

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

24 NOVEMBER 2015

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING

CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES INSPECTORATE WALES PERFORMANCE EVALUATION REPORT 2014/15

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To present to Cabinet, the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) Performance Evaluation Report 2014/15 and request that Cabinet note the judgements reached locally about social care services in Bridgend.

2.0 Connection to Corporate Improvement Plan/Other Corporate Priority

1.2 This report links to almost all of the Council's priorities:

- Working together to help vulnerable people to stay independent;
- Working with children and families to tackle problems early;
- Working together to raise ambitions and drive up educational achievement;
- Working together to tackle health issues and encourage healthy lifestyles;
- Working together to make the best use of our resources.

3.0 Background

3.1 Following an announcement by the Deputy Minister for Social Services in November 2007 to end the local authority joint review programme, including the annual performance evaluation, the Chief Inspector of the Care and Social Services Inspectorate, Wales (CSSIW) put in place new arrangements for the inspection, evaluation and review of local authority social services.

3.2 The CSSIW framework provides the foundations of the Council's duty to report on the whole circle of care from commissioning, contracting, assessment, care management to service provision.

3.3 The analysis and review of the 22 local authorities will feed into CSSIW's overall analysis of social services and social care in Wales to inform policy and Ministerial advice.

3.4 Cabinet will be aware of the recent WAO corporate assessment and the CSSIW performance evaluation will form part of that.

4. Current situation / proposal.

4.1 The Corporate Director of Social Services and Wellbeing presented the sixth Annual Social Services report, for 2014/15, to Council on the 15th July 2015.

4.2 CSSIW has taken account of the available sources of evidence, including the Annual Report of the Director of Social Services and the underpinning evidence supplied to them in support of that report. They have also considered the evidence available from inspections, reviews and investigations, including that available from their work in regulated settings. The report has also been informed by the views of other audit and inspection bodies. The report is attached at **Appendix 1**.

4.3 The Performance Evaluation report sets out the areas of progress during 2014/15 and areas for improvement in social services for Bridgend County Borough Council for the year 2015/16. The report was published on the CSSIW website on 30 October 2015.

4.3.1 There are specific areas highlighted as good practice and other areas identified for improvement and follow up. These are listed below:

Good Practice:

- Remodelling of adult social care to include further development of the community resource team and Better@Home scheme;
- Creation of a transformation team to ensure key objectives are delivered on;
- Reduction in the numbers of children looked after;
- Introduction of safeguarding hubs;
- Strengthened Cabinet support for social services.

Areas for improvement and follow-up:

- The ongoing implementation of the service changes in readiness for the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014;
- The progress made towards the implementation of the extra care model;
- To bring the district nursing services into the integrated referral management centre;
- Improve access to quality information, advice and assistance;
- Improvement of review performance and outcomes;
- Redesign of looked after children provision for adolescents with complex needs and challenging behaviour;
- Monitor the re-referrals rate;
- Monitoring of LAC reduction strategy.

4.4 Work will shortly begin on gathering evidence for the 2015/16 self-assessment, but is likely that, in line with the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, the process will change for subsequent years.

5.0 Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

5.1 There is no impact on the Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

6. Equality impact Assessment

6.1 There are no equality implications in this report.

7. Financial Implications

7.1 Whilst there are no direct financial implications the report highlights service areas which are facing financial pressures.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1 It is recommended that Cabinet note the CSSIW Performance Evaluation Report 2014/15 attached as **Appendix 1**.

9. Contact officer

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10 Background Documents

None