

EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (FORMERLY SUBJECT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 1) - MONDAY, 1 JUNE 2026

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (FORMERLY SUBJECT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 1) HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON MONDAY, 1 JUNE 2026 AT 11:00

Present

Councillor H Griffiths – Chairperson

JPD Blundell

S Easterbrook

JH Tildesley MBE

AJ Williams

Present Virtually

D M Hughes

J Llewellyn-Hopkins

T Thomas

A Wathan

Apologies for Absence

HJ David, R J Smith and E D Winstanley

Invitees:

Councillor Martyn Jones
Lindsay Harvey
Gayle Shenton
Tanya Smith
Gail Biggs
Darren Jones
Louise Blatchford
Natalie Gould
Richard George

Cabinet Member for Education and Youth Services
Corporate Director for Education, Early Years and Young People
Head of Learning
Head of Strategy, Early Years and Youth
Group Manager – Inclusion
Group Manager – School Improvement
Director Central South Consortium
Assistant Director Central South Consortium
Lead Advisor for Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment Central South Consortium

Headteacher:

Derek Meade

Bryntirion Comprehensive School

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Officers:

Lucy Beard
Jessica Mclellan
Stephen Griffiths

Scrutiny Officer
Scrutiny Officer
Democratic Services Officer – Committees

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Amanda Williams – Personal – Item 4 – Community Governor and Chair of Governors at Coety Primary School
Councilor Jon-Paul Blundell – Personal – Item 4 – As a former Cabinet Member for Education

95. Approval of Minutes

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That the minutes of the meeting of the Education and Youth Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee dated 9 February 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record.
Date Decision Made	1 June 2026

96. School Improvement

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> Following consideration of the report, and detailed discussion with a Cabinet Member, Senior Officers and Invitees, the Committee made the following requests for additional information: Requests for Additional Information 1. The questions listed below received from the Youth Council (YC) were read out, brief answers provided and the Head of Learning advised that full written responses would be sent to the YC and the Committee requested a copy also be provided to Members of the Committee: a. In the new (3 year strategic) plan, will awareness be raised of Young Carers? b. Is there a plan to increase support for children with additional learning needs?
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	c. What is being done in regard to (managing) bullying in schools? d. What is being done to support those with poor attendance due to wellbeing issues? 2. The Committee discussed support for home schooled learners and their transition back into schools for the examination period and accessing future courses, and requested a written response from the Education Engagement Manager of the measures in place to support and ensure that home educated pupils receive adequate education. and requested an update on the scheduling of an All-Member briefing previously requested on this topic.
Date Decision Made	1 June 2026

97. Corporate Parenting Champion Nomination

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That Councillor Elaine Winstanley be nominated to represent the Education and Youth Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee as an Invitee to meetings of the Cabinet Committee Corporate Parenting.
Date Decision Made	1 June 2026

98. Information Report - Corporate Performance Quarter 3 2025-26

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> The Committee considered the content of the Corporate Performance Quarter 3 2025-26 report, the Corporate Performance Dashboard Quarter 3 2025-26 and the Regulatory Tracker updated for Quarter 3 2025-26 within the remit of the Committee, and had regard to the dashboard and the tracker when considering the Committee's Forward Work Programme report.
Date Decision Made	1 June 2026

99. Forward Work Programme Update

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> The Committee approved the Forward Work Programme (FWP) in Appendix A subject to the following inclusions, noted the Recommendations Monitoring Action Sheet to track responses to the Committees' Recommendations made at previous meetings in Appendix B and noted that the FWP approved by the Committee would be reported to the next meeting of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee for information. a. Given the potential future expansion of universal provision of free school meals to Secondary schools for learners whose parents are in receipt of Universal Credit, the Committee requested that the Healthy Eating in Schools report scheduled for their July meeting includes information regarding whether facilities in Secondary schools are in place to meet the need of this potential future policy, due to the capacity of existing dining halls/ buildings, facilities in kitchens, etc. similarly to some issues encountered in the rollout in Primary schools. b. That the draft Directorate Strategic Plan scheduled to be reported to a future meeting of the Committee includes a Section on Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) to include what the Authority was doing to prevent school leavers becoming NEET and any policy to support schools.
Date Decision Made	1 June 2026

100. Urgent Items

Decision Made	None
Date Decision Made	1 June 2026

To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click this [link](#)

The meeting closed at 12:15.

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