

**Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1**

**RECOMMENDATIONS MONITORING ACTION SHEET 2023-2024**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Response</b>
12 October 2023	Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	That an audit of schools be undertaken to identify the significant level of School Governor vacancies along with an audit of School Governor skills to assist Members in understanding what can be done to attract more people with the right skills to becoming Community School Governors, and the outcome of the audits be made available to the Committee for information in the first instance.	Director of Education and Family Support / Group Manager, School Support	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 24 June 2024.	<a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LLL=0&amp;LLL=0">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LLL=0&amp;LLL=0</a>
12 October 2023	Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	That the Bridgend Governors' Association be requested to clarify that all School Governing Bodies are included on distribution lists for their upcoming meetings and that all Local Authority and Community Governors are circulated with the promotion of their upcoming training sessions.	Director of Education and Family Support / Group Manager, School Support	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 24 June 2024.	<a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LLL=0&amp;LLL=0">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LLL=0&amp;LLL=0</a>
12 October 2023	Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	That the Committee write a letter to Welsh Government requesting that more be done at a national level to raise the profile of / incentivise recruitment and retention of school support staff, as these important roles are significant in delivering requirements and ensuring	Scrutiny / Chair actioning	<b>ACTIONED:</b> A letter from the Chair of Subject Overview and Scrutiny Committee 1 to the Welsh Minister	<a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s32057/SOSC1toWGreSchoolSupportStaff.pdf?LLL=-1">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s32057/SOSC1toWGreSchoolSupportStaff.pdf?LLL=-1</a>

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		well-being is at the forefront, however support staff are leaving to work in jobs outside the sector.		(sent on 11 March) and response(received 28 March) .	<a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s32217/ResponseWGHtST12Oct23.pdf?LLL=-1">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s32217/ResponseWGHtST12Oct23.pdf?LLL=-1</a>
12 October 2023	Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	That the invaluable practice of requesting appropriate Headteacher Invitees to attend for the reports being considered by this Committee, be continued.		Scrutiny actioning	<a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LL=0&amp;LLL=0">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LL=0&amp;LLL=0</a>
12 October 2023	Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	The document being constructed by Cwm Taf Morgannwg Public Health Team to analyse the Perform and Grow Programme linked to their self-evaluation tool, for Members to get an understanding of mental well-being across the county borough.	Whole School Approach to Health and Well-being Coordinator / Group Manager Learner Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided.	<a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LL=0&amp;LLL=0">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LL=0&amp;LLL=0</a>
12 October 2023	Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	<p>A breakdown of the Welsh Government: Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental Wellbeing Grant received by the Local Authority referred to in the report, to include:</p> <p>a. The reasons for the increase in Activity funding during 2022-23 and the decrease in 2023-24.</p>	Whole School Approach to Health and Well-being Coordinator / Group Manager Learner Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided.	<a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LL=0&amp;LLL=0">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LL=0&amp;LLL=0</a>

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		<p>b. What the funding provides, including how many sessions of counselling and if this is sufficient.</p> <p>c. Whether there are any alternative funding streams for the Activities listed in the tables and whether they are adequately funded.</p> <p>d. The Council's contribution towards the Activities listed in the tables.</p>			
12 October 2023	Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	The outcomes and evaluation of the review of the framework referred to in the report which was planned to ensure it was fit for purpose during late 2022.	Whole School Approach to Health and Well-being Coordinator / Group Manager Learner Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided.	<a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LLL=0&amp;LLLL=0">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LLL=0&amp;LLLL=0</a>
12 October 2023	Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	Information regarding support mechanisms and the sickness absence procedures for staff and headteachers and their role in supporting the recruitment and retention of staff.	Whole School Approach to Health and Well-being Coordinator / Group Manager Learner Support / Group Manager School Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided.	<a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LLL=0&amp;LLLL=0">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LLL=0&amp;LLLL=0</a>

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12 October 2023	Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	An update on those schools that did not have breakfast clubs and the plan going forward for their provision to ensure that all learners can receive breakfast, particularly given the cost of living and the colder weather.	Director of Education and Family Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided.	<a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LLL=0&amp;LLL=0">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LLL=0&amp;LLL=0</a>
12 October 2023	Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	The Committee requested an update on the timescale of the publication of the Welsh Government Home to School Transport review.	Director of Education and Family Support / Scrutiny	<b>ACTIONED:</b> A letter from the Chair of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the Welsh Ministers and response	<a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31981/AppendixALettertoDeputyMinisterforClimateChange.pdf">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31981/AppendixALettertoDeputyMinisterforClimateChange.pdf</a>  <a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31979/AppendixBResponsefromWGClimiteChange14December2023.pdf">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/documents/s31979/AppendixBResponsefromWGClimiteChange14December2023.pdf</a>
12 October 2023	Whole-School Approach to Emotional and Mental Wellbeing	A copy of the recently published Welsh Government Guidance and summary relating to elective Home Education, that sets out the requirements and how the interface with local authorities and parents in this area works.	Director of Education and Family Support	Recommendations circulated requesting response – to be provided.	<a href="https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LLL=0&amp;LLL=0">https://democratic.bridgend.gov.uk/ecSDDisplayClassic.aspx?NAME=SD877&amp;ID=877&amp;RPID=8689854&amp;sch=doc&amp;cat=13517&amp;path=13490%2c13492%2c13497%2c13517&amp;LLL=0&amp;LLL=0</a>

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11 April 2024	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (202-32)	<p>Whilst acknowledging that the WESP Annual report 2022-23 predated the recent approval of the MTFS 2024-25 to 2027-28, the Committee expressed strong concern over the significant financial implications that now faced the Local Authority, which could potentially compromise the delivery of the ambitions and commitments contained in the WESP.</p> <p>An example of this relates to the proposal to increase capacity at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr and Ysgol Y Ferch o'r Sgêr as well as the development of a seedling school in Porthcawl, given the proposal in the current MTFS to reduce nursery provision to the statutory minimum from 2025-26. There was further concern relating to the Welsh medium childcare hubs and the fact that two hubs already built in Bettws and Blackmill still lay vacant and if providers could not be sought, would remain vacant. Not only was there a reputational risk to the Local Authority but also a financial risk to the Capital expenditure for further nursery provision and Welsh childcare provision, the latter of which also had ongoing revenue implications for the Local Authority.</p>	Corporate Director of Education and Family Support / Welsh in Education Strategic Plan Co-Ordinator	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 8 July 2024.	

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		<p>The Committee therefore recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) The Five and Ten Year WESP plan be amended and updated (if possible), to reflect the recent financial implications including the impact of any proposed changes to Nursery provision and Home to School Transport provision, which was also highlighted within the future MTFS budget reductions;</li><li>b) That both plans be amended to reflect the current situation of the childcare hubs, as the plan implies that those in Bettws and Blackmill are already open.</li> <li>c) That the concerns of the Committee relating to the reputational risk of having vacant Welsh childcare hubs as well as the ongoing financial risk of revenue funding required for this</li></ul>			

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		provision, be brought to the attention of the Cabinet Secretary for Education.			
11 April 2024	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (202-32)	The Committee considered the timescales of the Annual WESP report and recommended that they receive an update containing the draft Annual WESP report 2023-24, before it is approved by Cabinet in September 2024, in order that they can undertake pre-decision scrutiny and have a greater impact.	Corporate Director of Education and Family Support	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 8 July 2024.	
11 April 2024	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (202-32)	Whilst appreciating that the individual sub-group reports contain the latest updates, the Committee recommend that the larger Five Year WESP Plan needed to contain those updates so that a full picture could be provided to the Scrutiny Committee alongside the Annual Report. If this was not possible, the Committee requested that they receive the subgroup plans with these updates.	Corporate Director of Education and Family Support / Welsh in Education Strategic Plan Co-Ordinator	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 8 July 2024.	
11 April 2024	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (202-32)	The Committee recommended that the Annual report contain figures and information relating to the work being undertaken with English speaking nurseries to encourage the use of Welsh language.	Corporate Director of Education and Family Support / Welsh in Education	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 8 July 2024.	

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			Strategic Plan Co-Ordinator		
11 April 2024	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (202-32)	Members discussed the number of teaching staff able to teach Welsh (as a subject) and through the medium of Welsh in regard to the school workforce annual census, which showed teachers skills across the board from basic to proficiency. The Committee noted that the statistics were in isolation and recommended that a comparison be undertaken with other Local Authorities of similar characteristics to assist Members in understanding the level of skills for teachers.	Corporate Director of Education and Family Support / Welsh in Education Strategic Plan Co-Ordinator	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 8 July 2024.	
11 April 2024	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (202-32)	The Committee requested clarification on the four new funding streams that have been agreed by Welsh Government as priorities in relation to Welsh Language.	Corporate Director of Education and Family Support	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 8 July 2024.	
11 April 2024	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (202-32)	Members discussed the subject of parental support as well as the decisions behind parents choosing to send their children to an English medium or Welsh medium school. The Corporate Director of Education and Family Support advised he would confer with the School's Admission Team as to what information	Corporate Director of Education and Family Support	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 8 July 2024.	



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		was available or could potentially be gathered.			
11 April 2024	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (202-32)	The Committee supported the work being undertaken and support provided to pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) in Welsh Medium education and felt that Members would benefit from receiving anonymous case studies where children with ALN have really excelled and achieved high educational attainment.	Corporate Director of Education and Family Support	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 8 July 2024.	
11 April 2024	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (202-32)	The Committee requested further information on what incentive schemes were currently being run by Welsh Government to encourage and increase the number of Welsh-medium teachers.	Corporate Director of Education and Family Support	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 8 July 2024.	
11 April 2024	Annual Local Authority Scrutiny Report Central South Consortium 2022-23	Members discussed their consideration of the last annual report brought to the Committee from the Central South Consortium (CSC) and recommended that pre decision scrutiny of the 2025-2028 Business Plan be built into the CSC planning process to enable the Committee to provide some value into the process.	Corporate Director of Education and Family Support / Central South Consortium	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 8 July 2024.	
11 April 2024	Annual Local Authority Scrutiny Report Central South	The Committee recognise the restrictions that Welsh Government has placed on the sharing and publishing of performance data in the public domain. It	Corporate Director of Education and Family Support /	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information	

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	Consortium 2022-23	was however recommended, and agreed by representatives from the Central South Consortium, that it would be useful to include further detail of some of the ALPs performance analysis, such as the number of 'A' level entries, in future reports, as this would provide a more informed picture.	Central South Consortium	circulated 8 July 2024.	
11 April 2024	Annual Local Authority Scrutiny Report Central South Consortium 2022-23	Members requested additional information on CSC grant funding; how it is divided up and allocated, as well as clarification on the associated funding formula.	Corporate Director of Education and Family Support / Central South Consortium	<b>ACTIONED</b> – response and information circulated 8 July 2024.	