local authorities, particularly at key stage 4
- R2 Improve the accuracy of the evaluations of schools by challenge advisers in order to ensure a greater focus on improving teaching and leadership
- R3 Strengthen the procedures for monitoring and evaluating the impact of school improvement work
- R4 Evaluate progress against the regional consortium's operational plans more effectively

Main findings

Support for School Improvement: Adequate

The consortium has a clear vision and strategy to improve schools that is understood by most stakeholders and underpins the support for school improvement well. Almost all schools across the region are engaging purposefully with school-to-school working.

The consortium's 'Support and Challenge Framework' provides useful guidance for challenge advisers, local authority officers and schools. The framework outlines the process for categorising schools clearly. It also indicates how challenge advisers should work with schools in different categories of support. Following an evaluation, the consortium has recently reviewed the framework to emphasise schools' self-evaluation and improvement planning. They have also focused more sharply on the improvement priorities for the region. This appropriately includes raising the achievement of vulnerable groups of pupils.

Consortium leaders are developing the arrangements for collecting data to inform school improvement processes and to improve their knowledge of schools well. This includes collecting pupils' performance data throughout the year, which allows the consortium to track progress with greater accuracy in its schools. Many challenge advisers use this data appropriately to challenge each school's view of its standards and capacity to improve, and to make informed decisions about the school's support needs.

The categorisation process is increasingly robust and fair, and identifies clearly those aspects that require improvement. The process allows for a more open dialogue between schools and the consortium and, overall, schools have a sound understanding of what to expect. In the last two years there has been a reduction in the proportion of schools requiring a higher degree of support. However, in a minority of schools, there are still significant concerns.

Most challenge advisers' reports on schools are based appropriately on first-hand evidence, such as the scrutiny of pupils' work and observations of teaching. The consortium has suitable processes to quality assure the work of challenge advisers. Senior challenge advisers make joint visits with challenge advisers and review the quality of reports to schools. These activities have improved the consistency and clarity of the reports provided to schools. However, in a few cases, challenge adviser notes of visits to schools do not focus on the most important aspects requiring improvement, such as the quality and consistency of teaching. In addition, in a few instances, reports provided to Estyn in advance of an inspection do not reflect well enough the findings of the inspection team, especially regarding the evaluation of teaching and leadership.

In many schools, challenge advisers broker support appropriately and draw well on the consortium's provision for a wide range of school-to-school support and targeted interventions.

The consortium works effectively with its local authority partners to share information about the performance of schools across the region, and to identify schools causing concern. Meetings to review the progress of schools in the highest categories of support are regular and place an appropriate emphasis on the role of the headteachers and governors to provide evidence of progress. Where there are concerns about a school's progress, the consortium acts swiftly to alert the local authority and provides timely advice to support the local authority's use of statutory powers to intervene in the school.

Teacher assessment across the region is increasingly accurate. Generally, schools are well-engaged and moderation processes have improved, helped by involvement in the national verification programme. Challenge and strategic advisers support all moderation events. The consortium has been proactive in including the Foundation Phase in their verification processes, and this provides effective support for practitioners.

To address national and regional priorities, the consortium has developed the role of strategic advisers, who lead approaches to support schools in key areas. This includes a regional strategy group to tackle poverty and disadvantage that is working with a group of schools to identify, evaluate and develop effective practice across the region. This work is well-planned, and has included commissioned research resulting in a series of best practice case studies on improving outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. This has helped to raise schools' awareness of strategies to tackle disadvantage.

The 'Central South Wales Challenge' is the consortium's key strategy for school improvement. It provides a wide range of professional learning opportunities for schools across the region, at all levels of support, which reflect well the vision for a self-improving school system. The strategy has four main activities; School Improvement Groups (SIGs), 'Pathfinders', 'Hubs' and 'Peer enquiry,' which together form a coherent and well-designed approach to school-to-school-working.

All schools in the region belong to a SIG and most schools have engaged very positively with this activity. The SIGs provide well-structured opportunities for schools to work together on improvement priorities that are specific to their context, and to share best practice. Engagement in this work has promoted productive school-to-school working across the region.

Where more targeted school-to-school working is required, the consortium has paired a number of schools in 'Pathfinder' partnerships through which effective schools support those schools in need of improvement. This strategy has brought about improvements in many of the schools involved.

'Hub' schools provide professional learning in specific priority areas, such as teaching and leadership. There is a robust application process for schools to become hubs to ensure that the lead school has the capacity to provide support. This is a mutually beneficial process for both lead schools and those attending the programmes. However, it is too early to judge the impact of this work.

The consortium has rolled out two pilot cohorts of 'peer enquiry' in the region. This involves two head teachers and a deputy head who are invited into a third school to review self-evaluation and improvement planning, including lesson observation and talking to learners and the senior leadership team. It is a method of building leadership capacity and reflection and improving self-evaluation between peer head teachers. The consortium has developed a clear methodology for its approach to peer enquiry and there are early indications that it is having a positive effect on improving leadership capacity. However procedures for evaluating its impact are underdeveloped.

These support opportunities have motivated teachers across the region to become more active in and reflective on their own learning, and to support the development of others. Although participation has been high, and teachers have welcomed these opportunities for improvement, the procedures for monitoring and evaluating the impact of this work on standards, teaching and leadership are underdeveloped. The consortium is beginning to address this shortcoming.

There is a wide range of provision to improve literacy and numeracy in schools, including core support for curriculum developments. It also addresses the needs of specific groups of pupils, and provides valuable approaches to develop school-to-school support to address the particular needs of individual schools. Improvement in English has generally been good but the impact on pupils' standards in mathematics has been more limited. Overall, schools rely too heavily on interventions in literacy and numeracy to improve outcomes rather than on the development of teaching and leadership in these areas.

Following an extensive review of provision in the Foundation Phase, the consortium established the Foundation Phase Alliance, a group of specialist schools and settings for the Foundation Phase. The schools are committed to delivering professional learning events to share their good practice. Case studies show examples of improved practice. However, this work is at an early stage of development.

The consortium is developing a comprehensive suite of programmes to improve leadership across the region. This includes a broad range of programmes for headteachers at various stages of their careers to improve their practice, to gain the skills to support other headteachers, or to lead more than one school. School leaders show a strong commitment to developing a school-led self-improving system, and there has been a high take-up of leadership programmes. The Central South Wales Challenge (CSW) strategy group of headteachers provides a useful forum for school leaders to discuss and develop the school-to-school working system. Furthermore, there are valuable opportunities for teachers to develop their leadership skills through the CSW Challenge, by leading school improvements in the SIGs and in 'Hub' schools. These development opportunities are beginning to build capacity for improvement across the region, although it is too early to identify any sustained impact on schools.

The recruitment of a regional lead officer for governor training has improved the consortium's capacity to work with local authorities to provide support for governors.

Leadership: Good

Strategic leadership and management in the consortium are strong.

Senior leaders in the five local authorities and the senior management team in the consortium have a clear shared strategic vision for the regional school improvement service. These elected members and officers have worked effectively together to develop this strategic vision and to put in place the appropriate governance structure to drive this forward.

The consortium's governance structure is set out clearly in the recently revised legal agreement, which takes good account of the Welsh Government's guidance on implementing the National Model for School Improvement. This agreement confirms that the consortium is a jointly provided school improvement service and establishes an effective framework that allocates governance responsibilities and accountability to a joint committee, an advisory board, strategic and operational management groups and a host authority.

This agreement directs appropriate representation from each local authority at lead director, chief executive, and lead member levels. Every local authority is represented, and responsibilities are distributed between the five local authorities with key posts rotating periodically. All of the five local authorities engage with the governance structure well and have taken up their allotted representative posts and duties.

The joint committee and the advisory board provide clear direction to the consortium's managing director and senior management team. These groups provide the means by which the local authorities' senior leaders exercise their oversight of the work of the consortium. The consortium's officers and the members of these two groups understand their respective roles and responsibilities, and they generally discharge these well. The consortium's managing director and senior management team are also supported well by other groups of stakeholders such as the education directors' strategic group, the headteachers' steering group, and the governors' steering group.

The consortium has a clear and well-articulated vision for their self-improving schools model. The vision has been communicated effectively through regular reports, newsletters, briefings and its website and this has led to a high level of 'buy-in' by all stakeholders. However, not all school governors and elected members understand well enough the role of the consortium in raising pupils' standards and the outcomes it has achieved so far. The consortium is aware of this and is currently setting out in more detail how its vision will develop over the medium term in line with national expectations.

As well as working together well to develop the work of the consortium as a joint school improvement service, the chief executives and directors of education of the five local authorities are increasingly sharing other areas of common interest. This has led to improvements in governor support, human resource services, and data analysis. The five local authority chief executives have also recently commissioned a

useful scoping exercise to identify other education services where joint working may bring added value.

The consortium's current business plan sets out well the strategic goals for the consortium within a three-year vision, as well as its high level goals for the current year. These take good account of both the Welsh Government's school improvement priorities and those for the region.

The consortium has worked well with the local authority scrutiny committees to improve the impact of their oversight and challenge. There is now in place an agreed cycle of visits by the managing director and chair of the joint committee to each scrutiny committee. During these visits, the consortium presents a report setting out clearly its evaluation of the outcomes from the work of the consortium for the local authority's schools and pupils. The consortium has also worked effectively with each scrutiny committee to provide data and related information, as well as training, in order to help the committee hold schools and officers to account for performance. However, scrutiny chairs remain unclear about which aspects of the consortium's work they can and cannot scrutinise more directly.

Improving quality: Good

Over the last two years, the consortium has developed into a reflective organisation that is committed to evaluating and improving its own practice and performance. Senior leaders take good account of the views of a wide range of stakeholders and adjust plans and processes when necessary to ensure these meet needs more effectively. This is enabling leaders to secure increasingly accurate self-evaluation arrangements and improvements to the current business planning processes.

Leaders and managers use a wide range of first-hand information well to inform the self-evaluation process. This includes the careful analysis of data from consortium to individual pupil level. As a result, the consortium has agreed a set of appropriate key performance indicators against which it will measure progress over a three-year cycle.

The current self-evaluation report provides a fair and balanced view of the consortium's overall performance. A wide range of stakeholders contribute to the self-evaluation process and their views help to inform the final report. At the end of each key question, the report provides a useful evaluative summary of the areas the consortium identifies as in need of improvement.

Operational action plans for 2015-2016 reflect work streams required by the Welsh Government and contain a brief outline of key milestones over the next three years. The overarching business plan also includes annexes that set out how the consortium tailors its work to support each local authority's additional priorities. These plans focus on important areas for improvement and include time scales and costings but do not always identify clearly a lead individual to be held to account for progress. Overall, the actions in the plans lack clarity and specific success criteria. This makes it difficult for senior leaders to measure progress accurately. Senior leaders monitor progress regularly against the actions and key priorities in the operational plans through a colour-coded system, but this tends to focus on process

rather than outcomes. Other arrangements to monitor the progress of the 2015-2016 operational plans are often too complicated and are unclear about what is being measured.

For the 2016-2017 business planning process, leaders have taken good account of the recommendations in the Estyn report of June 2015 'Improving Schools through Regional Consortia'. The overarching business plan sets out clear performance targets for schools for the next three years at each key stage. In addition, there are precise targets to narrow the gap between the attainment of pupils eligible for free school meals and other pupils and for raising attendance in primary and secondary schools. These targets underpin effectively the three main improvement priorities in the overarching business plan. The targets focus well on raising standards in literacy and numeracy, supporting schools to become self-improving and ensuring that the consortium is a high performing organisation. These improvement priorities form a sound basis for the 2016-2017 operational action plans.

The operational plans link well to the consortium's agreed key priorities and the self-evaluation report. They contain explicit performance targets for a three-year period. Each strategic activity details clear actions with specific success criteria and timescales and a named responsible leader. There are appropriate costings to support the implementation of actions but because budget level planning is built on a single-year model dependent upon Welsh Government funding, these costings are appropriate for a one-year period only. Good quality assurance procedures ensure that all the plans contain the required information in a consistent format and meet quality standards. These plans provide a sound foundation to move work forward across the consortium.

There are appropriate procedures and processes to ensure that the consortium identifies and deals with risks at different levels.

The consortium is strengthening its performance management arrangements for individual members of staff. However, agreed objectives and identified success criteria are not always precise enough to enable senior leaders to judge accurately the quality of the work of their teams. There are appropriate arrangements in place across the consortium to deal with underperformance through agreed informal and formal processes.

Partnerships: Good

The consortium has successfully developed strong relationships with a range of partners. This has led to a shared understanding of strategic priorities and a clear commitment to working together to improve standards for all pupils.

The consortium has developed an effective partnership with its schools. This is enabling it to move purposefully towards delivering its vision for a self-improving school system.

There is a positive working relationship between consortium and local authority senior managers. Directors, chief executives, senior officers and elected members realise the benefits that can be gained from working within a wider region, and

demonstrate a clear willingness to explore other opportunities for greater collaboration both with the consortium and with each other.

The consortium is developing its partnership with governors through the development of a governor steering group, governor briefings and mandatory data training. This is helping governors to gain a better understanding of their role. The consortium has started to involve experienced governors in school-to-school support through the appointment of consultant governors.

The consortium is developing its partnership appropriately with a range of local authority services. Close working with human resource (HR) departments and trade unions across the five authorities has resulted in the development of shared capability and performance management arrangements and this is improving the support that schools receive.

The appointment of regional co-ordinators for HR, governance, attendance and looked-after children is facilitating increased collaboration and sharing of good practice between the five authorities. However, overall, this development is at an early stage.

The consortium has appropriately recognised the need to develop closer working between challenge advisers and inclusion staff to share information about vulnerable groups of pupils. Across the region there are examples of useful collaboration between these services in terms of joint meetings and visits to schools. A recently formed inclusion strategy group is providing valuable opportunities for managers in the five authorities to develop collaborative working and greater consistency across the region. However, the collation and analysis of data about vulnerable pupils are at an early stage of development.

Partnership with the diocesan authorities has improved, with regular meetings between the diocesan education directors and consortium managers. This has led to improved dialogue with senior officers about issues relating to faith schools.

There has been an improvement in the communication and working relationships between consortium challenge advisers and Schools Challenge Cymru advisers. This includes more effective sharing of data and reports as well as regular attendance at meetings.

The consortium has developed a few useful links with external partners. For example, links with higher education institutions have enabled the consortium to develop a range of professional development opportunities for new and experienced headteachers.

Collaboration with the other consortia has provided useful opportunities for sharing good practice. Examples of these include the developments relating to Welsh medium secondary education and the 'Valleys Project'. However, it is too early to evaluate the impact of this work.

Resource management: Adequate

The consortium has sound financial management processes in place, which allow for budgets for core funding and grant expenditure to be set robustly and monitored

carefully. Costs are kept under regular and tight review by consortium staff, education directors and the joint committee. The consortium is managing the challenges of grant allocation well. This is helped by solid relationships between finance officers in the consortium and local authorities.

The link between the business planning process and spending decisions is developing well. The consortium is making good use of data to allocate resources against key priorities. As part of its priority of school-led support, the consortium increased the proportion of grant funding delegated to schools from 2015-2016 compared with previous years. This proportion is higher than Welsh Government requirements.

The local authority core funding to the consortium is lower than set out in the Welsh Government's National Model for Regional Working, although this is partly because local authorities continue to provide certain services such as HR support. The consortium has been proactive in identifying efficiencies by reducing both administration costs and duplication of work and increasing external income from the use of its office space. This has enabled the consortium to reduce the local authority core funding by 5% for 2016-2017 and a further 5% for 2017-2018 without impacting on core services. Plans are in place to review other areas for collaboration across the region, such as governor support, further to reduce costs and improve the effectiveness of the services.

The consortium has started to assess its value for money, although it recognises that there is still further work to do to develop this process and demonstrate that the use of resources is having the best possible impact on outcomes. The consortium has used the results of its value for money reviews to reconfigure particular services such as Foundation Phase support. This has led to a reduction in costs in this area. However, it is too early to assess the impact of these changes to determine if they have delivered better value for money.

Appendix 1

The inspection team

Iwan Roberts	Reporting Inspector
Sarah Lewis	Team Inspector
Caroline Rees	Team Inspector
Rhona Edwards	Team Inspector
Mark Champion	Team Inspector
Gerard Kerslake	Team Inspector
Jassa Scott	Team Inspector
Margaret Elisabeth Davies	Team Inspector
Sophie Knott	WAO
Sue Walker	Nominee

Copies of the report

Copies of this report are available on the Estyn website (www.estyn.gov.wales)

Glossary of terms

National Curriculum

Expected National Curriculum levels

- By the end of the Foundation Phase, at the age of seven, pupils are expected to reach Foundation Phase outcome 5 and the more able outcome 6.
- By the end of the key stage 2, at the age of eleven, learners are expected to reach level 4 and the more able to reach level 5.
- By the end of the key stage 3, at the age of fourteen, learners are expected to reach level 5 and the more able to reach level 6 or level 7.

Foundation Phase indicator (FPI)

Progress in learning through the Foundation Phase is indicated by outcomes (from outcome 1 to outcome 6). The Foundation Phase indicator (FPI) relates to the expected performance in three areas of learning in the Foundation Phase: literacy, language and communication in English or Welsh first language; mathematical development; personal and social development, wellbeing and cultural diversity. Pupils must achieve the expected outcome (outcome 5) in the three areas above to gain the Foundation Phase indicator.

Core subject indicator in key stages 2, 3 and 4

The core subject indicator relates to the expected performance in English or Welsh first language, mathematics and science, the core subjects of the National Curriculum. Learners must gain at least the expected level in either English or Welsh first language together with mathematics and science to gain the core subject indicator.

External examinations at key stage 4 or post-16

Core subject indicator – as above.

Level 1 qualification – the equivalent of a GCSE at grade D to G.

The Level 1 threshold – learners must have gained a volume of qualifications equivalent to five GCSEs at grades D to G.

Level 2 qualification – the equivalent of a GCSE at grade A* to C.

The Level 2 threshold – learners must have gained a volume of qualifications equivalent to five GCSEs at grade A* to C.

The Level 2 threshold including English or Welsh first language and mathematics – learners must have gained level 2 qualifications in English or Welsh first language and in mathematics as part of their threshold.

Level 3 qualification – the equivalent of an A level at A* to C.

The Level 3 threshold – learners must have gained a volume of qualifications equivalent to two A levels at grade A* to E.

The **average wider points score** includes all external qualifications approved for use in Wales at the relevant age – for example at age 16 or 18. To calculate this, the total points gained by all learners in the cohort is divided by the number of learners.

The **capped average points score** only includes the best eight results for each pupil from all qualifications approved for use in Wales at age 16.

All-Wales Core Data sets

Schools and local authorities may refer to performance relative to their family of schools. These families of schools have been created to enable schools to compare their performance to similar schools across Wales. Families include schools with similar proportions of pupils entitled to free school meals, living in 20% most deprived areas of Wales, having special education needs at school action plus or statemented and with English as an additional language acquisition less than competent.

Recommendation	What are we doing?	Expected Impact
<p>R1 Ensure that school improvement services address the variability of performance across schools and local authorities, particularly at key stage 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Improving provision of pupil level data through the establishment of a pupil level database. ✓ Collecting schools' self-evaluation reports, improvement plans and targets much earlier in the academic year so that we are able to identify at an early stage whether the targets set will reduce variability of performance between schools and authorities. ✓ Enabling challenge advisers to challenge expectations and the targets set where they are not high enough to ensure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the variations against key indicators reduce; • we see continuing improvement across the region in all schools. ✓ Collecting information about pupils' progress towards targets in secondary and primary schools more readily through the year to help monitor progress. ✓ Developing and coordinating a strategy to improve performance in secondary schools across the region both pre- and post sixteen. ✓ Establishing an intervention strategy to achieve a consistent approach across the region that will secure improvement at pace in schools causing the greatest concern, including use of the local authority's statutory powers. ✓ Strengthening the coordination of joint working with local authorities' inclusion services when supporting schools requiring red or amber support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The targets in the Foundation Phase and at key stages 2 and 3 are met in 2016 as set out in the business plan at the expected level and the expected level +1. ➤ When targets are reset for 2017 and 2018 they will demonstrate intent to reduce the variation between schools and local authorities in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the gap between boys' and girls' achievement in literacy/ English/ Welsh in all authorities and boys' literacy outcomes especially in Merthyr; • girls' outcomes in mathematics in all authorities but especially in the Vale; • the gap in outcomes achieved by eFSM pupils at the expected and above expected levels, especially in the Vale and RCT; • the outcomes of looked after children in all authorities; • the achievement of pupils with SEN particularly in Bridgend, Cardiff, RCT and the Vale; • the outcomes of pupils with EAL especially in Cardiff. ➤ The proportion of schools across the region in the top two benchmarking quarters will continue to increase to exceed two-thirds in the FP and key stage 2 and four fifths at key stage 3. ➤ Over two-thirds of pupils will achieve the level 2+ threshold at key stage 4 in line with targets for the next three years. ➤ The Welsh government's targets for the proportion of eFSM pupils overall achieving the level 2+ threshold

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Continuing work to monitor and improve the consistency of teacher assessment. ✓ Taking action to raise standards further and improve the quality of teaching and leadership in literacy and English/ Welsh and mathematics. ✓ Increasing the supply of secondary mathematics teachers. ✓ Working with schools to improve the outcomes achieved by eFSM pupils, looked after children, more able pupils, pupils with SEN or EAL and in so doing narrowing the gaps overall on the basis of improvement by all pupils. 	<p>by 2017 will be met (37%) and by 2018 all individual secondary schools will meet the target.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The number of schools where less than 50% of pupils achieve the level 2+ threshold will reduce from 18 currently to 3 by 2018. ➤ The variations in outcomes against the level 1 threshold, especially in Cardiff, will reduce significantly so that in no authority less than 97% of pupils reach this threshold by 2018. Variations in the capped points score will also reduce. ➤ When targets are reset the proportion of A*/A grades at GCSE will improve especially in Merthyr and RCT and performance will not be below the current average of 17% for the region in any authority. ➤ The proportion of pupils achieving A*/A grades at A level will improve especially in Bridgend and RCT. ➤ Over 90% of primary and secondary schools will be in the two benchmarking quarters for attendance (just over half currently in primary and two-thirds in secondary). ➤ No additional schools will require significant improvement or special measures by September 2017.
<p>R2 Improve the accuracy of the evaluations of schools by challenge advisers in order to ensure a greater focus on improving teaching and leadership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reviewing and developing further the service's protocol, assessment criteria for writing reports and exemplar materials to ensure consistency. ✓ Making the evaluation of teaching and leadership more explicit. ✓ Ensuring this is a focus in the professional development of senior challenge advisers, challenge advisers and the strategic teams. ✓ Linking this with the performance management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All report writing will meet agreed assessment criteria for quality and accuracy. ➤ There is a strong correlation between the outcomes of categorisation and inspection and this is also reflected in the comments made in challenge advisers' writing of the local authority's pre-inspection briefing reports. ➤ All challenge advisers meet nearly all or most aspects of their performance objectives.

	<p>objectives of staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Intensifying action to quality assure written report. ✓ Continuing the practice where senior challenge advisers accompany challenge advisers when undertaking work in schools to assure quality and promote consistency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The further improvements in the outcomes of categorisation and the reduction in the number of red and amber support schools and the increase in green and yellow will occur as set out in targets and indicated against R3 below. ➤ The progress made by amber and particularly red support schools will be strong in most cases and will meet targets as set out below.
R3 Strengthen the procedures for monitoring and evaluating the impact of school improvement work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review and revise the Framework for Challenge and Support to strengthen the impact of the monitoring, evaluation and brokerage activity of challenge advisers in order to meet the expectations inherent in recommendation 1 above, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing the variations in performance between schools and authorities; • improving the performance of secondary schools; • improving the outcomes of specific groups vulnerable to underachievement. ✓ Using the regional analysis of needs that has been completed to guide the work of the hubs, SIGs and the intervention in red and amber support schools. ✓ Establishing baseline measures and success criteria at the outset to support evaluation of the impact of the support provided by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • professional learning and curriculum hubs in the English and Welsh-medium sectors, including the Foundation Phase Alliance; • lead practitioners; • SIGs; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The targets as set out above against R1 are met. ➤ Strong progress is made towards achieving the improvement targets and success criteria in individual schools and groups of schools through the collaborative work of the hubs, SIGs, Foundation Phase Alliance and pathfinder partnerships. ➤ The proportion of schools whose improvement capacity is judged to be either A or B reaches 89% (primary-4% improvement), 79% (secondary- 7% improvement) 95% (special- 5% improvement) by October 2016 and continues to improve further in the following two years. ➤ The proportion of schools where leadership is judged to be at least good improves from the current baseline (70% primary, 50% secondary, 80% special) to reach 75%, 60% and over 80% respectively by September 2016 and over 90% in all cases by 2018. ➤ The proportion of schools where teaching is judged to be at least good improves from the current baseline (72% primary, 60% secondary, 80% special) to reach 76%, 67%, and over 80% respectively by September 2016 and over 90% in all cases by 2018.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pathfinder partnerships; • the leadership development programmes; • peer enquiry; • programmes to improve the quality of learning and teaching' consultant leaders and consultant governors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Continuing work to assess the progress of red and amber support schools against clear targets and success criteria. ✓ Implementing the research and evaluation strategy, supported by researchers from Cardiff University, integrating this with an annual plan for assessing value for money against our key strategies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The proportion of schools requiring red or amber support is reduced by a further 25% by September 2016 and reduces further in line with revised targets in each of the following two years. ➤ All schools requiring amber or red support make strong progress by the end of the academic year against the priorities in their improvement plans. ➤ All schools receiving consultant governor support make strong progress in the quality and effectiveness of governance.
R4 Evaluate progress against the regional consortium's operational plans more effectively.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Providing internal challenge by continuing to monitor progress against operational action plans monthly. ✓ Refining the service's performance dashboard to evaluate noteworthy progress, barriers and risk and action in response. ✓ Ensuring that monitoring assesses progress against termly milestones as well as key actions and evaluates the extent to which improvement is occurring as intended. ✓ Providing external challenge through the meetings of the advisory board and joint committee. ✓ Implementing the service's new system – CRONFA- to improve information management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The targets in the business plan relating to reducing the variation between schools, authorities and specific groups of pupils are met as set out in the business plan and as referred to against R1 and R3 above. ➤ Monthly monitoring of progress by the performance board is robust, records strong progress against the plan's actions and milestones and derives evidence of the impact on securing improvement against the key measures. ➤ The monitoring process enables effective remedial action to be taken where there are barriers to progress. ➤ The potential effects of risk are anticipated and mitigated effectively and in a timely manner. ➤ The advisory board and joint committee provide effective challenge and support that aid the improvement process.

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

INFORMATION REPORT TO CABINET

6 SEPTEMBER 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The report presents the background and summary of the content of the Western Bay Youth Justice and Early Intervention draft annual Youth Justice Plan 2016/17(**Appendix 1**).

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 This report relates to all three Corporate Improvement Plan priorities:-

- Supporting a successful economy
- Helping people to become more self-reliant
- Smarter use of resources

3. Background

- 3.1 Youth Offending Services/Teams (YOS/Ts) are statutory multi-agency partnerships who have a legal duty to co-operate in order to secure youth justice services appropriate to their area funded from a variety of sources including UK Government, Welsh Government and the statutory partners. (i.e. the Local Authority, Police, the National Probation Service and Health).

- 3.2 The production of a Youth Justice Plan is a statutory duty of the Local Authority under Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The plan sets out:

- a) how youth justice services are to be provided and funded, and
- b) how the Youth Offending Service established by the Local Authority is to be composed and funded, how it will operate and what function it is to carry out.

- 3.3 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Section 39(1) placed a duty on each Local Authority, acting with its statutory partners (Police, Probation and Health) to establish Youth Offending Teams in their local area to deliver youth justice services. Section 38(3) of the Act placed a duty on the Local Authority and its statutory partners to make payment towards the expenditure incurred in providing youth justice services. The purpose of the Western Bay Youth Justice and Early Intervention Service is to ensure that youth justice services are available across the Western Bay area of Bridgend, Swansea and Neath Port Talbot.

- 3.4 Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot and Swansea Youth Offending Teams have been merged service since 29th May 2014 when the first Western Bay Youth Justice and

Early Intervention Service (WBYJ&EIS) Management Board was held and all local management boards ceased. The Management Board is chaired by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council's Director of Social Services, Health and Housing and has a membership in line with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act including Cabinet Members from all three local authorities.

- 3.5 The youth justice plan contains information relating to: a summary of achievements; structure and governance; resources and value for money; partnership arrangements and; risks to future delivery against the youth justice outcome measures.

4. Current situation / proposal

Summary of the content of the plan

The summary of achievements includes:

- 4.1 The sharing of good practice across the Western Bay region from early intervention and prevention work through to resettlement and reintegration panels for high risk young people.
- 4.2 Sustaining performance through a period of uncertainty and change. During 2015/16 the service saw 108 children and young people enter the Youth Justice System for the first time (recorded as First Time Entrants by the Youth Justice Board). The service diverted 520 children and young people away from the youth justice system altogether through the use of prevention programmes and non-criminal disposals. Despite an increase of five children and young people compared to the 103 recorded First Time Entrants in 20-14/15 the performance of the WB service remains strong. As it is working with such low figures, the Youth Justice Board considers this as sustaining existing good performance. If compared against other authorities using a per head of 10-17 population measure, the number of FTE's recorded across Western Bay has a lower rate of children and young people entering the system than South Wales and Wales. Western Bay has a 10-17 population of 46,307 (YJB 2014 mid-year estimates).
- 4.3 Reducing the use of custody from 15 young people receiving custodial sentences in 2014/15 to 13 custodial sentences in 2015/16.
- 4.4 The performance measures relating to accessing services i.e education, training and employment, suitable accommodation, substance misuse and mental health services showed improvement. The mental health measure remains under review, so cannot be accurately reported. The number of hours accessed for education, training and employment by the children and young people at the end of their order were considered high by the Youth Justice Board for both statutory and post school aged children and young people. 132 young people had closed community based penalties, 123 (93.2%) were in suitable accommodation at the start and 124 (93.9%) at the end of their orders. 13 young people ended a custodial disposal during this period, 11 were in suitable accommodation at the start and 13 were in suitable accommodation at the end. Substance misuse services have been accessed in a timely fashion for all young people assessed as in need.

Structure and governance

- 4.5 The purpose of the Western Bay Youth Justice and Early Intervention Service is to ensure that youth justice services are available across the Western Bay area. A Youth Offending Service is the main vehicle through which youth justice services are coordinated and delivered working to reduce anti-social behaviour, offending and reoffending amongst children and young people.
- 4.6 The Youth Offending Service Management Board is made up of senior representatives from each of the statutory partners who oversee the operation of the service including the functions it undertakes and the funding arrangements. Regular reports are provided to the individual local authorities including Cabinet Members as requested.
- 4.7 The Management Board is relatively new, having been formed in 2014 but is keen to be pro-active. The service is represented on all three Community Safety Partnership Boards, the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board and the Western Bay Area Planning Board. The service manager represents South Wales Youth Offending Team Managers on the South Wales Criminal Justice and Integrated Offender Management Board, MAPPA Senior Management Board and represents Youth Offending Team Managers Cymru on the Youth Justice Advisory Panel.
- 4.8 The quality of the work delivered by the service has been subject to a Short Quality Screening Inspection during October 2015. This was a favourable report providing reassurance to service users, the staff, Local Authorities and the Management Board that the service is delivering a good service but most importantly with the skills and capacity in place to grow stronger. The report and recommendations were reported to the Management Board but this report has not been seen in isolation. The thematic inspections relating to resettlement, transition, and most recently desistance have been of particular interest to Board members as have the Laming Report "In Care Out of Trouble" and naturally the review of youth justice services commissioned by the Ministry of Justice.

Resources and value for money

- 4.9 The amalgamation has come at a time of financial challenge. The service has managed to continue to deliver services sustaining performance whilst making savings of almost one million pounds across the three Local Authorities, when comparing the budget at the beginning of 2015/16 with that of the budget at the beginning of this financial year. The service has had to be flexible and create opportunities to work differently with less staff to achieve these savings. Commissioning, the use of grants, sharing of resources and creatively managing vacancies have contributed to the savings.

Risks to future delivery against the youth justice outcome measures.

- 4.10 The desired outcomes contained in the plan contribute directly to meeting local authority priorities held within corporate plans across the three local authorities. The priorities and outcomes mirror those of the Youth Justice Board business plan 2016/17 and the Youth Justice Board and Welsh Government joint strategy 'Children and Young People First July 2014'. These are:

- 4.11 A well-designed partnership approach giving value for money achieving the following:
- Reduction in first time entrants through early intervention, prevention and diversion;
 - Reduction in youth reoffending through appropriate interventions of the right level at the right time;
 - Reduction in the use of youth custody confident that custody is a last resort and for crimes so serious no community sentence is an appropriate response;
 - Access to devolved services for children and young people at risk of entering or having entered the youth justice system;
 - Effective safeguarding through recognising vulnerability and improving the safety and wellbeing needs of children and young people;
 - Effective public protection through risk recognition, assessment and management;
 - Ensuring the voice of the victim is heard;
 - Successful reintegration and resettlement at the end of an intervention;
 - A well supported professional workforce;
 - True participation by all involved.
- 4.12 The plan contains the realistic and achievable actions and targets for service delivery over the next twelve months. The main risk to delivery repeatedly referenced through the plan is that of the uncertain political environment, reducing resources and the awaited commissioned Ministry of Justice review of youth justice services. The review was due to be published in June 2016 but this has been delayed following the recent EU referendum result.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework& Procedure Rules

- 5.1 There is no effect upon the Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 Each of the three locality offices of Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot and Swansea have asked children, young people, parents and carers and victims three very important questions:-

What should we stop doing?

What should we do more of?

What should we start doing/do differently?

- 6.2 The answers have been gathered to inform the annual delivery plan. The plan itself is shared with key partners for feedback prior to completion and agreement by the service's multi-agency management board for sign off.
- 6.3 The youth justice plan should have a positive impact on wider services provided by the Council by bringing down the number of children and young people in trouble with the police. This will in turn reduce the need for other services involvement as a result of their behaviours escalating.
- 6.4 The service focuses on diverting children and young people away from the youth justice system as much as possible and in line with the Youth Justice Board and

Welsh Government youth offending strategy sees them as children and young people first and offenders second. Service delivery prioritises helping children and young people avoid criminal records that can hinder them reaching their potential in future years.

- 6.5 An initial screening equality impact assessment has been completed concluding that there are no equality implications.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 The amalgamated service has realised financial savings across the region without any compulsory redundancy of staff. The budget for 2016/17 is almost one million pounds less than that for 2015/16 for the amalgamated service.
- 7.2 The reduced budget is the result of Local Authority reductions in contributions from Bridgend and Swansea combined with partner contribution reduction, Welsh Government and Youth Justice Board grant reduction. The service has managed to adjust practice and work creatively to meet these reductions but any further reductions will have a negative impact on the quality of service delivery and staffing.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1 Cabinet is recommended to note the contents of the Youth Justice Plan 2016.

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Background documents

Draft Western Bay Youth Justice & Early Intervention Service Plan 2016/17

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**WESTERN BAY YOUTH JUSTICE & EARLY
INTERVENTION SERVICE**

ANNUAL PLAN

2016/17

INTRODUCTION

Youth Offending Services/Teams (YOS/Ts) are statutory multi-agency partnerships who have a legal duty to co-operate in order to secure youth justice services appropriate to their area funded from a variety of sources including UK Government, Welsh Government and the statutory partners. (i.e. the Local Authority, Police, the National Probation Service and Health).

Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot and Swansea Youth Offending Teams have been a merged service since 29th May 2014 when the first Western Bay Youth Justice and Early Intervention Service (WBYJ&EIS) Management Board was held and all local management boards ceased. The management board is chaired by the Neath Port Talbot Director of Social Services, Health and Housing and has a membership in line with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act including Cabinet Members from all three local authorities.

The service has gone through a period of significant change with the Local Government Reorganisation constantly in the background. This level of uncertainty has slowed progress but certainly not stopped it. It is the pace of change coupled with some uncertainty that has resulted in the Western Bay Service continuing to submit annual plans as opposed to choosing the option of a plan covering a longer period with an annual refresh.

The amalgamation has come at a time of financial challenge. The service has managed to continue to deliver services sustaining performance whilst making savings of almost one million pounds when comparing the budget at the beginning of 2015/16 with that of the budget at the beginning of this financial year. The service has been flexible and able to work differently with less staff to achieve these savings. No compulsory redundancies have been made to date.

Efforts have been concentrated on bringing consistent good practice across the region from early intervention and prevention work through to resettlement and reintegration panels. This has not been without difficulty, it has taken staff time to move from one established way of working to another especially when so many areas of their professional life is uncertain. However, the service has reviewed the early intervention work and whilst the statutory caseload may be reducing the early intervention caseloads have steadily risen. For the first year since the introduction of the Youth Inclusion Support Panels and Bureau processes there has been an increase in the number FTEs when comparing January to December 2015 against January to December 2014. This is in comparison with a 0.3% decrease in South Wales. During 2015/16 the service saw 109 children and young people enter the Youth Justice System but diverted 520 away through the use of prevention programmes and non-criminal disposals. Putting this figure into some context the number of FTE's reported for April 2009 to March 2010 were 533 compared to the current 109 figure. Despite an increase of five FTE's (5%) the performance of the WB service remains strong as when the number of FTE's per 100,000 10-17 population is used as a measure as opposed to percentage decrease the region has a lower FTE rate than South Wales and Wales. Western Bay has a 10-17 population of 46,307 (YJB 2014 mid-year estimates).

Resettlement and Reintegration Panels are now in place in all three locality teams. There is slight variation in make-up but this tailored to the individual authority. This has had a positive impact on in particular the ETE and accommodation needs being met for those young people leaving custody. Since the set up of the panels no young person has left custody without suitable accommodation and an ETE placement for immediate access. The development of the Intervention Centre currently based in the Swansea Locality which also holds the Junior Attendance Centre, the roll out across the region of the Building Skills project and concentration on improving work in Courts and partner providers has provided a greater range of sentencing options in the first instance and more robust resettlement packages when needed supported by dedicated members of staff.

Reoffending remains the biggest challenge. The reoffending cohort continues to drop in numbers but the reoffending committed by individuals continues to rise. The reoffending cohort being reported 2015/16 data has 269 in the cohort (young people who have received a substantive outcomes during April 13-March 14), 110 reoffended during the tracked period (40.9%), committing a total of 392 further offences. In order to understand delivery better the Information Officers are developing the use of the YJB reoffending toolkit but also took 12 months statistics July 2013 to June 2014 but included those young people who went through the Bureau (diversion scheme) this resulted in a very different picture. The Bureau and the PNC numbers added together resulted in 668 young people in the cohort, 184 reoffenders which is 28% reoffending. This does not include anyone over 17 who could have reoffended from Bureau. The 40.9% reoffending figure may seem high but is the 8th lowest reoffending rate when comparing across 15 Welsh YOTs. The previous years reoffending rate was 38.2% with 309 young people in the cohort, 118 reoffending committing a further 350 offences. Once again to provide some background the number of young people classed as “offenders” for April 2007 to March 2008 was 1213 compared to 241 sited above in the 2015/16 return.

The quality of the work delivered by the service has been subject to a Short Quality Screening Inspection during October 2015. This was a favourable report providing reassurance to the staff, Local Authorities and the Management Board that the service is delivering a good service but most importantly with the skills and capacity in place to grow stronger. The report and recommendations were reported to the Management Board but this report has not been seen in isolation. The thematic Inspections relating to resettlement, transition, and most recently desistance have been of particular interest to Board members as have the Laming Report and naturally the Charlie Taylor review of youth justice services. Recommendations from thematic inspections in particular are presented to the Board with any associated local actions reported upon. The full inspections of other YOT's are not presented to the Board in the same way but are referenced when presenting performance issues or developing areas of practice. The Board has been keen to not only look at Welsh YOT's but also look to English colleagues. A comparison of reoffending data was requested by the Board with inner London YOT's. This was followed by the “Persistent offending by London young people: cohort study findings” April 2016 (YJB) which the Board are keen to have a similar exercise undertaken across Western Bay during 2016/17. The Board will also be receiving a summary of the Referral Order Inspection and key areas for im

Structure and Governance

The production of a Youth Justice Plan is a statutory duty of the Local Authority under Part 3, Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

The plan sets out:

- a) how youth justice services are to be provided and funded, and
- b) how the Youth Offending Service established by the Local Authority is to be composed and funded, how it will operate and what function it is to carry out.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Section 39(1) placed a duty on each Local Authority, acting with its statutory partners (Police, Probation and Health) to establish Youth Offending Teams in their local area to deliver youth justice services. Section 38(3) of the Act placed a duty on the Local Authority and its statutory partners to make payment towards the expenditure incurred in providing youth justice services.

Membership of the Youth Offending Service is prescribed by the legislation. It must include a Probation Officer, Social Worker, Police Officer, Health representative and Education representative.

The purpose of the Western Bay Youth Justice and Early Intervention Service is to ensure that youth justice services are available across the Western Bay area. A YOS is the main vehicle through which youth justice services are coordinated and delivered working to reduce ASB, offending and reoffending amongst children and young people.

The YOS Management Board, made up of senior representatives from each of the statutory partners as outlined above, oversees the operation of the service including the functions it undertakes and the funding arrangements. Regular reports are provided to all three LA Cabinets and appropriate scrutiny committees as required.

The staff group across Western Bay have been through a challenging journey since 2014 but have been committed to being the best service they can be. Last year they produced the following vision;

“Youth Offending Teams aim to prevent and reduce offending, reoffending and anti-social behaviour amongst children and young people.

We strive to achieve this aim through the delivery of the right high quality services provided at the right time for and informed by children, young people, parents and carers, victims and the wider community and partners. These services will be provided cost effectively by a diverse, competent and well supported staff group.”

The Management Board is relatively new only having formed in 2014 but is keen to be pro-active. An example is the key interest that has been shown in relation to access to services with reports requested by the Board relating to for example, access to ETE focusing in on reduced timetables. The service manager and partners are held to account by not only the Board but through scrutiny processes in all three Local Authorities. Reports are regularly presented on performance but also on eg Looked After Children within the Youth Justice System. The service spanning three local authorities results in it being subject to three audit departments. During the latter part of 2015/16, the Swansea Locality team were part of a local audit specifically on the use of grant money against grant criteria, no concerns were raised. All three locality teams use the grants in the same way since the amalgamation.

The service is represented on all three Community Safety Partnership Boards, the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board and the Western Bay Area Planning Board. The service manager represents South Wales YOT Managers on the South Wales Criminal Justice and Integrated Offender Management Board, MAPPA Senior Management Board and represents YOT Managers Cymru on the Youth Justice Advisory Panel.

The service itself has a small internal management team with representation from each locality team. This year it is planned that this year the locality managers will take on themed areas of work across the region thus breaking down any possible remaining silos of activity. Having the management team has added considerable value and strength to the management oversight processes eg the Swansea locality manager is currently undertaking the local management report for a Neath Port Talbot domestic homicide case providing a knowledgeable yet independent review. Any serious incident and the learning that follows is reported to the Management Board in addition to any other relevant forum, Safeguarding Childrens Board (SCB), Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) etc. The service has also set up an audit group that will oversee not only the quality of assessments and interventions but compliance with National Standards secure estate placement information and the procedures for community safeguarding and public protection incidents for the service. The audit group use the findings of audits to inform good practice workshops.

RESOURCES AND VALUE FOR MONEY – YJB return tables B7 and B8 to be inserted when submitted in

July

	2016/2017
	<i>Actual members of Staff – Hours can vary. The staffing structure is constantly under review and subject to change.</i>
Strategic Manager	1
Operational Managers	3
Senior Practitioners	5
Restorative Approaches worker	1
Intervention centre manager	1
Social Workers	12 (1 vacant)
Probation Officers	1 (reduced from 4)
Police Officers	4
Health Workers	1 (currently on long term sick)
Education Workers (including tutors)	9 (various hours)
Substance Misuse Workers	3.5
Parenting	1
ISS, stat bail and remand, Resettlement/Transition Worker	5.5 (remaining flexible in relation to duties)
Referral Coordinators – including court and vols	2
Business Support	8 (various hours)
Prevention and Early Intervention Workers (not SW)	9 (1 vacancy)
Information Officer	3 (including one seconded)
Victim Workers	3
Reparation and unpaid work Officers	3 (1 vacancy)
Speech and Language	.5

Intervention Centre eg emotional wellbeing, CAIS Junior Attendance Centre	6
Volunteer Co-ordinator	1
Referral Order support workers (flexible duties)	3
Other including secure estate posts	3 plus sessionals and volunteers

Whilst posts are in many cases reliant on grant funding the post holders have been employed in excess of two years and so entitled to the same employment rights as those posts funded by eg the LA's. The service is continuously undergoing a redesign across the three LA's responding to opportunities and changes in demand. Tables B8 and B7 will be attached with further breakdown as submitted in the YJB returns at the end of July 2016.

FINANCE - partner contributions still to be confirmed – will be replaced by tables B7 and B8 as above.

	Budget 2016/17	
		Income £,000
Agency		
Partner combined cash contributions		54,935
Local Authority		1,469,090
Grant		
Youth Justice Board		791,029
Welsh Government (Promoting Positive Engagement of children and young people at risk of offending)		718,201
Police and Crime Commissioner		130,800
YJB - JAC		18,000

Big Lottery (Invisible Walls) HMPYOI Parc		123,224	
Total		3,326,822	

Delivery specific to grant allocation

Grant	Service delivery	WB Allocation
Police and crime commissioner	Substance Misuse services and diversionary activities	130,800
Welsh Government (Promoting Positive Engagement of children and young people at risk of offending)	Pre Court and Early Intervention including Bureau Restorative Practises in schools, residential settings and the wider community. Transition and Resettlement and Reintegration Services	718,201
Invisible Walls Big Lottery	Breaking the Cycle of offending through the supporting children of prisoners held within HMIP Parc – one support worker. For sentenced and remanded young people – one social worker and one YOT officer	123,224
Youth Justice Good Practise Grant	Delivery of the YJB and Welsh Government Priorities through the ongoing redesign of the service, sharing good practice and developing new ways of working. The focus will be on Growth of the Building Skills project, extending the use and services available within the Intervention Centre, Embedding Asset Plus, Y2A, develop the use of data currently held including the use of the reoffending toolkit and listening to the views of service users more effectively, improve the quality and range of alternatives to custody and remand, increase ROTL linked to HMPYOI Parc and Hillside LASCH, concentrate staff learning on desistance and the trauma recovery model. There is also a need to review the solution focused approaches of service delivery. Through the senior management team deliver robust management oversight and QA.	791,029

The desired outcomes contribute directly to meeting local authority priorities held within corporate plans across the three local authorities. The priorities and outcomes mirror those of the YJB business plan 2016/17 and the YJB and WG joint strategy Children and Young People First July 2014.

1. A well-designed partnership approach giving value for money achieving the following:
2. Reduction in first time entrants through early intervention, prevention and diversion.
3. Reduction in youth reoffending through appropriate interventions of the right level at the right time.
4. Reduction in the use of youth custody confident that custody is a last resort and for crimes so serious no community sentence is an appropriate response.
5. Access to devolved services for children and young people at risk of entering or having entered the youth justice system.
6. Effective safeguarding through recognising vulnerability and improving the safety and wellbeing needs of children and young people.
7. Effective Public protection through risk recognition, assessment and management.
8. The voice of the victim is heard.
9. Successful reintegration and resettlement at the end of an intervention.
10. A well supported professional workforce.
11. True participation by all involved.

Partnership arrangements and Risks to future delivery against the youth justice outcome measures

	Reduction in first time entrants
Who is better off and what does success look like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Increased opportunities for young people to reach potential -Reduction in victims -Safer communities -Reduced pressure on higher tier services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Fewer young people entering the youth justice system -Reduced levels of youth crime. -Early access to services

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Increased parental responsibilities -Increased restorative practises -Increased community reassurance
What are the Funding/ Financial Implications?	This area of work has been brought together and funded by Welsh Government grant money for the majority of delivery across the region for the last four years. However this area is not delivered in isolation of the wider service provision of the service including that funded by the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC), local authority and cross cutting posts funded through all key partner contributions and YJB.
Who are our partners?	<p>The Bureau is a pre-court disposal process developed and implemented within South Wales in collaboration between Police and Western Bay Youth Justice and Early Intervention Service as well as Cwm Taf Youth Offending Service. Following the review of the Bureau process commissioned by the Police and Crime Commissioner in 2014 the WBYJ&EIS has been with Cwm Taf to bring a consistent delivery model.</p> <p>The wider early intervention and prevention work relies heavily on partnership working. It is important that there is good communication between EVOLVE, Youth Engagement Progression Framework (YEPF), Team around the Family (TAF) wider youth services and third sector providers.</p>
What risks are there to delivery?	At the time of writing this plan the result of the Charlie Taylor review of youth justice services is unknown. This review presents a major risk to youth justice services not just in relation to models of delivery in the future but also the funding of services. Changes within WG also carry risks for the funding of this area delivery in the coming years. There is an additional risk for the Bureau in that to keep bringing down numbers is difficult when such a high number of children and young people have already being diverted.

What will we do?	by when	Performance Measures	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 Target
<p>The steps being taken to continue to reduce FTE's is detailed within the Business case for the WG PPE grant attached.</p> <p>The Bureau will continue to be delivered in partnership with the Police. A screening tool is being piloted in line with the SS&WB Act so</p>	Success of screening tool to be reviewed in September 2016	The YJB KPI based on percentage reduction. The KPI captures numbers entering the system but not the number actually diverted away. This is captured locally.	103	108	100

<p>that children and young people are not over assessed bringing proportionality. Asset Plus will still be used for those children and young people identified as needing a full assessment or not suitable for a non criminal disposal (youth restorative disposal)</p> <p>Restorative Approaches continues to be delivered through the WB service through the training of staff including foster carers and residential establishments. There is the specific RA in schools project that has been reinvigorated.</p> <p>Further development of partnership approaches to early intervention for those at risk of entering the YJS (this is work pre – bureau) with early help partners across the region including edge of care.</p>	<p>Minimum of two schools per LA to have RA in schools by March 2017</p> <p>Workshop to take place November 2016</p>	<p>There is a need to capture the numbers of LAC entering the system to evidence the success of RA being used by carers.</p> <p>School exclusion data will also be captured where possible.</p> <p>2014/15 – the Youth Justice service engaged with 604 young people pre court 2015/16 – the service engaged with 520 young people pre-court. It is believed that the young people worked over last year were far more effectively targetted as those at risk of offending therefore the reduction in the number does not cause concern. The slight rise in numbers of FTE’s again does not cause concern as when looked at as per 100,000 10-17 population the figure shows good performance comparatively. Western Bay has already experienced a steep reduction and now needs to sustain low numbers.</p>			
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Who is better off and what does success look like?	<p>Reduction in reoffending</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Increased opportunities for young people to meet their potential -Safer communities -Reduced pressure on service -Victim satisfaction -Young people within the youth justice system have aspirations and achieve -Reduction in repeat offences seriousness of offending -Reduced numbers before the court -Increased successful completion of orders -Reduced LAC population -Reduction in adult offending -Restorative practises embedded in service delivery at all stages -Transition and exit strategies are in place for all young people leaving YOS involvement. 				
What are the Funding/ Financial Implications?	<p>The Youth Justice Good Practise Grant in particular but also all other areas of funding are drawn upon to deliver this area of work in line with the partnerships involved.</p>				
Who are our partners?	<p>The Police and Crime Commissioner, community safety partnerships, probation, police, local authority colleagues, education, housing, Integrated Offender Management, all partners are key when working to reduce reoffending of the complex group of young people we have within the court cohort.</p>				
What risk does this link to, if any?	<p>Once again the risk on the horizon whilst writing this is the Charlie Taylor review. Alongside this is the financial situation where the service has eg reduced Probation Officer time – having reduced from 4 Probation Officers to 1. The impact of this remains to be seen in relation to the management of those high risk young people and those going through transition to Integrated Offender Management (IOM) services.</p>				
What will we do to achieve this?	by when	Performance Measures	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 Target
<p>Looking at the reoffending cohort it is apparent that the most frequent re-offence is that of violence and the age range of those</p>	<p>Desistance training</p>	<p>The reoffending cohort being reported for 2015/16 is taken from 2013/14 to allow the potential</p>	<p>38.2% (April</p>	<p>40.9%. (April 13-</p>	<p>39%</p>

<p>committing the offences are the older teenagers known to the service. The service has accessed desistance training for the whole service through Llamau and there is an appetite to be able to deliver the trauma recovery model through the enhanced case management model that has been used in neighbouring YOTs.</p> <p>Effective use of reoffending toolkit to analyse the cohort make-up and respond appropriately with an action plan may be influential in the reduction in reoffending rates. The service plans to undertake a similar deep dive exercise to that completed in London published by the YJB April 2014</p> <p>The management team are delivering a series of workshops to help practitioners deliver the right intervention for the right person and not use a rigid approach or alternatively throw the kitchen sink at young people. The first workshop is a profiling exercise to identify themes and difference.</p> <p>Successful transition of young people into adulthood is key if young adults are to not be over represented in crime statistics. The service aims to not only improve transition practice for those going to Probation through IOM but also through key working supported by the desistance thematic, young people will</p>	<p>June 2016</p> <p>By March 2017</p> <p>September 2016</p> <p>To be reviewed in December 2016 re outcomes for those</p>	<p>offending behavior to be tracked. Western Bay has 269 in that cohort, 110 reoffended during the tracked period (40.9%), committing 392 further offences.</p> <p>The 14/15 cohort reported in 16/17 will be the first WB cohort. The previous years have been made of young people receiving services prior to the amalgamation of the service.</p> <p>It is interesting to note that if the Bureau young people are included in the assessment of reoffending the figure is reduced to 28% reoffending.</p>	<p>12-March 13)</p>	<p>March 14)</p>	
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<p>be supported through exit strategies and kept in touch with by workers who have built up a relationship with them.</p> <p>The most common reoffence is that of violence and in reaction the senior practitioners in the service are accessing specific training to inform the assessment and interventions to be delivered to achieve positive change</p>	<p>supported</p> <p>July 2016</p>				
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<p>Who is better off and what does success look like?</p>	<p>Reduction in the use of custody</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Children and young people do not lose their liberty. -Families remain together. -Young people reach their potential. -Costs of incarceration reduced. -No young people are sentenced to custody. -No offences are committed by young people that warrant custody. -Alternative approaches to the use of custody are viewed positively by all. -Increased levels of engagement in community based options by children and young people. -Effective exit strategies are in place for resettlement and reintegration.
<p>What are the Funding/ Financial Implications?</p>	<p>Custody carries with it huge cost implications.</p> <p>Local authorities are now responsible for the costs incurred for secure remands. Whilst there is a contribution from the YJB this is limited and can incur possible financial implications for Local Authorities (LA) should there be a lengthy or multiple remands. Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (LASPO) brings looked after status to any remanded child or young person and the associated costs to the LA</p>

Who are our partners?	Police and Courts services, Magistrates, Local Authority, Secure Estate, YJB, members of the Resettlement and Reintegration Steering Group. Community Safety Partnerships, MAPPA, Safeguarding Childrens Board.
What risk does this link to, if any?	Bridgend Youth Court closing and the cases will be heard in Cardiff. The effect this may have on sentencing is currently unknown. The seriousness of offences being seen by the service. The Charlie Taylor review is likely to advocate for secure education establishments in the future. Education is a developed service. Is there a risk that such a development will increase the use of custody in the future? The roll-out of the review court may not be possible in Cardiff as it may be developed in the Swansea Court and not in the Cardiff Court.

What will we do to achieve this?	by when	Performance Measures	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 Target
Continued pro-active involvement with the courts. The courts have combined in Neath and Swansea with Bridgend is to combine with Cardiff. Lessons learnt from the amalgamation of Neath and Swansea courts will be used to assist in the move of Bridgend to Cardiff. There may be further changes to the court footprint which may give the opportunity for the WBYJ&EIS to work out of one regional court not two in future.	July 2016		15	13	Maintain performance and bring the number going to custody across the footprint to 12
Ongoing development of review court processes aimed at impacting on encouraging engagement, early revocation and reduction in enforcement action. Presentation to Western Bench	November 2016				
Improve the practice relating to the Bail period Audit the custody cases looking at – those sentenced to custody when on bail in the community compared to those	December 2016				

<p>remanded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - bail applications and appeals - who filled in bail asset/written or verbal address to the court/quality of bail programme - does the bail period feature within the PSR <p>Pre court panel meeting process to be agreed across the service to agree the recommendations and provide constructive challenge –Terms of Reference to be provided to the management team and monitoring of effectiveness</p> <p>Parenting and family support to be strengthened in ISS programmes</p> <p>Continue the development of the Resettlement & Reintegration panels with a focus on accessing services. Resettlement is key and the Intervention Centre will be central to accessing services in a timely fashion. This will focus on the positives and help young people achieve. Reducing custody will also be impacted upon through effective transition arrangements which are often discussed at the R&R panels.</p> <p>The Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) is a vehicle for ensuring that young people in custody have their care and support needs met. This is particularly relevant to WB as we</p>	<p>October 2016</p> <p>August 2016</p> <p>Immediate</p> <p>Project and team for ROTL through the</p>				
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<p>have Hillside Secure Unit and HMPYOI Parc in our region. The recommendation to increase the use of Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL) contained in inspections is an opportunity to create an environment where ROTL is the norm not the exception.</p>	<p>Intervention Centre- August 2016.</p>				
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	<p>Access to education, training and employment, substance misuse services, emotional and mental health services and suitable accommodation.</p>
<p>Who is better off and what does success look like?</p>	<p>WG has adopted “due regard” to the UN Convention on the rights of the child. The right to access education to a full 25 hours for those of compulsory school age is inherent to the UNCRC . The Western Bay Service will act as an advocate for young people to access education entitlements, safe accommodation and health provision including substance misuse and CAMHS treatment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Children, young people and families in need will receive services. – Partner providers will have appropriate well informed referrals. – Communities will benefit from a reduction in crime and ASB caused by children and young people who have not received services in the past. – All children and young people known to the service are in receipt of ETE – Live in suitable accommodation – Have their health needs assessed and receive interventions appropriate to need without delay or stigma
<p>What are the Funding/ Financial Implications?</p>	<p>Funding through, mainstream provision, partner contribution, Police and Crime Commissioner and the Youth Justice Good Practise Grant. Wider partnership funding provided to Communities First, TAF, YPEF. Not all funding comes through the service but relies on how we engage and work with partners to avoid duplication and waste of resources.</p>
<p>Who are our partners?</p>	<p>Schools, colleges, secure estate, training providers, Third sector providers including, WCADA Llamau, Gwalia, local authorities, Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board, Supporting People, youth support services, Area Planning Board.</p>
<p>What risk does</p>	<p>Shrinking job market for young people, shrinking resources, new emerging drugs, reduction in CAMHS</p>

this link to, if any?	contribution to the WBYJ&EI Service. The Charlie Taylor review of youth justice services and the wish to have secure colleges when education is a devolved service. The possibility that the Crime and Disorder Act will be replaced by legislation that does not place a requirement on partners to contribute to multi-agency YOTs. Some projects eg Symud Ymlean/Moving Forward have already lost funding losing a training provision specifically for Looked After children and children and young people in the youth justice system. The service is a possible beneficiary of a lottery bid being worked through by third sector partners – there is no guarantee that this bid will be successful. The recommissioning of substance misuse services is also planned across the Western Bay region.
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What will we do to achieve this?	by when	Performance Measures	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 Target
<p>Develop a team around the school approach similar to TAF and Team around the Child (TAC), stronger links with YEPF colleagues. Clear joint approaches to be in place</p> <p>Children and young people subject to reduced timetables to be a focus of ETE workers reporting to the Management Board</p> <p>Pre training training to be delivered in house and in partnership through Big Lottery Bid, the Building Skills programme, Intervention Centre developments and third sector and partners.</p> <p>Develop speech and language assessment and intervention consistently across the service. Extension of current provision to complete scoping exercise of need.</p>	<p>November 2016. Informed by Management Board workshop</p> <p>March 2017</p> <p>August 2016</p>	<p>The Welsh indicators are currently under review and this makes comparison data unreliable especially in relation to mental health. However the service has set targets that reflect the fact that accessing services is an entitlement.</p>		<p>Average hours ETE.</p> <p>For school age the average hours were 20.4 at the start and 21.4 at the end. (43 young people with closed statutory orders)</p> <p>For above school age the service reported a total of 9.5 hours at the start, and 16.1 at the end. (87 young</p>	<p>Positive % change.</p> <p>When considering a measure for accessing services the only target can be that 100% of those in need access appropriate services in a timely fashion</p> <p>For ETE the target</p>

<p>Review substance misuse access and delivery across WB linking with the APB and Police and Crime Commissioner throughout the tiers of need.</p> <p>Development service specification of CAMHS provision and wider health needs of children and young people known to the service.</p> <p>Development of accommodation specifically of those young people known to the service through partnership approach with LA, third sector providers and carers and utilisation of YJB remand contribution.</p>	<p>In line with APB commissioning strategy</p> <p>December 2016</p> <p>March 2017</p>			<p>people with closed statutory orders)</p> <p>93.2% were in suitable accommodation at the start and 93.9% at the end. 100% of those needing a substance misuse service received on within 10 days assessment.</p>	<p>remains 25 hours school age and 16 hours post school age</p>
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RISK MANAGEMENT

Whilst there are three key agencies forming the “responsible authority” for MAPPA (police, prisons and probation), the WBYJ&EI Service has a duty to cooperate. There is continually mention of better risk management processes within inspection reports.

The amalgamation of services across the Western Bay footprint has given an ideal opportunity to improve risk management sharing the expertise developed in the locality teams and ensuring that management oversight is robust. In order to ensure all practitioners and managers are current in their understanding of MAPPA, the South Wales MAPPA coordinator has delivered refresher training

for staff and managers and this will be undertaken annually. The developments in relation to the role of the Probation Officer within the team will impact on risk management and hopefully improve the transition of high risk offenders. Asset plus will be closely monitored in relation to the management of risk. MAPPA “4 Pillars” training has been accessed by the team and continues to be developed in practice for the assessment and planning to address risk. There is a manager from the service on the strategic and Local MAPPA meetings and serious incidents are able to report into the local groups where appropriate. The domestic homicide review mentioned earlier has brought lessons to be learnt that will be incorporated into an action plan that focuses on the early recognition of risk and potential perpetrators of harm.

The most common reoffence is that of violence and in response the senior practitioners are accessing specific training that will give them tools and confidence in the management of risk of violence. An exercise is underway taking case studies across the Community Safety Partnerships, analysing these across agencies to identify missed opportunities for areas of practise to be built upon.

VULNERABILITY MANAGEMENT Safety and Wellbeing

As with risk management safeguarding relies on robust and accurate assessment and listening to what the child or young person is saying. With this in mind the service has held a whole service day focusing on the ground rules when working with children and young people coupled with how to communicate effectively. This was linked to safeguarding and in particular Child Sexual Exploitation. YOT's have always completed holistic assessment and involved parents/carers within this. Asset plus has improved on this within the assessment processes. Internal mechanisms regarding safety and wellbeing do not take the place of the All Wales Child Protection Procedures

The Chair of the WBYJ&EI Management Board Service is the Chair of the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board (WBSCB) giving a robust strategic link to the safeguarding needs of children and young people known to the Service. There are lessons to be learnt from child practise reviews and serious incidents within the community where the service has been supervising the child or young person who has become a victim or harmed themselves. A member of the management team is on the child practise review sub group of the safeguarding children board as well as the quality and performance sub group and communication sub group.. The relationship between the service and safeguarding teams is good across the region and the “step up, step down” approach to meeting the needs of children and young people is developing.

The possible reduction in CAMHS nursing time is a risk for the service and its role in safeguarding that will need to be monitored by the Management Board and there is now a refreshed work stream to address the deficits in provision. Children and young people

are being consulted as part of this work stream to ensure that the new service specification takes a more holistic view of their health needs.

VICTIM ENGAGEMENT AND RESTORATIVE INTERVENTIONS

Restorative approaches is embedded in the practice of the service with a small group of trainers who are in the process of training the wider workforce across the three collaborating local authorities. The development of restorative questions being used in compliance meetings, meaningful reparation, quality services for victims, conflict resolution and family group conferencing are examples of restorative approaches in practice. The priority for the service is for this area of work to keep growing adding additional schools adopting the Restorative Approaches in schools project with teachers and pupils trained together, more community homes and carers being able to de-escalate situations, equipped to be better corporate parents (Laming). There is a partnership pilot project being run within Hillside Secure Childrens Home aiming to bring down the number of Hillside residents being arrested. Once evaluated this may roll out to the wider residential settings.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

At the time of writing this appraisals are ongoing. As well as linking the appraisal to the service delivery model and giving staff ownership of their contribution training is focused upon. Over the next twelve months the staff group will be embedding Asset plus; looking at a smarter way to work once we have one information system across the three localities which will realise efficiencies and improve quality assurance processes; developing evidence based practice through the desistance model and lessons to be learnt from the thematic inspection; receive trauma recovery training and working with violence. In addition the screening tool for pre-court will be evaluated. There is the potential for further redesign of the service and further developing the working partnership with early help services.

PARTICIPATION

Engaging young people in decision making and accepting responsibilities for their actions and future is critical to developing skills as constructive members of their community; Article 12 of the UNCRC establishes the right of young people to participate where decisions are being made that affect their future.

Adopting a methodology that confronts negative behaviour, educates the young person about the consequences of their behaviour, enables them to put right the wrong, respects and supports parental responsibility and has the capacity to reduce the risks of future

offending will have a strong capacity to rehabilitate. The utilisation of restorative practices across the service maximises the future potential of young people to become successful and integrated members of our community.

Consultation regarding the content of the plan has been limited, however, each of the three locality offices of Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot and Swansea have asked children, young people, parents and carers and victims three very important questions

What should we stop doing?

What should we do more of?

What should we start doing/do differently?

We have listened to them – one particular comment request rang true for several practitioners – “stop going on at me about small stuff”. Taking into account recent awareness raising of desistance completed by the whole service we are actively trying to stop “nagging”. Feedback on the changes we will try to make in response to their answers to the questions will be placed on a notice board in the reception area of the locality teams.

Signed: **Date:**
Chair YOS Management Board

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

6 September 2016

JOINT REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT AND SECTION 151 OFFICER

SCHOOL MODERNISATION – GARW VALLEY SOUTH

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to:

- 1.1 Seek approval to proceed with the Garw Valley South scheme at a revised overall project budget not exceeding £11.2 million.
- 1.2 Subject to Cabinet's approval above, note that the Chief Executive intends to make a revision to the Capital Programme
- 1.3 Delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Education and Family Support to conduct negotiations, if necessary, with the lowest priced tenderer, in accordance with procurement legislation
- 1.4 Subject to the successful outcome of any such negotiations, delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Education and Family Support to award a contract, the terms to be finalised in consultation with the Corporate Director – Operations and Partnerships and the s151 Officer.
- 1.5 grant approval to modify the decision made by Cabinet on the 1st September 2015, in respect of the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw, by varying the opening date of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw from September 2018 to January 2019.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 This report supports the following priorities in the Corporate Plan 2016 - 2020:
 - Supporting a successful economy, and
 - Smarter use of resources.
- 2.2 The Council aims to help all young people to thrive and make the best of their talents. One of the barriers to achieving this aim that the Council has identified is a serious need to modernise our schools.

2.3 In March 2015, the Council set out 5 key principles to inform the organisation and modernisation of our schools:

1. Commitment to high standards and excellence in provision
2. Equality of opportunity, so that all pupils can access quality learning opportunities, regardless of which school they attend
3. Inclusive schools, which cater for the learning needs of all their pupils
4. Community focussed schools, where the school actively engages with its local community
5. Value for money

3. Background

- 3.1 On the 16th September 2014 Cabinet agreed to participate and be a signatory to the South East Wales Schools Capital Procurement Framework (SEWSCAP Framework) for a four year period, commencing April 2015.
- 3.2 On 31st March 2015 Cabinet agreed to proceed with a replacement of Betws Primary School on land which has been used as the playing fields of the existing school site, and which is also an area of public open space. On 1st September 2015 Cabinet approved the proposal to relocate Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw to the existing Betws Primary School site with effect from September 2018.
- 3.3 A planning application for the new schools (reference P/15/791/BCB) was submitted on 25th November 2015.
- 3.4 On 16th February 2016, Cabinet approved the publication of a S122(2A) Local Government Act 1972 Notice to consult on the appropriation of land at Betws Primary School in order to change the use from public open space to educational purposes.
- 3.5 As the JCT Standard form of Contract with Quantities had been omitted from the SEWSCAP Framework, on 15th March 2016 Cabinet approval was received to undertake a separate OJEU compliant tendering exercise for the construction of the Garw Valley South schools.
- 3.6 In addition, and on the same date, subject to the successful appropriation of land at Betws Primary School and obtaining of appropriate planning permission in respect of the planning application, approval was given to issue an invitation to tender for the construction of the new schools.
- 3.7 Upon completion of the consultation process in relation to the appropriation of land at Betws Primary School, Cabinet approval was received on 12th April 2016 to change the purpose of the land held from a leisure function to educational purposes.

- 3.8 Planning approval in respect of the scheme was received on 5th May 2016.
- 3.9 In July 2016, Cabinet delegated authority to the Corporate Director, Education and Family Support to award a contract in future to the bidder who would submit the most economically advantageous tender, subject to the tender price being acceptable to the s151 Officer and subject to receipt of Welsh Government funding approval.

4. Current Situation

- 4.1 Prices for the construction of the school were submitted by five of seven contractors who were invited to tender. Unfortunately, the construction costs received from each of the tenderers were initially higher than the available budget, ranging in price between £9.7 million and £12.65 million, against a construction budget of £8 million.
- 4.2 Due to concerns regarding the costs of the scheme and level of funding available which would have resulted in the inability to complete the scheme, Legal and Procurement advice was sought and the tender process was re-run, this time with a reduced specification, with the budget figure being made known to potential tenderers and allowing alternative proposals.
- 4.3 Revised tenders have now been received, based on a budget of £9.1 million. These are currently being considered by technical officers in the evaluation team to ensure that any proposals will meet design requirements, the available budget and Welsh Government funding conditions. Should officers consider that a contract cannot be awarded on the basis of the tenders under consideration, Cabinet's approval is sought to negotiate with the lowest priced tenderer, without further advertisement, in accordance with Regulation 32 (2) (a) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, which states as follows:
- (2) The negotiated procedure without prior publication may be used for public works contracts, public supply contracts and public service contracts in any of the following cases: -
- (a) Where no suitable tenders....have been submitted in response to an open or restricted procedure.....provided that the initial conditions of the contract are not substantially altered and that a report is sent to the Commission where it so requests'
- 4.3 Officers have approached the Welsh Government capital funding team to explain the budget situation. Welsh Government officials have agreed in principle to officers seeking permission from Council to vire £1.2 million of the £1.5 million budget which is currently allocated against specialist provision for children with autism in the capital programme under the 21st Century Schools Programme, Band A, to the Garw Valley South Scheme to meet the shortfall in funding.

- 4.4 The £1.5 million scheme was initially conceived to provide specialist autistic spectrum places in a base in a mainstream school. Since then, following discussions with Head teachers, this provision was actually incorporated into the Bryncethin development and now forms part of Ysgol Bryn Castell.
- 4.5 Having established the provision in Ysgol Bryn Castell, a revised Strategic Outline Plan (SOP) was submitted to Welsh Government in respect of the specialist scheme. The revised SOP, which addressed the additional need to increase places in Heronsbridge, has recently received Welsh Government approval in principle.
- 4.6 With the proposed remaining funding, design work is currently being progressed to increase the number of places at Heronsbridge Special School. The estimated £300,000 cost of the scheme would be funded from the balance of the specialist provision funding within the 21st Century Schools Programme. Should any additional funding be required this would be met from school surplus balances which were earmarked at the end of 2015/16. This will be reported and approvals sought once the scheme has been established in detail. Construction will commence in July 2017 and the funding has been set aside for this. This mezzanine development will provide two additional teaching spaces in Heronsbridge Special School. Development beyond the mezzanine is not considered to be appropriate for the current Heronsbridge Special School due to limitations of the site overall.
- 4.7 In order to resolve the budget issues for Garw Valley South, work undertaken by the design team and contractor proposals which, coupled with the additional funding vired from the specialist provision scheme to Garw Valley South should result in the scheme being viable. Should a decision be taken not to proceed with the project with a revised budget of £11.2 million, it will be necessary to undertake a full review of the scheme which will result in the Council having to undertake a potential re-design and a further full procurement exercise and this would put the match funding from Welsh Government at serious risk. A revised scheme may not be achievable at all within Band A of the 21st Century Schools Programme.
- 4.8 Viring the funding between projects will not change the overall funding envelope of the Band A schemes. Formal approval from Welsh Government to vire the monies will need to be received in order to revise the allocations and this will be progressed.
- 4.9 Due to the urgency and the potential risk of losing Welsh Government funding in 16-17, it is necessary to resolve the funding issue in a timely manner. Therefore, should Cabinet approve the recommendations below, in view of the fact that the next full Council meeting is not until October, approval will be sought from the Chief Executive to vire the funding as detailed within this report and to revise the Capital programme accordingly, as an urgent matter in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation. The matter will subsequently be reported at the next full Council meeting.

- 4.10 As a result of the retendering process, there has been a delay to the project programme. Should Cabinet approval be given to proceed with the project with the revised budget, then the contractor will commence construction later than originally planned and this will impact on the planned completion dates for both schools.
- 4.11 As the relocation of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw was subject to a statutory notice, it is necessary for Cabinet to modify the decision made by Cabinet on the 1st September 2015, in respect of the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw by relocating the school to a new school building on the Betws Primary School site. It is considered that the school opening date will need to be modified from September 2018 to January 2019 as the delay in commencing construction means that the original school opening is considered no longer achievable.
- 4.12 Cabinet is requested to note that there is an exempt report on this matter to follow. The report is exempt by virtue of paragraph 16 of Part 4 of Schedule 12a of The Local Government Act 1972 as it contains legal advice. Therefore a decision cannot be made until that exempt item has been considered.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules

- 5.1 This report has no effect on Policy Framework and Procedural Rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 The Council's Equalities Impact Assessment Toolkit has been utilised which indicates that the proposal would have no impact on specific equality groups.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 The anticipated cost of the new Garw Valley South Schools will be funded by the Council and Welsh Government under the 21st Century Schools Programme for which the Authority has received '*approval in principle*'. The project is included within the Council's Capital Programme as approved most recently by Council in May 2016. The total approved budget for the Garw Valley Scheme is £10 million, comprising £9.6 million for the school and £400,000 for highways works. The financial profile for the scheme has been revised and approved in principle by Welsh Government to reflect the construction programme. Should approval be granted to vire the funding from the Heronsbridge Special School allocation, the revised project budget for the two replacement schools will be £11.2 million. The funding envelope for the overall 21st Century Schools Programme would remain unchanged.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1 Cabinet is recommended to:
- 8.1 grant approval to proceed with the Garw Valley South scheme at a revised overall project budget not exceeding £11.2 million.

- 8.2 Subject to Cabinet’s approval of 8.1 above, note that the Chief Executive intends to make a revision to the Capital Programme to reflect the increased budget for the proposed Garw Valley South scheme and a corresponding reduction in the capital budget for the ASD scheme within the Band A funding envelope of the 21st Century Schools Programme and note that a report shall be presented to the next Council meeting in October detailing the revision to the Capital programme
- 8.3 Delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Education and Family Support to conduct negotiations, if necessary, with the lowest priced tenderer, in accordance with procurement legislation
- 8.4 Subject to the successful outcome of any such negotiations, delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Education and Family Support to award a contract, the terms to be finalised in consultation with the Corporate Director – Operations and Partnerships and the s151 Officer.
- 8.5 Grant approval to modify the decision made by Cabinet on the 1st September 2015, in respect of the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw by varying the opening date of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw from September 2018 to January 2019 and serve the appropriate notices.

Deborah McMillan
Corporate Director – Education and Family Support

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Background Papers:
Cabinet Report, 16th September 2014 “CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE SCHOUTH EAST WALES SCHOOLS CAPITAL PROCUREMENT FRAMEWORK (SEWSCAP)”

Cabinet Report, 31st March 2015 “SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME: GARW VALLEY SOUTH SCHEME (BETWS PRIMARY SCHOOL AND YSGOL GYNRADD GYMRAEG CWM GARW)”

Cabinet Report, 1st September 2015 “SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME: OUTCOME OF PUBLIC NOTICE ON PROPOSAL TO MAKE A REGULATED ALTERATION TO YSGOL GYNRADD GYMRAEG CWM GARW BY RELOCATING THE SCHOOL”

Cabinet Report, 12th February 2016 “ SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME PROPOSAL TO CONSULT ON APPROPRIATION OF LAND FOR EDUCATION PURPOSES AT BETTWS ROAD, BETTWS”

Cabinet Report, 31st March 2016 “SCHOOL MODERNISATION – GARW VALLEY SOUTH, INVITATION TO TENDER”

Cabinet Report, 12th April 2016 “SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME: OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION ON APPROPRIATION OF LAND FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES AT BETTWS ROAD, BETTWS”

Cabinet Report, 26th July 2016 “SCHOOL MODERNISATION – GARW VALLEY SOUTH, ACCEPTANCE OF TENDER AND CONTRACT AWARD”

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