

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

20 APRIL 2017

**REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – OPERATIONAL AND PARTNERSHIP
SERVICES**

FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a) present the potential items due to be considered at the Committee's next meeting to be held following the Annual Meeting of Council;
- b) present a list of responses to comments, recommendations and requests for additional information from the previous meetings of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives / Other Corporate Priorities

2.1 The improvement priorities identified in the Corporate Plan 2016-2020 have been embodied in the Overview & Scrutiny Forward Work Programmes. The amended Corporate Plan adopted by Council on 10 March 2016 formally set out the improvement priorities that the Council will seek to implement between 2016 and 2020. The Overview and Scrutiny Committees engage in review and development of plans, policy or strategies that support the Corporate Themes.

3. Background

3.1 At its meeting 16 June 2016, the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee determined its Annual Forward Work Programme for 2016/17.

4. Current Situation / Proposal

**Meetings of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny
Committee**

4.1 In relation to the Committee's next meeting the table below lists the potential items to be considered and the invitees due to attend.

Topic	Invitees	Specific Information Requested	Research to be Undertaken by the Overview & Scrutiny Unit
Children's Social Services Overview	Susan Cooper, Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing Laura Kinsey, Head of Safeguarding and Family Support	Overview of the Service Area, key strategies, projects etc.	Detail research / To be confirmed

Topic	Invitees	Specific Information Requested	Research to be Undertaken by the Overview & Scrutiny Unit
CSSIW Report	Susan Cooper, Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing Laura Kinsey, Head of Safeguarding and Family Support Katy Young, representative from CSSIW Ann Rowling, representative from CSSIW	Report of the inspectorate on Bridgend's Social Services	Detail research / To be confirmed
Education Services Overview	Lindsay Harvey, Interim Corporate Director - Education and Family Support Nicola Echanis, Head of Education and Early Help Mandy Paish, CSC Senior Challenge Advisor	Overview of the Service Area, key strategies, projects etc.	Detail research / To be confirmed

4.2 The list below contains potential items as yet to be decided for the 2017-18 forward work programme. The prioritisation and timings of these will be agreed at the Committee meeting following the Annual Meeting of Council.

ALN Reform	TBC
Schools Strategic Review	Outcome of Consultation and pre-decision prior to final decision by Cabinet To include update on FE Sector - How FE Sector operates, what are the strategic plans of the college, what is its relationship with secondary schools and the CSC? Further information as to how the FE College were engaging and assisting schools regarding reducing the number of young people becoming NEET.
Residential Remodelling	Appraisal of the options and proposed new model for children's residential provision and use of therapeutic interventions.
Directorate Budget Consultation Process	MTFS Proposals for 2018-19
School Standards Report 17-18	Annual school performance report from CSC
Multi Agency SH (Title TBC)	Going Live Summer 2017 - Report to Scrutiny to provide update and for Member input into next steps

Corporate Parenting

- 4.3 Corporate Parenting is the term used to describe the responsibility of a local authority towards looked after children and young people. This is a legal responsibility given to local authorities by the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004. The role of the Corporate Parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children. The Council as a whole is the 'corporate parent' therefore all Members have a level of responsibility for the children and young people looked after by Bridgend.¹
- 4.4 In this role, it is suggested that Members consider how the services within the remit of their Committee affects children in care and care leavers, and in what way can the Committee assist in these areas.
- 4.5 Scrutiny Champions can greatly support the Committee in this by advising them of the ongoing work of the Cabinet-Committee and particularly any decisions or changes which they should be aware of as Corporate Parents.

Actions Arising

- 4.6 The Scrutiny team facilitated workshops in April 2016 to enable Overview and Scrutiny Committees to carry out a review and forward planning exercise. As part of this review, Members were provided the opportunity to look back over the past twelve months and consider what worked in Scrutiny and what could be improved.
- 4.7 Following this evaluation Members recommended that all comments made at Scrutiny meetings, as well as recommendations and requests for information, should be responded to, to ensure that there are clear outcomes from each meeting.
- 4.8 In addition to this Members further recommended that Scrutiny Officers should devise a method of recording and presenting what information was still outstanding, to enable the Members to query these with the relevant Officer at a subsequent meeting.
- 4.9 It was determined that the best way to present this information would be through the Forward Work Programme update as the report is a standing item on each Scrutiny Committee agenda and Members could also take this information into account as part of their FWP planning.
- 4.10 Attached at Appendix A is therefore a spreadsheet detailing the recent responses and outstanding information for the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

- 5.1 The work of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the

¹ Welsh Assembly Government and Welsh Local Government Association *'If this were my child... A councillor's guide to being a good corporate parent to children in care and care leavers'*, June 2009

power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental wellbeing in the County Borough of Bridgend.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 None

7. Financial Implications

7.1 None.

8. Recommendations

8.1 The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) Note the topics due be considered at the next meeting of the Committee to be scheduled at the Annual Meeting of Council;
- (ii) Determine the invitees to be invited to attend, any specific information it would like the invitees to provide and any research that it would like the Overview & Scrutiny Unit to undertake in relation to this meeting;
- (iii) Note the list of responses to comments, recommendations and requests for additional information including those still outstanding from the previous meetings of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

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Background documents: None