

Subject Overview & Scrutiny Committee 1

RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING ACTION SHEET 2023-24

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Outcome
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	Members expressed concern regarding the retention of school staff and their wellbeing. They discussed the importance of the support pupils received for their wellbeing and felt that staff wellbeing should be of equal priority. Members recommended that the narrative regarding the support for staff in <i>T1 Pupil and staff wellbeing</i> be strengthened to reflect this.	Director of Education and Family Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	During discussions regarding pupil attendance and levels of absence, Members requested a breakdown of the reasons for and the numbers of absence and recommended that these be included in the Plan.	Director of Education and Family Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	Members considered the success indicators relating to <i>T2 Support for pupil behaviour, attendance, and exclusions</i> and highlighted that assessing progress towards the achievement of the objective ‘a reduction in fixed term and permanent exclusions’ would only be meaningful if all	Director of Education and Family Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.

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		schools were following the School Attendance Policy to ensure consistency. Members recommended there be a standardised Exclusion Policy referenced in the Plan to ensure assurance in the data provided and accurate measurement of the improvements.		
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	Members recommended that there be more granular detail in the Plan on how the ambition for completion of the statutory training modules by School Governors could be measured annually and that a baseline be provided in the Plan to demonstrate the target to be achieved.	Director of Education and Family Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	Members noted the plan to increase the support for parents with vulnerable children under <i>T3 Support for vulnerable children and young people</i> and recommended that there be more detail in the Plan to include how this was to be achieved, how the current support could be measured and how to ensure that the support increases in the future.	Director of Education and Family Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	Members discussed how a video produced by Brynteg Comprehensive School in relation to <i>T5 Curriculum for Wales and</i>	Director of Education and Family Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.

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		<p>assessment gave a better understanding of the new curriculum and recommended that this be made available to other schools and to the Members themselves.</p>		
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	<p>Members discussed the importance of the safeguarding training module for School Governors and made a recommendation to support the Directorate in advocating Welsh Government to consider making it a statutory requirement.</p>	Director of Education and Family Support	<p>Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.</p>
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	<p>Members expressed concern regarding potential increased utility bills and impact on pupils, due to outdated facilities in existing older schools. Whilst Members noted that refurbishment and maintenance of older schools was within the remit of the Property Team and not the EFS Directorate, it was recommended that this should still be referenced in the Plan.</p>	Director of Education and Family Support	<p>Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.</p>
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	<p>Members discussed <i>T14 Effective Welsh in Education Strategic Plan to promote the Welsh language and Welsh-medium education</i> and felt that the objective appeared to be tailored towards younger learners and improving Welsh speakers and recommended the objective be</p>	Director of Education and Family Support	<p>Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.</p>

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		expanded to include what was being done to promote and improve the use of the Welsh language in secondary schools.		
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	Members expressed concern that without definitions of the three numbered parts in each stage of the RAYG (Red (unsatisfactory), Amber (adequate), Yellow (good) and Green (excellent)) statuses, it was difficult to understand the criteria for the top, middle and bottom score in each RAYG status. Members recommended that the RAYG Self-evaluation guidelines be revisited and that a discussion take place with partners to ensure that the targets set were achievable, for example an ambition to achieve a rating of 8 by August 2026 from a current rating of 4 in <i>T2 Support for pupil behaviour, attendance, and exclusions</i> and 9 by August 2026 with the current rating of 6 in <i>T5 Curriculum for Wales and assessment</i> and other examples in the Plan.	Director of Education and Family Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	A detailed breakdown of the individual grants once all grants were consolidated and available which was offered by Officers, in response to Members questions regarding the financial	Director of Education and Family Support / Central South Consortium	Recommendations circulated requesting response - to be provided.

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		implications of the report including what external grants and capital funding were expected for 2023-24.		
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	The anonymised data for the Food for Fun Programme collated from the previous year and the available data from this year, when available, for the Members of the Committee to compare, which Officers offered to provide to Members in response to Members' questions whether records had been kept of the participants of the Food and Fun programme within the 'Successes to date' and 'Improvement objectives' of <i>T1 Pupil and staff wellbeing</i> , and what the plans were going forward.	Director of Education and Family Support / Group Manager - Family Support	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 9 August 2023.
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	Figures and data regarding the length of waiting times for school based counsellors, that Officers offered to provide in response to Members' concerns regarding the length of waiting list times for school based counsellors, although Officers were not aware of the lists being significant.	Director of Education and Family Support / Group Manager - Family Support	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 9 August 2023.

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26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	Recent data from the annual monitoring undertaken by the Educational Psychology Service that Officers offered to provide in response to Members' referring to <i>T1 Pupil and staff wellbeing</i> in the report which outlined the well-established support from the Educational Psychology Service and highlighted the emotional and social wellbeing support role of Learning Support Assistants and their continued training, asking whether the roles were undertaken by dedicated staff and if every school had them	Director of Education and Family Support / Group Manager Inclusion and School Improvement	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 9 August 2023.
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	Links from Central South Consortium regarding the staff wellbeing service funded by Welsh Government.	Director of Education and Family Support / Central South Consortium	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 9 August 2023.
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	More information on when Officers expected to meet the objective in <i>T4 Support for children and young people with additional learning needs</i> , that 60 Additional Learning Needs Co-Ordinators would receive bespoke training to meet the needs of pupils	Director of Education and Family Support / Group Manager Inclusion and School Improvement	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 9 August 2023.
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	In relation to <i>T11 Effective childcare and early years offer</i> , a timeline in relation to the Flying Start roll out and which childcare	Director of Education and Family Support /	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 9 August 2023.

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		providers are included across the County Borough.	Group Manager - Family Support	
26 May 2023	EFS Strategic Plan 2023-2026	An update on recruitment of staff for school breakfast clubs and kitchens.	Director of Education and Family Support / Group Manager, Business Support	ACTIONED – response and information circulated 9 August 2023.