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**BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

**7 APRIL 2015**

**REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
LEGAL & REGULATORY SERVICES**

**SOCIAL SERVICES ANNUAL REPORTING FRAMEWORK – NOMINATIONS FOR  
JOINT RESEARCH AND EVALUATION PANEL**

**1. Purpose of Report.**

- 1.1 To ask the Committee to appoint Members to sit on the joint Research and Evaluation Panel for the Social Services Annual Reporting Framework.

**2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities.**

- 2.1 The key improvement objectives identified in the Corporate Plan 2013–2017 have been embodied in the Overview & Scrutiny Forward Work Programmes. The Corporate Improvement Objectives were adopted by Council on 19 February 2014 and formally set out the improvement objectives that the Council will seek to implement between 2013 and 2017. The Overview and Scrutiny Committees engage in review and development of plans, policy or strategies that support the Corporate Themes.

**3. Background.**

- 3.1 At its meeting in November 2009, the Committee considered a report from the Corporate Director – Wellbeing on the Social Services Annual Reporting Framework. This outlined the new arrangements put in place by the Chief Inspector of the Care and Social Services Inspectorate, Wales (CSSIW) for the inspection, evaluation and review of local authority social services.
- 3.2 The report explained that this new framework would involve formal engagement with Scrutiny, through the following three stages:
- As an essential element of the “challenge” groups judging the accuracy of the initial judgements on our effectiveness
  - Agreeing a statement of findings over the year that should be considered by the Director
  - Providing comments on to the final draft report prior to reporting to Cabinet and publication.

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3.3 The Committee agreed that this work should be undertaken through a Research and Evaluation Panel established jointly with the Health and Wellbeing Overview & Scrutiny Committee, which subsequently also agreed to this. It was suggested that a total of eight Members would be suitable for a joint Panel, four from both Scrutiny Committees.

3.4 It is proposed that the same procedure without amendment is followed this year in order for the Annual Report to be reported to Cabinet.

#### **4. Current Situation / Proposal.**

4.1 The Committee are asked to appoint four of its Members to sit on this panel. A similar request is being considered by the Health and Wellbeing Overview & Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on the 22 April.

#### **5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules**

5.1 The work of the Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee relates to the review and development of plans, policy or strategy that form part of the Policy Framework and consideration of plans, policy or strategy relating to the power to promote or improve economic, social or environmental well being in the County Borough of Bridgend.

#### **6. Equality Impact Assessment**

6.1 There are no equalities impact issues arising from the report.

#### **7. Financial Implications**

7.1 There are no financial implications.

#### **8. Recommendation**

The Committee invites nominations and is asked to appoint four of its Members to sit on the joint Research and Evaluation Panel for the Social Services Annual Reporting Framework.

**Mr P A Jolley,**  
**Assistant Chief Executive – Legal & Regulatory Services**

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**Background Documents**

Bridgend County Borough Council Constitution

Bridgend County Borough Council Corporate Improvement Plan 2013 -17