



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

Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd
CF10 4UW
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2000

CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date and Time of Meeting TUESDAY, 7 MARCH 2017, 4.30 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

14 **Correspondence Following Committee Meeting** (Pages 3 - 14)

This page is intentionally left blank



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

Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd,
CF10 4UW
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088

My Ref: Scrutiny/Correspondence/MJH

8 March 2017

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

Dear Sarah

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank you for attending the last meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on 7 March 2017 to provide an opening statement and answer questions on the agenda item **School Admissions Arrangements 2018/19 and Co-ordinated Secondary School, Admissions Arrangements 2018 - 2020 - Draft Cabinet report**. I would also like to thank Nick Batchelar and Michele Duddridge Hussain for their presentation of the report and answers to Members questions.

The Committee welcomed the report and agreed to commend the report to Cabinet. However, during the way forward section of the meeting the Members discussed at some length concerns expressed in the consultation exercise about the effectiveness of the present school admissions criteria, particularly in respect of catchment areas and residency. Members noted that there will be increasing numbers of pupils moving from Primary to Secondary Schools over the foreseeable future, resulting in few surplus Secondary places. The Committee therefore agreed to suggest to you that in respect of the second recommendation "the wider research into alternative options", it might be time for an assessment of the impact and effectiveness of different admissions criteria, together with a citywide review of catchment areas.

Yours sincerely

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

CC: Nick Batchelar, Director of Education and Lifelong Learning
Michele Duddridge Hussain, Operational Manager: Planning and Provision

This page is intentionally left blank

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CM37236

Dyddiad / Date: 14/03/2017



County Hall
Cardiff,
CF10 4UW
Tel: (029) 2087 2087
www.cardiff.gov.uk
Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd,
CF10 4UW
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088
www.caerdydd.gov.uk

Councillor Richard Cook
Cardiff Council
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW

Annwyl/Dear Richard

**Scrutiny - CYP 7 March - School Admissions & Co-Ordinated Secondary
School Admissions**

Further to your letter following the Children and Young People's Scrutiny meeting on 07 March 2017, I would like to thank Members of the Committee for the time and effort taken to consider the School Admissions Arrangements 2018/19 and Co-ordinated Secondary School Admissions Arrangements 2018-2020.

The concerns expressed around the increasing number of pupils moving from Primary to Secondary Schools over the foreseeable future are noted.

As set out in the report officers will, subject to approval, be considering further the Council's school admission arrangements, including wider research into alternative options and the impact of each, in advance of consultation on the Council's School Admissions Policy 2019/20.

Any such consideration will be informed by the existing arrangements including catchment areas.

Yn gywir
Yours sincerely

**Councillor / Y Cynghorydd Sarah Merry
Cabinet Member for Education
Aelod Cabinet Dros Y Addysg**

ATEBWCH I / PLEASE REPLY TO :

Swyddfa Cymorth Y Cabinet / Cabinet Support Office, Ystafell / Room 518, Neuadd y Sir / County Hall
Glanfa'r Iwerydd / Atlantic Wharf, Caerdydd/Cardiff, CF10 4UW
Ffon / Tel: (029) 2087 2501

difference | **wahaniaeth**
make the difference | gwnewch

This page is intentionally left blank

My Ref: Scrutiny/Correspondence/MJH

8 March 2017



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

Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd,
CF10 4UW
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088

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

Dear Sarah

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank you for attending the last meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on 7 March 2017 to provide an opening statement and answer questions on the agenda item **Welsh in Education Strategy 2017-2020 - Draft Cabinet report**. I would also like to thank Nick Batchelar and Michele Duddridge-Hossain for their presentation of the report and answers to Members questions.

The Committee welcomed the report and agreed to commend the report to Cabinet. However, during the way forward section of the meeting Members expressed some concern around the availability of Welsh speaking secondary school teachers. The Committee therefore wished to support the actions being undertaken as part of Outcome 7, workforce planning and continuing professional development, and expect to see an improvement in recruitment over the next year.

The Committee reflected on comments made that there was a lack of social activities for children learning Welsh, outside school. The Committee therefore suggested that the resources being used to maintain Yr Hen Lyfrgell on the Hayes could be directed more effectively to support Welsh speaking youth facilities in Cardiff.

Yours sincerely

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

CC: Nick Batchelar, Director of Education and Lifelong Learning
Michele Duddridge Hussain, Operational Manager: Planning and Provision

This page is intentionally left blank

**SWYDDFA CYMORTH Y CABINET
CABINET SUPPORT OFFICE**

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CM37234

Dyddiad / Date: 15/3/2017

Councillor Richard Cook
Cardiff Council
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW



County Hall
Cardiff,
CF10 4UW
Tel: (029) 2087 2087
www.cardiff.gov.uk
Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd,
CF10 4UW
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088
www.caerdydd.gov.uk

Annwyl/Dear Richard

Scrutiny - CYP 7 March - Welsh Education Strategy

Thank you for your letter following the Scrutiny meeting held on 7th March 2017.
I note that the Committee agreed to commend the report to Cabinet.

I note also the Committee's support for the actions set out in Outcome 7 regarding workforce planning and continuing professional development.

Your letter suggested that the resources being used to maintain Yr Hen Lyfrgell on the Hayes could be directed more effectively to support Welsh speaking youth facilities in Cardiff. As you will be aware Yr Hen Lyfrgell, Cardiff's Welsh Cultural Centre, offers people of all ages and backgrounds the opportunity to engage with the Welsh language. However, I would like to point out that the Council does not currently provide any funding to Yr Hen Llyfrgell.

The Council provide an annual contribution of £30,000 to support Menter Caerdydd to facilitate the promotion and expansion of the use of the Welsh language outside the school gates, across the city. The Council youth service also funds open access youth work through the medium of Welsh by providing £30,000 to Urdd Gobaith and support youth mentoring schemes in Welsh-medium secondary schools at an annual cost of £148,000.

Yn gywir
Yours sincerely

Councillor / Y Cynghorydd Sarah Merry
Cabinet Member for Education
Aelod Cabinet Dros Y Addysg

ATEBWCH I / PLEASE REPLY TO :

Swyddfa Cymorth Y Cabinet / Cabinet Support Office, Ystafell / Room 518, Neuadd y Sir / County Hall
Glanfa'r Iwerydd / Atlantic Wharf, Caerdydd/Cardiff, CF10 4UW
Ffôn / Tel: (029) 2087 2501

difference | **wahaniaeth**

This page is intentionally left blank

Date 8 March 2017

My Ref SS/CYP/MJH
Your Ref:



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

Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd,
CF10 4UW
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088

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

Dear Sue

I am sorry that you were not able to attend the last meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on 7 March 2017. I would however like to thank Tony Young and Jan Cole for their presentation of the **Child Sexual Exploitation progress report and the Quarter 3 Performance Information..** During the consideration of the reports and answers to Members' questions, the Committee asked me to write to you providing the following comments.

Child Sexual Exploitation progress report

The Committee welcomed the excellent work that Social Services had undertaken to ensure that the recommendations of the committees' Task and Finish report had been implemented. The Committee noted that the Directorate had been successful in attracting additional funding for next year. The Members therefore look forward to receiving further progress reports on the work that the CSE team will be undertaking.

Quarter 3 Performance Information

The Committee noted the sustained improvement in many of the performance indicators and wished to ask that you pass on the Committee's thanks to the Directorate's staff for all their hard work in improving performance across the service. The Committee however expressed concern that some of the performance indicators had shown a small decline.

Members focused their questions around the recruitment and retention of social workers, as the vacancy level was still at over 20%. Members understand the difficulties in recruiting social workers, but wished to inform you that they will recommend that the future Committee continue to monitor the level of staff vacancies, sickness and the recruitment and retention initiatives.

Yours sincerely

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

CC: Tony Young, Director of Children's Services
Jan Cole - Interim Lead Manager CSE

This page is intentionally left blank

My Ref: Scrutiny/Correspondence/MJH

8 March 2017



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

Neuadd y Sir
Caerdydd,
CF10 4UW
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088

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

Dear Sarah

On behalf of the Committee I would like to thank you for attending the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on 7 March 2017 to provide an opening statement and answer questions on the **Corporate Performance report for Quarter three and the update on the “Cardiff 2020 Aiming for Excellence” plan.**

I would also like to thank Nick Batchelar for his presentation of the report and update together with the answers to Members questions. Members welcomed the report and agreed to highlight a few issues in this letter.

The Committee firstly noted that the Corporate Performance report did not contain any performance indicator or narrative about the education of Looked After Children. The Committee recommended that future performance reports must include the educational attainment of Looked After Children.

The Committee also noted that the baseline for the new Foundation Phase profile, which assesses the abilities of children on entry to school, was undertaken last summer, but had still not been analysed. The Members asked that the analysis must be included in the next monitoring report.

I hope that these comments will be of use and support in improving outcomes for Cardiff’s pupils. As such, the Members do not require a formal response to this letter.

Yours sincerely

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

CC: Nick Batchelar, Director of Education and Lifelong Learning

This page is intentionally left blank