



County Hall  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW  
Tel: (029) 2087 2000

Neuadd y Sir  
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Ffôn: (029) 2087 2000

## CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Committee** CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Date and Time of Meeting** TUESDAY, 19 APRIL 2016, 2.30 PM

Please find below correspondence send by the Committee Chair following the meeting, together with any responses received.

For any further details, please contact [scrutinyviewpoints@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:scrutinyviewpoints@cardiff.gov.uk)

**Correspondence Following the Committee Meeting** *(Pages 1 - 6)*

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Date 25 April 2016

My Ref SS/CYP/MJH

Councillor Sue Lent  
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Families, Children and Early Years  
County Hall  
Atlantic Wharf  
CARDIFF, CF10 4UW

Dear Sue

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank you, Tony Young and Irfan Alam for attending Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on 19 April 2016 to present the draft **Social Services Delivery Plan 2016-2018**. During the way forward section of the meeting the Members' considered the information in the draft Delivery Plan together with that answers to their questions, and agreed to provide you with the following comments and concerns.

The Committee were pleased to receive the draft Delivery Plan and noted that the plan covered all of Social Service, however they were only scrutinising the sections that related to Children's Services which had been highlighted in the cover report. The Members commented that the Delivery plan was well developed, informative and included clear performance indicators, milestones and targets. Members did note that a separate review was being undertaken of all delivery plans to ensure that actions were SMART.

As a result of the Committee's analysis of the plan, Members did request some additional information, namely:

- Additional information on the number and cost of Children's Services Agency Staff for 2014/15, 2015/16 and what the target is for 2016/17
- The actual turnover of staff for 2014/15 as the Plan shows a zero figure

Finally the Members considered that it was difficult to scrutinise the delivery plan as it was for the whole of Social Services. The Committee therefore suggested that future plans should have separate sections for Children's Services and Adult Service.

Yours sincerely

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR RICHARD COOK**  
**Chairperson – Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**

CC: Tony Young, Director of Children's Services  
Melanie Jackson - Personal Assistant to Deputy Leader  
Irfan Alam – Assistant Director of Social Services

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**SWYDDFA'R DIRPRWY ARWEINYDD  
DEPUTY LEADER'S OFFICE**

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CM34479

Eich Nghyf / Your Ref:

Dyddiad / Date: 5th May 2016

Richard Cook  
Cardiff Council  
County Hall  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW



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Annwyl / Dear Richard

**CYP Scrutiny - 19 April 2106**

Thank you for your letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016 on behalf of the members of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee following its meeting on the above date.

I would like to thank members for their constructive comments and I am pleased to provide the following response to your request.

**1. Additional information on the number and cost of Children's Services agency social workers**

<b>Quarter</b>	<b>No. of agency social workers</b>
Q1 2014-15	55
Q2 2014-15	35
Q3 2014-15	39
Q4 2014-15	32
Q1 2015-16	34
Q2 2015-16	30
Q3 2015-16	26
Q4 2015-16	42

Agency social workers are currently projected to decrease to 30 by the end of Quarter 1 and 10 by the end of Quarter 2, although this is subject to successful recruitment to posts, and timely progression of the recruitment process.

**ATEBWCH I / PLEASE REPLY TO:**

Swyddfa'r Dirprwy Arweinydd, Ystafell 525, Neuadd y Sir, Glanfa'r Iwerydd, Caerdydd CF10 4UW  
Ffôn (029) 2087 2501  
Deputy Leader's Office, Room 525, County Hall, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff CF10 4UW  
Tel (029) 2087 2501



Spend:  
2014/15 = £2,459,000  
2015/16 = £2,191,520

**2. Actual turnover of social workers for 2014-15**

14.8%

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sue - J. Lent." The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Councillor / Cynghorydd Sue Lent**  
**Deputy Leader / Dirprwy Arweinydd**  
**Cabinet Member for Early Years, Children & Families**  
**Aelod Cabinet Dros Y Blynnyddoedd Cynnar, Plant a Theuluoedd**

My Ref: Scrutiny/Correspondence/MJH

25 April 2016

Councillor Sarah Merry  
Cabinet Member - Education and Skills  
County Hall  
Atlantic Wharf  
CARDIFF  
CF10 4UW



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Dear Sarah

On behalf of the Committee I would like to thank you for attending the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on 19 April 2016, particularly as you were not feeling well. Members welcomed your opening statement and answer questions on the Education and Consortium Delivery Plans.

I would also like to thank Nick Batchelar, Neil Hardee and Angela Kent from Education, together with Robert Hopkins from the Consortium, for their presentation of the reports and answers to Members questions. Members raised a number of comments, and concerns for your consideration, which they asked me to write to you about.

The Committee firstly expressed their concern at the number of areas, throughout the plan, which still needed to be populated with actions, performance indicators, targets and milestones, particularly as the Plan was to be operational from 1 April. Members noted that the Directorate had been given an extension until 30 April to complete the Plan and the Committee requested that the completed plan should be sent to Martyn Hutchings, Scrutiny Services so that it can be circulated to all Committee Members, for consideration along with the Quarter One performance reports .

The Members also recommended that the final Delivery Plan should clearly explain, with more detail, the bullet pointed Context, Opportunities and Challenges section of the plan.

The Members then focused on the Youth Service, Members requested further information on the Youth Service Structure, operational focus and budget, as a number of Members were concerned that the new Youth Innovation Grants, would not be able to provide a broad enough service for Young People. The Committee noted that a separate report was to be presented to Committee in May and requested that the report should clarify the above, along with details of the funding available. In addition the Members asked for clarification of the plans for the use of the E.U Social Fund bid resources, as well as the plan should the bid be unsuccessful.

The Committee also reviewed the Central South Consortium Business Plan and were pleased that the consultation on the draft plan had resulted in a well developed and informative plan.

The Members noted that the Consortium was developing voluntary collaborative arrangements to undertake Human Resources advice and support for schools, Governor Training and 14/19 Education Provision. The Committee agreed to continue to monitor these arrangements throughout the year.

Finally the Members raised concerns around the education support through the Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service in respect of the Pupils with English as their additional language. The Members agreed to look at this area in more detail in next years work programme, however they requested details of the 2016/17 funding for the Welsh Immersion Units across the schools and the EMTA service.

I hope that these comments, advice and requests for information, detailed above will be of use and support in improving outcomes for Cardiff's pupils. The Committee looks forward to receiving further reports in the future and as such the Members require a formal response to this letter within the next month.

To recap, this letter requests several actions, requests for information and recommendations, as follows and requires:

- A copy of the completed plan to be sent to scrutiny service after the 30 April completion date, so that it can be sent to all committee members;
- That the report on the Youth Service, due to be considered in May should include additional information as explained above; and
- Details of the 2016/17 funding for the Welsh Immersion Units and the EMTA service.
- That the Consortium keeps the Committee informed of its plans to undertake further areas of work on behalf of Cardiff Council.

Yours sincerely



**COUNTY COUNCILLOR RICHARD COOK**  
**Chair – Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**

CC: Nick Batchelar, Director of Education and Lifelong Learning  
Angela Kent, OM Schools Performance  
Neil Hardee, Head of Performance Resources and Services  
Hannah Woodhouse, Managing Director of the Central South Education Consortium