

## Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee Correspondence Report summary 2015 - 16

Committee date	Recipient	Subject	Response Required	Response date	Response received	Future Action
15 September 2015	Cllr Lent	Child Health and Disability progress report  Families First Review	<p>Recommended that you consult and implement the new Child Health and Disability eligibility criteria as soon as possible;</p> <p>Recommends that regular consultation meetings are undertaken with children and their carers who use the Child Health and Disability service;</p> <p>That you and officers lobby the Welsh Government to ensure that the Families First funding and packages continue to be provided post 2017;</p> <p>That future corporate performance quarterly reports include the</p>	25 November 2015	<p>The continued work on the development plan incorporates the recommendations</p> <p>Conversations with the Welsh Government are on going</p> <p>These will be incorporated in future reports</p>	To continue to monitor

		Quarter one Performance	<p>relevant performance indicators published by the Wales Data Unit and publicised by the Welsh Government; and</p> <p>Provide details of the use of the contingency budget for Children's Services.</p>		Reflects the potential for additional costs in supporting Looked after children in external residential and fostering placements	
13 October	Cllr Hinchey	Budget Monitoring	<p>More robust assessment of achievability needs to be undertaken to ensure decisions are made on the correct information</p> <p>Corporate contingency should only be allocated and approved at the end of the Year, should it be needed</p>	5 November 2015	<p>Due diligence is currently being undertaken to proposals for the 2016/17 budget and will be progressed as rigorously as possible. However some degree of risk will be inevitable</p> <p>At month 4 the projected overspend was for an overspend therefore the contingency was drawn down</p>	Panel to continue monitoring the budgets
13 October	Cllr Lent	Budget Monitoring	<p>Payment by Results - Information on the barriers to achieving this saving and further details on the ongoing review of all out of county placements to</p>	2 December 2015	Full response provided and copied to the Budget panel.	Panel to continue to monitor the budget savings

			<p>help identify other savings</p> <p>Business support review – As this saving will now not be achieved, details of alternative actions to achieve the saving</p> <p>Commissioned residential services – An explanation of why this saving could not be achieved and the alternative actions being undertaken to fully achieve this saving</p>			
13 October	Cllr Merry	Budget Monitoring	<p>Deteriorating position in respect of school balance – detail of actions being taken to address the deficits</p> <p>Funding for the Central South Consortium – contribution to savings</p> <p>Staff realignment and restructure – detail of how the savings will now be achieved</p>	5 November 2015	<p>Officers are working closely with every school within the agreed protocol. Officers have intervened in four schools and withdrawn delegation from the Governing bodies. Discussions are being help with the Consortium to contribute to the savings</p> <p>Savings will be achieved through restructure before the end of the year.</p>	Panel to continue to monitor the budget savings

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13 October 2015	National Adoption Service	Operational update	Continued scrutiny of the National and regional annual report  Performance of the V.V.C region  The production of a Regional Annual report	13 November 2015	National Service - Will present future annual reports to the Committee  Regional Services – No region is yet performing consistently improving performance is a high priority for the region  Following an annual review of the Collaborative an Annual Report will be presented to the Committee	Continue to review the service's annual report
10 November	Hannah Woodhouse-Consortium Managing Director	Central South Consortium - Correspondence	Members agreed to hold termly meetings with scrutiny chairs. But considered it unwise to reduce its level of scrutiny until the Council is removed from Estyn monitoring.		No response required	Meeting to be held in January
10 November	Cllr Merry	School Performance Monitoring – School Inspection and literacy and Numeracy report	Provision of additional information for Members		No response required	To continue to monitor

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8 December	Cllr Lent	Children's service quarter two performance	Concern about the low performance in completing Personal Education Plans. Delay in the development of the Child Sexual exploitation strategy.		Action plan to be available in April 2016	To continue to monitor
8 December	Estyn	Inspection letter	Letter acknowledging the Inspections presentation of the letter to Committee		No response requested	
17 December	Cllr Lent & Cllr Elsmore	Joint Committee - CSSIW	Letter highlighting issues identified through the CSSIW	15 February	Details of the recruitment of Personal Advisors  Actions to be included in the Departmental business plans Provision of additional information	To continue to Monitor
17 December	CSSIW inspector	Joint Committee	Letter highlighting a number of concerns on the CSSIW letter	14 January 2016	CSSIW response – providing detail information on a number of issues that were raised in the letter	Continue to monitor

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12 January	Carl Davies – Home Office Prevent Coordinator	Prevent Strategy	Revision to the strategy, additional information and Training for Members	12 February 2016	Information provided, draft strategy revisited to reflect committee's comment and discussions in place to arrange member Training.	Monitor if required
12 January 2016	Cllr Merry	Cardiff's Schools Annual Report	Information to be included in report to cabinet Copy of individual school performance to be made available An immersion initiative be developed for pupils unable to speak English	15 February 2016	Information will be provided to Cabinet  School Performance to be made available  Feasibility is being investigated	Will continue to monitor. Awaiting school performance information
12 January 2016	Cllr Bradbury	New Model for Childrens Play	A further briefing on the plans  Copies of Business plans  That the views of Play Centre representative should be taken into account	22 February	Will provide further briefings on proposals  Will provided copies of the Business plans  Continue to be conscious of the views of the Community.	Awaiting business plans  Further report to be presented to Committee

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12 January 2016	Hannah Woodhouse	Draft self assessment and business plan 2016.17	Concern that the Business plan lacked focus in some actions. The plans needs to include explicit actions with targets, milestones and outcome measures  Role of the Challenge advisors in reducing Neets	1 March 2016	The plan is being further developed to include clear measureable activities and impact, and further more detailed actions for each area of focus will be produced.  The Challenge advisors will challenge and support school to reduce the number of Neets	Continue to monitor
12 January 2016	Cllr Lent	Social Services and Well Being Act (Wales) 2014	Concern that the Governance did not reference scrutiny  Addition resources will be required to implement the Act		<b>Awaiting a response</b>	Regular progress reports being presented to Committee
16 February 2016	Cllr Hinchey	Draft Corporate Plan and Budget proposals	Express caution on the weight being given to the consultation responses. Suggests wider consultation with community groups  Red, Red/Amber savings Action Plans will be reviewed by next	24 February 2016	A review of the consultation is being undertaken which will inform the 2017/18 consultation  There are robust plans with milestones, and these will be available	Budget Monitoring panel to continue to review the budget savings and action plans

			<p>years budget monitoring panel.</p> <p>Concerns about three specific savings proposals</p> <p>That the play service must continue in situ until alternatives are found.</p>		<p>for the panel meetings.</p> <p>Once the partnership plans are in place copies will be available for the Committee</p> <p>This comment has been noted</p>	
16 February 2016	Cllr Lent	Draft Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention Strategy	The Committee provided feedback on the draft strategy, highlighting a number of additions, updates and amendments to the strategy together with the inclusion of additional data and information	1 March 2016	Response clarifies the approach being undertaken by the LSCB to make sure they have a coherent starting point to strengthen prevention and intervention	Referred back to Task Group



### Inquiry Letters

<b>Outcome Letter date</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Subject of Investigation</b>	<b>Key Findings and Recommendations</b>	<b>Response date</b>	<b>Response received</b>	<b>Future Action</b>
16 July	Cllr Magill	School Governors	Effectiveness of the Governing Body  Support for Governing Bodies  Training of Governors		Awaiting response	
11 November	Cllr Merry	Schools causing concern	Task group report	12 January 2016	Responded to points raise in the Committee's letter	Committee has continued to visit schools causing concern