

Date: 3 April 2023

My Ref: CYP/YJS/Mar23



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Neuadd y Sir  
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## Appendix B

Councillor Ash Lister  
Cabinet Member for Social Services (Children's)  
County Hall  
Atlantic Wharf  
CARDIFF  
CF10 4UW

Dear Ash,

### **CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 20 MARCH 2023 – YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE UPDATE**

Please accept my thanks on behalf of the Committee for attending the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee to provide us with an update on the Youth Justice Service. Please also pass on our thanks to Angharad Thomas and Deborah Driffield.

The comments, observations and recommendations below were captured during the Committee's discussion at the Way Forward.

#### Graham Robb

Members noted your tribute to Graham Robb and his role in leading the improvements in the Youth Justice Service and chairing the Youth Justice Board. The Committee would also wish to pass its thanks and best wishes to Graham in his future endeavours. It has been a pleasure to work with him. His openness and honesty in all his dealings with the Committee has been very welcomed; and his role in managing the improvements cannot be underestimated. Please can you forward our appreciation and best wishes on to him accordingly.

In relation to issues discussed at the meeting, Members asked questions relating to when the next inspection was due and progress in relation to the 7 recommendations arising from the 2022 inspection. We asked questions relating to the Turnaround grant and how this money would be used (particularly around prevention services); KPIs; reoffending; the role of the speech and language therapist; and further

partnership working with education and schools, especially around school exclusions. We were satisfied with the responses given.

The Committee agreed that it would wish to receive further information in relation to the following at the next (and future) update(s), which is currently scheduled for June 2023 (date to be confirmed).

- Progress report on the Turnaround grant – how and where this money is being spent and what impact this is making (when the results start to emerge).
- Provide data on how many of the current YJS cohort have been excluded from school; and some narrative on how you and education/schools will mitigate these numbers over time.
- Provide examples of projects, programmes and initiatives you are working on with the links you have made with education and schools.
- Provide examples of projects, programmes and initiatives you are working on with the links you have made with the wider YJS partnership.
- In addition, Members of the Committee were interested in the pilot scheme at St Illtyd's in relation to Harmful Sexual Behaviour and would request that the next update include information on whether this pilot will be rolled out.

As we have requested the above information to be reported at the next update, there is no requirement to respond to this letter. In addition, there are no formal recommendations arising from this letter.

Once again, on behalf of the Committee, please pass my sincere thanks to all who attended Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. BRIDGEMAN', written over a light grey rectangular background.

**COUNCILLOR LEE BRIDGEMAN**  
**Chairperson – Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**

CC: CYPSC Members

Graham Robb

Sarah McGill, Corporate Director, People and Communities

Deborah Driffield, Director of Children's Services

Angharad Thomas, Operational Manager, YJS

Liz Williams/Debra Willis, PA to the Corporate Director

Jennifer Goss, Cabinet Support Office

Kim Thorpe, PA to the Director of Children's Services

David Hugh Thomas – Chair Governance & Audit Committee