

Scrutiny Forward Work Programme

Table A

The following items were previously prioritised by the Subject OVS Committees and considered by Corporate at its last meeting where the top three items were scheduled in for the next round of meetings:

Date	Subject Committee	Item	Specific Information to request	Rationale for prioritisation	Proposed date	Proposed rationale for timing from Officers	Suggested Invitees	Prioritised by Committees	Webcast
07-Mar-2018	SOSC 2	Prevention and Wellbeing and Local Community Coordination	<p>To include information about the number of different initiatives that are available within the community as an alternative to statutory services.</p> <p>LCC projects to be referenced under a heading for each area – Ogmores, Llynfi and Garw Valleys – to ensure ease of reference to what projects are being carried out where.</p> <p>To include information on the work being undertaken with the 3rd Sector.</p> <p>What initiatives are available within the community?</p> <p>What input is provided by ABMU and what is provided by Bridgend Council?</p>		Proposed date March/April 2018		<p>Susan Cooper Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing;</p> <p>Clr Phil White, Cabinet Member - Social Services and Early Help</p> <p>Clr Dhanisha Patel, Cabinet Member - Wellbeing and Future Generations;</p> <p>Jacqueline Davies, Head of Adult Social Care;</p> <p>Andrew Thomas, Group Manager – Prevention and Wellbeing;</p> <p>Representation from 3rd Sector;</p> <p>Representation from ABMU / Cwm Taf.</p> <p>Kay Harries, Partnership and Projects Manager, BAVO</p>		
12-Mar-2018	SOSC 1	School Modernisation Band B	<p>To advise committee on the development of the strategic outline plan for band b of the 21st century schools modernisation programme</p> <p>How did Band A improve attainment?</p> <p>What were the outcomes for Band A? How were they achieved. What lessons can be learnt for Band B?</p>	Scrutiny to inform the plans and refine the rationale for the development of the schools estate	Proposed by Officers - March 2018		<p>Lindsay Harvey, Interim Corporate Director - Education and Family Support;</p> <p>Clr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration;</p> <p>Clr H Williams, Deputy Leader;</p> <p>Nicola Echanis, Head of Education and Early Help;</p> <p>Gaynor Thomas, Schools Programme Manager</p>		

21-Mar-2018	SOSC 3	Empty Properties	<p>How effective has this council been on bringing back into use empty properties over the last five years?</p> <p>Does this council have the appropriate policies and process in place to fully utilise the powers that we already have to tackle empty homes. For example - Empty Dwelling Management Orders and charging council tax premiums on long-term empty homes and second homes?</p> <p>What are the levels of empty homes across Bridgend?</p> <p>What is the potential loss of council tax receipts due to empty homes?</p> <p>Data on levels of empty properties and homes - how long they have been empty for and what contact has been made regarding them;</p> <p>Examples of case studies from Bridgend CBC;</p> <p>Good practice from across Wales;</p> <p>Detail of Welsh Government policies;</p> <p>In relation to empty properties - could a breakdown of service provision be provided? To include contracts that we sub let out;</p> <p>Members queried how many section 215 have been used in relation to blight properties.</p>				<p>Andrew Jolley, Corporate Director; Operational and Partnership Services;</p> <p>Mark Shepherd, Corporate Director Communities;</p> <p>Jonathan Parsons, Group Manager Development;</p> <p>Martin Morgans, Head of Performance and Partnership Services;</p> <p>Clr Richard Young, Cabinet Member - Communities;</p> <p>Clr Hywel Williams, Deputy Leader;</p> <p>Welsh Government contacts?</p> <p>Helen Picton, SRS (VOG);</p> <p>Jennifer Ellis (RCT);</p>	SOSC 3 and SOSC 1 reprioritised this in Dec 2017 after it was rescheduled to accommodate other report	SOSC 3 highlighted this item as suitable for webcasting.
16-Apr-2018	SOSC 1	Early Help and Social Care	<p>The process into how the following information will be presented will be confirmed following meetings with both Directorates Corporate Directors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to date figures presenting the numbers of Looked After Children by Local Authority; A breakdown of referral figures, to include statistics from local pre-school nurseries; Outcome from the review undertaken by Institute of Public Care; What services are being provided post 16, given that research indicates shows that children who have been looked after, have the increased probability that their children will also end up in the care system; <p>To evidence how the two services are working together and the impact on the LAC population.</p> <p><i>Rec from BREP -</i></p> <p>For Scrutiny to receive data relating to the Early Help and Safeguarding Board's joint dataset to evidence how the work being undertaken in relation to Early Help has impacted directly on social services.</p> <p>Detailed analysis of the causes and demands on Children's Social Services. Members commented that if this is not known and understood then the Authority cannot effectively plan for the future and Members cannot be assured that changes that are being introduced are fit for purpose.</p>				<p>Susan Cooper Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing;</p> <p>Lindsay Harvey, Interim Corporate Director - Education and Family Support;</p> <p>Clr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration;</p> <p>Clr Phil White, Cabinet Member – Social Services and Early Help;</p> <p>Nicola Echanis, Head of Education and Early Help.</p> <p>Laura Kinsey, Head of Children's Social Care;</p> <p>Mark Lewis,</p> <p>Elizabeth Walton James, Group Manager Safeguarding and Quality Assurance</p>	SOSC 1	
17-Apr-2018	SOSC 2	Dementia Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include accurate and up to date figures on the people diagnosed with dementia in Bridgend County Borough for comparison with the number of people predicted to be living with dementia; Provide Members with the information which can be found on the Local GP Dementia Register which highlights prevalence of dementia by area throughout the borough and type of dementia. The Panel recommend that these statistics are presented on a map diagram for ease of reference. If possible, Members wish that this data be elaborated upon to include age, and whether the numbers show if diagnosis was received prior to moving into the borough; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an update on the review of joint intentions with health and the third sector and include information regarding the production of a dementia strategy and delivery plan - stating milestones, target dates and responsible officers. Provide an update on existing discussions with nursing care providers in relation to the development of nursing residential care places for people with dementia; <p>Include facts and figures on people with dementia living in Cardiff as well as Neath Port Talbot and Swansea for comparison to Bridgend.</p> <p>Comparisons with other LAs such as Maesteg and the Vale on dementia awareness training to consider how successful the Authority has been in making Bridgend Dementia friendly.</p>		Proposed change from Directorate from 7 March as will take time to get the detailed information as it is not owned by the LA and needs to be gathered from Health etc.		<p>Susan Cooper Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing;</p> <p>Clr Phil White, Cabinet Member – Social Services and Early Help;</p> <p>Jacqueline Davies, Head of Adult Social Care;</p> <p>Representative from Age Concern Wales;</p> <p>Representative from ABMU;</p> <p>Representative from Bavo.</p>		Corporate highlighted this item as suitable for webcasting.

19-Apr-2018	SOSC 3	Emergency Housing	<p>Is the current emergency housing provided by BCBC meeting the needs of the service users? Is the current provision a good use of public resources? Should an alternative provision be made to ensure families, in particular children, achieve their potential. Service user numbers Service user demographic –ages, disabilities, gender Outcomes Challenges faced daily by families using provision –health, dentist, mental health, schools *Members have requested a possible site visit</p>	<p>members asked for this item to be prioritised by the Corporate Committee to address the homelessness across the county which has increased and can be seen by the increased number of people sleeping in tents.</p>			<p>Andrew Jolley, Corporate Director – Operational and Partnership Services; Martin Morgans, Head of Performance and Partnership Services Cllr Dhanisha Patel, Cabinet Member - Wellbeing and Future Generations;</p>	SOSC3 SOSC 1	
Date TBC Following Annual Meeting	SOSC 1	Budgetary Impacts of Parc Prison	<p>How much core funding does BCBC receive to deal with the impact of a prison being located within its boundary? What is the true cost of servicing this need? Is there is a different impact due to Parc Prison being privately run as opposed to being run by the Prison Service? Educational aspects in prisons and their impact; What Community Services does Parc Prison provide? What does Parc Prison give back to the County Borough of Bridgend; What 3rd Sector services are provided at Parc; Details on the impact on housing; What input does the Probation Service have with working with the Authority and with the resettlement of prisoners.</p>		Proposed by Directorate for May-June 2018	Ongoing discussions with WG over financial position -more appropriate to receive later in year	<p>Susan Cooper, Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing Jacqueline Davies, Head of Adult Social Care Cllr P White, Cabinet Member Services and Early Help Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration; Representative from Parc prison; Representation from Health Service Provider; Representation from 3rd Sector – Drug and Alcohol services for example; Representation from Probation Service; Representation from housing department.</p>		
Date TBC Following Annual Meeting	SOSC 2	ALN Reform	<p>When the Act has been further progressed, report to include consideration of the following points: a) How the Authority and Schools are engaging with parents over the changes to the Act? b) What the finalised process is for assessments and who is responsible for leading with them? c) What involvement/responsibilities do Educational Psychologists have under the Act? d) Has the Act led to an increase in tribunals and what impact has this had? This is set against the context of the recent announcement by the Lifelong Learning Minister that instead of saving £4.8m over four years the Act could potentially cost £8.2m due to an expected increase in the number of cases of dispute resolution. e) Given that the Act focuses on the involvement of young people and their parents, what support is available for those involved in court disputes? f) Outcomes from the Supported Internship programme. g) Support for those with ALN into employment. h) Staffing - Protection and support for staff, ALNCO support, workloads and capacity. i) Pupil-teacher ratios and class sizes and impact of Act on capacity of teachers to support pupils with ALN j) How is the implementation of the Act being monitored; what quality assurance frameworks are there and what accountability for local authorities, consortiums and schools?</p>	Needs revisiting to monitor implementation of the Bill and if needs are being met as well as impact on future budgets	Proposed by SOSC 1 to be revisited in next years FWP		<p>Lindsay Harvey, Interim Corporate Director - Education and Family Support; Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration; Nicola Echanis, Head of Education and Early Help. Michelle Hatcher, Group Manager Inclusion and School Improvement Third Sector Representatives</p>		SOSC 2 highlighted this item as suitable for webcasting.
Date TBC Following Annual Meeting	SOSC3	<p>Waste Services Contract</p> <p><i>(Confirmation required as to whether Scrutiny can receive re-dacted contract - if contract being considered, item needs to go to Corporate OVSC, other issues are for SOSC)</i></p>	<p>Members would like the report to include an update on the following: The impact of the recently recruited senior managers associated with the Bridgend contract and front line operative staff. Was recruitment successful? Have all Members now been given full inductions and training Information on the updates to the CRC centre including the instalment of the polystyrene baler and webcam so residents are able to monitor the traffic flow at the site. Change of days for the communal collections - Has this happened? Has the service shown improvements since the change? Impact of the new collection vehicles. Have they made collection rounds more efficient? Outcome of the review of BCBC in house Street Scene enforcement activity Longer term trend of flytipping. What are the figures of flytipping in the Borough? Have they improved? Domestic or business? A breakdown in the number of referrals received before the new contract in a typical month and what they were related to and a breakdown of the number of referrals received in April 2018</p> <p>A review of the AHP bags be considered when Scrutiny revisit the subject of 'Waste' in approximately 12 months time to include the monetary against environmental impact.</p>	Members requested that this item is prioritised by the Corporate Committee for June 2018 so they can monitor the contract and ensure that improvements to the delivery of the service are made. Members requested that this item remain until significant improvements are made and the service is at a satisfactory level for residents.	SOSC 3 proposed revisit item in June 2018		<p>Mark Shepherd, Corporate Director Communities; Cllr Hywel Williams, Deputy Leader; Cllr Richard Young, Cabinet Member – Communities; Zak Shell, Head of Streetscene; Maz Akhtar, Regional Manager Kier Julian Tranter, Managing Director Kier Claire Pring, Kier</p>	SOSC 3 Jan 18	

Table B

The following items were deemed important for future prioritisation:

Item	Specific Information to request	Rationale for prioritisation	Proposed date		Suggested Invitees		Webcast
Safeguarding	<p>To include Safeguarding activity in both Children and Adult Services.</p> <p>To also cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Safeguarding Boards Bridgend Corporate Safeguarding Policy Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Deprivation of Liberty Standards (DOLS) <p>Report to provide statistical data in relation to service demands and evidence how quickly and effectively the services are acting to those needs.</p> <p>To evidence how the two services are working together and the impact on the LAC population.</p> <p>To receive the outcome of the in depth analysis which was currently being undertaken within the Council.</p> <p>To include information on Advocacy for Children and Adults:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The outcome from the Advocacy Pilot Scheme The current system Social Services & Wellbeing Act Regional Children Services advocacy Adult Services – Golden Thread Project <p>What costs are associated to assessments that are contracted out.</p>	<p>Members stressed that this subject must be considered by Scrutiny on their FWP as is a huge responsibility of the Authority and Scrutiny must ensure the work being undertaken to protect some of the most vulnerable people is effective and achieving outcomes.</p>	<p>Pilot for Advocacy ends April. Therefore proposed date May/June 2018.</p>		<p>Susan Cooper Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing; Cllr Phil White, Cabinet Member – Social Services and Early Help; Jacqueline Davies, Head of Adult Social Care; Laura Kinsey, Head of Children's Social Care; Elizabeth Walton James, Group Manager Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Richard Thomas, Strategic Planning and Commissioning Officer</p>	SOSC2 Jan 18	
Annual Recommendations/feedback Update to each SOSC	<p>Update on all feedback that required follow up and recommendations - Cabinet and Officer ones</p>		<p>Proposed for March 2018 to inform next years FWP planning</p>		<p>None</p>		
Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) Inspection of Children's Services.	<p>The Committee requested that they receive an information report detailing the progress of the plan and update Members whether or not the actions have addressed the issues raised by the Inspectorate.</p>		<p>Going to Corporate Parenting on 24 Jan - Scrutiny Officers to pick up and send to Committee</p>				
Remodelling Fostering Project	<p>Further project as part of the Remodelling Children's Social Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Detail regarding the upskilling of three internal foster carers to provide intensive, therapeutic step down placements as part of Residential Remodelling project - Review of the foster carer marketing and recruitment strategy at a draft/early stage to allow members input into the process 				<p>Susan Cooper, Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing; Cllr Phil White, Cabinet Member – Social Services and Early Help; Laura Kinsey, Head of Children's Social Care; Pete Tyson, Group Manager – Commissioning; Lauren North, Commissioning and Contract Management Officer; Natalie Silcox, Group Manager Childrens Regulated Services.</p>		

<p>Home to School Transport</p>	<p>To provide assurances on rationalisation of Learner Transport as far as possible in order to make budget savings:</p> <p>Update on pilot that school transport team proposing to run in Spring and Summer terms 2017-2018 - to support the enforcement of bus passes on home to school transport contracts. As part of this pilot, the Authority is also investigating opportunities to track the use of our school bus services by individual pupils.</p> <p>Update on Recommendation from BREP: The Panel recommend the need for the Authority to adopt a Corporate approach in relation to Home to School Transport maximising the LA's minibuses such as those used for day centres. It is proposed that this be supported by slightly amending the opening and closing times of day centres so that the buses can be available for school transport. Other aspects that could be considered include the exploration of whether school staff could transport children and young people instead of hiring independent drivers.</p> <p>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. Changes to the DBS status of their employees to be scrutinised to ensure that children are not being put at undue risk. To provide robust scrutiny and recommendations on how the current regime can be improved. To provide assurances to the public and maintain public confidence in the system of school transport</p> <p>Report to include Update on the current arrangements of how licensing and school transport operates within the County Borough since the change in 2015 to the Police National Policy for disclosing non-conviction information to the local authority. Information to include a report from South Wales Police on its approach to disclosing information it holds about licencees following arrests, charges and convictions. What is the current relationship between the local authority's licensing and school transport departments in relation to the disclosure of information from South Wales police? Is there sufficient oversight on behalf of the local authority and a risk of contractors withholding information which may prejudice the continuation of their contract?</p>	<p>To provide assurances on rationalisation of Learner Transport as far as possible in order to make budget savings. 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. 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. To provide robust scrutiny and recommendations on how the current regime can be improved. To provide assurances to the public and maintain public confidence in the system of school transport</p>					
<p>Highways Services</p>	<p>To include information of efficiency savings and the impact of what the MTFS has on the service</p>			<p>Proposed by HOS as had been drafted previously for scrutiny but did not go due to timing issues - felt that Mmembers need to know info - <i>could this be an information report instead?</i></p>	<p>Mark Shepherd, Corporate Director Communities; Cllr Richard Young, Cabinet Member – Communities; Zak Shell, Head of Streetscene; Andrew Hobbs, Group Manager Streetworks</p>		
<p>Community Services</p>	<p>Rec from BREP The Committee recommend that Scrutiny consider a future item on what other Local Authorities are doing to respond to the gap in provision in Community Services.</p>					<p>SOSC2 Feb 18</p>	

Collaboration with Police	<p>The Panel highlighted the need to work more closely with the Police and therefore proposed that a Research and Evaluation Panel be established to look at Policing of the borough on a local level. Members proposed the following points and areas to go to the Research and Evaluation Panel for consideration as part of their ongoing investigative work:</p> <p>a) As the delegated powers to the Police and PCSO's varies between local authorities, the Panel recommend that clarification be provided on what powers have been assigned to the Police and what has been retained be the LA to inform all Members, members of the public, Inspectors and PCSOs;</p> <p>b) How often does the Chief Executive and Leader meet with key people in the Police to discuss and align priorities;</p> <p>c) How often do both the Corporate Director – Operational and Partnership Services and the Corporate Director - Communities meet with their counterparts in the Police to discuss community policing and safety within the County Borough and align priorities.</p> <p>d) The need for a joint plan between Police and the LA;</p> <p>e) How the Police assist the LA in relation to safeguarding vulnerable adults and children.</p>						
Remodelling Children's Residential Services Project	SOSC 1 requested that the item be followed up by Scrutiny in the future for monitoring purposes, incorporating evidence of outcomes.						
CSSIW investigation into LAC	The Committee requested that the outcome of the CSSIW investigation into Looked After Children be provided to Scrutiny for information when it becomes available.						
CAMHS	With reference to the responses received in relation to Child Adolescent Mental Health Services Members on 12 December 2018, Members note that most of the replies feature an element of work in progress and have asked to retain the item on the FWP for future review. To receive an update on current provision and further advise on current situation in relation to comments and conclusions made on 12 December 2018.						
School Standards	<p>Requested from SOSC 1 meeting in February to receive a further report at a meeting in the near future, (to be agreed by Corporate Overview and Scrutiny), incorporating the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Categorisation information; • In relation to Post-16 data at 4.53 of the report, the Committee requested that they receive the baseline for each school to give a better indication of how each school has improved; • Information on Bridgend's ranking for Key Stage 4 based on the latest results; • Information on what targets were set at each stage in order to determine whether the performance was expected and possibly a cohort issue or whether any actuals differed significantly from the targets set; • Information that the Consortium has gathered through drilling down into each schools' performance to determine what challenges schools face; • Further detail of the performance of those with ALN attending the PRU or Heronsbridge School as Members felt this was not incorporated into the report to a great degree; • Information on the work that the Consortium is doing to identify the variation for each secondary school at Key Stage 4, and what is being done about it; • More information in relation to each schools performance – not necessarily more data but detail of the where, what and how in relation to good and poor performance for each school so that the Committee has an overall understanding of the current situation and priority schools in Bridgend; • What extent are schools responding to the changes recently introduced such as the removal of Btec etc, to ensure they are still meeting the needs of the pupils; • What work is being done to mitigate against future dips in performance resulting from any changes to curriculum or changes to performance measures; • Evidence of how the Consortium has made a direct impact on schools and school performance, what outcomes can they be measured on in relation to Bridgend to assure Members of value for money; • What is being done to mitigate against the impact of changes in teachers to ensure that this does not have a resulting impact on the performance of pupils; • Performance in relation to vocational qualifications and non-core subjects – where are there causes for concern and where there is excellent work taking place etc. 				Lindsay Harvey, Interim Corporate Director - Education and Family Support; Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration; Nicola Echanis, Head of Education and Early Help; Mandy Paish, CSC Senior Challenge Advisor; Mike Glavin, Managing Director CSC Representative from School Budget Forum		

The following

Item	Specific Information to request
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Overview of Direct Payment Scheme	To update Members on the Direct Payments Process.
Social Services Commissioning Strategy	To include information on what work has taken place following the Social Services and Wellbeing Act population assessment. To also cover the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Annual Plan • Bridgend Social Services Commissioning Strategy
Western Bay Regional Report	Update on situation and way forward with WB and Regional Working?

Residential Remodelling - Extra Care Housing	Site visit to current Extra Care Housing and then to new site once work has begun
Children's Social Services	Briefing for SOSC 1 on Child Practice Reviews - details of latest CPRs over last 12-18 months - what recommendations have come out of them, how have they been responded to, how have they helped inform future work to help safeguard children.