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**COMMITTEE BUSINESS REPORT**

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**Purpose of Report**

1. This report updates Members on a range of issues relating to the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee. This report sets out the following:
  - A correspondence update arising from recent scrutiny meetings.
  - A proposal to commence the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee's work programming for 2024/25
  - **Appendix A** - Draft text for inclusion in the Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24, for Members consideration and agreement.
  - An update on the EOTAS Task & Finish Group.
  - **Appendix B** – a draft scoping document proposing a deep dive into “Sport for All - Ensuring equality of opportunity for all Cardiff children & young people - Session 1 – Football” for Members consideration and agreement.

**Correspondence Update**

2. Following most Committee meetings, the Chair writes a letter to the relevant Cabinet Member or officer, summing up the Committee's comments and recommendations regarding the issues considered. Set out below is the latest position in terms of correspondence:

### January 2024

- *No response required* – Cllr Merry - School Organisation Planning: Primary School Places to Serve Cathays and Parts Of Gabalfa, Heath, Llandaff North and Plasnewydd

### February 2024

- *Response received* – Cllr Weaver - Draft Budget Proposals 2024/25 and Draft Corporate Plan 2024-2027.
- *Response awaited* – Cllr Merry - Cardiff Education: Collaboration and Federation Strategy

### March 2024

- *Response awaited* – Cllr Merry - School Organisation Planning: ALN Post Consultation & Admissions Arrangements 2025/26

3. Copies of the public Chair's letters and responses received can be found on the Council's website page for the relevant Committee meeting, with a hyperlink provided at the top of the page, entitled '*correspondence following the committee meeting*'.

### **CYPSC Work Programme 2024/25**

4. Each year, Scrutiny Committees are required to discuss and agree their Work Programme for the year. This is usually undertaken via an informal Work Programming Forum (WPF) of Committee Members. This report requests that Members agree that a WPF be arranged to consider and approve a Work Programme for 2024/25.

### **Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24**

5. Cardiff Council's Constitution requires all Scrutiny Committees to report annually to the Council on their work during the past year and make recommendations for future work programmes.

6. The Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24 will be considered by Full Council in July 2024. It is currently being drafted and will be presented for consideration by all Chairs of Scrutiny.
7. In preparation for the final draft, each committee is requested to agree the pages that will be included for that committee. Draft pages are therefore attached at **Appendix A** for this committee's approval. The pages will set out committee's membership, purpose, and key achievements over the year.
8. Committee members are to note **Appendix A** focuses on the key areas of work undertaken by this committee during 2023/24. However, other sections of the final Scrutiny Annual Report to Council will focus on how Scrutiny has influenced the way Council services are delivered; improve stakeholder understanding and interest in Scrutiny; explain how Scrutiny facilitates engagement and encourages public participation; and highlight the value of Member-led / stakeholder informed decision making. The final draft of the full report will be considered by this committee in July, ahead of Council.
9. If agreed by Council the report will be available for download bi-lingually from the Council's website, in standard or large print version and will also offer a translation in other minority languages if requested.

### **EOTAS Task & Finish Group**

10. The Chair has requested that the Inquiry into ***“Young People Who Are Educated Other Than at School (EOTAS) and What Factors Could Lead to Them Becoming Vulnerable to Criminal Exploitation”*** be paused for the short-term. The reason for this relates to a number of external reviews into this topic currently taking place. This includes the Jay review of child criminal exploitation, which was published in March 2024 (link: [Shattered Lives Stolen Futures Report - Full Report.pdf](#) ([actionforchildren.org.uk](http://actionforchildren.org.uk))); and the Centre for Social Justice report published in

February 2024 (link: [CSJ-JC Criminal exploitation.pdf](#)  
([centreforsocialjustice.org.uk](#))

### **“Sport for All - Ensuring equality of opportunity for all Cardiff children & young people - Session 1 – Football”**

11. To replace the above Task & Finish in the short-term, the Chair is proposing a full committee deep dive into arrangements in place within Cardiff relating to football participation and opportunities.
  
12. Attached is a draft scoping document at **Appendix B** outlining this proposal, and Members are requested to consider this issue and agree a way forward. In summary, this issue will be a one/two meeting deep dive into the arrangements, accountability and transparency of footballing participation across Cardiff. The aim is to ensure that ALL children and young people in Cardiff have equal opportunities to take part and succeed in football.

### **Way Forward**

13. During the meeting, Members will have the opportunity to;
  - Note the correspondence update arising from recent scrutiny meetings.
  - Agree the proposal to commence the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee’s work programming for 2024/25
  - Consider and agree the draft text for inclusion in the Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24, attached at **Appendix A**.
  - Agree to pause the EOTAS Task & Finish Group in the short-term
  - Consider and agree the draft scoping document at **Appendix B** proposing a deep dive into “Sport for All - Ensuring equality of opportunity for all Cardiff children & young people - Session 1 – Football”

## **Legal Implications**

14. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

## **Financial Implications**

15. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the correspondence update arising from recent scrutiny meetings.
2. Agree the proposal to commence the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee's work programming for 2024/25
3. Consider and agree the draft text for inclusion in the Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24, attached at **Appendix A**.
4. Agree to pause the EOTAS Task & Finish Group in the short-term
5. Consider and agree the draft scoping document at **Appendix B** proposing a deep dive into "Sport for All - Ensuring equality of opportunity for all Cardiff children & young people - Session 1 – Football"

**Leanne Weston**

**Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer**

**10 April 2024**