

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO CORPORATE PARENTING COMMITTEE

14 OCTOBER 2021

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING
APPROVAL OF THE STATEMENTS OF PURPOSE FOR RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with the revised statements of purpose for the current children and young people's residential services provision in Bridgend County Borough Council. It is a requirement under the Council's constitution that these are presented to the Corporate Parenting Committee to approve.

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives/other corporate priorities

2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objective/objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:

- **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient**– To reduce demand through targeted early help and intervention programmes (contributing to the safe reduction of looked after children).
- **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

3. Background

3.1 Bridgend County Borough Council currently has four children's residential homes delivering services to children and young people aged 0-19 years:

- **Maple Tree House** provides a service for children and young people aged 8-18 years who require a period of assessment to establish a long term placement plan. The assessment period is 6 months. Maple Tree house also has two emergency beds which provide accommodation for up to 28 days.
- **Sunny Bank** provides a medium term to long term service for children and young people aged 8-18 years who display complex needs and have been assessed as requiring a residential placement.
- **Bakers Way** provides a short break service to disabled children and young people aged 0-18 years.

- **Harwood House** provides a medium to long term 52 week residential service for up to three children and young people aged 8 – 18 years with complex needs, including a learning disability. However continuing provision will be considered for young people aged up to 19 years who continue in educational placements.

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 The introduction of The Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 (RISCA) came into force on the 2nd of April 2018. The purpose of the Act was to build on the success of regulation in Wales and reflected the changing world of social care. It places service quality and improvement at the heart of the regulatory regime and strengthens protection for those who need it. Regulation will move beyond compliance with minimum standards, and focus more on the quality of services and the impact which they have on people receiving them.
- 4.2 Each Local Authority is now issued with a certificate of registration as opposed to individual services being registered. This means that all Statements of Purpose are presented in a more uniform way. A guide to compiling a statement of purpose was provided under the above Act by Care Inspectorate Wales in April 2019.
- 4.3 In the Autumn of 2018 all of our services were registered to meet the requirements of the new legislation. Each in-house service provision has its own statement of purpose which is attached as an Appendix as follows:

Appendix 1 – Bakers Way

Appendix 2 – Harwood House

Appendix 3 – Sunny Bank

Appendix 4 – Maple Tree House

- 4.4 In line with Regulations the Statements of Purpose have now been subjected to their annual review and changes to the statements are described below:
- **Bakers Way** – Page 14 was updated to ensure the staffing was accurately recorded.
 - Pages 14 and 15 were updated to reflect that in the absence of the Residential Manager staff can contact the Group Manager as well as the Responsible Individual.
 - **Harwood House** - Page 9 has been updated to highlight that the number of staff at the home overnight is two (one sleeping in and one wakeful night).
 - Page 13 has been updated to reflect the Senior Residential Worker staffing levels and an update to the qualifications held.
 - Page 14 and 15 were updated to reflect that in the absence of the Residential Manager staff can contact the Group manager as well as the Responsible Individual.
 - **Sunny Bank** –On Page 2 we have added that a young person can remain in placement until 7 days after their 18th birthday to support transition.
 - Page 12 – Staff qualifications have been updated.

- Page 13 – Updated as the manager no longer works across Sunny Bank and Maple Tree House. Also updated to reflect that in the absence of the Residential Manager staff can contact the Group Manager as well as the Responsible Individual. Page 13 also now sets out under Specialist staff that Sunny Bank can access support from the Behaviour Analyst.
- **Maple Tree House** – Page 15 has been updated as the manager is now based full time at Maple Tree House.
- Page 16 now describes the role of the behaviour analyst under heading specialist staff.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

5.1 There is no impact on the policy framework and procedure rules.

6. Equality Act 2010 implications

6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales, the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. This is a report which details proposed amendments to the Statement of Purpose where there are no significant or unacceptable equality impacts, and therefore it was not deemed necessary to carry out an EIA.

7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications

7.1 The implementation of the duties and responsibilities under the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) (SSWBA) 2014, in turn, supports the promotion of two of the seven goals of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 within the County Borough of Bridgend. By promoting an environment that maximises people's physical and mental well-being and by supporting children, young people, adults and their carers and families to fulfil their potential no matter what their circumstances, the wellbeing goals of a healthier and more equal Bridgend and Wales are supported.

7.2 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with five ways of working to guide how the Authority should work to deliver wellbeing outcomes for people. The following is a summary to show how the five ways of working to achieve the well-being goals have been considered in this report:

- **Long term:** The residential provision has been assessed to meet the needs of the current and future looked after children population.
- **Prevention:** Harwood House enables children with complex needs to remain living in the county whilst Bakers Way provides respite to support disabled children and young people to remain living within their families. The

statements of purpose will support the other residential provisions to run effectively meeting the needs of Looked After Children.

Maple Tree House provides accommodation which enables children with complex needs to remain in the community. The multi-disciplinary team facilitates the return of children who are currently placed outside of county. The wrap around support services assists in the prevention of long term residential care episodes and provides short term intervention to enable children to return home or to a placement with family or foster carers.

- **Integration:** Children and young people have homes in the county borough that support familial contact, attendance at local education provision as well as helping to maintain their community and ethnic links.
- **Collaboration:** All of the homes have strong links to health, education, police and other local community services to meet the holistic needs of children and young people who live in them. The homes work in close collaboration with other departments within the Local Authority as well to ensure that young people's needs are met.
- **Involvement:** Each of the residential units have independent rota visits undertaken, are inspected by Care Inspectorate Wales and review feedback from children and young people and their families through meeting or evaluation forms.

8. Financial implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9. Recommendation

9.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the content of the report and approve the statement of purpose for each of the residential services provision.

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Background documents:

None