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AGENDA

Committee	CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date and Time of Meeting	TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2023, 4.30 PM
Venue	CR 4, COUNTY HALL - MULTI LOCATION MEETING
Membership	Councillor Lee Bridgeman (Chair) Councillors Ahmed, Boes, Davies, Ferguson-Thorne, Hopkins, Melbourne, Moultrie and Simmons Bridgid Corr (Parent Governor Representative), Celeste Lewis (Parent Governor Representative), Carol Cobert (Church in Wales Representative) and Patricia Arlotte (Roman Catholic representative)

Time approx.

1 **Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies for absence.

2 **Declarations of Interest**

To be made at the start of the agenda item in question, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.

3 **Minutes** (*Pages 5 - 16*)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meetings on 13 June and 4 July 2023.

4 **School Organisation Planning: Primary School places to serve Cathays and parts of Gabalfa, Heath, Llandaff North and Plasnewydd** 4.35 pm

Pre-decision scrutiny (*papers to follow*)

5 **School Organisation Planning: Fairwater Campus** 5.20 pm

Pre-decision Scrutiny (*papers to follow*)

6 **Committee Business Report** (*Pages 17 - 28*) 6.10 pm

7 Urgent Items (if any)

8 Way Forward

6.20 pm

To review the evidence and information gathered during consideration of each item and agree Members comments, observations and concerns to be passed on to the relevant Cabinet Member by the Chair.

9 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting of the Committee is on Tuesday 14 November 2023 at 4.30 pm.

Davina Fiore

Director Governance & Legal Services

Date: Wednesday, 11 October 2023

Contact: Mandy Farnham, Mandy.Farnham@cardiff.gov.uk,
02920 872618, Mandy.Farnham@cardiff.gov.uk

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

13 JUNE 2023

Present: Councillor Bridgeman (Chairperson),
Councillors Ahmed, Boes, Davies, Ferguson-Thorne, Hopkins,
Melbourne and Moultrie

Co-opted Members: Carol Cobert (Church in Wales Representative),
Bridgid Corr (Parent Governor Representative), Celeste Lewis
(Parent Governor Representative)

Emily Gao (Youth Council Representative)

1 : APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR & COMMITTEE

RESOLVED:

To note that the Council, at its Annual meeting on 25 May, appointed Councillor Lee Bridgeman as the Chairperson of the Committee together with the following Committee Members:

Councillors Saleh Ahmed, Boes, Davies, Ferguson-Thorne, Hopkins, Melbourne, Moultrie and Simmons.

2 : TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED:

To note that the Council, at its Annual meeting on 25 May, approved the Committee's terms of reference.

3 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies or absence were received from Councillor Simmons and Patricia Arlotte (Roman Catholic Church Representative)

4 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

5 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings on the 20 March and 15 May were approved as correct records of those meetings and signed by the Chairperson.

6 : YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE

The Chair welcomed Councillor Ash Lister (Cabinet Member for Children's Social Services) and Angharad Thomas (Operational Manager, Youth Justice Services) to provide Members with the quarterly update of the Youth Justice Service.

Councillor Lister was invited to make a statement, in which he highlighted the continuing focus on prevention which is focussed not just on Children's Services but across all services which engage with young people across the Council and that all those services are designed and led by children and young people to ensure that they are given the best possible opportunities.

Members were invited to ask questions and make comments; the discussion is summarised as follows:

- Members queried what would motivate a child to become involved in an incident such as recently happened in Ely and how do you ensure that participation in such behaviour does not become the gateway into more serious criminality. Members were advised that specific cases could not be discussed but made it clear to members that it was not young people who were solely responsible for what happened.

There have been a number of referrals from the Police to Crossroads, around 15 to date. There will be engagement with those children to start to try and understand their motivation in general around their behaviours, what they are doing with their time and they can be diverted to become involved in more positive activities. There are a lot of overlaying factors.

When trying to understand the reasons for a young person to get involved in a riot of this scale; it is likely there would be a lot of different issues; peer pressure around exploitation, the influence of families in particular parents; non-attendance at school. It would depend on the individual; there would be an assessment, it would not necessarily be about what is getting them into trouble but what is keeping them out of trouble and what is working well – the positive behaviours.

- Members sought information in relation to the exclusion figures and the data held, in particular the average number of days a person is excluded for; how many have had more than one fixed term (FT) exclusion; how many have led to permanent exclusions; and how much of a factor are exclusions in influencing how you deal with support for the young people. Officers accepted that exclusions are a big factor, FT exclusions more so than with permanent. FT could be 5 days, then 4 days then 3 days – this can culminate in a child having missed a month of school.

Kathryn Mogford (Crossroads Project Manager) was recruited into post just after Christmas, the post actually sits within Education, she monitors those who have left the service. She has a large amount of information, she has also been able to provide that challenge to schools from within education. Conversations take place with the school setting out the concerns and potential risks of any decision made to exclude a pupil; consideration can be given to restorative work being done within schools before any exclusion

takes place. Emphasis is on coordinating packages of support for children around the educational time table.

- Members asked whether there is sufficient resources to support these young people, and particularly in secondary schools - is there sufficient resources to provide counselling and support? Officers advised that each school has their own arrangements, some schools do and some don't not have nurturing support. Education is not just about academia, there is a bigger piece of work around welfare and support. Schools do not have the resources or funding to be able to provide that. Schools need to be seen as more than just an education base to be able to access those resources. Members were advised that schools do share best practice; there are a number of headteachers forums and the designated safeguarding lead forum which would allow for this to be done.
- Members wanted to know whether it was felt that schools listen when concerns are raised by the YJS about the dramatic effect that exclusions have on pupils and were advised that schools and the local education authority are actively engaged. Having Kathryn has also helped; the challenge is coming from within. Schools have to think about so many different facets; everyone needs to take responsibility for these children. Education, Children's Services, Police, Housing etc all have a part to play, and children are at the centre of those conversations. There is a long way to go, but as a collective, there is a want to get the right provision and support.
- Members queried whether there is data to support that school attendance levels have an effect on Youth Justice services, as post covid attendance levels have reduced. Officers advised that the data could be obtained, but noted that the Youth Justice case load has dropped from pre-Covid levels. Cases were being kept open longer than was necessary and there has also been a shift from statutory to prevention; there has been a huge increase in prevention – now Crossroads referrals. Low attendance is now flagged as a risk factor, previously it would not have been flagged so quickly.
- Members queried whether there is sufficient resource and funding within the service should there be an increase in numbers accessing the service. Officers advised that there is sufficiency, it is a multi-disciplinary team which is at full capacity and there are other others who also provide support; Children's Services, Education, Police and others who help to provide the wraparound support that is needed.
- Members referred to the various projects, programmes and initiatives outlined in the report, and queried how would the impact of those projects etc be evaluated. Members were told that positive feedback had been received from both Cardiff City and the young people involved last year and for that reason the project is being run again this year. Some of those young people involved

last year are helping us to create the programme going forward. Also, the YJS office is being designed and decorated by young people, that is the foyer, the kitchen and the shared spaces.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson writes to the Cabinet Member on behalf of the Committee expressing their comments and observations captured during the way forward.

7 : CHILDREN'S SERVICES QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE 2022-23

The Chair welcomed Councillor Ash Lister (Cabinet Member for Children's Social Services) and Sarah Skuse (Operational Manager, Assessment and Care Planning) to provide Members with the quarterly performance information to allow them to assess the progress being made in improving outcomes for children in need and children looked after.

Councillor Lister was invited to make a statement, in which he referred to the continued changes to Children's Services with a focus on three areas; people, place and practices. He also referred to the increase in Children Looked After but highlighted the shift in the balance and sought to encourage Members to look at the breakdown of different types of placement.

Members were invited to ask questions and make comments; the discussion is summarised as follows:

- Members queried the percentage of well-being assessments completed within statutory timescales and queried the reasons for the reduction during Q4. Officers advised that there is a quirk in those figures on the basis that the assessment is not counted until is finished. There was a push in Q4 to address some of the outstanding assessments; they have come through late. There has been continued progress since then.
- In relation to Q3, it is difficult to assess whether it was a good quarter or due to the Covid recovery; anecdotally it feels like the normal pattern of work is returning.
- Members discussed the target figures; why they are being missed and the why have a statutory timescale if it is circumvented by your own targets. Members were advised that there is no desire to circumvent targets; the targets set within the corporate plan are set taking into consideration that performance is not always needs to be, but the goal is always 100%. It is the signing off of the assessment which is not always done, not that the work has not been done. The target is not set at 100%; there are so many factors that affect performance. 100% is not realistic; we need to continuously improve. It is important to understand the reasons in completing assessments and constantly work towards minimising the risk of delay.
- Members noted the increase in the number of social workers and queried whether the target will move to reflect the fact there are

fewer vacancies. Members were advised that the target will certainly remain the same this year, however there will be discussions at Director level about the level of the target going forward. The Cabinet Member made it clear that any vacancies are covered where possible and, if necessary, by agency staff.

- Members queried the expected saving as a result of the reduction in the use of agency staff, and asked that the response be outlined in response to the Chairs letter.
- Members sought clarification as to whether or not there will be continued annual injections of staff – social workers, until the vacancies are eliminated and whether it is expected that the number of vacancies will increase next year as staff leave or retire. Members were advised that the reason for the large number of staff joining at this time is that newly qualified social workers have just qualified and they are waiting to register, the same will apply next year as it is a 12 month course. There will also be turnover in social work staff - for a variety of reasons and staff will retire. Social Workers are now supported by social work assistants for social care practitioners so that the social workers can concentrate on what they need to do. It is vital that the new recruits are provided with the right support from the beginning and the right training to ensure that they have the confidence to do the job that needs to be done and to ensure they remain with us.
- Members queried the Intervention Hub – Think Safe! figures and why has the number of young people accessing it dramatically reduced and were advised that the information would need to be checked and further information would be supplied.
- Members referred to decrease and stabilisation of the numbers of children receiving Care & Support and were advised that there was an increase during Covid, so the decrease and stabilisation is not unexpected, although the figures are not reducing to levels they were at previously. The figures now are probably the new normal.
- Members noted the success/performance of some of the teams and sought information about their good practice, and how that is being used to build capacity in other teams. Officers explained that some teams have embraced week by week performance and have responded well. They are also teams that have a much more stable work force and are more able to respond. All of the teams have twice weekly meetings, performance is updated on a Monday, meeting on Tuesday and it is followed up on Friday. During Q4 there has been a change in the day to day data and hopefully it will be continued. There has been a sea change, social workers were exhausted, they had got into a rhythm of responding to crisis, but are now settling back into the pattern of day to day work, managing diaries and planning visits. To the teams it is not about performance and evidencing a visit it is about the visit taking place to ensure there is an intervention which will keep the child or young

person safe.

- Members asked for some clarification in respect of a) the percentage of child protection conferences slipping back because of quoracy issues; and b) the increase in re-registrations within 12 months of deregistration.

It was explained to members that it could have been just a partner agency that was unavailable which would have caused the quoracy issue – hopefully just an issue in Q4. However, the relationships with partnership agencies are such that there can be effective challenge to ascertain the issues and overcome them. It was noted that there were also some scheduling issues during Q4.

Members were advised that the risk of re-registration has been opened up because de-registrations are increasing which warrants a question as to whether de-registration is happening prematurely. The levels will be monitored.

- Members queried the decrease in young people having a personal advisor and were advised that it would also reflect the increase in Children Looked After. It is an area that is being monitored very closely. There is a strong young person's gateway within housing, which means that young people benefit from all that connected advice. There has also been a number of sickness absences which has had an impact on who can be allocated; however they do still have an allocated work from Children's Services and the partnership with housing.

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson writes to the Cabinet Member on behalf of the Committee expressing their comments and observations captured during the way forward.

8 : SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

The approval of the Committee is sought for the combined Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/2023, prior to its consideration by the Council on 29 June 2023.

RESOLVED:

- To approve the draft Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/2023; and
- To note the provision committee dates provided

9 : COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Members were provided with the following information:

- Correspondence update arising from recent scrutiny meetings;
- Update on the SOP Task & Finish Group;

- Update on the EOTAS Inquiry Task & Finish Group;
- Update on the RLDP Task & Finish Group;
- Update on other business consider by the Committee informally; and
- Update on the latest position in relation to the 2023/2024 committee work programme.

RESOLVED:

- To note the correspondence update;
- To note the Task & Finish Groups updates;
- To note the progress made in relation to those items distributed informally; and
- To note that a Work Programming Forum will be arranged

10 : URGENT ITEMS (IF ANY)

No urgent items were tabled.

11 : DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

- To note the date of the next meeting of the Committee is 4 July 2023;
- To note the future dates set by Council at its Annual meeting on 25 May 2023:
4 July 2023
12 September 2023
10 October 2023
14 November 2023
5 December 2023
9 January 2024
26 February 2024 (Budget meeting)
12 March 2024
16 April 2024
15 May 2024

The meeting terminated at 6.03 pm

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4 JULY 2023

Present: Councillor Bridgeman(Chairperson)
Councillors Ahmed, Boes, Davies, Ferguson-Thorne, Hopkins,
Melbourne and Moultrie

12 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Patricia Arlotte, Carol Cobert and Emily Gao.

13 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

14 : CARDIFF INFLUENCERS BRIEFING - SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLANNING STRATEGY

The Chairperson advised that this session allows Members to receive a briefing from the Cardiff Influencers, on the work they are doing on the development of the School Organisational Planning Strategy.

For this item, the Chairperson welcomed:

- The Cardiff Influencers Group, Zach; Naima; Liberty; Ahmed; Mikaeel; Aure; and Tyrese
- Cllr Sarah Merry, Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for Education
- Richard Portas, Director of School Organisation Planning
- Michele Duddridge-Friedl, Operational Manager, School Organisation Programme Strategy; and
- Cai Maxwell, Performance Management Support Officer in Education & Lifelong Learning.

The Cabinet Member was invited to make an opening statement, after which Members received a presentation from the Cardiff Influencers.

The Chairperson asked Members for their comments, questions, and observations.

Members expressed their appreciation for the presentation made by the Cardiff Influencers and the responses to their questions. They commended Michele and Cai for setting up the group and acknowledged their hard work and dedication in developing these young people. The committee views this model of engaging young people in key policies and strategies as an example of best practice and believes it should be communicated across the Council.

Members expressed their intention to invite the group back to a future committee meeting and requested that the Influencers provide information on the impact they have already made in the development of the SOP Strategy. Members were interested in knowing where the group's voice is in the decision-making process, where their input has led to changes and improvements in the draft SOP Strategy, and what skills they have gained through their involvement.

Members recognised the priorities identified by the Cardiff Influencers, such as free school transport, flexible learning through technology, Well-being, and Additional Learning Needs (ALN). Members reinforced the Council's commitment to listening to and acting upon these suggestions.

Members were highly impressed by each individual in the group and identified how they exemplified the four purposes of learning: ambitious and capable contributors, enterprising and creative learners, ethical citizens, and healthy and confident individuals. Members advised that they intend to email the Heads of the schools to praise each individual for their representation and commend their maturity, enthusiasm, and knowledge displayed during the meeting.

AGREED: that the Chairperson, on behalf of the Committee, writes to the Cabinet Member conveying the observations of the Committee when discussing the way forward.

15 : EDUCATION/SCHOOLS PANDEMIC RECOVERY

Members were advised that this item allows them to receive a detailed update on Covid-19 Recovery in Schools, following Committee's deep dive in December 2023.

For this item, the Chairperson welcomed:

- Cllr Sarah Merry, Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for Education
- Mike Tate (Assistant Director of Education and Lifelong Learning)
- Patrick Brunnock (Head Teacher, Corpus Christi RC High School)
- Claire Skidmore (Head Teacher, Radyr Primary School)
- Michelle Jones (Head Teacher, Lansdowne Primary School)

The Cabinet Member was invited to make a statement after which Members received presentations from witnesses.

The Chairperson invited question, comments, and observations from Members.

During the discussions, the Committee highlighted a range of challenges and ongoing concerns, including attendance, referrals, vulnerable learners, exclusions, support for staff and pupils, mental health and well-being, budgeting, use of digital technology, and recruitment and retention of staff. Members acknowledged the sobering nature of the information provided and commended schools for their dedication and resilience in facing these challenges.

Members requested further insights on whether the worst-case scenario has turned into reality and expressed their intention to continue monitoring the above-mentioned issues.

A key statement that caught the attention of the Committee was the lack of a long-term recovery plan. Members sought clarification on the existence and development of such a plan in Cardiff, the role of the Cardiff Recovery Board in its implementation, and how the Council is representing the need for long-term recovery planning at the national level.

The Committee called for a cross-party council-wide commitment to chase and lobby the Welsh and UK governments for sufficient funding to support children and young people. They expressed concerns about school deficits and the need for consistent and adequate funding to address resource pressures.

Members emphasised the importance of a long-term focus on neurodiversity, and while they acknowledged this to be a Health board issue, they sought the Council's role in areas such as campaigning and lobbying.

AGREED: that the Chairperson, on behalf of the Committee, writes to the Cabinet Member conveying the observations of the Committee when discussing the way forward.

16 : VIRTUAL HEADTEACHER

The Chairperson advised that this item enabled Members to receive a presentation from the Virtual Headteacher on her work to date and plans for the future.

For this item, the Chairperson welcomed:

- Cllr Sarah Merry, Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member for Education
- Mike Tate (Assistant Director of Education and Lifelong Learning)
- Deborah Williams, Virtual Head Teacher.

The Cabinet Member was invited to make a statement after which Members received presentations from Deborah Williams.

The Chairperson invited question, comments, and observations from Members.

Members expressed their gratitude to Deborah for her briefing on her work, and they welcomed and supported her efforts.

Members also endorsed Deborah's call for a funding guarantee.

AGREED: that the Chairperson, on behalf of the Committee, writes to the Cabinet Member conveying the observations of the Committee when discussing the way forward.

17 : SOP TASK & FINISH REPORT

Committee Members were advised by the Chair of the Task & Finish Group, Cllr Hopkins, that the Task & Finish Group conducted a thorough review of the Cabinet report and its appendices on June 27, 2023. They discussed various aspects, including overall proposals, future-proofing, financial considerations, SRBs, PRUs, land matters, staffing, timelines, and scrutiny's involvement in the process as more details emerge.

Additionally, the Task & Finish Group confirmed that as more specific details about ALN proposals become available, they will be presented to the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee in individual reports following consultations. This approach would allow Members to thoroughly examine proposals in a manageable manner and will be incorporated into the Committee's work programme as appropriate.

AGREED: that the Chairperson, on behalf of the Committee, writes to the Cabinet Member conveying the observations of the Committee when discussing the way forward.

18 : URGENT ITEMS (IF ANY)

None received.

19 : DATE OF NEXT MEETING

12th September 2023 at 4.30pm

The meeting terminated at 8.20 pm

**CYNGOR CAERDYDD
CARDIFF COUNCIL**

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

17 OCTOBER 2023

COMMITTEE BUSINESS REPORT

Purpose of Report

1. This report seeks committee's approval for the draft Children & Young People (CYP) draft work programme 2023/24, as attached at **Appendix A**.
2. This report also updates Members on the terms of reference agreed by the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) Joint Scrutiny Task and Finish Group, as set out in **Appendix B**.
3. This report also provides an update on the CYP **School Organisation Planning Task & Finish Group** and a reminder of **informal business** that have been sent to Committee Members outside of the formal committee.
4. This report also provides links to the scrutiny of **related matters by other scrutiny committees**, which aims to provide Members with further information in relation to the Committee's work.

CYP Work Programme 2023/24

5. The Council's Constitution (Scrutiny Procedure Rule 7) states that each Scrutiny Committee will set their own work programme. The Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee's terms of reference provides the Committee with the responsibility for the scrutiny of a number of specific service areas.

6. The attached draft calendar (at **Appendix A**) provides the Committee with the output from online discussions with Members on the work programme, following discussions at the CYP meeting on the 13 June 2023. As there were still single meeting issues to be rolled over from 2022/23, the Committee agreed that it would not require a formal work programming session, but to bring these issues forward. **Appendix A** also contains items that are due to be brought back to formal committee in 2023/24 and any known pre-decision items.
7. Therefore, the Committee is recommended to consider and agree the draft timetable of issues for the Committee as set out in **Appendix A**; and provide any further suggestions to be considered by the Committee during 2023/24.
8. For Members' information, the draft work programme has also been shared with Cabinet Members and senior officers across the Council for their views and input, and these are also reflected in **Appendix A**.

Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP)

9. At its meeting on the 13^h June 2023, CYP Members considered a request from Scrutiny Chairs to nominate the Chair and 2 Members from each Scrutiny Committee to take part in a cross-scrutiny Inquiry as part of the next stage of the RLDP in relation to a consultation on the preferred strategic options.
10. Cllrs Bridgeman, Boes and S. Ahmed represent this committee.
11. The RLDP cross-committee group met on the 7th July 2023 to discuss how it could most effectively scrutinise this issue, given its breadth. The Group agreed that prioritising three topics of focus would be most effective; and that smaller sub-groups be established to undertake this work.

12. The three priority topics agreed were:

- Securing Planning Obligations/s106
- Public Transport
- Local and District Centres

13. The three sub-groups covering the above topics have been established and have met to agree a set of Terms of reference. These are attached at **Appendix B.**

14. The timescales which all 3 sub-groups are working to are as follows:

- Evidence Gathering – October 2023
- Drafting of key findings, recommendations and report – November 2023
- Agreement and sign off at Scrutiny – all committees – 5th – 13th December 2023
- Submission to Cabinet – 14th December 2023

15. Members are required to note the Terms of reference attached at **Appendix B.** The draft report arising from this Inquiry will be considered by the Committee at its meeting on 5th December 2023.

SOP Task & Finish Group

16. The SOP Task & Finish Group was established as a rolling Group to consider a number of School Organisation Planning proposals coming forward during 2022/23 and will continue to meet during the current year. Since the last committee business report (13th June 2023), there have not been any SOP Items to consider. However, at today's meeting, **all** Members will be considering two SOP Reports, namely:

- School Organisation Planning: Primary School Places To Serve Cathays And Parts Of Gabalfa, Heath, Llandaff North And Plasnewydd
- Fairwater Community Campus Band B Redevelopment

17. Whilst the two reports are being considered by the full committee, Members are to note that the SOP T&F Group will meet with Cllr Merry and the SOP Team on the 16 October 2023 to discuss the reports ahead of today's meeting. Those CYP Members in attendance (Cllrs Bridgeman and Hopkins) will have the opportunity to update Members at the pre meeting and at formal committee itself.

CYPSC – Informal Business

18. Due to the volume of items coming forward for the CYPSC Work Programme, sometimes the Chair will advise the Scrutiny Officer to send reports informally to Committee Members to invite their comments, views, observations and queries. These responses are collated and detailed in an output letter to the relevant Cabinet Member. The Chair agreed the following to be sent via this method.

- **Children's Service Quarter 1 Performance 2023/24** – this was distributed to CYPSC Members via email for comments on the 28 September 2023. No responses were received from Members. The next performance report is due to be brought to formal committee in December 2023.

Relevant Items considered by other Scrutiny Committees

19. To equip CYP Members with as much information as possible to assist them with their work, it has been agreed that relevant information considered by other Scrutiny Committees be distributed to Members for information and reference. The following have been considered recently and links to papers provided:

Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee – 18th September 2023

Members of this Scrutiny Committee were invited to join CASSC for consideration of the Local Authority Social Services Annual Report 2022/23. Contained in the papers were a number of reports that Members may find useful, namely:

- **Local Authority Social Services Annual Report Appendix 3 -**
Cardiff Council Social Services Annual Complaint, Compliments and Members Enquiries Report April 2022 – March 2023

Link to report: [Director of Social Services \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

- **Local Authority Social Services Annual Report Appendix 4 -**
Annual Report of the Corporate Safeguarding Board Cardiff Council 2022/23

Link to Report: [Appendix 4.pdf \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

Policy Review & Performance Scrutiny Committee – 20 September 2023

- Via the link below, Members are requested to consider Agenda Item 23
- **Budget Monitoring - Month 4 2023/24**

[Agenda for Policy Review and Performance Scrutiny Committee on Wednesday, 20th September, 2023, 4.30 pm : Cardiff Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

Way Forward

20. During the meeting, Members will have the opportunity to;

- Agree the draft CYP Work Programme 2023/24 (**Appendix A**)
- Note and agree the Terms of Reference for the RLDP Task & Finish Group (**Appendix B**)
- Note the progress in relation to the SOP Task & Finish Group.
- Note progress in relation to those Items distributed informally.
- Note related items considered by other Scrutiny Committees.

Legal Implications

21. 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

22. 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. Agree the draft CYP Work Programme 2023/24 (**Appendix A**)
2. Note and agree the Terms of Reference for the RLDP Task & Finish Group (**Appendix B**)
3. Note the progress in relation to the SOP Task & Finish Group.
4. Note progress in relation to those Items distributed informally.
5. Note related items considered by other Scrutiny Committees.

Davina Fiore

Director of Governance & Legal Services

10 October 2023

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CYPSC Work Programme 2023/24 – LATEST DRAFT

All meetings are Tuesdays at 4.30pm unless otherwise stated.

	17 Oct 2023	14 Nov 2023	5 Dec 2023	9 Jan 2024	Mon 26 Feb 2024 17.00	12 Mar 2024	16 Apr 2024	7 May 2024
Committee Item 1	SOP: Primary School Places to Serve Cathays and Parts Of Gabalfa, Heath, Llandaff North And Plasnewydd – pre-decision	City Centre Youth Hub – pre-decision	Education/Schools Pandemic Recovery - Update	Engagement and Participation of Children and Young People – Priority Topic - requested by CYPSC (see next page for more information)	Budget and Corporate Plan Scrutiny	Central South Education Consortium/ Education Annual Report - partnership/ Governance report	Youth Services and Youth Provision in Cardiff – Priority Topic - requested by CYPSC	CPAC Annual Report
Committee Item 2	SOP – Fairwater Campus Update – pre-decision	SOP Planning and Investment Strategy - pre-decision - TBC	Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Adoption Collaborative Annual Report 2022/23	YJS Update – quarterly update				
Committee Item 3	Committee Business	YJS Update – written briefing – quarterly update		Committee Business		Committee Business	YJS Update – quarterly update	Committee Business
SOP T&F		Update TBC	Update TBC	Update TBC	Update TBC	Update TBC	Update TBC	Update TBC
Performance Reports			Children’s Services 23/24 Q2 performance			Children’s Services 23/24 Q3 performance		

Green – Education & LL; Peach – Children’s Services; Blue – Partnership Reports; Pink – Supporting Young People (new portfolio); yellow – cross portfolio/departmental; orange – early years; Purple – SOP T&F Group

Topics yet to be timetabled

- Children with ALN who are also CLA and the implementation of the ALN Act
- Children’s Services 23/24 Q1 performance – email to Committee?
- YJS Update – quarterly update – due October 2023
- Innovations in Children’s Services - Priority Topic - requested by CYPSC (moved from November 2023)

Inquiry

- Young People Who Are Educated Other Than at School (EOTAS) and What Factors Could Lead to Them Becoming Vulnerable to Criminal Exploitation – continuation of this Inquiry from 2022/23 municipal year.
- RLDP – cross scrutiny Inquiry (Cllrs Bridgeman, Ahmed, Boes)

Priority Topics – chosen by CYPSC Members – areas of interest highlighted by Members

<p>Youth Provision in Cardiff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at what is available city-wide; identify gaps • Look at what interventions are available • What are the links within communities? • Cabinet Member perspective • Operational manager, senior staff in children's services and education. • Key partners from police and health. • To hear directly from the young people themselves. • Key staff including those working directly with young people in the Youth Service. • Someone with a critical eye as to what works/ what's missing
<p>Innovations in Children's Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interventions Hub ○ Reviewing Hub ○ Family Drug & Alcohol Court Pilot ○ North Yorkshire Model • Witnesses to include Director of CS plus cabinet member. Other relevant senior managers. • Key members of staff leading locality teams supplemented by data and case studies where appropriate including some case studies where progress or success has been difficult. • Useful to know what the difficulties are and how addressed. • Young people with lived experience of interventions/reviewing hub (can be anonymous correspondence if needed). • Social Worker to give their thoughts on effectiveness of hubs
<p>Engagement and Participation of Children & Young People</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross- authority issue • Would be good to involve those members of council staff leading on the consultation process/ Officers responsible for consultations across Cardiff Council. • Representatives of young people themselves. • Relevant staff and clients of the Youth Service. • Members of Young People's Parliament • Members of Youth Council (including CYPSC rep) • Members of other Cardiff wide Youth 'voices' organisations

REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

CROSS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE INQUIRY

Draft Terms of Reference

1. Harness the power of Scrutiny Member voices and experience to add value and encourage ambition in the RLDP Preferred Strategy, focusing on district and local centres, securing planning obligations, and managing transport impacts, by:
 - a. Understanding national and local policy priorities
 - b. Engaging expert and stakeholder voices
 - c. Researching good practice examples, which are capable of being replicated in Cardiff
 - d. Identifying policy 'hooks' needed in the Replacement Local Development Plan to deliver:
 - i. District and Local Centres**
 - Planning Retail Policies that sustain and enhance vibrant, attractive, viable, and accessible district and local centres
 - Planning Retail Policies that enable and support strong SPG that sustain and enhance vibrant, attractive, viable, and accessible district and local centres
 - ii. Securing Planning Obligations**
 - Explore how current policy and process in respect of planning obligations and section 106 agreements could be strengthened.
 - Explore how communication and narrative on planning obligations could be simplified, more accessible and transparent.
 - Address issues in relation to carbon neutral and biodiversity requirements
 - Make recommendations on how future/associated SPG could be framed
 - iii. Transport Impacts**
 - To strengthen T5 by ensuring the policy guarantees adequate travel infrastructure is proposed in new developments, which fully addresses the needs of communities and transport providers.

2. To make evidence-based recommendations to shape the RLDP Preferred Strategy.

Output / Outcomes

- Gathering additional expert and stakeholder views and good practice evidence
- Ensure the RLDP Preferred Strategy delivers in accordance with the WCFG Act requirements
- Recommendations to the Cabinet that shape the RLDP Preferred Strategy
- Deliver a unified voice across all Scrutiny Committees

DRAFT