

REPORT TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16 JUNE 2016

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR – OPERATIONAL AND PARTNERSHIP SERVICES

FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a) present the items due to be considered at the Committee's meeting to be held on 21 July 2016; and
- b) present a list of further potential items for prioritisation by the Committee.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives / Other Corporate Priorities

2.1 The improvement priorities identified in the Corporate Plan 2016-2020 have been embodied in the Overview & Scrutiny Forward Work Programmes. The amended Corporate Plan adopted by Council on 10 March 2016 formally set out the improvement priorities that the Council will seek to implement between 2016 and 2020. 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 16 June 2016, the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee will determine its Annual Forward Work Programme for 2016/17.

4. Current Situation / Proposal

Meetings of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4.1 In relation to the Committee's next scheduled meeting to be held on 21 July 2016, the table below lists the items to be considered and the invitees due to attend should the Committee agree it's proposed annual forward work programme.

Topic	Invitees	Specific Information Requested	Research to be Undertaken by the Overview & Scrutiny Unit
Children's Respite options/CWD 52-week residential	Susan Cooper, Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing Cllr Hailey Townsend, Cabinet Member, Childrens Social Services and Equalities	Report on the developed options during the consultation process so that Members can provide views on the options as a consultee and also monitor the consultation process. Report to include:	

Topic	Invitees	Specific Information Requested	Research to be Undertaken by the Overview & Scrutiny Unit
	Laura Kinsey, Head of Safeguarding and Family Support Pete Tyson, Planning and Contract Management Officer Head of Safeguarding and Family Support	a) details of cost comparisons for future respite care; should the care continue in Bakers Way and adaptations made against costs of moving the provision elsewhere; b) details of staffing provision relating to an increase to 52 week residential care, due to the fact that this would require a substantial change for staff in their working patterns.	
Draft Participation Strategy	Susan Cooper, Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing Cllr Hailey Townsend, Cabinet Member, Childrens Social Services and Equalities Laura Kinsey, Head of Safeguarding and Family Support	Committee to receive draft Participation Strategy for comments before being finalised by Directorate.	

4.2 The table below lists all potential items that the Committee has considered during their planning workshop and, subject to any changes from the approval of the Annual Forward Work Programme, are put forward for reprioritisation as appropriate.

Topic	Proposed Date	Specific Information Requested	Research to be Undertaken by the Overview & Scrutiny Unit
Early Help, Permanency and Placement (Joint Report)	13-Oct-16	Monitoring of action plans – what outcomes have been achieved as a result of this preventative work? What evidence is there to support this? Eg. Reduced numbers of CIN/LAC, reduced number of placements, increase in adoptions. Budget reduction CH25: Reduction in Safeguarding LAC numbers and related reduction in costs. Detail regarding the joining up of the two strategies into one –	Detail research / To be confirmed

Topic	Proposed Date	Specific Information Requested	Research to be Undertaken by the Overview & Scrutiny Unit
		update on reorganisations and restructures.	
CSC Estyn Report	13-Oct-16	Findings from Estyn's inspection of the CSC.	Detail research / To be confirmed
Directorate Budget Consultation Process	15-Dec-17	MTFS Proposals for 2017-18	Detail research / To be confirmed
Annual School Performance	02-Feb-17	Annual school performance report from CSC	Detail research / To be confirmed
Schools Strategic Review	02-Feb-17	Update on the work of the 4 workstreams so far.	Detail research / To be confirmed
Member and School Engagement Panel	02-Feb-17	Response from Corporate Director - Education and Family Support and Managing Director - CSC to Committee's Annual Report from MSEP. (January 2016). (Information Report)	Detail research / To be confirmed
School Modernisation	01-Apr-17	One of Programmes under Corporate Priority 3 - Smarter Use of Resources. What will Band B look like? How will programme link in with Schools Strategic Review?	Detail research / To be confirmed
FE Sector	01-Apr-17	How FE Sector operates, what are the strategic plans of the college, what is its relationship with secondary schools and the CSC?	Detail research / To be confirmed

Corporate Parenting

4.3 Corporate Parenting is the term used to describe the responsibility of a local authority towards looked after children and young people. This is a legal responsibility given to local authorities by the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004. The role of the Corporate Parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children. The Council as a

whole is the 'corporate parent' therefore all Members have a level of responsibility for the children and young people looked after by Bridgend. ¹

4.4 In this role, it is suggested that Members consider how the services within the remit of their Committee affects children in care and care leavers, and in what way can the Committee can therefore assist in these areas.

4.5 Scrutiny Champions can greatly support the Committee in this by advising them of the ongoing work of the Cabinet-Committee and particularly any decisions or changes which they should be aware of as Corporate Parents.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

5.1 The work of the Children and Young People Overview and 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 None

7. Financial Implications

7.1 None.

8. Recommendations

8.1 The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) Note the topics due to be considered at the meeting of the Committee for 21 July 2016 and confirm if it requires any additional specific information to be provided by the invitees listed or the Overview & Scrutiny Unit;
- (ii) Determine the topics, invitees to be invited to attend and any specific information it would like the invitees to provide as well as any research that it would like the Overview & Scrutiny Unit to undertake in relation to its meeting for 13 October 2016;
- (iii) Revisit and consider the list of future potential items for the Committees Forward Work Programme and reprioritise as the Committees feels appropriate.

Andrew Jolley,
Corporate Director – Operational and Partnership Services

Contact Officer: Rachel Keepins, Scrutiny Officer

¹ Welsh Assembly Government and Welsh Local Government Association 'If this were my child... A councillor's guide to being a good corporate parent to children in care and care leavers', June 2009

Telephone: 01656 643613

Email: rachel.keepins@bridgend.gov.uk

Postal Address: Democratic Services - Scrutiny
Bridgend County Borough Council,
Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend,
CF31 4WB

Background documents: None