

Scrutiny Forward Work Programme

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 | Suggested Invitees | Prioritised by Committees |
|-----------|-------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------|
| 04-Nov-19 | SOSC 3 | Enforcement | <p>Report on enforcement carried out by the Council including reasons for not enforcing fines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Receive an update on the procurement of an external contractor to undertake enforcement action on littering in the Borough; * Statistics on number of tickets issues, broken down by time and by who * Clarity the role of PCSO's in respect of fixed penalties * Details on the process if fixed penalty isn't paid e.g. legal process <p>Report to include an update on the enforcement vehicle to enable Members to monitor performance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Detailed feedback on vehicles use; * How are the recordings viewed? * Statistics in relation to letters and details of enforcement. | Prioritised by at FWP Workshop | Last received June 2018 | <p>Mark Shephard, Chief Executive Cllr Richard Young, Cabinet Member – Communities; Zak Shell, Head of Operations - Community Services; Kevin Mulcahy, Group Manager - Highways & Green Spaces; Sian Hooper, Cleaner Streets & Waste Contract Manager; Rachel Jones, Corporate Procurement Manager; Representative from legal Representative from Enforcement Agency</p> | |
| 03-Feb-20 | SOSC1 | Education Outcomes | See Feedback from 30 January 2019 | | Corporate Director suggested February 2020 | <p>Lindsay Harvey, Corporate Director - Education and Family Support; Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration; Nicola Echanis, Head of Education and Early Help; Andy Rothwell, CSC Senior Challenge Advisor; Managing Director CSC Representative from School Budget Forum Headteacher Representation</p> | |
| 05-Feb-20 | SOSC2 | Home to School Transport | <p>To provide assurances on rationalisation of Learner Transport as far as possible in order to make budget savings: 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. 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. 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 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? Further proposed that Communities be invited to add to report and attend meeting to update Committee on safe routes assessment to determine what work has been undertaken since funding was allocated to this over a year ago.</p> | | SOSC 2 Prioritised January 2020. Corporate Director prioritised February 2020. | <p>Lindsay Harvey, Corporate Director - Education and Family Support; Cllr Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration Nicola Echanis, Head of Education and Early Help. Mark Shephard, Chief Executive; Robin Davies, Group Manager Business Strategy and Performance; Tony Hart, Senior Transport Officer Registered Reps</p> | |
| 09-Mar-20 | SOSC 1 | Tynyrheol | MSEP Escalation to Committee | | | <p>Lindsay Harvey, Corporate Director - Education and Family Support; Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration; Nicola Echanis, Head of Education and Early Help; Andy Rothwell, CSC Senior Challenge Advisor; Simon Phillips, Challenge Adviser Head teacher Chair of Governors</p> | |

TABLE B

| For prioritisation | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---|--|--|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Item | | | | Rationale for prioritisation | Proposed date | Suggested Invitees | |
| Transformation Grant | To provide an update on progress made with working with 3rd Sector to enhance intergrated services. | | | | Corporate Director proposed for March 2020 | <p>Susan Cooper, Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing; Cllr Phil White, Cabinet Member – Social Services and Early Help;</p> | |

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| 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. <i>A report is due to go to Corporate Parenting 6 March 2019. Do Members want to receive as information only or as a discussion item?</i> | | Corporate Director proposed for later in the year, say Dec 2019 | Susan Cooper, Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing; Cllr Phil White, Cabinet Member – Social Services and Early Help; | |
| Member and School Engagement Panel - Annual Report (For Information Only) | Annual Update to - SOSC 1 on the work of the Member and School Engagement Panel | | Report after March 2020 | Spring term 2019 - Plasnewydd Primary School; Summer term 2019 - Ogmere Vale Primary School; Autumn term 2019 - Tynyrheol Primary School. | |
| Post 16 Education - Post Consultation | Back to Scrutiny - Post Consultation | | Corporate Director suggested Summer Term | Lindsay Harvey, Corporate Director - Education and Family Support; Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration; Nicola Echanis, Head of Education and Early Help; Andy Rothwell, CSC Senior Challenge Advisor; Andrew Williams, Acting Managing Director CSC Youth Mayor? Andrew Slade, Association of Secondary Heads | |
| Plastic Free Bridgend | During a OPM it was suggested that this topic should be a research item. What items we procure that uses single use plastic; what choices does that Authority have along with financial implications. To receive an update on the previous recommendations made on 23 July 2018: • Members suggest that the Authority should take the lead on reducing single use plastic and encourage local businesses to follow suit. Officers responded that this would be discussed at Cabinet/CMB; • Members recommend that the Authority use social media to communicate what can be recycled at kerbside and at Community Recycling Centres; | SOSC 1 Prioritised | | Mark Shephard, Chief Executive Cllr Richard Young, Cabinet Member – Communities; Zak Shell, Head of Operations - Community Services; | |
| Empty Properties | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the impact of the removal of the 50% discount, after a suitable period of time to allow it to have an affect; • To receive evidence that demonstrates the 'Activity' of work that has been undertaken across the Authority given the crossovers and links this subject has with other services; • To consider the pilot project mentioned by Officers where the Authority was looking to engage and work with RSLs to support property owners from a management perspective with the overall aim being to return a property back to use; • To monitor the performance and outcomes of the strategy including scrutiny of the national PIs for empty properties contained within the Authority's Corporate Plan as well as any further underlying targets and expected outcomes related to the strategy; • To consider how the Authority deals with property owners who persistently refuse to engage with the Council. • To consider any future alternative strategy that relates to Commercial properties. | | | Martin Morgans, Head of Performance and Partnership Services Cllr Dhanisha Patel, Cabinet Member Future Generations and Wellbeing Cllr Hywel Williams, Deputy Leader Helen Rodgers - Revenues Manager Lynne Berry - Group Manager Housing & Community Jonathan Flower - Senior Strategic Officer | |
| Emergency Accommodation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To receive a more detailed option appraisal with reference to the replacement facility in Brynmenyn in the short, medium and long term including costings and timescales; • To receive an update in relation to Members recommendation to explore the opportunity to utilise surplus Local Authority owned buildings; • Members request a site visit to the Kerrigan Project direct access floor space facility that is managed by Gwalia. | | Corporate Director proposed that these items should be presented at the same time. Emergency Accommodation, Homelessness Strategy and Supporting People Grant. | Martin Morgans, Head of Performance and Partnership Services Cllr Dhanisha Patel, Cabinet Member Future Generations and Wellbeing Cllr Hywel Williams, Deputy Leader Helen Rodgers - Revenues Manager Lynne Berry - Group Manager Housing & Community Jonathan Flower - Senior Strategic Officer | |
| Homelessness Strategy | Members requested that the report include: - Progress on implementation of the strategy; - Report to include information on vulnerable groups such as ex-offenders and care leavers. Members raised questions in that Bridgend have 8 people sleeping rough but have 13 empty beds? | | | Mark Shephard, Chief Executive; Martin Morgans, Head of Performance and Partnership Services Cllr Dhanisha Patel, Cabinet Member Future Generations and Wellbeing Lynne Berry, Group Manager, Housing & Community Regeneration; Joanne Ginn, Housing Solutions Team Manager. | |
| Supporting People Grant | Following the implementation of the Homelessness Strategy, Members have requested to receive a further report on the Supporting People Grant and provide an update in relation to what steps have been implemented as recommended by the Independent Review undertaken. | | | Mark Shephard, Chief Executive Sue Cooper, Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing Martin Morgans Lynne Berry Cllr Dhanisha Patel, Cabinet Member Future Generations and Wellbeing Ryan Jones, Supporting People Strategy Planning and Commissioning Officer | |
| Secure Estate | Possibly an information report to follow up on recommendations made on 31 May 2018. Are G4S a profit making organisation? | | | 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; | |
| Welsh Community Care Information Systems (Information Report) | Corporate Director offered an to members on how WCCIS has developed over the last few years. Members agreed to receive this at a future meeting | | | NA | |

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| Early Help and Family Support | <p>Presentation provided to Corporate Parenting on the below issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detail of the process for a child coming into care - From a referral being received to a decision being made; • How is ongoing support established as well as any associated costs; • How is the step down or step up process monitored? • If individuals need support from more than one service (such as IFSS and Baby in Mind) how do services work together to monitor the individual? • Historical data to enable Members to determine if there has been any progress made; • Report to include clearer evidence of outcomes; • More examples of case studies outlining processes, challenges and outcomes achieved; • Members raised concerns regarding the freedom that schools have in the framework for teaching Personal and Social Education for preparing youngsters with Life Skills especially in Flying Start areas. Members therefore request details of what and how pupils are taught and how they monitor its effectiveness. <p><i>A report to be provided detailing position statement one year on. (May 2020)</i></p> | | Corporate Director suggested 01/06/2020 | Lindsay Harvey, Corporate Director - Education and Family Support; Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration; Nicola Echanis, Head of Education and Early Help; Mark Lewis, Group Manager Integrated Working and Family Support | |
| ALN Reform | <p>To receive an update on implementation on the act.</p> <p><i>Bill delayed by 1 year - update report only</i></p> | | September 2020 SOSC2 (Previously went to SOSC2 18/10/18) | Lindsay Harvey, 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 Elizabeth Jones, Additional Learning Needs Transformation, Central South; Denise Inger, Chief Executive Director SNAP Cymru; Caroline Rawson, Assistant Chief Executive Director SNAP Cymru Specialist Officer Post 16 Education & Training. | |
| Empty Commercial Property | <p>Members requested that the report include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members understand that the Council are concentrating on domestic housing in the first instance when implementing the Empty Property Strategy, but have requested to receive a report on plans for empty commercial property when the timing is appropriate. | | | Mark Shephard, Chief Executive; Zak Shell, Head of Operations - Community Services | |
| Mental Health Strategy | <p>Members requested that the report include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members acknowledged that the Council are compiling a Mental Health strategy and recommended that the Council take into account the statistic that 95% of emergency calls received by the police after 5.00pm are in relation to mental health. - Provide details on Section 136 CAMHS to lead | | | Cllr Phil White, Cabinet Member – Social Services and Early Help; Lindsay Harvey, Corporate Director - Education and Family Support; Susan Cooper, Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing; Representatives from CSP? | |
| Dementia Care | <p>Members requested that this remain on the FWP to see what progress has been made since this last came to Committee in April 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on plans to enable alternative options for short break beds • Members have asked for an update in relation to carrying out dementia awareness training through Corporate Training; • Facts and figures on Dementia Care through Cwm Taf. | | Corporate Director suggested 01/04/2020 | 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; | |
| School Governing Bodies | <p>MSEP expressed concerns over Governor training and whether it was sufficient enough to enable School Governors to carry out their role effectively. The Panel requested that this be investigated by Scrutiny with a view to a recommendation that Governor training be reviewed and improved to make it more effective and fit for purpose. Members proposed that a job description, for example, be provided when schools advertise for Parent Governors to ensure that the right people apply for the position and understand what is expected of them.</p> <p>At SOSC 1 on 29 April 2019, Committee also concluded the following in relation to comments from MSEP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the fact that there are currently approximately 41 vacancies for School Governors, Members recommend that the promotion and advertising for these appointments are considered; • That the proposed School Governor job description also include the days of scheduled meetings to outline what commitment the post would necessitate; • Due to training sessions being cancelled due to non-attendance, Members request that the promotion of School Governor training sessions is explored; • That a selection of School Governor representatives are invited to attend the meeting to provide their views. <p><i>(see responses to this feedback)</i></p> | | Corporate Director suggested Summer/Autumn Term | Lindsay Harvey, Corporate Director - Education and Family Support; Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration; Nicola Echanis, Head of Education and Early Help; Andy Rothwell, CSC Senior Challenge Advisor; Andrew Williams, Acting Managing Director CSC Robin Davies, Group Manager Business Strategy and Performance; Dawn Davies, Principal Officer Knowledge Management and Learners Cllr T Beedle, Chair of BGA | |
| Post Inspection Action Plan | <p>Post Inspection Action Plan - recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Termly Report on PIAP <p><i>From MSEP Plasnewydd</i></p> <p>Include movement of pupils</p> <p>Based on evidence received, the Panel requested that a scoping exercise be carried out by Scrutiny Officers to determine whether there is an item suitable for Scrutiny in relation to the movement of pupils from Welsh Schools to English schools within the County Borough.</p> | | Corporate Director proposed late September 2020 | Lindsay Harvey, 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 Andy Rothwell, CSC Senior Challenge Advisor; Andrew Williams, Acting Assistant Director CSC | |
| Strategic Review of Health & Safety Responsibilities | <p>Practice, Policy and review of reported "near misses".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How many near misses have been reported? - How did we respond? - What lessons have been learnt? <p>With reference to a recommendation made by BREP 2018 - The Panel request that an assessment of School Crossing Patrol and possible alternatives is included in this report</p> <p>Scrutiny Chairs have agreed to carry out an 'Information Gathering' exercise, interviewing representatives from schools, governors from schools and parents to present alongside the Officer report.</p> <p>Item to include information gathered from Scrutiny Chairs Research Group</p> | | Wait until after scrutiny research group completed | Lindsay Harvey, Corporate Director - Education and Family Support; Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration; Gary Squire, Health and Safety Manager Mark Shephard, Interim Chief Executive Hannah Castle - Secondary School Head Teacher representative Mr Jeremy Thomson - Primary school headteacher Representative | |

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| Youth Offending Service | Report to come to scrutiny to address inspection action plan | | | Lindsay Harvey, Corporate Director - Education and Family Support; Cllr Charles Smith, Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration; Susan Cooper, Corporate Director - Social Services and Wellbeing Representatives from Heath Service and SWP | |
| The following items for briefing sessions or pre-Council briefing | | | | | |
| Item | Specific Information to request | | | | |
| Ford Engine Plant | The Committee discussed the possible job losses from the Ford engine plant in Bridgend and were pleased to know that the Council were readily available to support the employer and employees. Members request to revisit this topic at a future meeting when a decision has been confirmed to explore the wider implications of the closure of Ford engine plant. | Nov-19 | | | |
| 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: • Regional Annual Plan • Bridgend Social Services Commissioning Strategy | | | | |
| Cwm Taf Regional Working | Provide a overview of working relationships with Cwm Taf. How are we undertaking regional working? | Apr-20 | | | |
| Changes to Education Outcomes | Update on how education outcomes are now being reported based on new WG legislation | | | | |