

Education and Youth Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3 July 2025

Responses to Recommendations / Additional Information Requested

	Recommendations / Information Requested:	Response:	Accepted / Partially Accepted / Not Accepted:
Bridgend Youth Justice Service and Bridgend Youth Support Service			
Recommendations:			
1	Members expressed concern regarding the significant pressure on Youth work and Youth Justice being dependant on Grant Funding and the Committee recommended that the Leader / appropriate Cabinet Member contact the three Members of Parliament who represent the constituencies across Bridgend County Borough, to clarify the stage of the funding bid made to the Youth Endowment Fund.	The Youth Endowment Fund finance concludes on 31 st August 2025. The Home Office have provided £178k funding until March 2026 through the Violence Reduction Unit, for some limited continuation of the trauma project. The first 6-month post project evaluation findings report is due to be produced by the end of October 2025 and there will be a follow-up 12-month evaluation report produced by April 2026. Youth Justice concerns regarding temporary grant funding have been raised to the Welsh Government by Youth Offending Team Managers Cymru (YMC) to Lynzi Jarman (Welsh Government Youth Justice advisor).	Accepted
2	The Committee recommended that future reports include case studies demonstrating the voice and experience of young people, to provide feedback regarding how the services available have assisted them and provide any views or suggestions about potential alternative approaches to promoting and raising awareness of the services offered.	The forthcoming reports will include case study examples and voice of the child data and analysis of commentary regarding how the services can promote and raise wider awareness about the types of services that can be offered to children and families.	Accepted

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3	The Committee recommended that whilst acknowledging it would be far from straightforward, there was a need for joined up multi agency working to ensure complete data sets to capture information from all young people that have contact with Police and other agencies, to optimise service delivery to the young person.	The services have jointly examined police data sets on crimes within the authority for the month of December 2025 to optimise service delivery. The services now have an adjoined prevention panel for any referrals requiring prevention support and that enables a combined preventative offer of support which aims to offer relevant intervention at the right point by a wide range of preventative services.	Accepted
4	The Committee recommended that future reports relating to Bridgend Youth Service and Youth Justice Service include the Third sector as part of provision in Bridgend, explore the financial support provided to the Third sector and that a Third sector representative be invited for such reports.	<p>The services will include a section on third sector involvement as part of any future reports and ensure the third sector partners are invited to contribute to any reports provided.</p> <p>The Committee will need to be clear in their request for third sector inclusion and representation as there may be some hesitancy in attending if invitees feel they, or their provisions, are to be scrutinised.</p> <p>It is within the gift of the Committee to extend an invite out to third sector representation to attend. This can be through either Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) or Bridgend Youth Matters (BYM).</p>	Accepted

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5	The Committee was reassured that there is significant oversight and evaluation of the service underpinned by the Three Year Strategic Plan but expressed there was a lack of data provided in the report demonstrating how progress was being measured and requested the quarterly performance and analysis data presented to the Youth Justice Service Management Board.	Performance and data analysis to the Youth Justice Management Board are attached as 5a and 5b.	Accepted
6	The Committee requested an anonymised breakdown of the types of incidents that young people who become known to the Service have been involved in, to gain an understanding of the predicaments young people are facing.	An anonymised breakdown of the caseload incidents where children became involved in the Bridgend Youth Justice Service is attached as 6a.	Accepted
Forward Work Programme Update			
7	The Corporate Director - Education, Early Years & Young People requested rearrangement of the scheduling order of some reports in the Forward Work Programme, subject to discussion with the Chairperson and Officers.	The order of reports to September, October and November Committee meetings has been rescheduled and report authors advised.	Accepted