

Potential items proposed for the Forward Work Programme - questions to consider	
Proposed Item	Licensing & School Transport - Safeguarding Children
Is this item within the remit of the Committee?	Yes
Is it a Corporate Priority?	Yes
Is it a public interest item?	Yes
What are the questions that need answering?	<p>Since 2015, there has been a change to the Police National Policy for disclosing non-conviction information to the local authority.</p> <p>There is no longer an automatic notification to the local authority of taxi driver arrests.</p> <p>Instead, the police operate under the National Police Chief's Council guidelines for common law disclosures of information to a regulatory body.</p> <p>Therefore, South Wales Police determine whether or not it is appropriate to tell the licensing authority that a taxi driver has been arrested or charged with an offence.</p> <p>Furthermore, my understanding is that it is the school transport contractor's responsibility to ensure that all of its escorts and employees have appropriate and valid DBS checks, rather than the local authority, and as a result, I contend that there is insufficient oversight on behalf of the local authority. As such, there is a risk of contractors withholding information which may prejudice the continuation of their contract.</p>

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	<p>I believe that the non-disclosure of information from South Wales Police; the relationship between the local authority's licensing and school transport departments, and the current regime whereby it is the responsibility of contractors to inform the local authority of any changes to the DBS status of their employees ought to be scrutinised by an Overview & Scrutiny Committee at the earliest opportunity to ensure that children are not being put at undue risk.</p>
Then:	
What is the expected outcome from receiving the item?	To test and scrutinise the current licensing and school transport regime to gain assurances that it provides adequate protection against the potential of putting children and vulnerable children at risk from those who are in a position of trust.
What can be achieved?	To provide assurances to the public and maintain public confidence in the system of school transport
What impact can Members have on this area?	To provide robust scrutiny and recommendations on how the current regime can be improved.
What information should be reported to the Committee? I.e. data, case studies, examples of outcomes, challenges etc.	Report on the current arrangements of how licensing and school transport operates within the County Borough including a report from South Wales Police on its approach to disclosing information it holds about licencees following arrests, charges and convictions.
How should information be presented at the meeting? I.e. PowerPoint/Prezi presentation, audio/visual formats, photos, graphics, charts, maps etc.	Word Document

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Who should be invited to contribute to achieve a representative picture? I.e. front line staff, users, carers, young people, representatives from partner organisations, business representatives etc.	Cllr. Charles Smith, Lindsay Harvey, Robin Davies, Yvonne Witchell, a representative from South Wales Police & Crime Commissioner's Office; and a parent representative who has raised concerns.
Is the item particularly suitable for webcasting?	-