



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

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Caerdydd  
CF10 4UW  
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2000

## CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Committee** CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Date and Time of Meeting** MONDAY, 15 MAY 2023, 5.45 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 3 - 12)

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Date: 30 May 2023

My Ref: CYP/Budget FollowUp/May23



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Cllr Chris Weaver  
Cabinet Member for Finance, Modernisation & Performance

Councillor Sarah Merry  
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education

Dear Chris and Sarah,

**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 15 MAY 2023 –  
FURTHER REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FOLLOWING CONSIDERATION OF  
BUDGET/CORPORATE PLAN MINUTES FROM THE 28 FEBRUARY 2023**

At our meeting on the 15 May 2023, Members considered the minutes arising from our meeting on the 28 February 2023, where we considered the Budget and Corporate Plan.

During the Q&A session at the February budget/corporate plan meeting, we asked questions relating to 5 schools that had indicated that they needed to go into deficit protocol for 2023/24 and requested further details, which you kindly supplied. In your response, you stated that *“For the year 2023/24, we anticipate an increase in the number of schools applying for a deficit, and we will keep the Committee updated during the course of the year”*.

In addition, at our meeting in March 2023, when we met with Education and the Central South Education Consortium, we were told that there were 5 schools managing deficit budgets at that time, which relates to the 2022/23 budget.

The Committee would therefore request information relating to the total number of schools in the 2023/24 financial year that have needed to set a deficit budget, split by sector - primary, special and secondary.

We would also seek clarification on the extent to which the teachers' pay increase of 8% was being covered in full. In the March meeting we were told that the budget settlement for schools was premised on a 6% pay increase and that the authority would be looking to the Welsh Government to make up any shortfall so that the increase could be covered in full. We understand that the council has received some

additional funding largely in different parcels over the last month or so but would seek clarification and to know the true position if we are to scrutinise effectively in the months ahead.

We are therefore following up this statement and would **request** that you supply the Committee with a further update on this issue.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

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

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

CC: CYPSC Members  
Chris Lee, Corporate Director Resources  
Ian Allwood, Head of Finance  
Melanie Godfrey, Director of Education & Lifelong Learning  
Mike Tate, Assistant Director of Education & Lifelong Learning

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

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CM49834

Eich Nghyf / Your Ref:

Dyddiad / Date: 31 July 2023

Cllr Lee Bridgeman  
C/O Members Services  
County Hall  
Atlantic Wharf  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW

Annwyl / Dear Lee

**Further Request For Information Following Consideration Of  
Cyp Scrutiny - Budget/Corporate Plan Minutes From The 28 February 2023**

Thank you for your recent letter requesting an update on the number of schools who have applied to set a deficit budget for the 2023/24 financial year and information regarding additional grant funding from Welsh Government for the financial impact on schools arising from the teachers' pay award. I am able to confirm that;

- **Deficit budget applications** - For the 2023/24 financial year the Council has received applications from 42 schools to set a deficit budget; there are 35 Primary Schools, 6 Secondary Schools and 1 Special School. Since receipt of the applications three schools have been able to balance their budgets, 1 Primary and two Secondary schools. Officers are working with the 39 remaining schools to collate and agree a medium term financial plan to resolve their deficit budget position.
- **Welsh Government Grant** - in the last few weeks of the 2022/23 financial year, Welsh Government made available additional grant allocations to Local Authorities to distribute to schools (all funding received by Cardiff has been passed onto schools in full) to offset the additional costs of the teachers' pay award agreements. These were:
  - An LA level allocation of £3.331m as a contribution towards the additional costs of the teachers' pay award between September 2022 and March 2023 for teachers employed in school years up to Year 11.
  - An LA level additional Post 16 grant allocation of £349,600, which followed the Teachers pay award announcement.

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**GWEITHIO DROS GAERDYDD, GWEITHIO DROSOCH CHI**

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg, Saesneg neu'n ddwyieithog. Byddwn yn cyfathrebu â chi yn ôl eich dewis, dim ond i chi roi gwybod i ni pa un sydd well gennych. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

**WORKING FOR CARDIFF, WORKING FOR YOU**

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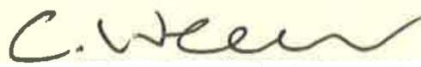
· An LA level allocation of £2.360m as a contribution towards the additional consolidated costs of the teachers' pay award for the 2023/24 financial year.

If you require any further information please let us know.

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely



**Councillor / Cynghorydd Sarah Merry**  
**Deputy Leader / Dirprwy Arweinydd**  
**Cabinet Member for Education**  
**Aelod Cabinet Dros Addysg**



**Councillor / Y Cynghorydd Chris Weaver**  
**Aelod Cabinet dros Gyllid, Moderneiddio a Pherfformiad**  
**Cabinet Member for Finance, Modernisation & Performance**

Date: 30 May 2023

My Ref: CYP/CPAC/May23



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Councillor Sarah Merry  
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education

Cllr Ash Lister  
Cabinet Member for Social Services (Children)

Dear Sarah and Ash,

**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 15 MAY 2023 –  
CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CPAC) ANNUAL REPORT  
2022/23**

Please accept my thanks on behalf of the Committee for attending the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee to provide us with the CPAC Annual Report for 2022/23, which will be considered by Cabinet in June. Please also pass on our thanks to Sarah McGill and Matt Osbourne.

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

The Committee commends the report to Cabinet for approval in June.

Members asked a number of questions during the session, including the following, all of which Members were satisfied with responses:

- Engagement and participation of young people in the Annual Report;
- Issues relating to the removal of profit from care
- Colum Road Assessment Centre – how long it takes to get assessed; what are the backlogs; do they supply accommodation; is it of sufficient size to meet demand; getting young people into school; use of cultural organisations to address needs etc.
- Accessing advocacy, particularly under the National Well-being Project
- Reviewing the CPAC 5 priorities and how you are going to improve them.
- Mandatory training for Members on Corporate Parenting
- Out of County placements
- Age disputes and verification – who undertakes this role.

Members were particularly interested in the role of the Virtual Head Teacher and were pleased to hear that Deborah Williams was in post and already commencing her work. Members were mindful of the breadth and responsibilities of this role and would like to invite Deborah to the July meeting of this scrutiny committee to brief us on what she has achieved to date; what her plans are in the coming months; what challenges and issues she has uncovered to date; what support networks she has in place; and any views on how this scrutiny committee can support her in her role.

To **recap**, we request:

To agree for Deborah Williams to attend the July meeting of this scrutiny committee to brief us on:

- What she has achieved to date;
- what her plans are in the coming months;
- what challenges and issues she has uncovered to date;
- what support networks she has in place; and
- any views on how this scrutiny committee can support her in her role.

Please could you supply Deborah's contact details so we can contact her?

There are no formal recommendations arising from this letter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. BRIDGEMAN', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

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

CC: CYPSC Members  
Sarah McGill, Corporate Director and Director of Social Services  
Matt Osbourne, Team Manager, Looked After Children Teams  
Gary Jones, Head of Democratic Services  
Dylan Owen, Head of Cabinet Office  
Members of Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee  
Jo Watkins, Cabinet Support Office  
Tim Gordon & Jeremy Rhys, Media and Comms  
Cllr Adrian Robson – Group Leader  
Cllr Rodney Berman – Group Leader



Cllr Andrea Gibson – Group Leader  
Gavin McArthur – Chair, Governance & Audit Committee

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## SWYDDFA CYMORTH Y CABINET CABINET SUPPORT OFFICE

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CM49776  
Eich Cyf / Your Ref: CYP/CPAC/May23  
Dyddiad / Date: 13 June 2023

Councillor Lee Bridgeman  
Chairperson - Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee  
County Hall  
Atlantic Wharf  
Cardiff  
CF10 4UW

Annwyl / Dear Lee,

### Re: Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee – 15 May 2023 – Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee (CPAC) Annual Report 2022/23

Thank you for your letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> May on behalf of the members of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee following its meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May.

Your feedback is appreciated, and I am pleased to hear that Members were happy with the responses given to the questions asked during the meeting.

I can confirm that Deborah Williams will attend Committee in July to brief Members on:

- What she has achieved to date
- What her plans are in the coming months
- What challenges and issues she has uncovered to date
- What support networks she has in place
- Any views on how CYPSC can support her in her role

To make the necessary arrangements, Deborah can be contacted at [deborah.williams@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.williams@cardiff.gov.uk)

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely,

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Sarah Merry

**Cynghorydd / Councillor Sarah Merry**  
**Dirprwy Arweinydd / Deputy Leader**  
**Aelod Cabinet Dros Addysg, Cyflogaeth a Sgiliau**  
**Cabinet Member for Education, Employment & Skills**

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**Cynghorydd / Councillor Ash Lister**  
**Aelod Cabinet dros Wasanaethau Cymdeithasol (Gwasanaethau Plant)**  
**Cabinet Member for Social Services (Children's Services)**