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AGENDA

Committee	CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Date and Time of Meeting	MONDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2023, 2.00 PM
Venue	CR 4, COUNTY HALL - MULTI LOCATION MEETING
Membership	Councillor Merry (Chair) Councillors Ash-Edwards, Kaaba, Lay, Lewis, Lister, Littlechild, Naughton and Taylor

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 3 - 12)** 2.05 pm
To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting.
- 4 Children Looked After in Education Annual Report 2022-23 and Virtual Headteacher Update (Pages 13 - 30)** 2.25 pm
- 5 Cardiff Commitment Update (Pages 31 - 58)** 2.25 pm
- 6 Into work Advice Service - Bright Futures Update (Pages 59 - 78)** 2.40 pm
- 7 Participation Strategy Update (Pages 79 - 86)** 2.50 pm
- 8 Support for Care Leavers Report (Pages 87 - 92)** 3.05 pm
- 9 Passport to The City Report (Pages 93 - 104)** 3.15 pm
- 10 Member Visits Update (Pages 105 - 112)** 3.25 pm

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| 11 | Member Visit Programme (<i>Pages 113 - 116</i>) | 3.40 pm |
| 12 | Complaints - Verbal Report | 3.45 pm |
| 13 | Residential Annual Reports (<i>Pages 117 - 120</i>) | 3.15 pm |
| 14 | Forward Work Programme (<i>Pages 121 - 130</i>) | 4.05 pm |
| 15 | Urgent Items (if any) | |
| 16 | Date of next meeting | |

To be confirmed.

Debbie Marles

Interim Monitoring Officer

Date: Tuesday, 31 October 2023

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

CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

26 JUNE 2023

Present: Councillor Merry(Chairperson)
Councillors Lay, Lister, Littlechild, Naughton and Taylor

Officers Deborah Driffield (Director, Childrens Services)

Present:

Advisors Deborah Williams, (Virtual Headteacher)

Present:

Candice Lloyd (NYAS)

Becci Ingram, (General Manager Children, Young People and Family Health Services)

26 : APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR AND COMMITTEE

RESOLVED:

To note that Council, at its Annual meeting appointed Councillor Sarah Merry as Chair of the Committee for the 2023 -2024 municipal year and the following Members to the Committee:

Councillors Ash-Edwards, Kaaba, Lay, Lewis, Lister, Littlechild, Naughton and Taylor.

27 : TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED:

To note the Terms of Reference

28 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ash-Edwards, Lewis and Kaaba.

29 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

30 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on the 27 March 2023 were approved as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairperson.

31 : MY THINGS MATTER CAMPAIGN/PLEDGE

The Chair invited Candice Lloyd, from NYAS to provide an update to Members on the My Things Matter Campaign and Pledge (contained in Appendix A). Members of the Committee were encouraged to become signatories to the NYAS My Things Matter pledge in order to improve the experience of children and young people when moving to different placements – to date a total of 32 local authorities had signed up.

The Committee was reminded that a presentation had been provided at the last meeting on the My Things Matter Campaign/Pledge at which Members had agreed to sign the Pledge.

Members were informed that following today's meeting if everyone was minded to sign the Pledge, photographs would be taken in order to publicise the campaign. In addition, the Council had updated its guidance and policies with communications taking place with Cardiff City Council staff and other partner agencies to highlight the importance of the Campaign and Pledge.

Members were asked to comment or raise questions on the information received. Those discussions are summarised as follows:

- Members enquired as to the inter linkages between Cardiff as an individual local authority and the regional consortia for adoption and fostering. Additionally, if there were opportunities for the authority to influence outwards as well as in conjunction with other local authorities. Officers responded that NYAS was working closely with Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Adoption. The inter link is there and the pledge covers all of our looked after children.

RESOLVED:

To endorse the pledge.

32 : CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE EMOTIONAL WELLBEING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

The Chair invited Becci Ingram, (General Manager Children, Young People and Family Health Services – Committee Advisor) to provide an update to Members in relation to the Children's Services Emotional Wellbeing project.

Members were asked to comment or raise questions on the information received. Those discussions are summarised as follows:

- It was noted that there had been a reduction in the time taken to completed assessments and that 90% of children and young people were being seen within 28 days. Members asked what the waiting time for interventions was. Officers responded that there were currently extended waiting times for intervention pathways - in excess of 28 days but steps were being taken to improve this. One of the developments with the whole system change being introduced was the importance of connecting assessment and intervention together to manage capacity. The Service had transitioned to the new assessment front door and was in the process of a period of change from medically organised waiting lists to a single, unified waiting list and a needs-led approach with the right clinician working with the young person. The outcome being that this would address the needs of the young person in terms of the kind of intervention support they required for them and their parents.
- Members enquired as to whether there was a strategy going forwards in terms of the promotion of the Children and Young People Emotional Wellbeing

Service by working collaboratively with Council teams, doctors' surgeries, pharmacies and schools. Officers agreed that a promotion strategy for the Service was essential and that with the In Reach going live and embedded in the schools this was changing the narrative. The next phase was to be explicit and proactive and sharing the message across Cardiff and Vale.

- Bearing in mind the long wait for a diagnosis and a full support plan, Members raised the issue of what support was in place for those children and young people and how well connected the Authority was with the third sector and other partners and the partnership approach that was present in Children's Services. Members discussed the importance of children with psychological distress who were not being admitted having a safe place that was not a hospital or a secure unit but a home where they could get the support they needed.

RESOLVED:

1. To receive the report
2. Member's comments be forwarded to officers in the form of minutes.

33 : STATUTORY HEALTH AND INFORMATION FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

The Chair invited Becci Ingram, (General Manager Children, Young People and Family Health Services – Committee Advisor) to provide a presentation to Members on Statutory Health and Information for Looked After Children.

Members were informed that the Children Looked After team (health) were an important part of the Children, Young People and Family Health Directorate and delivered an area of work where there were statutory health requirements. Children in care had adverse health outcomes so the assessments were aimed at improving health outcomes and reducing health inequalities, as well as ensuring identified health needs are actioned and monitored. The service was provided by a small staffing team of Consultant Paediatricians and Specialist Nurse.

Members were provided with a summary and overview of the statutory responsibilities for monitoring the health of Children Looked After and the role of the key people in assessing and monitoring the health needs of Children Looked After, including the Looked After Health Nurses.

The Committee noted that there had been a growth in the number of children looked after with a direct impact on the number of health assessments the team were required to deliver. Until recently the team had not grown in line with the growth in demand. Recognising these pressures, it was noted that the Health Board had taken a number of actions which were outlined to Members. Members were also informed of further considerations and developments.

Officers shared a 15 year old patient's story with them which detailed his experiences in care, over a period of 13 years, told from the perspective of his grandmother. Members heard that during his time in care he passed through 5 foster placements with 5 different families and suffering emotional abuse. When a family was finally

found it only lasted five weeks resulting in him going back into care and then being separated from his sister (also in care). His experiences resulting in him becoming emotionally withdrawn to the point where he would not connect with anyone or anything. At this stage arrangements were made for an Independent Review Officer (IRO), social worker and LAC worker to intervene. Each of them made contact. He told his grandmother that the LAC nurse was brilliant together with IRO and Social Worker. He was now happy, smiling and working towards his GCSEs and wanted to continue in education where he had previously given up.

Members noted that the story highlighted the good work being done by the services and the importance of wrap around services for the child. The LAC nurse's intervention in the case was described as being an intervention with the right help at the right time – having a positive impact on the 15 year old and being a real turning point at making a difference. Members noted it would be of interest to understand the decision making process in this particular complex case, the details of the wrap around support and support that was put in place from partners very early on and that perhaps this would have made a difference if it had happened several years ago.

A discussion followed on from the patient's story. It was stressed that the story was written from the perspective of the grandmother and the details in the case were not individually verified facts. Officers highlighted the importance of obtaining a whole range of perspectives and that not every person's perspective was the same. Members were reminded that they had asked for perspectives that were not always positive and there were learning outcomes from such examples where the Authority could be doing things differently.

Furthermore, the case spanned a period of 15 years, over which time there had been many changes and developments such as Health directorates, Children's Services, Council and third party organisations investing heavily in early help, preventative services with the aim of preventing those children and young people coming into Children's Services statutory services. Additionally, when those children and young people were in the statutory services intervention hubs and emotional wellbeing support hubs were now in place which predated the case. Officers referred to the Adoption Collaborative and also the support in place for the siblings of the child or young person such as sibling attachment assessment, therapeutic support and life journey work for those children and young people.

Members were re-assured that Independent Reviewing Officers, who had been in place for many years, independently reviewed every single care plan for every single child looked after. Also, anti-disruption or disruption meetings took place prior to any placement breakdown and once there was a placement breakdown to understand what had gone wrong. Checks took place in terms of anything to be done in terms of support for carers and matching those children with future carers. Members were also made aware that the children would have been party to court proceedings and any care plans and proceedings would have been overseen by the court process. There would also have been a guardian in place who would have been independently supporting the children. The complaints process would also have been open to the family throughout their journey. The children and their parents, and grandparents potentially, would also have had the right to advocacy. Children and their families had the right to an independent advocate if they had any concerns at all. There was management oversight at all different levels in terms of all the families worked with

and once things were escalated in terms of the number of breakdowns there would be a case review in relation to this.

Members were asked to comment or raise questions on the information received. Those discussions are summarised as follows:

- Members enquired, in terms of the case study of the 15 year old whether vaccinations and dental health appointments were covered. Members were aware of problems with families getting on dental health surgery list – Officers responded that vaccinations would be covered but in terms of dental health appointments this would be followed up with the Primary Care team within Health.
- Members enquired if there were any figures/timescales for assessments of children in other areas – specifically Vale of Glamorgan and other neighbouring local authorities – Officers responded that there was one waiting time for all Cardiff and Vale with children being assessed by the team regardless of where they were placed.
- Members enquired how the information was tracked in relation to children and young people who travelled between health boards and if more information could be provided on the health passport and what that entailed – Officers responded that one of the looked after nurses (team of 7 nurses) specifically looked after children who travelled between health boards. They had constant contact with those children. Some engagement would take place locally within their own health boards or trusts if the child or young person was placed in England but there was a looked after nurse who was based in Cardiff and Vale who was a constant in the child's life. In relation to the health passport this was a new development, currently in its infancy. At the next committee officers would supply Members with more details.
- Members asked if a standard health check was carried out with every child across the Authority so that the same measurable goals were in place and therefore also a standard assessment – Officers confirmed that a standard health assessment was carried out for all children looked after.

RESOLVED:

- 1 To note the report on Statutory Health and Information for Looked After Children;
2. Members' comments be forwarded to officers in the form of minutes.

34 : ENFYs OVERVIEW

The Chair invited Dr Libby Erin, Lead Psychologist who provided Members with an Overview of Enfy's, a Psychology led Service for Children that are Looked After.

Members noted that the Enfy's service, previously known as the Developmental Trauma Service, was established in August 2016 and was originally just a part-time Clinical Psychologist who then became full time in August 2017. It had grown since

the last presentation to the Committee and now consisted of a team of around 15 comprising Psychologists, Graduate Mental Health Workers and Occupational Therapist. Members were informed that Enfys had a pyramid model which explained how support was offered.

Members would be aware there were over 1300 children who were looked after in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. To meet this demand the service provided a predominantly consultation-based model of service delivery. Once a family or child had support at one level, they could move up to the next level if it was considered there was a need for more intensive support. Members were informed that the number of families Enfys worked with at each level decreased as the pyramid was ascended. The service supported foster carers, social workers, teachers, or anybody else involved in a child's care, to complete the nurturing attachment group.

Members were provided with information on the ongoing support to families provided by Enfys as follows:

- Assessment and formulation of therapeutic need
- Based on child, young person or family individual needs (needs led)
- Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy –based support
- Members of the team are skilled in a variety of therapeutic models, as well integrative working (e.g. play based work, EMDR, DBT, Tree of Life, TF-CBT, ACT)

Members were also informed of the work with Enfys undertook alongside other agencies which included:

- 6-weekly supervision with CLA nurses
- 6-weekly supervision to post-adoption service
- Co-location with East, North, South teams in Cardiff Children's Services every month
- Co-location with post-adoption service every 2 weeks
- ARC – dedicated psychologist embedded in the edge of care service

Members noted that so far, this year, 5 Enfys groups had been run for individuals from both Cardiff and Vale and within Cardiff, Enfys has provided 246 Advice and Support Sessions since January 2023.

Members were appreciative of the fact that Enfys had supported many of Cardiff's children and young people and wished to pass on their thanks for the positive difference that they had made and there was recognition of the importance of what they did to support everybody.

RESOLVED:

1. To note the Enfys Overview; and
2. To feedback on how the service meets the needs of Looked After Children; whether this is sufficient to meet the numbers of Children Looked After and how it could be reported to future Committee meetings.

35 : EMOTIONAL WELLBEING PROJECT

The Chair invited Suki Bahara-Garrens to provide a presentation to Members on the Emotional Wellbeing Project which was a multi-agency project established, within the Regional Partnership Arrangements, to improve outcomes for children and young people in emotional crisis. The presentation to members outlined the approach and progress to date.

Members noted that during COVID there had been an increase in the numbers of children and young people across Cardiff who presented to emergency units following self-harm and suicide attempts. Whilst the majority were able to be discharged back to their homes or previous placements once they were medically fit, there were a small but growing number of young people who did not meet the criteria for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) or tier 4 in-patient support because their needs were not best described as related to a 'mental illness' but did require ongoing support to enable them to safely return to living within the community.

Members were provided with an overview of the project aims which were as follows-

- Improve outcomes for children and young people in emotional crisis;
- Reduce time spent on the paediatric ward for children and young people
- Improve multi-agency discharge planning to ensure a safer move on
- Wrap around clinical to team to work with children and young people in the community or in the stable base accommodation.
- Education from both Local Authorities involved for the children and young people.
- Improving collaborative work between Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Childrens Services and CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)
- Increased practitioner confidence when working with emotional distress or mental illness

Members were also provided with details of the Recovery Step Down Team and Home providing accommodation and assertive outreach. The Committee heard a case study of a 9 year old girl who had been discharged from hospital to a property with clinical support. The young girl had since returned to school and moved back to another placement.

Members were asked to comment or raise questions on the information received. Those discussions are summarised as follows:

- Members asked how many young people could be accommodated in the house provided by the project - Officers responded that the property was quite large with two separate living areas and two separate bathrooms. Two people lived there. The communal area, kitchen area could be joint but the young people would have their own bedroom and other space within that large property.

RESOLVED:

1. To note the report on the Emotional Wellbeing Project; and

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

2. To feedback on any observations or comments

36 : PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD - QUARTER 4 2022 - 2023

The Chair invited Matt Osbourne to present the Performance Dashboard which provided Members with the Key Performance Indicator Dashboard (Appendix A) which had been agreed by the Committee as a standing bi-annual agenda item.

Members were informed that the Key Performance Indicator Dashboard outlined a range of key data from internal departments and outside agencies that had an impact on the lives of Children Looked After and Care Leavers and that it would help Members of the Committee understand the services and organisations that supported care experienced young people in Cardiff.

Members noted that the key performance indicators included data from Cardiff and Vale Health Board; Children Services; Bright Futures; Housing Directorate; Education Directorate; Criminal Justice System and Adolescent/leaving care services.

Members were asked to comment or raise questions on the information received. Those discussions are summarised as follows:

- Members enquired if there was any data in relation to those young people participating in the Basic Income pilot and whether the Authority was being asked to track the different outcomes for that cohort of young people. In addition, if the Basic Income pilot was having the intended outcomes, what the learning outcomes were and also what the Authority had gleaned from what was being utilised for the young people to access the financial support. Officers responded that the Basic Income pilot data had not been included in the Performance Dashboard but in terms of those children and young people who were involved in the pilot they were being tracked and in addition were being monitored by the Welsh Government. Furthermore, the decision to launch the pilot was a positive one to ensure that children and young people who were care leavers got the best possible financial outcome.
- In terms of the placement figures (9% target), Members asked if it would be possible to break down those figures to remove those young people or differentiate between those young people who were moving into independent living arrangements to ascertain whether that figure was lower than 9%. When taking into consideration those going through independent living arrangements was whether there was a better narrative than the graph indicated.
- Members raised the issue to children being moved around the country and the possibility of vaccinations being missed and the importance of making sure that basic health road checks were recorded.
- A discussion took place on the Child's Passport and if it would be possible to map the key important information recorded in the Looked After Review and Child Placement Record. Health Services had their own systems and it was about ensuring there was some way of combining it all so that it was as transparent as possible. Officers responded that the information was quite

easy to extract and when looking at Health data there was not a great deal in the Dashboard and Health Service officers agreed to examine the data currently being collected and provide more information to the Committee. It was noted that a digital system was being established which would result in data being more accessible.

- In terms of exclusions Members asked if the Authority was encouraging schools to make sure they were engaging with social workers in addition to either residential or foster care providers to ensure that all key adults were involved. Officers responded that meetings took place with all key agencies where there was even a possibility of an exclusion taking place with the purpose of establishing a plan/offer to prevent that from occurring and taking into account the needs of the young person.
- With regards the changes to Additional Learning Needs (ALN), Members enquired what work was being undertaken as Looked After children and young people transferred from School Action Plus onto the new assessment systems and statementing. Officers responded that there was a specialist inclusion teacher who was involved in supporting and writing the IDP for young people subject to an ALN. The process being that the notification was received that there was an ALN and then a series of questions was discussed with all the agencies around the young people and resulted in an Inclusion panel taking place with an agreed action plan.
- In relation to the Mind of My Own App clarification was sought in relation to the Welsh Active Offer of Children's Right to Advocacy and that this would be at the forefront and that the app was there as supplementary support and not instead of. Officers were in agreement that the app was very helpful and gave a child and young person the opportunity to share information at a time which suited them but the active offer process issue-based advocacy was crucial and the app in no way replaced this.
- Members raised concerns over the provision of health care in terms of the numbers of doctor's surgeries and the growing population. Officers responded that the Health Board had annual plans that addressed changes not just in health but also around the expansion of housing in Cardiff and the growing demand which would have an impact on children. What was essential was to properly map those provisions with the service areas. The Committee noted that early conversations were starting regarding a guaranteed offer for Looked after Children.

RESOLVED:

To note the performance figures provided

37 : MEMBER VISIT PROGRAMME

The Chair invited Matt Osbourne to present the Member Visit Programme.

Members' attention was directed to Appendix G which provided a draft of suggested visits for the Committee. Members were asked if they were satisfied with the list

presented and were asked to feedback with suggestions for any additional provisions or services suitable for visits.

It was noted that it would not be possible in the case of many of the provisions for the whole of the Committee to attend. An example of this was the Children's Home which would only accommodate two members visiting at any one time. For some provisions, such as Cardiff Youth Justice there would be several events over the summer period allowing for a number of committee members to visit to meet the staff.

The Chair requested that if Members had to cancel a visit could they ensure that they notify their non-attendance as far in advance as possible in order that the space could be offered up to another attendee.

RESOLVED

1. To agree the programme of visits; and
2. To feedback on any other visits to any additional provisions or services the Committee felt would be useful

38 : FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME MAY 2023 - APRIL 2024

The Chair invited Matthew Osbourne to present the report. Members were informed that Educational Achievement, Employment and Training would be considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED

To note the content of the Forward Work Programme.

39 : URGENT ITEMS (IF ANY)

There were no urgent items.

40 : DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee is on Monday 2 October 2023 at 2.00 pm in Committee Room 4, County Hall, Cardiff.

The meeting terminated at 4.00 pm

**CYNGOR CAERDYDD
CARDIFF COUNCIL**



**CORPORATE PARENTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

2 October 2023

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, CHILDRENS SERVICES

CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER IN EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT AND VIRTUAL SCHOOL AND VIRTUAL HEAD TEACHER UPDATE

Reasons for the Report

1. This report has been prepared to provide the Committee with an update in relation to Children Looked After (CLA) in Education and the Virtual School and Virtual Head Teacher update- **Appendix A**.
2. The report will discuss how the Virtual School and Virtual Head Teacher is working to further Priority 4 of the Corporate Parenting Strategy: Educational achievement and Training.

Background

3. Since the last Educational Report to CPAC 2021-2022 there have been changes to the LACE (Looked After Children in Education) Team, the assessment processes for schools linked to the curriculum changes as the Curriculum for Wales is adopted across the year groups and key stages and the continued implementation of the ALN Reform.

Issues

Child Looked After Virtual School Cardiff

4. The application for Welsh Government pilot funding was successful in July 2022 and the pilot for the Virtual School and the role of the Virtual School Headteacher in Wales started for Cardiff in July 2022.
5. The application for the next year of Welsh Government funding for the Virtual School and Virtual School Headteacher has been received. The completed application was submitted on 20th September.

Curriculum for Wales

6. For primary schools, the roll-out commenced in September 2022. Secondary schools who chose to roll-out the curriculum to Year 7 also started in September 2022; with the curriculum being mandatory for Year 7 and Year 8 from September 2023. The curriculum will roll-out year by year until Year 11 by 2026.
7. Assessments across the Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 have changed in line with the curriculum. Schools will develop their own assessment and tracking processes to measure individual pupil progress and the VS and VS HT will be working with schools to review the Personal Education Plans (PEP) format.
8. GCSE qualifications remain for 2022-2023. There are plans to reimagine a new generation of GCSE qualifications and reshape the wider 14-16 qualifications offer through Qualifications Wales.

ALN Reform

9. There are a number of challenges faced by Education as a result of the ALN reforms. They are facilitating the transfer of existing statements to Individual Development Programmes, carrying out reviews and ensuring that there is the correct provision to meet the many complex needs of the children and young people. A Specialist Inclusion Teacher oversees our children and young people who have identified Additional Learning Needs (ALN).
10. The numbers of Local Authority maintained Individual Development Programmes for our children and young people are increasing. In 2021-2022 there were 7 new notifications in mandated years and in 2022-2023 there were 24.
11. The number of Children Looked After in Cardiff continues to increase, as of 31st March 2023 there are 1057 CLA in Cardiff. The needs of the children in the system are becoming more complex and we are still experiencing the challenges brought by the pandemic the subsequent recovery from it. This remains an issue for all children, but for our children and young people who have already experienced high levels of trauma and attachment difficulties, the pandemic has brought further challenges.
12. The Virtual School and the Virtual School Head Teacher work closely with schools and education settings, Children's Services and Health to make sure our Children Looked After's ability to learn and readiness to learn are prioritised, as their social and emotional and mental health wellbeing is central to their educational outcomes.
13. Performance Information
 - 63% of Cardiff Children Looked After are educated in a Cardiff School or setting
 - 31% of Cardiff Children Looked After are educated in an out of county setting

- 5% of Cardiff Children Looked After are Education Other Than At School (EOTAS)
- 1% of Cardiff Children Looked After not in provision

14. What is being done to support Children Looked After in education?

- Collaborative and integrated working with Education and Children's Services
- Working with schools and other education settings in and out of county
- Leadership and managing the change from the Looked After Children Education to the Virtual School Team
- Developing partnerships and relationships with other professionals and agencies

Financial Implications

15. There are no financial implications relating to the Virtual School and Virtual Head Teacher. The service is funded through the Welsh Government & Central Government via pilot funding. The application for the next year of Welsh Government funding has been received and the completed application must be received by 20th September 2023.

Legal Implications

16. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

17. To note the update on the Annual Education Report of Children Looked After and the Virtual School and Virtual Head Teacher update and to make any observations or comments.
18. To consider how the service meets the needs of our children who are looked after and how it is reported to the Committee going forward.
19. To engage with the Welsh Government to consider its plans and expectations regarding the grant funding arrangement of the Virtual School and Virtual School Head Teacher. Specifically, the CPAC is asked to explore the length of the grant with the Welsh Government, which will support increased longer-term planning of the service.

DEBORAH DRIFFIELD
Director, Childrens Services
13 September 2023

Appendix A- Children Looked After In Education Annual Report And Virtual School And Virtual Head Teacher Update

BRIEFING REPORT

CARDIFF Children Looked After (CLA) Education Annual Report

CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CARDIFF Children Looked After Education Annual Report

Background

The 'Cardiff 2030' highlights the continuing importance of focused action in several areas, including the continuing need to improve educational outcomes for Children Looked After.

Since the last Educational Report to CPAC 2021-2022 there have been changes to the LACE (Looked After Children in Education) Team, the assessment processes for schools linked to the curriculum changes as the Curriculum for Wales is adopted across the year groups and key stages and the continued implementation of the ALN Reform.

CLA Virtual School Cardiff

The pilot for the Virtual School (VS) and the role of the Virtual School Headteacher (VS HT) in Wales started for Cardiff in July 2022. The application for Welsh Government pilot funding was successful in July 2022. From September 2022 to March 2023 scoping work was carried out to consider the needs of Cardiff, this included the creation of the job description and person specification for the role of the VS HT. The recruitment process began in February 2023. The first VS HT was appointed in March 2023.

The application for the next year of Welsh Government funding for the Virtual School and Virtual School Headteacher has been received. The completed application must be received by 20th September 2023. The application will draw upon the work so far, the challenges ahead and the priorities identified for Cardiff.

The Virtual School Headteacher has provided a written review to Welsh Government of the work of the Cardiff CLA Virtual School. There was a follow up online interview with the research group carrying out the evaluation. The evaluation of the pilot will be published in the near future. No definite date has been set.

The National Development Group for CLA met in July 2023 for the first time since the last meeting pre pandemic. There are plans in place for the Virtual School Headteachers to meet and to work collaboratively. There are 22 local authorities (LAs) in Wales and currently there are 4 Virtual Schools and Headteachers. Other

LAs continue to work as they were. There are different reasons for this. One key reason is specifically related to the profile of the LA.

Reference the report presented to CPAC in November 2022. The report provided the background of the Virtual School model in Wales as well as identifying the key role and purpose of the VS and VS HT.

Reference the report to Scrutiny 4th July 2023. The report included key points of the work so far, the challenges ahead and the support needed to continue to bring about improvements and changes as identified.

Curriculum for Wales

For primary schools, the roll-out commenced in September 2022. Secondary schools who chose to roll-out the curriculum to Year 7 also started in September 2022; with the curriculum being mandatory for Year 7 and Year 8 from September 2023. The curriculum will roll-out year by year until Year 11 by 2026.

Assessments across the Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 have changed in line with the curriculum. We can no longer report on overall numbers and percentages of Outcomes at the end of Foundation Phase (Y2) and levels at the end of Key Stage 2 (Y6) and Key Stage 3 (Y9). Schools develop their own assessment and tracking processes to measure individual pupil progress. We will be working with schools to review the Personal Education Plans (PEP) format we use to accurately reflect the personalised assessments, where the pupil is with their development and learning and what is needed next to secure further progress

GCSE qualifications remain for 2022-2023. There are plans to reimagine a new generation of GCSE qualifications and reshape the wider 14-16 qualifications offer through Qualifications Wales.

ALN Reform

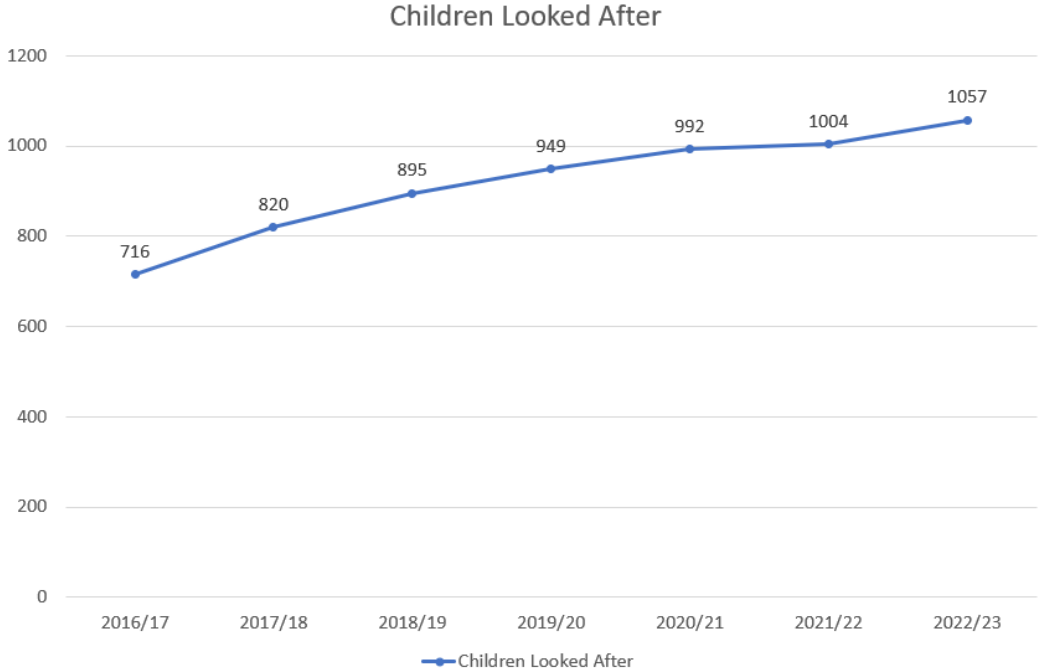
The ALN Reform is an important change for our children and young people. We have a very experienced Specialist Inclusion Teacher who oversees our children and young people who have identified Additional Learning Needs (ALN). The teacher has developed excellent relationships with schools and education settings. Through her expertise our children and young people have accurate and detailed Independent Development Plans (IDPs) that reflect their needs and how schools must provide for their ALN. The meetings held prior to the IDP being agreed and finalised are Person Centred Planning (PCP) meetings. The voice of our children and young people is integral to the meeting and outcomes. Where a pupil needs an IDP this becomes one document with their PEP.

We can see from the number of ALN notifications over the past year that the numbers of LA maintained IDPs for our children and young people are increasing. In 2021-2022 we had 7 new notifications in mandated years and in 2022-2023 we had 24. We know that the number of Specialist Provision requests is also increasing. The category of ALN need, Behaviour, Emotional, Social Development, is the most significant need.

There are a number of challenges Education face as we transfer the existing Statements to IDPs, carry out the reviews and ensure we have the correct provision to meet the many complex needs.

Introduction

The children identified as Looked After for the purposes of this report are those identified by Children’s Services on March 31st, 2023. The cohort is constantly changing due to adoption and children moving in and out of care.



The number of Children Looked After (CLA) in Cardiff continues to increase. The needs of the children in the system are also becoming more complex. We are still experiencing the challenges the pandemic brought and the recovery from the pandemic. This remains a challenge for all children. For our children and young people who have already experienced high levels of trauma and attachments difficulties the pandemic has brought further challenges. We work closely with schools and education settings, Children’s Services and Health to make sure their ability to learn and readiness to learn are prioritised; their social and emotional and mental health wellbeing is central to their educational outcomes.

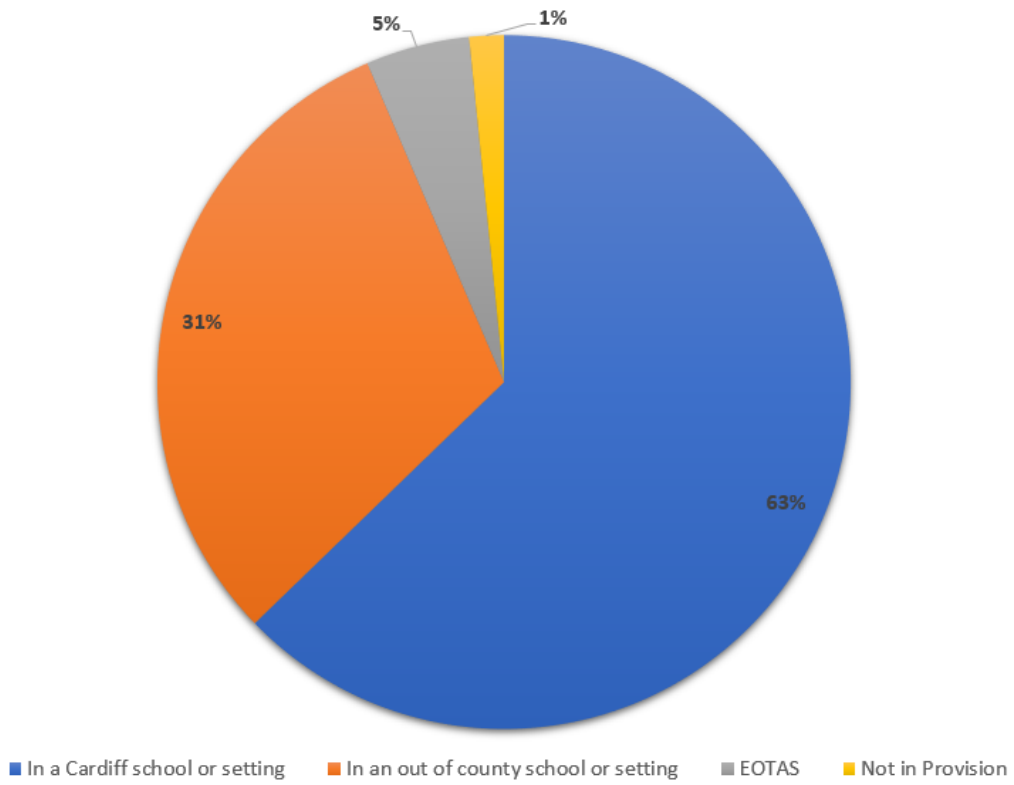
We are seeing an increase in the number of ALN notifications and the number of IDPs needed alongside an increase in the numbers of specialist provision requests places because a place in a mainstream school is not able to meet their complex needs. Specialist Provision places are increasing within Cardiff. Education and Children’s Services are working collaboratively to develop provision within Cardiff.

Given the numbers and challenges many of our children continue to achieve individual success and progress well in education, training, and employment. Our school staff, Education teams and Children’s Services work closely with our Virtual School Team to support our children and young people in many ways to allow them to feel safe and trust the adults around them. We have very good practice that continues to develop across all our settings that shows the adults understand the impact of working in consistent ways, responding with warmth and kindness and

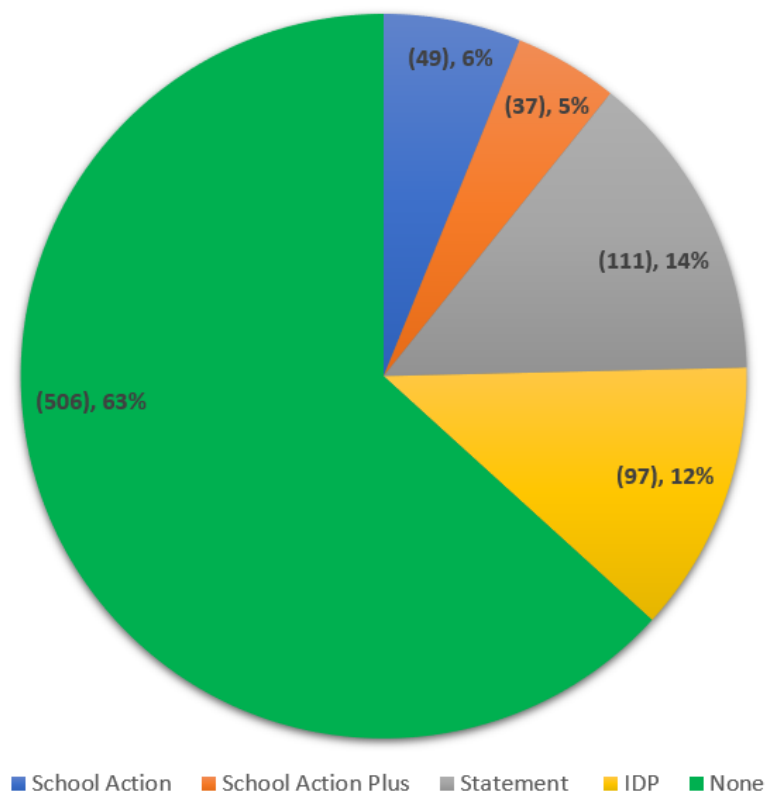
showing importantly the ability to really listen to what our children and young people are saying and need.

Information that can be shared

Where Cardiff Children Looked After are being educated:



Cardiff Children Looked After identified as having Special Educational Needs (SEN) / Additional Learning Needs (ALN)



Cardiff Children Looked After that have been 'Not in Provision'.

Time spent Not in Provision (NIP) academic year 2022/2023:	
Number of CLA from March 31st cohort NIP academic year 2022/23 living in Cardiff	11
Av school days NIP (Cardiff)	73
Number of CLA from March 31st cohort NIP academic year 2022/23 living in OOC	19
Av school days NIP (OOO)	71

Exclusion data

Incidents of Fixed Term Exclusions (FTE)	76
Days lost	142.5
CLA with 1 or more FTE	34
Average exclusion length	1.88
CLA with 5 or more days FTE	7
Categories FTE	
Assault/Violence (Pupil)	12
Assault/Violence (Staff)	8
Damage to Property	2
Disruptive Behaviour	21
Other	12
Substance Misuse	2
Verbal Abuse	19

Incidents of Permanent Exclusions (PEX)	2
CLA with 1 or more PEX	2
Categories PEX	
Assault/Violence (Staff)	1
Other	1

Progression of our Children Looked After into education employment and training.
Unable to provide until after 31/10/2023.

Successful Transition to Employment Education or Training:		
	# Y11	Y11s in a confirmed destination on 31 st October 2023
Total number of CLA in EET on October 31st		
%		
Total number of CLA in EET on October 31st (Cardiff)		
%		
Total number of CLA in EET on October 31st (OOC)		
%		
Total number of CLA in EET on October 31st (EOTAS)		
%		

Personal Education Plans

Personal Education Plans:		
Total number of CLA with a PEP this academic year		580
%		73%
Total number of CLA with a PEP this academic year (Cardiff Schools)		409
%		80%
Total number of CLA with a PEP this academic year (OOC Schools)		167
%		73%
Total number of CLA with a PEP this academic year (EOTAS)		36
%		82%

This year marks the second year that learners have completed formal exams and assessments since 2019, moving towards the return of pre-pandemic examination arrangements. The WJEC has given consideration to the disruption learners have experienced when deciding grade boundaries and Qualifications Wales have confirmed a national approach to results rather than school-specific.

The Virtual School Team have collected GCSE results for our pupils, but the full report will not be available until the end of October. An update report will be provided at the next meeting. However, we can share some important successes for our pupils.

Success stories

Pupil R

Destination: A levels at Sixth Form

B English Lang

B English Lit

B Biology

B Chemistry

B Physics

A* RS

B Welsh Second Lang

C Computer Science

B Spanish

P2 Welsh Bacc

C Skills Challenge

Pupil D

Destination: A levels at Sixth Form

C Maths

C English Lang

G Welsh Second Lang

B Biology

B Chemistry

B Physics

C RS

B Food and Nutrition

D H&SC

Pass Welsh Bacc

B Skills challenge

Pupil C

Destination: A levels at College

C Maths Higher

B Biology

D Chemistry

B Physics

F Welsh Lang

E Religious Studies

F Computer Science

C PE

P2 Welsh Bacc

C Skills Challenge

A* Level 2 Certificate in Financial Capability

Pupil G

Destination: A levels at Sixth Form

C Maths Higher

C English Lang

B English Lit

BC Science

B Welsh Second Lang

C RS

C Business

C D&T

Grade 5 Sociology

P2 Welsh Bacc

C Skills Challenge

Pupil S

Destination: A levels at College

C Maths

D Numeracy

B English Language

C English Literature

C Applied Science

E RE

C PE

C Art and Design

Level 2 Pass Hospitality

Pupil K

Destination: A levels at College

C Maths

C Numeracy

C English Lit

C English Lang

CD Science Double Award

E Geography

BTEC L1 Sport Pass

BTEC L2 Pass in Personal Teamwork and Personal Dev in the community

NCFE L2 Equality and Diversity

L2 Pass WJEC Hospitality & catering

Pass* Skill challenge

L1 Pass Welsh bacc

What are we doing well to support our children in Education?

- ❖ Collaborative and integrated working with Education and Children's Service
 - VS is represented on Children's Services panels such as Resource Panel, Brighter Futures and Unregistered Placement. This means improved communication and relationships and educational decisions are discussed in a timely manner.
 - VS HT has regular meetings with representatives from Children's Services to discuss specific points that need to be discussed to improve outcomes.
 - Joint Education and Children's Services meetings are held regularly with agreed agendas and actions across both directorates.
 - VS HT meets with Director and Assistant Director of Education to discuss and plan the strategic work.
 - Liaising with social workers and Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO), supporting, providing advice, making direct contact with schools and attending meetings such as CLA reviews to ensure the needs of our children and young people are heard.
 - Regular meetings with colleagues in Education including the Inclusion Team, Admissions and Emotional, Health and Wellbeing Team to ensure our children and young people are prioritised.
 - Representing the VS on panels to discuss ALN notifications, CLA IDP Quality Assurance, Specialist Provision Requests, Education Risk considering education costs for children and young people placed in and out of county.
 - Working closely with Educated Other Than at School (EOTAS) to track our pupils, secure other resources and monitor registered educational groups such as tuition.

- ❖ Working with schools and other education settings in and out of county
 - School visits are prioritised according to need; these have helped significantly when there has been a notification of Additional Learning Needs (ALN).
 - School visits have been planned to review the CLA pupils. Where these have been completed this has provided excellent opportunities to improve ways of working.
 - The work of the Specialist Inclusion teacher, responding to ALN notifications, Person Centred Planning (PCP) meetings with the school and other professionals involved, writing the LA maintained IDP, reviewing the IDP and transferring the previous Statement of Educational Need to an IDP.
 - Providing termly governor training on Corporate Responsibility, explaining the role of governors, the role of an identified link governor for CLA and providing strategies to ensure the CLA are groups of children and young people in all schools are prioritised.

- ❖ Leadership and managing the change from the LACE to the VS Team

- Weekly Team meetings and INSET days to provide efficient communication systems and a whole Team approach to have shared objectives to achieve the desired outcomes for our children and young people.
 - Developing existing highly effective and efficient processes and procedures.
 - Comprehensive pupil files for the VS Team to ensure actions are completed and the pupil remains at the centre of all the decisions made.
 - Monitoring and tracking attendance figures.
 - Tracking pupil progress and achievements.
 - Collecting PEPs for all children and young people.
 - Liaising with Admissions in relation to new admissions, in year applications, changes, as well as liaising for our of county CLA moving into a Cardiff school or setting.
 - Planning and leading Designated Teacher Forums ensuring good communication, sharing of excellent practice, providing CPD opportunities, hearing the voices of our young people.
 - VS HT meetings with the National Development Group for VS Wales and representatives from WG.
 - Providing support to CLA Cluster Leads school developing the action plans that directly support our children and young people linked to the grant funding from WG for CLA, CLA PDG grant.
- ❖ Developing partnerships and relationships with other professionals and agencies
- Links and working with Goleudy, new Health, Children's Services and Education group.
 - Links and working with CASCADE, CLASS Cymru.
 - Attending the SAFE Partnership meetings to improve the wider understanding of the safeguarding issues for our pupils.
 - Links and working with colleagues at CAVC; including plans to provide school holiday sessions to encourage engagement and inspire future outcomes and improved life chances.
 - Strong links with Enfys.
 - Securing new ways of working i.e., a play therapist is working with one of our children. A case study will be completed to show the impact and influence next steps.

Priorities and future plans in Education to improve outcomes for Children and Young People Looked After

24th July 2023 this was the first INSET Day for the whole VS Team. It marks the first of whole day training opportunity for the Team to reflect on the work so far, consider what has gone well, what we need to improve, the challenges we face, identify the priorities and set key objectives and actions for the year ahead.



Vision

We have a strong vision of what we want to achieve in Education through the integrated and collaborative approach between all Education Services, Children's Services and Health.

Funding

The financial security of the WG grant continuing is integral to the development and future success. The current situation does not support future planning. Commitment and clarity are needed from WG. The education, training and employment of our children and young people must be everyone's responsibility.

Impact

The needs of our children and young people are diverse and complex. Each child and young person is an individual and reporting on impact will be important to develop the use of case studies. There will be some data, quantitative, as well as recognising the place and significance of the narrative, qualitative, in the form of case studies.

Timescale

It is still early days and there is still a significant amount of work to do; keeping our children and young people at the centre of all our work as well as prioritising the wider, longer term strategic work to secure the sustainability of making improvements for our children and young people. So far, the networking, reaching out to a wide range of professionals and agencies, improved communication and relationships have already had a direct impact on improvements for our children and young people.

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**CYNGOR CAERDYDD
CARDIFF COUNCIL**



**CORPORATE PARENTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

2 OCTOBER 2023

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, CHILDRENS SERVICES

CARDIFF COMMITMENT UPDATE

Reasons for the Report

1. To provide the Committee with an update in relation to the Cardiff Commitment Project.

Background

2. Cardiff Commitment is a programme to support the Capital Ambition, that all learners progress into education, employment or training post-16.
3. Supporting the progression of young people is a key priority for the Education Directorate and Cardiff Commitment are building strong relationships between Cardiff's schools, employers, and higher and further education partners to support young people to access good jobs and careers.
4. Over 300 employers in Cardiff are working with Cardiff Commitment to offer young people employment and training opportunities, work experience and curriculum enrichment activities.
5. It links closely with the principles of the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2021-2024
 - To help those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners.
 - To promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people.
 - To prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living.

Overview

6. The Cardiff Commitment is a citywide alliance of employers from growth sectors of the economy, Higher Education, Further Education, 3rd Sector and Schools who seek to harness the economic, cultural and social capital of Cardiff for the benefit of children and young people.
7. This collaboration of partners helps to secure opportunities for our children and young people, which will raise ambitions and develop the skills needed for the world of work. This support will assist pupils to fulfil their potential and contribute to the economic growth of our city.
8. There are 6 priorities within the Cardiff Commitment Forward Work Plan:
 - 8.1 Priority Partner Support: providing enhanced training based on needs, encouraging shared capacity between organisations and working together to impart the knowledge, skills and experiences required to inspire our children and young people towards a better future.
 - 8.2 Priority Experience of Work: Embedding Business Forums, Careers and Work-Related Experiences within schools that reflect employers across the growth sectors within the region. This will broaden understanding of labour market intelligence in areas which are poorly understood and of strategic importance to connect and support children and young people to transition into the jobs of the future.
 - 8.3 Priority Learning Pathways: Empowering young people to make informed decisions regarding their next steps by providing a local, visible and transparent post 16 provision and opportunity offer. This will be provided alongside access to trustworthy regional labour market intelligence, which will support young people to transition into education, employment and training that are aligned to their aspirations.
 - 8.4 Priority Social Value: Supporting Cardiff Council Contract Managers and suppliers to develop and deliver social value opportunities that are needed, that support children and young people to be ambitious and provide the skills needed for positive transitions into education, employment, and training.
 - 8.5 Priority Children And Young People Who Need It Most: Targeted programmes informed by labour market intelligence which look to increase the possibility and probability of young people with a variety of barriers and challenges of moving into paid employment, training or education through an enhanced careers and work-related experiences offer.

- 8.6 Priority Cardiff Curriculum: Supporting schools to deliver the Curriculum for Wales through the Cardiff Curriculum team, utilising School Business Forums and the Cardiff Commitment network to develop knowledge, skills and experiences which provide scaffolding and opportunities for co-constructing curriculum.

Targeted Support for Children Looked After

9. A Children Looked After Working Group is being developed to support pupils across our schools with meaningful career and work-related experiences. The group will help to promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people.
10. The group will be chaired by our Children Looked After Virtual Head Teacher and Head Teacher at Cardiff West Community High School. They will look at how meaningful opportunities can be developed within the Cardiff Commitment network to support our Children Looked After to develop their aspirations and support them to realise their ambitions for the future.
11. The views of Children Looked After will be central to this work and they will be consulted for their views as to the support they need to raise their aspirations and realise their ambitions. Cardiff Commitment will listen to their ideas and needs and respond with a Call to Action across their partner network.

Financial Implications

12. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications

13. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

14. To note the Cardiff Commitment Update Report and make any observations or comments and, if appropriate agree how the implementation of this project is reported to this committee going forward.

DEBORAH DRIFFIELD
Director, Childrens Services
14 September 2023

Appendix A: Presentation



September
2023

Cardiff Commitment CPAC Report



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- 06 — Our Priorities & Forward Plan 2022-2024
- 07 — Children Looked After - Actions & Commitments
- 08 — Appendix 1 John Lewis Case Study
- 09 — Acknowledgements

01 - Introduction

Cardiff Council has a bold vision for all learners as set out in the Stronger, Fairer, Greener to enhance the 'Cardiff Commitment', and ensure that all learners progress into education, employment or training post-16 .

Supporting the progression of young people is a key priority for the education directorate and through the Cardiff Commitment we are building strong relationships between Cardiff's schools, employers, and higher and further education partners to support young people to access good jobs and careers. Over 300 employers in Cardiff are working with us to offer young people employment and training opportunities, work experience and curriculum enrichment activities.

This closely chimes with the aspirations and principles of the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2021-2024

- To help those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners.
- To promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people.
- To prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living.

The challenge lies in balance of targeted support for CLA and avoiding stigmatization of CLA within school settings. Therefore this report will highlight the overarching priorities of the Cardiff Commitment in our 2022-2024 Forward Planning of which all CLA will be beneficiaries of in a school setting whether that be primary, secondary or 6th form; alongside a more targeted offer of support which we have garnered momentum in since receiving additional SPF funding in summer 2023 to secure a member of staff to lead on this priority as highlighted in our Actions and Commitments section.

02 - Mission, Vision, Values & Goals

Overview

The Cardiff Commitment is a citywide alliance of employers from growth sectors of the economy, Higher Education, Further Education, 3rd Sector and Schools who seek to harness the economic, cultural and social capital of Cardiff for the benefit of children and young people.

This collaboration of partners secure opportunities which raise ambitions and develop the skills needed for the world of work to support pupils to fulfil their potential and contribute to the economic growth of our city.

Mission	Vision
<p>To work in partnership to raise ambitions, develop opportunities and deliver skills to support pupils, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds to fulfil their potential and contribute to the economic growth of our city.</p>	<p>Working together to be a city that inspires its children and young people towards a better future</p>
Values	Goals
<p>Collaboration Innovation Equity Meaningful Work</p>	<p>Inspire the next generation of children and young people to develop the skills needed for the jobs of tomorrow</p> <p>Be the bridge between employers and learning organisations to create opportunities and support partnership working</p> <p>Engage and expose children and young people to the world of work through multiple interventions</p> <p>Supporting young people to progress into education, employment and training and develop the right skills to support growth sectors across the region</p>

03 - Meet The Team



CARLY DAVIES
Programme Manager



VICKY HIGHGATE
Business Engagement
Advisor



HANNAH CARLSON
Cardiff Commitment
Project Manager



ABBIE MARKS
Cardiff Commitment
Project Manager



DARREN PHILLIPS
Post 16 Officer



HALIMA BIBI
Admin Officer



SARAH JAYNE SEALY
Schools Liaison
Officer (ALN)



EMMA WRIGHT
Schools Liaison
Officer
(CWCHS)



RHIANNON COX
Schools Liaison
Officer (YSS &
EOTAS)



GARETH MACARTHY
Schools Liaison
Officer (Bus Eng.)

The Cardiff Commitment team sits across the Economic Development and the Education Directorate (comprised of temporary and permanent staff) responsible for driving forward the Priority Areas of the Cardiff Commitment, a portfolio of six accelerator areas developed and designed through research, data and consultation with stakeholders that provide ambition, opportunities and skills to children and young people who need it most to fast-track our progress towards realising the vision of the Cardiff Commitment

04 - Our Demographic

Pupils

There are approximately 57,323 pupils aged between 3 years and 18 years in Cardiff Education settings from 3 years to 18 years.

There is an average of 3000 - 3500 pupils per year group across the city.

Schools

There are 127 schools: 98 Primary Schools - 18 Secondary Schools
7 Special. Schools

Youth Support Services

88% of children in the Youth Justice Service are male (2022 snapshot) and predominantly come from Southern Arc wards.

Children's services caseloads are higher in areas of deprivation and this caseload has been steadily rising since 2016, with a sharp rise seen in the pandemic which continues.

Attendance across all school has been slowly declining since 2017 with a sharper downturn since 2020 and there has been a significant rise in both permanent and fixed-term exclusions in secondary schools over the last year, which is evidence that behaviour in some schools has grown more challenging.

Poverty & Deprivation

Cardiff is the local authority with the highest child poverty rate in Wales, with over a third (36%) of children in Cardiff South living below the poverty line - Save The Children May 2021

Cymraeg

Whilst the number of Welsh speakers in Wales has fallen by 24,000 over the last decade, the 2021 census suggests the percentage of people aged three years or older able to speak Welsh has increased in Cardiff between 2011 and 2021.

Our city saw the largest increase of Welsh speakers from 11.1% in 2011 to 12.2% in 2021, which is an increase of around 6,000 people able to speak Welsh.

2021 Census



05 - Our Policy Context

The production of the three-year strategy to deliver the Cardiff Commitment aligns to and delivers on the priorities set out in:

- Future Generations and wellbeing Act
- Curriculum For Wales
- Stronger, Fairer, Greener
- Cardiff 2030
- Corporate parenting Strategy 2021-2024
- Youth Justice Service Strategy 2022-2024
- One Planet Cardiff
- Bilingual Cardiff Strategy 2022-2027

A major report published by Education & Employers in January 2020 Disconnected: Career aspirations and jobs in the UK revealed the disconnect between young peoples career aspirations and jobs in the UK, whether current vacancies or projected demand. The report was based in 7000 responses from young people 14-18 years and key findings included a disconnect between aspiration and opportunity and uncertainty around job choices.

The OECD published in early 2020 Dream Jobs? Teenagers' Career Aspirations and the Future of Work which acknowledges the rapid change the labour market is undergoing across the globe with many professions at risk of automation. It revealed that young people have narrow, unrealistic career aspirations which are distorted by gender and social background. Many young people aspire to jobs that are at high risk of automation and labour market and growth sector information is failing to reach young people.

All About School Leavers suggests the two key “human” influencers for young people in the careers decision making process are parents/carers and teachers. Teachers are the most important at the information gathering, advice and guidance stage with 58.46% of young people going to their teachers and 32.15% going to their parents/carers.

06 - Our Priorities & Forward Plan 2022-2024

The Cardiff Commitment Priorities and Forward Plan 2022-2024 set out how we will deliver on Cardiff Councils Stronger, Fairer, Greener Strategy to: Support the most vulnerable, tackle inequality and promote economic growth. The Priorities are aligned to: Strategic Education Directorate Priority 6: "Support and promote ambition, opportunities and progression for all children and young people by working with partners to deliver the Cardiff Commitment"



01. Priority Partner Support

Developing and strengthening the capacity of our network to realise the vision of the Cardiff Commitment by providing enhanced training based on needs, encouraging shared capacity between organisations and working together to impart the knowledge, skills and experiences required to inspire our children and young people towards a better future.

We will utilise the Cardiff Commitment network to attract and recruit excellent school governors reflective of the communities they serve to drive school improvement.

We will assist the retention of Welsh speaking talent in Wales by raising awareness of labour market intelligence and the opportunities of good, well paid and secure work within the region across our Cardiff schools with particular focus on Welsh medium and align our work to the Bilingual Cardiff Strategy

We will deliver training and showcase examples of employers and schools working in partnership to support schools and pupils to become Qualified for the Future and develop the authentic learning experiences required for the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales.

06 - Our Priorities & Forward Plan 2022-2024

We will deliver training and showcase examples of employers and schools working in partnership to support schools and pupils to become Qualified for the Future and develop the authentic learning experiences required for the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales.

We will raise awareness of labour market intelligence across schools' senior leadership teams to support and inform their approach to the part they have to play in accelerating economic growth and productivity throughout the region.

06 - Our Priorities & Forward Plan 2022-2024



02. Priority Experiences of Work

Establishing and embedding Business Forums and Careers and Work-Related Experiences within our schools that are reflective of employers across the growth sectors within the region to broaden understanding of labour market intelligence in areas which are poorly understood and of strategic importance to connect and support children and young people to transition into the jobs of the future.

We will establish and embed Business Forums across schools residing in communities of economic deprivation, with the highest levels of child poverty and Free School Meals to ensure pupils have access to employers from our regional growth sectors and are exposed to a variety of careers and work related experiences to develop opportunities, raise aspirations and enhance the skills required of world of work.

We will establish and embed a Specialist Settings Business Forums across schools for pupils with Learning Disabilities and Autism to ensure pupils have access to employers from our regional growth sectors and are exposed to a variety of careers and work-related experiences to develop opportunities, raise aspirations and enhance the skills required of world of work

We will deliver an annual Debating Programme with input from employers across our growth sectors to develop essential soft skills and hard skills such as collaboration, listening and responding appropriately, articulating and justifying an argument, using evidence and structuring speeches, style and quality of spoken language identified as a valuable for young people from low-socio economic backgrounds to develop their social and cultural capital and "crack the class ceiling"

06 - Our Priorities & Forward Plan 2022-2024

We will deliver an annual Open Your Eyes Week for pupils in years five and six from across Cardiff Primary Schools to challenge gender, and class stereotypes and provide 'lightbulb moments' by bringing a variety of inspiring professionals into the classroom to enable pupils to discover their passions, develop their dreams, explore their place in the world of work

We will work with our schools to develop Primary to Secondary Transition Programmes aligned to developing the skills required for the world of work to ensure pupils invest and find purpose in their education by linking what they are studying to the real world and the opportunities in Cardiff.

We will secure funding and partners to support schools to develop and deliver careers and work-related experiences, knowledge, and skills with a specific focus on science and technology (STEM & Green Skills) to guarantee our pupils are Qualified for Life and aware of the competences required to access the jobs of the future.

06 - Our Priorities & Forward Plan 2022-2024



03. Priority Learning Pathways

Empowering young people to make informed decisions regarding their next steps by providing a local, visible and transparent post 16 provision and opportunity offer alongside access to trustworthy regional labour market intelligence to support young people to transition into education, employment and training aligned to their aspirations and where the jobs in Cardiff will be.

We will develop and launch the permanent What's Next website to inspire young people aged 16-24 to explore and discover the jobs for the future in the Cardiff Capital Region and empower them to make informed choices about their next steps through a visible and transparent offer of provision and opportunities local to Cardiff.

We will provide Youth Support Services across the city with a comprehensive understanding of the education, employment and training provision in Cardiff by facilitating a calendar of monthly online events delivered by providers to better connect services into the opportunities available in the city for their young people.

We will reintroduce Work Experience for Year 12 pupils utilising the Cardiff Commitment network to enrich the curriculum, enhance employability skills, improve career decision making and increase motivation by providing knowledge and experiences from the world of work.

Following the success of the Fitzalan Kickstarter provision we will look to replicate this project to provide opportunities for young people to progress into employment within school settings which provide a safe, nurturing and supportive pathways' for vulnerable pupils to succeed.

06 - Our Priorities & Forward Plan 2022-2024



04. Priority Social Value

Supporting Cardiff Council Contract Managers and suppliers to develop and deliver social value opportunities that are needed, that support children and young people to be ambitious and provide the skills needed for positive transitions into education, employment, and training.

We will utilise the Social Value Contract Forward Plan to engage with contract managers across the council to support delivery of social Value commitments which have meaningful and impactful outcomes for children and young people

We will develop approaches to how Social Value can be informed by school leaders, youth support services and children and young people to guarantee the voices, needs, priorities and rights of children are an integral part of social value programmes and decisions

We will broker and support the delivery of social value commitments to ensure that outcomes are impactful and meaningful for children and young people.

We will inform effective social value practice and report on the quantitative and qualitative impact of social value projects supported by the Cardiff Commitment.

06 - Our Priorities & Forward Plan 2022-2024



05. Priority Children & Young People Who Need It Most

Targeted programmes informed by labour market intelligence which look to increase the possibility and probability of young people with a variety of barriers and challenges of moving into paid employment, training or education through an enhanced careers and work-related experiences offer

We will develop and deliver a What's Next website specifically for young people with Additional Learning Needs to inspire them to explore and discover education, employment and training opportunities and empower them to make informed choices about their next steps through a visible and transparent offer of accessible provision local to Cardiff.

Following the success of Project Search, we will look to replicate this project across sectors to provide opportunities for young people to progress into supported employment within school settings and outside of school settings which provide a safe, nurturing and supportive pathways' for pupils with additional learning needs to succeed.

We will work with employers to develop and deliver multiple careers and work-related experience interventions with settings such as Greenhill Special School, the Pupil Inclusion Project and Stage 4 Provisions to build ambition, provide opportunities and deliver the skills needed to increase the possibility and probability of progression into education, employment or training post 16.

06 - Our Priorities & Forward Plan 2022-2024

We will strengthen the SAFE partnership and encourage colleagues across services who support children and young people at risk of exploitation to take advantage of the Cardiff Commitment stakeholders. We will facilitate the development of interventions, engagement and diversionary activities with the partnership which support building ambition, provide opportunities and deliver the skills needed to increase the possibility and probability of progression into education, employment or training.

New 2023/2024

We will develop a Children Looked After Working Group to support pupils across our schools with meaningful careers and work related experiences to promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people.

06 - Our Priorities & Forward Plan 2022-2024



06. Priority Cardiff Curriculum

Supporting schools to deliver the Curriculum for Wales through the Cardiff Curriculum team, utilising School Business Forums, AoLE Forums and the Cardiff Commitment network to develop knowledge, skills and experiences which provide scaffolding and opportunities for co-constructing curriculum.

We will continue to facilitate delivery as requested by Cardiff Curriculum team to develop resources and professional development as required to ensure Cardiff fulfils Welsh Governments ambitions regarding the introduction of the Curriculum for Wales from 2022

We will work with the Cardiff Commitment network to develop and deliver scaffolding to support the collaboration between schools and employer to realise the expectations of the Curriculum For Wales

We will work with employers to better understand the progression steps within each of the Area of Learning & Experiences (AoLE) through the development of AoLE Forums.

07 - Children Looked After - Actions & Commitments



01. CLA Working Group

This September will see the commencement of the “Children Looked After Working Group” chaired by our CLA Virtual Head and Head Teacher at Cardiff West Community High School to look at how meaningful opportunities can be developed within on network to support our Children Looked After to develop their aspirations and support them to realise their ambitions for the future.

The views of CLA will be central to this work and we will ask CLA in Cardiff West what they want to raise their aspirations and realise their ambitions, we will listen to their ideas and needs and respond with a Call to Action across our partner network.



02. Strategic Leadership Group

In June 2023 the Cardiff Commitment Strategic Leadership Group chaired by the Chief Executive of Cardiff Council with membership across HE, FE, 3rd Sector and strategically significant employers from across the city heard from our CLA Virtual Head Teacher on how we can collectively support CLA pupils better and provide careers and work-related experiences which generate inspiration and aspiration to bring to life a world of future possibilities for a group of young people most at risk of not entering education, employment or training at statutory school leaving age. A commitment from the SLG membership was requested, to listen and act to make a difference and improve the life chances of CLA.

07 - Children Looked After - Actions & Commitments



03. Work Experience

John Lewis have been working in partnership with the Cardiff Commitment to introduce their national Building Happier Futures scheme into their Cardiff store. The successful programme which has been delivered by John Lewis in over 23 Local Authorities across the country looks to identify and recruit talented young people who've experienced care to become Partners in their business. Five young people were identified and supported to access this opportunity by the Youth Services Post 16 Team and completed their three day work experience with the store at the end of the summer term. This September as part of the scheme the young people will participate in a supported interview process, and provided an opportunity to truly explore the John Lewis Partnership and start a meaningful career.

We are looking to replicate this project as part of the CLA Working Group Careers and Work Related Experiences offer. See Appendix 1 John Lewis Case Study

08 - Appendix 1 John Lewis Case Study

1

The Post 16 Team identified Care Experience young People who were invited to John Lewis Cardiff to find out more about the Building Happier Futures project, learn about roles and receive a tour of the site

2

Employability
John Lewis
drop in &
tour

3

Work
Experience

4

Application
Support



Three days of Work experience were offered and successfully completed at John Lewis Cardiff. The young people were supported by staff to learn about and gain experience in a range of front and back of house roles across the store.

After gaining work experience, all young people were assured a job interview and received support from John Lewis staff to prepare for it. If they passed the official interview, they were either offered a position or put on a waiting list for a suitable vacancy

08 - Appendix 1 John Lewis Case Study



60% **Average confidence at start of project**



90% **Average confidence at end of project**

Without this opportunity I would be...



Unhappy



Stuck at home



Lonely

Which words best describe this project...



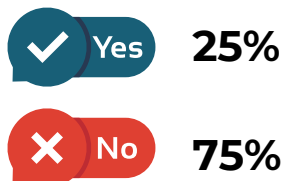
Fun



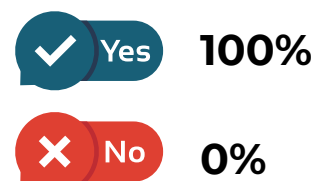
Challenging



Worthwhile

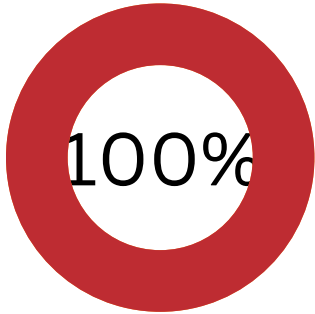


Without Moxie clothing donation would you have had workwear?



Did you like the fact the work exp. took place in store?

08 - Appendix 1 John Lewis Case Study



Would you recommend this project to other young people?

How do you rate the support given by the John Lewis team?



4.8 Average rating

Being involved in this project has given me...



Social life

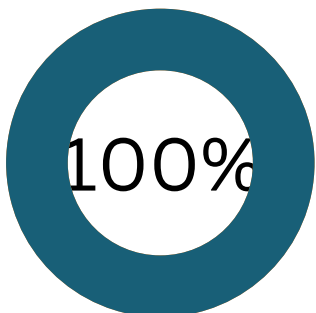
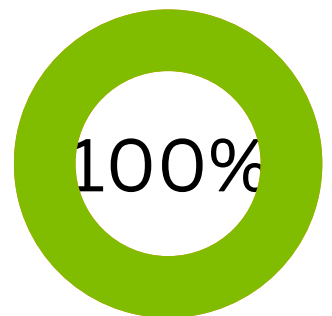


New skills



A positive future

Has this project helped you better prepare for the world of work



What aspect of this course did you least enjoy?

All respondents said there was nothing they didn't enjoy

08 - Appendix 1 John Lewis Case Study



To listen to a young persons experience scan the QR code

Young peoples thoughts & opinions

I have a much greater respect for people who work in retail now

I found the John Lewis partners very helpful they helped me learn about the job

It was not as intimidating as I originally thought

This helped me so it will help other people

09 - Acknowledgements

This report is submitted in advance of the 2022-2023 Cardiff Commitment Annual Report which highlights progress and impact towards realising our vision to be a city that works together to inspire all of its children and young people towards a better future.

For any further information on the Cardiff Commitment please visit

www.cardiffcommitment.co.uk

www.whatsnextcardiff.co.uk



Cardiff Commitment



@cardiffcommitment



@cdfcommitment



Cardiff Commitment

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**CYNGOR CAERDYDD
CARDIFF COUNCIL**



**CORPORATE PARENTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

2 October 2023

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, CHILDRENS SERVICES

INTO WORK ADVICE SERVICE (BRIGHT FUTURES & BRIGHT START) UPDATE

Reasons for the Report

1. This report has been prepared to provide the Committee with an update in relation to the Into Work Advice Service (Bright Futures & Bright Start) Update- **Appendix A and Appendix B.**
2. The report will discuss how the Into Work Advice Service is working to further Principle 4 of the Corporate Parenting Strategy: Educational achievement and Training.

Background

3. The Bright Futures Project sits within the Into Work Advice Service as part of a wide team of employability and training projects. The Service provides employment, training, volunteering and digital support to Cardiff citizens who are actively seeking work or looking to upskill.
4. The Bright Futures Project provides support for Care Experienced young people (16-24) who are identified as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) or at risk of becoming so and needing intensive help to access training and the workplace.
5. A team of five Youth Mentors liaise with partners in Children's Services and Youth Services to ensure that all Care Experienced young people are given the opportunity to reach their potential and be supported into education and work.

Issues

How the Service works

6. Bright Futures mentors run weekly drop-in sessions in Hubs, Children's Residential Homes, Youth Temporary and Supported Accommodation Projects in an attempt to engage with young people where they are living.

7. Youth Mentors provide bespoke one to one employment and training support to NEET young people:
 - Based across the city and can meet wherever the young person feels most comfortable
 - Financial Support to help young people to get into work – including covering transport costs, interview and work specific clothing as well as specialist training courses
 - Access to a Transport Fund to buy a bike and safety equipment to safely travel across the city, widening access to employment, training and education.
 - Intensive help to create a CV and complete application forms
 - Interview preparation and real-life advice direct from employers
 - In-work support to help sustain employment
8. In addition to Bright Future mentor support, Care Experienced young people can access the Bright Start Scheme. Bright Start is a Traineeship Scheme for Cardiff Council's Care Experienced young people aged 16-24. It helps young people find traineeships within an area of interest and be supported through the placement process by a Bright Start Support Worker.
9. Young people receive a Trainee allowance of up to £75 per week, funded via the St David's Day Fund, which does not affect their Universal Credit claim.
10. The Bright Start Traineeship Scheme is currently limited to offering placements for up to 6 months. We are working with Into Work's Cardiff Works team to offer positive progression for those Trainees who aren't ready to or able to secure employment after their placement. Cardiff Works will be able to offer up to 6 months of a paid work placement, paid at National Living Wage

Financial Implications

11. There are no financial implications relating to the Bright Futures and Bright Start project provision. Bright Futures is funded through the Welsh Government & Central Government via C4W+, committed until March 2024, with indicative grant provided from April 2024 via the Shared Prosperity Fund, which has been committed until March 2025. The Bright Start Traineeship scheme is part funded through the St Davids Day Grant. Where costs exceed resources available then action will be taken in order to ensure that costs are contained with the budgetary resources available.

Legal Implications

12. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

13. To note the update on the Into Work Advice Service and to make any observations or comments.
14. To consider how the Into Work Advice Service meets the needs of our care leavers and how it fits within the Capital Ambition. The Committee is

recommended to consider how, together, both the Into Work Advice Service and the Capital Ambition offer opportunities for all care leavers and how the Committee will hold them to account in relation to the numbers.

DEBORAH DRIFFIELD
Director, Childrens Services
13 September 2023

Appendix A – Into Work Advice Service Update

Appendix B- Into Work Presentation CPAC

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CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2nd October 2023

Into Work Advice Service (Bright Futures & Bright Start) Update

Reasons for the Report

1. This report provides the Committee with information in relation to the Bright Futures Project and Bright Start Traineeship Scheme. This report aims to inform the Committee of the purpose of the Project and Scheme, present data on engagement and outcomes, and provide information around future plans.

Background

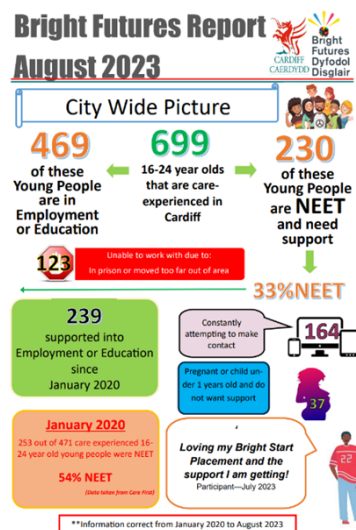
2. The Bright Futures Project sits with the Into Work Advice Service as part of a wide team of employability and training projects. The Service provides employment, training, volunteering and digital support to Cardiff citizens who are actively seeking work or looking to upskill. Additionally, Cardiff Works, Cardiff Council's temporary recruitment agency, sits within the same management structure.
3. The Bright Futures Project provides support for Care Experienced young people (16-24) who are identified as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) or at risk of becoming so and needing intensive help to access training and the workplace. A team of five Youth Mentors liaise with partners in Children's Services and Youth Services to ensure that all Care Experienced young people are given the opportunity to reach their potential and be supported into education and work.

4. The Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 prescribes that authorities must promote the well-being of people who need care and support. Well-being covers more than just health, but also education, training, social and economic well-being amongst others. By supporting young people to access education, training or work, and signposting to other available services, they will be able to make choices that are right for them.
5. Referrals are received via the Into Work Advice Service Gateway from Children's Services, the PA Team and other Partners, and are triaged to the Bright Futures Coordinator for allocation. Young people can also self-refer and contact Into Work directly for support.
6. Bright Futures mentors run weekly drop-in sessions in Hubs, Children's Residential Homes, Youth Temporary and Supported Accommodation Projects in an attempt to engage with young people where they are living.
7. Youth Mentors provide bespoke one to one employment and training support to NEET young people:
 - Based across the city and can meet wherever the young person feels most comfortable
 - Financial Support to help young people to get into work – including covering transport costs, interview and work specific clothing as well as specialist training courses
 - Access to a Transport Fund to buy a bike and safety equipment to safely travel across the city, widening access to employment, training and education.
 - Intensive help to create a CV and complete application forms
 - Interview preparation and real-life advice direct from employers
 - In-work support to help sustain employment

8. Bright Futures Report from August 2023 showing engagements, outcomes and current placements:



9. A core part of the Bright Futures Project is an accurate tracking of all care experienced young people's EET status. This ensures all young people can be catered for and timely interventions offered for those needing extra support. Our tracking is cross-referenced with the PA Service, Youth Service and Pre-16 LACE Mentor team to ensure data is accurate.
10. Bright Futures Report from August 2023 showing NEET/EET figures for 16-24 year old Care Experienced young people eligible for Bright Futures support:



11. The Bright Futures project has noted the significant number of Care Experienced young people who consider themselves to have wellbeing barriers to employment, education and training. The team has responded to this need by piloting a 'Wellbeing Café', a weekly session held in Big Moose Café in the city centre. The goal is to allow Care Experienced young people a safe space to receive peer support facilitated by Bright Futures mentors. The Café had a positive 6 months – the team are now exploring how to create a more permanent space.
12. To build on the success of the café, the team has also been running weekly wellbeing sessions in Bute Park. The sessions have been running throughout August on a rolling programme of football drills, mindfulness & yoga, and Power Fit. The sessions have been well received and the team will continue to run them into the next financial year.



13. In addition to Bright Future mentor support, Care Experienced young people can access the Bright Start Scheme. Bright Start is a Traineeship Scheme for Cardiff Council's Care Experienced young people aged 16-24. It helps young people find traineeships within an area of interest and be supported through the placement process by a Bright Start Support Worker.

14. Young people receive a Trainee allowance of up to £75 per week, funded via the St David's Day Fund, which does not affect their Universal Credit claim.
15. The scheme aims to have a minimum of 30 placements per year. From April 2023 – August 2023, 15 young people have been supported on placements. As of August 2023, 10 Young People are currently on work placements in: British Heart Foundation (x2), Wales Millenium Centre, Ministry of Life, Cardiff Dogs' Home (x2), Boulders, Cardiff Riding School, The Beauty Salon and the ATMA Lounge.
16. Bright Start Trainees have a choice of 67 available placements with 54 council departments and external businesses, with the number of businesses signing up to host a Bright Start Trainee continually increasing.
17. All referrals for the Bright Start Scheme are received via the Bright Futures mentors, who have worked with the young person to ensure they are placement ready and can benefit fully from a Traineeship.
18. Each Bright Start Trainee completes a week of Pre-placement training delivered by the Adult Learning team and partners which includes:
 - Boundaries in the workplace and who to report concerns to
 - Social Media
 - Use of mobile phones
 - Work emails
 - Data Protection and GDPR - basic awareness
 - Introduction to the workplace
 - Wellbeing and budgeting
 - Leadership skills and training to enable the young people to sit on Council Interview Panels, delivered in partnership with the Youth Service
 - Team building exercises
 - Sessions delivered by Voices from Care

19. Trainees are allocated an experienced member of staff in their placement, a Workplace Advisor, who is able to assist the Trainee with their day-to-day duties. Trainees also receive support from the Bright Start support worker who regularly visits the young person on placement to provide ongoing guidance and support.

20. Bright Start Report from March 2023:

BRIGHT START

MARCH - 2023

Cardiff Council's traineeship scheme for care experienced young people aged 16-24.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

8

Young People on Bright Start placements

New placement opportunities for young people every 3 months!

Cardiff Dogs Home x 1

Riding School x 1

White Water Rafting Centre x 1

Youth Service x 1

Wales Millennium Centre x 1

British Heart Foundation x 2

CASCADE x 1

All Trainees complete a week of pre-placement training, including fun team building activities

PREPARING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR THE WORLD OF WORK

- Introduction to Leadership
- Communication
- SWOT Analysis
- Appropriate Conduct at Work
- Confidence Building

Young People completing training

EACH TRAINEE RECEIVES THE SUPPORT OF A BRIGHT START SUPPORT WORKER THROUGHOUT THEIR 3 TO 6 MONTH PLACEMENT

"OUR TRAINEE IS DOING VERY WELL AND ENJOYED THEIR FIRST WEEKS OF ACTIVITIES. THEY'RE ARE A NATURAL IN A BOAT AND PROGRESSED QUICKLY WITH THEIR PERSONAL SKILLS AND WAS ABLE TO HELP OUT CUSTOMERS WHO WERE HAVING DIFFICULTIES"

PLACEMENT MANAGER

CURRENT BRIGHT START PLACEMENTS AVAILABLE:

WANT TO BE PART OF HELPING A YOUNG PERSON GET A BRIGHT START? CONTACT BrightStart@Cardiff.gov.uk

Next Steps

21. The Bright Futures Project intends to continue to develop and expand its Wellbeing support to help Care Experienced young people be ready and able to sustain employment, with a new Wellbeing for Work mentor currently training to deliver accredited training on a one to one and small group basis.
22. The Bright Futures Project is working with partners in the new Multiply project to deliver independent living sessions based on everyday DIY skills and cooking on a budget. Young people will also be able to complete Agored Accredited numeracy qualifications as part of the course.
23. The Bright Futures Project plans to work in closer collaboration with the PA Service following their move over to Housing & Communities, helping to ease the work-load pressure on the PA team by leading on education, employment & training for Care Leavers who are identified as NEET.
24. The Bright Start Traineeship Scheme is currently limited to offering placements for up to 6 months. We are working with Into Work's Cardiff Works team to offer positive progression for those Trainees who aren't ready to or able to secure employment after their placement. Cardiff Works will be able to offer up to 6 months of a paid work placement, paid at National Living Wage.

Financial Implications

25. There are no financial implications relating to the Bright Futures and Bright Start project provision. Bright Futures is funded through the Welsh Government & Central Government via C4W+, committed until March 2024, with indicative grant provided from April 2024 and SPF funding, which has been committed until March 2025. The Bright Start Traineeship scheme is part funded through the St Davids Day Grant. Where costs exceed resources available then action will be taken in order to ensure that costs are contained with the budgetary resources available.

Legal Implications

26. Not applicable

Khalid Osman & Katie Elias

Into Work Advice Service - Youth

2nd October 2023

Into Work Advice Service

Khalid Osman

(Into Work Manager)

Katie Elias

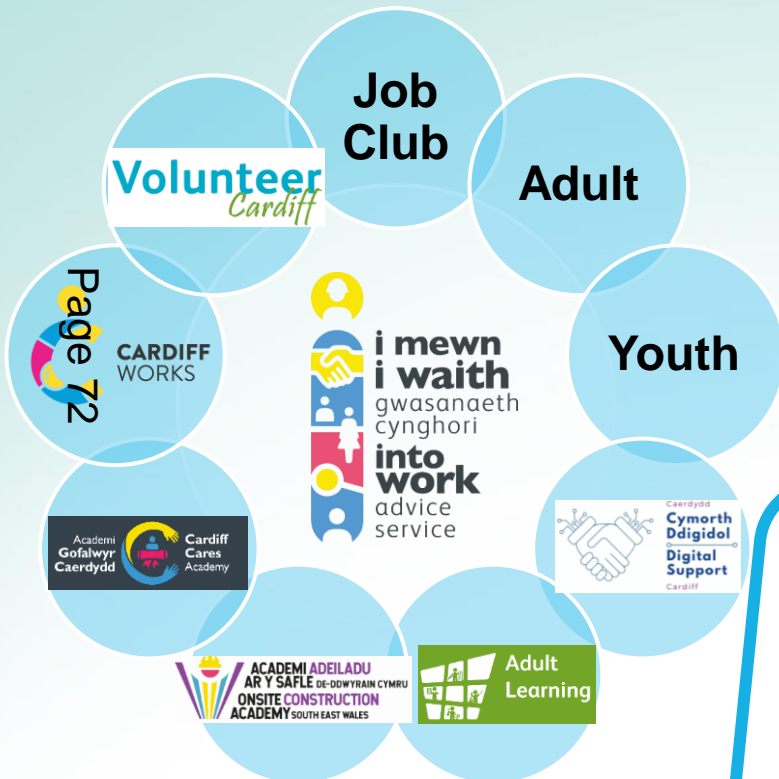
(Into Work Coordinator (Youth))

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Gweithio dros Gaerdydd, gweithio gyda'n gilydd
Working for Cardiff, working together

Into Work Advice Service



Providing community based support to individuals looking to upskill or find employment

“Great to have Adult Learning Courses back running in the school; lots of our parents have lacked in confidence but have gone on to secure work or back to full time education. It’s lovely to see them blossom and has really helped with the home and school relationship!”

“The services in the school are invaluable; the classes are so important for helping our parents socialise and increase confidence as many of them are new to the school and often this is the only place they visit apart from their own home.”



Council's Student Support Service

Work with:

- CV/Cover Letter Writing
- Job Search
- Universal Credit Support
- Skills Training
- Employability Projects
- Funding for DBS and Qualifications*

*subject to eligibility

02920 871 071

intoworkadvice@cardiff.gov.uk

intoworkcardiff.co.uk

the hyb CARDIFF CAERDYDD



BUILD YOUR FUTURE

ONSITE CONSTRUCTION ACADEMY SOUTH EAST WALES

Want to start a career in construction? Looking to return to construction? Do you a construction student seeking an onsite placement?

If you're aged 16+, unemployed or a construction trainee and live in South East Wales, get in touch for employment support.

intoworkadvice@cardiff.gov.uk

onsiteconstructionacademy.co.uk

SUPPORT	2022 -2023
People receiving employment support	79,965
People entering employment	1,115

BRIGHT FUTURES



Bright
Futures
Dyfodol
Disglair

Page 73



Intensive youth mentor support for Care Experienced young people in Cardiff to help them remove barriers into employment, education or training



Financial support is available to help young people get into employment; access to a flexible barrier fund to help with clothing, transport, training, childcare etc.



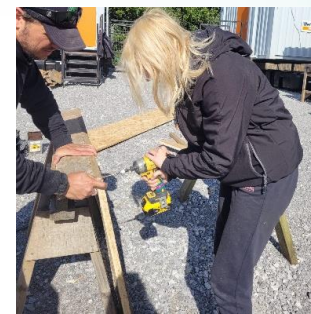
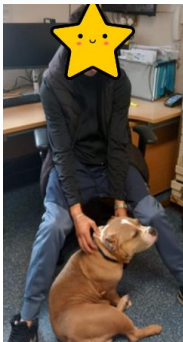
Support to prepare for 6 month Bright Start Work Placements



Access to wellbeing and confidence building, including summer wellbeing sessions & access to iCare boxes in partnership with the Youth Service



Drop-in support is available at supported accommodation across Cardiff including: Base Support, Ninian House, Northlands, Ty Seren, Ty Bronna, Ty Diogel among others



BRIGHT FUTURES 2023-24

Since April 2023...

52 young people
signed up for
mentor support

16 young people
helped into
employment

24 young people
completed
training

22 young people
completing
Bright Start
placements

Page 74

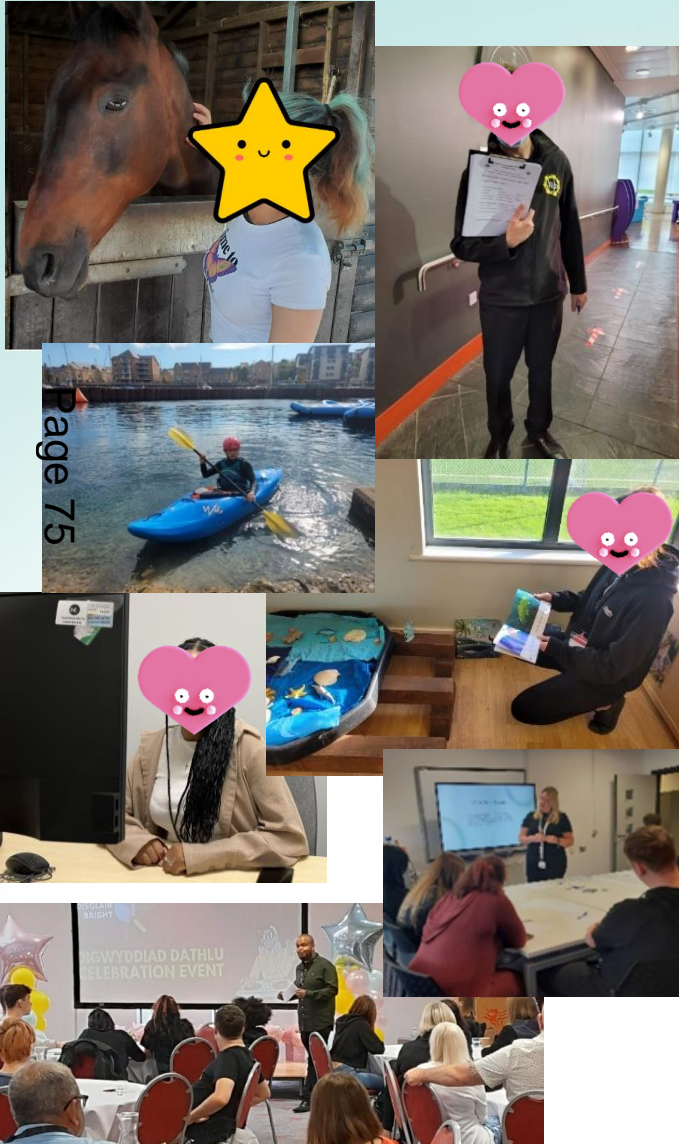
244
supported into
Employment or
Education since
Bright Futures
launch in 2020

"This chance you helped me with could change my life now, thank you so so much."

"Thank you so much...for going above and beyond. I feel so much better after talking to you"

"Without the support from you I would of been on a very dark path. Thank you for being constant and not giving up on me."

BRIGHT START



Work Placements (up to 6 months with trainee allowance of £75 per week) for Care Experienced Young People

Over 60 Placements available within Cardiff Council departments and in different businesses across Cardiff

Annual Bright Start Celebration Event to celebrate our trainees' successes – with music, food and prizes donated from local businesses

Week of Pre-Placement training for all trainees with accredited training on employability, budgeting & wellbeing

Extra training, wellbeing and fun activities available to trainees during their placement weeks off

Trainees not securing employment are offered an additional 3 months of a Cardiff Council Work Placement with Cardiff Works 4 U, paid at National Living Wage

BRIGHT START



CURRENT BRIGHT START PLACEMENTS AVAILABLE:

Page 76
 HE REALLY ENJOYS THE PLACEMENT. SO HAPPY TO HEAR HAS MADE FRIENDS AND INTERACTS WELL WITH THE OTHERS! FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY FOR HIM."
 (FOSTER CARER)



CASCAD



#GweithioDrosGaerdydd
 #GweithioDrosochChi

#WorkingForCardiff
 #WorkingForYou

How to refer into the service



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 Online

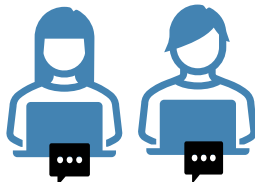
www.intoworkcardiff.co.uk

 Call

029 2087 1071 (Adviceline)



intoworkadvice@cardiff.gov.uk



Webchat on the Into Work website

*Young people can self-refer by chatting to their Youth Mentor at Drop-in locations across Cardiff

#GweithioDrosGaerdydd
#GweithioDrosochChi

#WorkingForCardiff
#WorkingForYou



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**CORPORATE PARENTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE****2 October 2023**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, CHILDRENS SERVICES

PARTICIPATION STRATEGY UPDATE**Reasons for the report**

1. This report provides an update to the committee regarding the Participation Strategy and the associated consultation that has been undertaken in conjunction with the development of the strategy.
2. The consultation has been co-produced by members of the Bright Sparks groups, as well as children and young people who attend services provided by Cardiff Youth Service and the Personal Advisor Service.

Background

3. The aim of the Participation Strategy is to develop a strategy that will set out how we engage with our children, young people and families and how services can be shaped in the future to better meet their needs. The strategy will be co-produced with children and young people, ensuring their voices are at the heart of the strategy development.

Issues

4. A steering group was set up with members from Children's Services, Cardiff Youth Service and NYAS to map out a structure to engage with children and young people.
5. Members of the steering group attended wellbeing support groups facilitated by Cardiff Youth Service. The engagement allowed for direct consultation with those children and young people, but also aided collaboration in the development of a wider consultation to roll out to a larger cohort. The young people shared their preferences for engagement and participation and these views formed the basis of an online questionnaire. The young people explained that they wanted to use a mixture of open, closed and multiple-choice type questions with an option to participate anonymously.
6. Interviews, participation workshops and Bright Sparks meetings facilitated the creation of the consultation questions by our children and young people. The

questions were developed in an informal setting, whilst the young people took part in fun activities (VR headsets/ giant Jenga etc) and using a 'graffiti wall' to brainstorm ideas.

7. Significant growth has taken place in the working relationship between Children's Services and Cardiff Youth Service and Youth Mentors. The collaboration has allowed us to build relationships with the workers who support our children on a daily basis. As a result, there has been consistent engagement from the children and young people that use these services and for those this strategy is being designed to benefit.
8. 1300 children and young people, including 602 Children Looked After, were written to on 1st September and invited to take part in the online questionnaire that was co-produced. A target of 100 responses has been set and to date we have achieved in excess of this, with 108 responses to date.
9. Contact has been made with schools in Cardiff that have the highest numbers of care experienced or children who are looked after. The aim is to deliver participation workshops within a school setting, to obtain the views of children and young people in relation to the participation strategy. The workshops will be delivered in September by Children's Services, NYAS and The Youth Service. It is hoped that there will also be several young people who can co-produce the workshops and assist in their delivery.
10. Plans are being developed to visit children and young people on a one-to-one basis within residential placements to discuss the production of a participation strategy. This would include offering support to the children and young people to take part in the consultation and also providing an incentive to participate.

Financial Implications

11. The budget for the Participation Strategy has been provided by Children's Services. Costs for incentives and the delivery of workshops has been borne equally by Cardiff Youth Service and NYAS.

Legal Implications

12. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

1. To note the update as outlined in **Appendix A** and to make any observations or comments.
13. To consider how the Participation Strategy will meet the needs of our Children Looked After and how it is reported to the Committee going forward.

DEBORAH DRIFFIELD
Director, Childrens Services
11 September 2023

Appendix A – Participation Update Report

CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2 October 2023

Priority 4: Educational Achievement, Employment and Training:-

Participation Strategy Update

Reasons for the Report

1. As part of the Corporate Parenting Strategy, Cardiff Children's Services are in the process of developing a Participation Strategy.
2. The aim of the project is to develop a participation strategy that will set out how we engage with our children, young people and families and how services can be shaped in the future to better meet their needs. The strategy will be co-produced with children and young people, ensuring their voices are at the heart of the strategy development.

Background

3. A steering group was formed with representatives from NYAS, Cardiff Youth Service and Child Friendly City to map out best ways of initiating the consultation with children currently open to Cardiff Children's Services. Whilst the aim of the strategy consultation was to listen to all children and young people, it was also recognised that there needed to be a particular focus for those that are care experienced or looked after. Historically, this cohort group is reluctant to engage in strategy consultation and as such, identifying key ways of including them at the outset was paramount.
4. Consultation style listening events were delivered to groups of children and young people in collaboration with Cardiff Youth Service and NYAS. The young people discussed the different ways they would like to participate, the types of questions

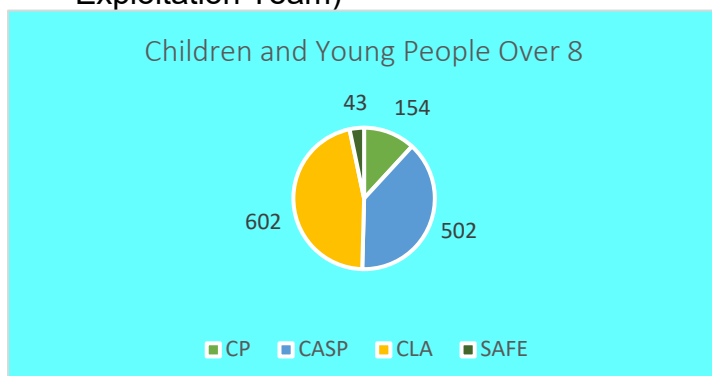
they wanted to use and the circumstances within which they would prefer to take part.

5. It was decided that the best way forward would be to design an anonymous online questionnaire consultation, which included open and closed questions and also provide room to add any other information the young person may feel is applicable.
6. The young people suggested that engagement would improve if the consultation took place within their school setting or as part of a fun activity within a group.
7. A participation workshop event was held with the Bright Sparks Group, during which, the young people developed the specific questions they wanted to be included in the online consultation questionnaire.

Project Development

8. Significant growth has taken place in the working relationship between Children's Services and Cardiff Youth Service and Youth Mentors. The collaboration has allowed us to build relationships with the workers who support our children on a daily basis. As a result, there has been consistent engagement from the children and young people that use these services and for those this strategy is being designed to benefit.
9. Attending wellbeing support groups with the Youth Service has allowed us to engage directly with children and young people and to collaborate with them to create the consultation. The young people shared their preferences for engagement and participation and these views formed the basis of the online questionnaire.
10. Interviews, participation workshops and Bright Sparks meetings facilitated the creation of the consultation questions by our children and young people. The questions were developed in an informal setting, whilst the young people took part in fun activities (VR headsets/ giant jenga etc) and using a 'graffiti wall' to brainstorm ideas.
11. On the 1st September 2023 1300 children and young people were written to, which included X number of looked after or care experienced children and young people. They were invited to take part in the online questionnaire that was co-produced with other children and young people. There has been an encouraging response to the consultation, with over 100 responses received to date.

12. The chart represents the 1301 children and young people consulted and the proportion of each cohort group (Children Looked After, Care and Support Plans, Child Protection and those that are open to Safeguarding Adolescents from Exploitation Team)



Issues

13. Progress to Date:

14. To develop a successful strategy that is fully co-produced a decision was made early on, with the agreement of the children and young people in our steering group, that we needed to speak to and hear from at least 100 children and young people. The online questionnaire was open to consultation between the 1st and 18th September 2023. At the time of writing there have been 108 responses. A significant amount of information and feedback has already been gathered through the completion of the online questionnaire consultation, but the work to analyse this has not yet begun.

15. There will be further face to face interview consultations taking place between the 18th September 2023 and 30th September 2023 at school sites across the city and a specific engagement session with children and young people open to the Child Health and Disability Team also taking place within this timeframe.

Examples of communication received from young people

16. Whilst the consultation has not yet closed, or the analysis process started, at the time of writing, we have been able to start reviewing the feedback responses.

One of the questions from the questionnaire asked, *'what is it that you don't have, that if you did have it, would make the biggest difference to your life?'*

Some of the answers included:

'to know more about my past.'

'Affordable season tickets for sports centres so I don't have to worry about weather I can afford extra classes'

'a phone'

'a Dad that cares'

Next Steps

17. Schools with the highest proportion of care experienced and children looked after have been approached to host series of small group listening events. They have been planned to take place within the school setting, in partnership with the Youth Service and NYAS. The Youth Mentors who are already working with these groups of young people are going to support the events and help to further engagement.
18. Face to face visits to Residential Placements and children in Unregulated settings have also been scheduled to obtain the views of the young people residing there.
19. We are aiming to collate the responses of the online consultation by the end of September. We will then review the responses alongside children and young people from the Bright Sparks and Youth Service Wellbeing groups.
20. The information will then be converted into qualitative data and look to prepare a draft of the Participation Strategy by the end of **October 2023**.
21. Consultation with children and young people, via our steering group will continue to take place, with feedback from them sought at all stages prior to the completion of the strategy.
22. A draft of the Strategy will be taken to the Children and Young People Partnership Board in November 2023 and an update will be provided to the committee at the next Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee in December 2023.

23. The Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee will have the opportunity to consider what they would like to include in the strategy, as well as being able to review the Strategy in the October and December 2023 Committee meetings.

Matthew Osborne
Operational Manager- Children's Services
11 September 2023

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**CORPORATE PARENTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

2 October 2023

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, CHILDRENS SERVICES

PERSONAL ADVISOR SERVICE UPDATE

Reasons for the report

1. This report provides an update to the committee regarding the Personal Advisor Service and support provided to care experienced young people as provided at **Appendix A**.
2. The report aims to inform the Committee on the current work that is being undertaken to support young people leaving care, to present information on the service over the past 12 months as well as future developments.

Background

3. The Personal Advisor service is a fundamental service providing support, advice and guidance for young people aged between 16- 25. It is a statutory requirement outlined in the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014

Issues

4. The function of the service is to support care leavers with all aspects of the transition from care towards independence.
5. The Personal Advisor supports the young person in undertaking and reviewing their Pathway Plans and ensuring the plan meets its purpose and achieve the aims and objectives for individuals
6. The Personal Advisor has a duty to co-ordinate the provision of services to ensure that the young person's needs are being adequately met; care experienced young people should expect the same level of care and support that others would expect from a reasonable parent.
7. The service has recently moved into Adults, Housing and Communities under the management of the Advice Service. The alignment of the service helps to provide a holistic and cohesive approach to address the needs of young people with more of a 'wrap around' of services.
8. The Basic Income Pilot is also being undertaken with 98 young people across the service. The entry to the pilot has now ended but it will continue to progress until

2025. The service is working closely with the Money Advice Team in ensuring that all the young people have met the advice worker to discuss their individual circumstances to be able to make informed choices on entering the pilot.

9. Wellbeing and mental health have been a reoccurring theme since coming through the pandemic and the Personal Advisor Service has focused on providing ways to improve young people's self esteem and confidence.
10. A varied summer activity programme has been successfully delivered to 14 young people, as well as providing cookery programmes and celebrating care leavers week.
11. There has been a noted increase in the number of young people accessing further education and university. A workstream is being developed with the Personal Advisor Service and several universities to ensure care experienced have access to the additional services offered.

Financial Implications

12. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications

13. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

1. To note the update as outlined in **Appendix A** and to make any observations or comments.
14. To consider how the Personal Advisor Service is meeting the needs of our Children Looked After and how it is reported to the Committee going forward.

DEBORAH DRIFFIELD
Director, Childrens Services
11 September 2023

Appendix A – Personal Advisor Service Update Report

CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2 October 2023

Personal Advisors Service Update: Support For Care Leavers

Reasons for the Report

1. This report has been prepared to provide the Committee with an update regarding the Personal Advisors Service and support provided to care experienced young people. The report aims to inform the Committee on the current work that is being undertaken to support young people leaving care, to present information on the service over the past 12 months as well as future developments.

Background

2. The Personal Advisor service is a fundamental service providing support, advice and guidance for young people aged between 16- 25. It is a statutory requirement outlined in the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.
3. The function of the service is to support care leavers with all aspects of the transition from care towards independence. Leaving care can be a complex and problematic process and that this is a significant factor, especially in the transition towards adulthood and independence. The Personal Advisor therefore supports the young person in undertaking and reviewing their Pathway Plans and ensuring the plan meets its purpose and achieve the aims and objectives for individuals.
4. The Personal Advisor has a duty to co-ordinate the provision of services to ensure that the young person's needs are being adequately met. This includes the young person's health and wellbeing and provision of services accessible to them. Education, training, and employment; Pathway plans must have an explicit focus

on career planning, taking into account the young person's aspirations, skills, and educational potential. Financial capabilities and money management and finally Immigration status of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) and former UASC. Planning transition to adulthood for UASC is a particularly complex process that needs to address the young people's care needs in the context of wider asylum and immigration legislation and how these needs change over time.

5. Care experienced young people should expect the same level of care and support that others would expect from a reasonable parent.
6. The service has recently moved into Adults, Housing and Communities under the management of the Advice Service. Aligning the service to provide a holistic and cohesive approach of being able to address the needs of the young person with more of a wrap around of services. This includes the Into Work team, Money Advice services and embedding closer links with Housing. The Young Person's Multi-disciplinary Team is accessed for those young people with more complex needs to prevent homelessness and Transitions Service can be accessed more readily and prevent delays in needs being met.
7. The Basic Income Pilot is also being undertaken with 98 young people across the service. The entry to the pilot has now ended but it will continue to progress until 2025. The service is working closely with the Money Advice Team in ensuring that all the young people have met the advice worker to discuss their individual circumstances to be able to make informed choices on entering the pilot. The service will continue to support the pilot in facilitating interviews with young people and ongoing surveys.
8. Wellbeing and mental health have been a reoccurring theme since coming through the pandemic. Lots of young people found isolation had impacted upon self-esteem and confidence. During the summer months the service received funding via Porsche and were able to put on activities to promote wellbeing, engagement and self-esteem. A total of 14 young people participated in Quad Biking, Aqua Park at the bay, and Canoeing on the Wye
9. The service celebrated Care Leavers week last October with activities including a visit Boulders, bowling and Ninja Warrior. The young people attending the

activities have service participated in consultations session in preparation for this year.

10. The service has also completed 'Getting Cooking' courses with 3 young people which were accredited and in turn they were awarded with cookery utensils and a voucher. The sessions were well received and with additional funding will continue to run over the course of the year.
11. There has been a noted increase in the number of young people accessing further education and university. The service has started working with universities in developing a work stream to ensure care experienced young people have access to all the additional services across different universities. This also includes access accommodation back in Cardiff during holidays times if they wish to return to the city.

Next Steps

12. The service will becoming embedded within Adults, Housing and Communities and strengthen relationships with partnerships.
13. The Leaving Care Padlet to be implemented within the service to allow young people easy access to services available to them. This can be accessed when needed and outside of working hours.
14. Develop parenting support groups for our young parents. Offering parenting group sessions and both separate mother and father groups.
15. To embed Extended Entitlement within the service. Under existing legislation in Wales, local authorities are required to proactively keep in touch with all care leavers until they reach age 21 unless they are in fulltime education were this is extended until 25. However, this is due to be amended and therefore the service is piloting the extended entitlement at present to capture data and evidence of what this service could look like in practice.

Financial Implications

Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to not the Personal Adviser Service update and to make any observations or comments improvements that could be made to the service.

Heyley Beynon

Operational Manager Advice, Housing and Communities

18th September 2023

**CORPORATE PARENTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE****2 OCTOBER 2023**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, CHILDRENS SERVICES

PASSPORT TO THE CITY REPORT**Reason for this Report**

1. To provide the Committee with an overview of the Passport to The City programme, as provided within Appendix A.

Background

2. Passport to the City is a programme to ensure children and young people from all backgrounds can enjoy the amenities Cardiff has to offer.

Issues

3. Passport to The City work to provide fun, engaging and aspirational experiences across the city for children and young people, in particular our most vulnerable, to help improve their self-esteem, confidence, and well-being.
4. The aim of the programme is to help children and young people to develop a sense of pride and belonging in our Capital City as part of the Levelling Up agenda.
5. Children and young people are encouraged to explore and enjoy the city through a range of activities delivered by a range of a number of citywide partners.
6. This includes parks and open spaces, leisure, sport and recreational activities, arts and culture, city centre attractions and more.
7. Passport to The City want every child that takes part to enjoy a great range of new learning experiences, to grow in confidence and self-belief and to develop a broad range of new skills for their futures.
8. This helps to build a sense of local pride and belonging in the city, encouraging children and young people to 'love where they live'.
9. All learners taking part will be rewarded throughout the year, through a variety of recognition methods – such as school assemblies and certifications. At the year end, learners with the highest level of participation will be given the opportunity to be part of a graduation style event at the Cardiff University's Centre for Student Life.

10. The online system allows children, parents, and schools to reflect and build upon the skills being developed through participation.

Legal Implications

11. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications

12. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

13. The Committee are asked to note the content of this report and to explore ways the scope of the programme can be widened so that it reaches as many of our Children Looked After as possible.

**DEBORAH DRIFFIELD
DIRECTOR, CHILDRENS SERVICES
14 SEPTEMBER 2023**

Appendix A– Presentation



Passport to the City

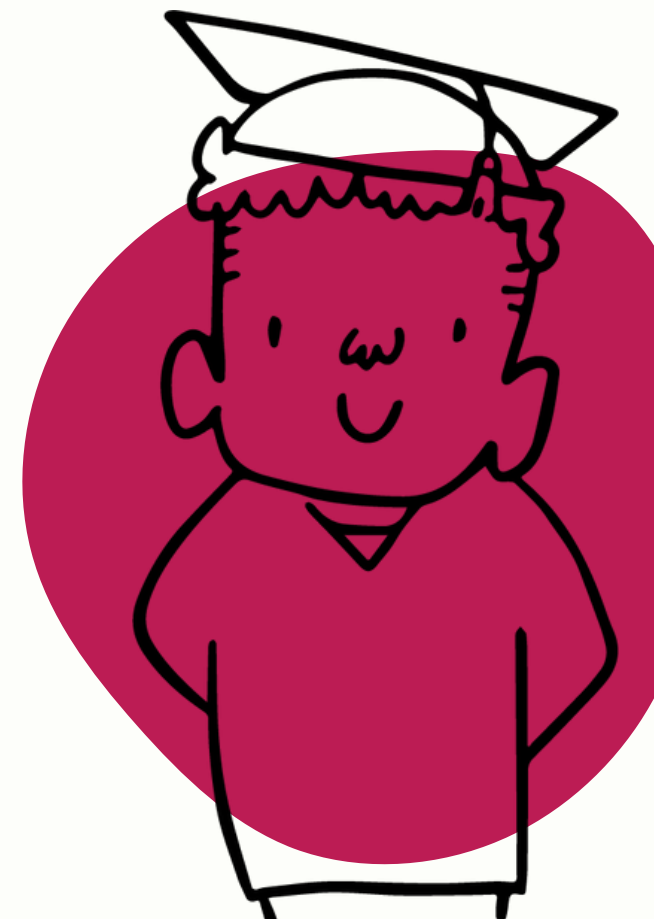
Overview of the programme

Sept 2023



FFYNIANT LEVELLING
— BRO — — UP —

*'Passport to the City' is a programme to ensure **young people from all backgrounds** can enjoy the world-class amenities Cardiff has to offer.*



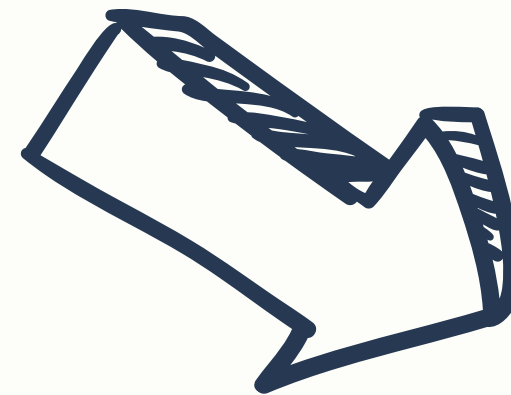
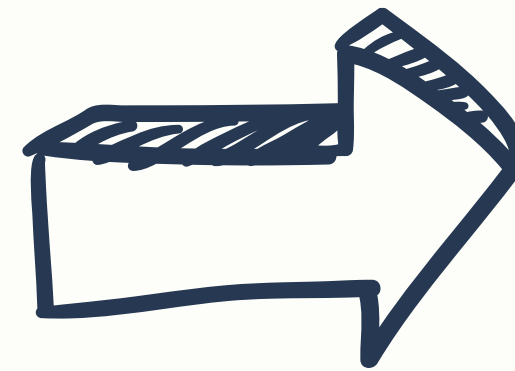


To provide fun, engaging and aspirational experiences across the city for children and young people, in particular our most vulnerable, to help improve their self-esteem, confidence, and well-being.

To help children and young people to develop a sense of pride and belonging in our Capital City as part of the Levelling Up agenda.



From Fun to Future Pathways





Support Structure

Bespoke provision for key vulnerable groups

Identified vulnerable children and young people given direct support

Targeted Support offer

Education settings supported with activities and projects

Universal access to all children and young people

Raising awareness of the leisure, cultural and sporting opportunities available to young people within the city

Support Structure

Bespoke provision for key vulnerable groups

Targeted Support offer

Universal access to all children and young people





Curriculum linked experiences



Enrichment for vulnerable groups



Graduation Planning Programme



Regular University Provision



Partner Event

Reaching wider
 Family Fun Campus Experience
HOSPITALITY
STREET FOOD IN THE KITCHEN
Thursday 1st June
 09:30 - 14:30
 Cardiff Metropolitan University
 Llandaff Campus CF5 2YB

Support & Promotion of Partner Provision



Family Experiences



'So pleased we got to show our young people something they never thought they'd be a part of.'



'I am most impressed with how this programme is allowing for genuine pupil voice.'



'What a fantastic experience for our children. Helped bring the curriculum to life.'



'I want to come here to learn more when I'm older.'



'Fantastic opportunities lay ahead.'

Reaching wider Family Fun Campus Experience HOSPITALITY

STREET FOOD IN THE KITCHEN Thursday 1st June 09:30 - 14:30

Cardiff Metropolitan University Llandaff Campus CE5 2YB

'Diolch enfawr, massive thank you for all your help.'

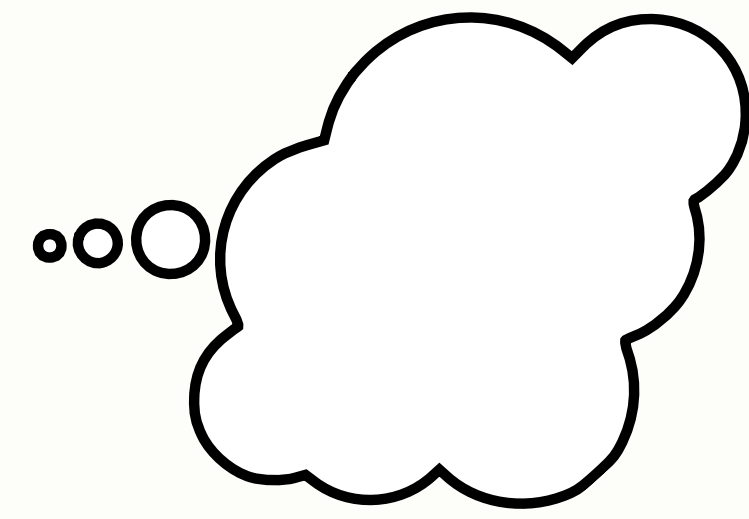
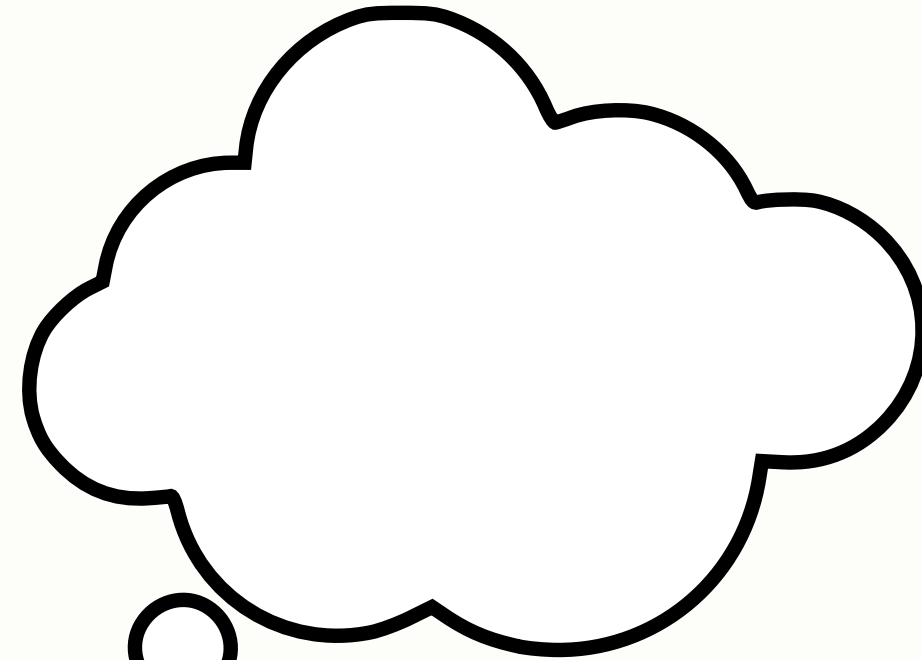
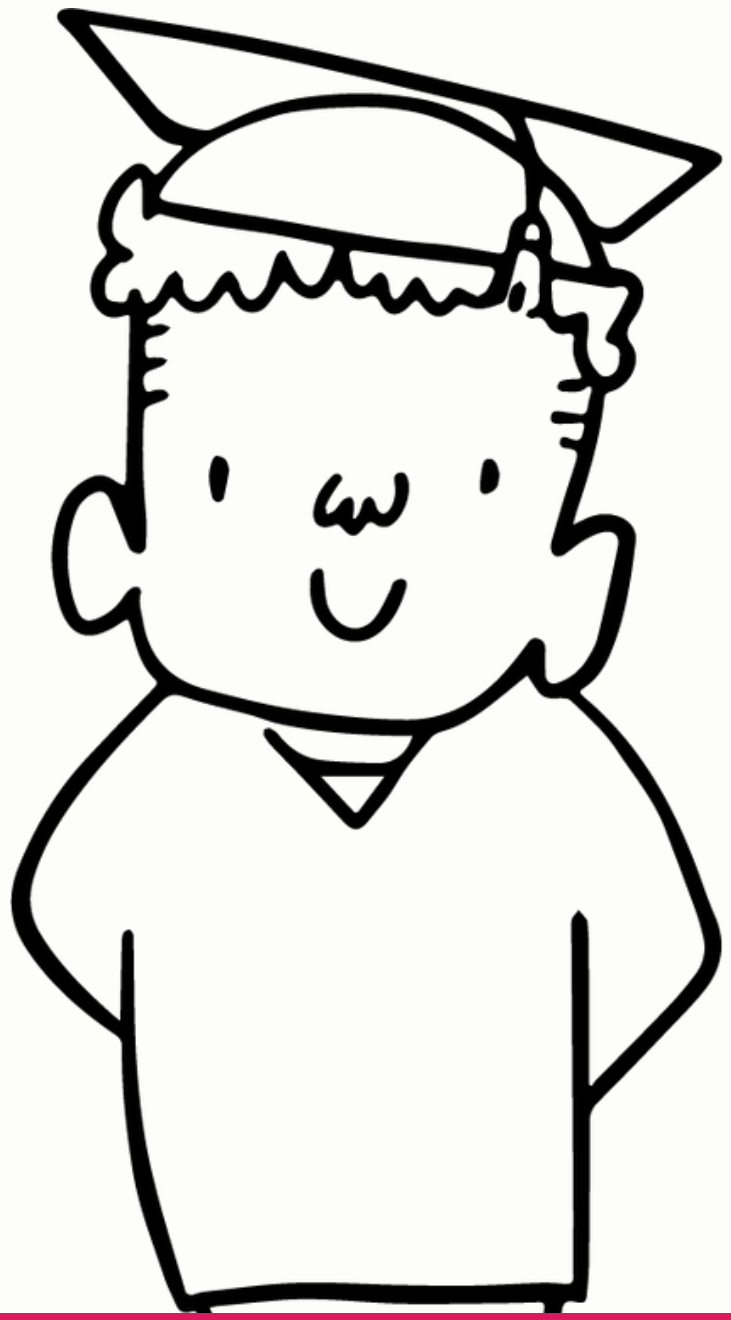
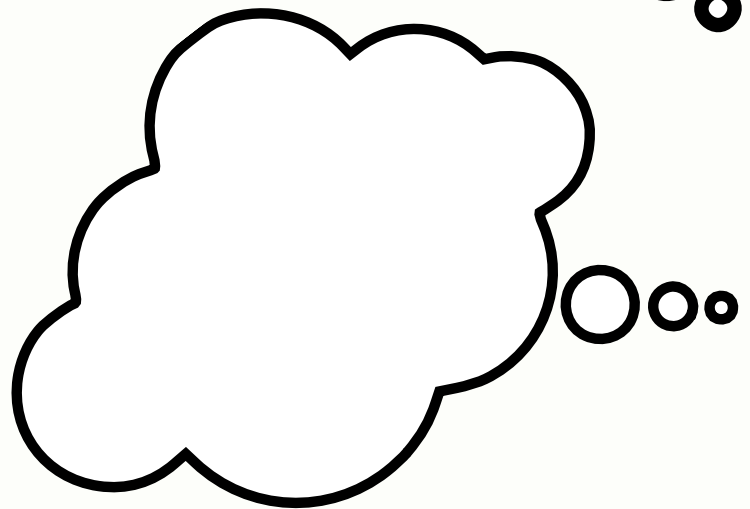
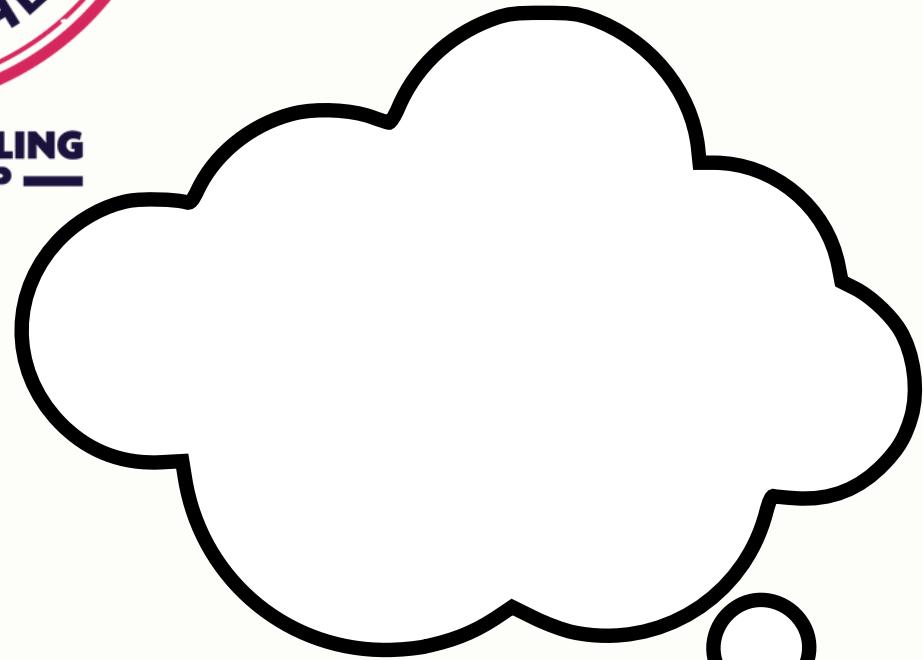
'Our families loved this opportunity.'





FFYNIANT LEVELLING
— BRO — — UP —

Any questions



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**CYNGOR CAERDYDD
CARDIFF COUNCIL**



**CORPORATE PARENTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

2 October 2023

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, CHILDRENS SERVICES

MEMBER VISIT UPDATE

Reasons for the report

1. This report sets out an update regarding the Member Visits that have taken place since the last committee meeting.
2. The visits take place at services and organisations that support care experienced young people in Cardiff.

Background

3. To ensure members of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee gain a wider understanding of the services and organisations the proposed Members visits focuses on those services in line with the following 5 priorities of the Corporate Parenting Plan:
 - Priority 1: Improving emotional well-being and physical health
 - Priority 2: Better connections, improved relationships
 - Priority 3: A comfortable safe stable home whilst in care and after
 - Priority 4: Educational achievement, employment and training
 - Priority 5: Celebrating our children and young people

Issues

4. The members visits will provide an opportunity for members of the Committee to meet the staff and teams that support young people. Some of the visits will also provide an opportunity to hear directly from the children and young people. It is proposed that the members who undertake the visits will then provide an update to the rest of the Committee.
5. To ensure that an open discussion can take place it is proposed that some of the visits to smaller establishments are limited to two members of the Committee per member visit. The visits will be organised and facilitated by the Corporate Parenting Officer.

6. **Appendix A** sets out proposed dates, times and venues for the members visits with a short description of the services. These proposed times have been agreed by the organisation and service area but can be amended to work around the commitments of members of the Committee.
7. Additional visits can be set up on request if there are other services or provisions members would like to find out more about. The work programme will then be amended to reflect this change.

Financial Implications

8. In the event of there being costs arising as a result of the visit programme then this will need to be managed within existing budgetary allocations for Member expenses.

Legal Implications

9. There are no legal implications arising from this report

RECOMMENDATION

10. To note the information shared within the update as outlined at **Appendix A** and to discuss way within which the committee can support and further the needs of the services.

DEBORAH DRIFFIELD
Director, Childrens Services
11 September 2023

Appendix A– Member Visit Update

Report of Elected Member Visit to Front-line Service within Children's Services



<p>Individual(s) visiting setting: Cllr Rhys Taylor and Cllr Peter Littlechild accompanied by CPAC Officer Lucy Thomas</p>
<p>Authors of report: Cllr Rhys Taylor and Cllr Peter Littlechild</p>
<p>Date of Visit: 21/07/2023</p>
<p>Date of Report: 08/09/2023</p>
<p>Date reported to Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee: 02/10/2023</p>
<p>Location and Name of Service/ Team visited: Ty Storrie, Vincent Road, CARDIFF, CF5 5AQ</p>
<p>General description of visit-</p> <p>Members visited Ty Storrie, Vincent Road, CARDIFF, CF5 5AQ. The site is situated next to Ty Gwyn School and the Riverbank School in Ely. The Members were extremely grateful for the warm welcome they received and were inspired by the care and support staff provide to the children and families reliant on Ty Storrie.</p> <p>Ty Storrie is a Home for children and young people aged between 6-17 with disabilities and complex needs. It has 8 en suite bedrooms, 2 lounge areas along with a playroom and sensory room.</p> <p>The residential/bedroom part of the building is split into 2 wings; 4 bedrooms for children with physical complex medical needs and 4 for children who have behavioural needs and associated with the autistic spectrum.</p> <p>Sian Herdman Tucker is the manager of the centre who has over 20 years experience of working in social care and more than 10 years working in residential care provision. Sian took over the management of Ty Storrie in September 2022 and at that stage there were 19 children accessing the facility. Since then, Sian has made several important changes to the processes within Ty Storrie meaning they have almost doubled the number of children having access to the service. At the time of writing there are 33 children having regular overnight respite care, however it is hoped that with the right support, this can grow to 45.</p> <p>The Members would like to highlight the complexities of settling a child, prior to them enjoying their first stay at Ty Storrie. It is a gradual, phased process and can sometimes take up to 4 months before a child stays overnight. Every child has their own room, with a 'jack & jill' style bathroom. Staff also consider personal details, such as purchasing themed bedding and pyjamas along with tailored homemade food plans to make the stays as comfortable as possible for the children and young people.</p>

Feedback on the service – Positive/ Negative

- Staff Training

The staff at Ty Storrie are a combination of contracted local authority employees and commissioned agency staff via safe hands or pro care. On occasion there is a difference between the standards of care provided by the staff trained 'in house' and those provided by an 'outside' agency. There are also inconsistencies created by agency staff as different staff will attend meaning the children and young people don't have continuity and familiarity with their carers. Ideally there would be a model equivalent to the domiciliary care academy in adult services. The Manager of Ty Storrie indicated that they would be able to deliver a more consistent service if they were able to have staff employed within the authority and training provided in house to those staff. The Members recognised this would not only improve the service, but it would also improve the budget. Members would like to recommend that the care academy be consulted on employment opportunities within Ty Storrie.

- General maintenance

There are a significant number of jobs which require attention at Ty Storrie, e.g., re painting of the fences surrounding the garden, cutting/weeding of the small gardens at the front, painting the interior walls. Assistance has been sought from the local authority in this regard but to date, the works have not been undertaken. Members were concerned that staff were spending time repeatedly trying to engage council services to undertake basic works. Some of the outdoor recreational equipment e.g., the trampoline, is unable to be used and therefore a replacement alternative is needed. Some of the materials used in the outside spaces also need to be replaced to make them easier to maintain and clean.

- Lack of space for additional provision

We understand that Cardiff are seeking additional properties for children's residential placements in Cardiff. However, questions have been raised in relation to the site of The Riverbank School which is adjacent to that of Ty Storrie and could provide a solution to the issue. Members believe that the council should fully explore the opportunities provided for expansion on the current Riverbank School site to maximise the opportunities and care available to families in Cardiff.

- Additional provision within schools

There is a lack of breakfast and afterschool club provision for children with disabilities and complex health needs.

- Lack of indoor facility for children with complex health needs

As a city that is awaiting child friendly accreditation, there should be an indoor facility specifically designed to cater for children with complex health needs- particularly for those aged 5-18 years. For example, there aren't many places for the children and young people to visit on rainy days meaning their opportunities are reduced, unlike other children and young people.

Any other Comments

The whole purpose of Ty Storrie is to provide respite care for those children and families who require it. By giving this regular support there is an increased likelihood that the children and young people remain in their family unit as opposed to being placed in long term residential facilities. The financial implications of this are significant as the cost of long-term residential placement is approximately 3 times the cost of supporting them to remain at home. Members would welcome a listening exercise from the manager and staff of Ty Storrie to identify a ways the Committee can support the service.

Report of Elected Member Visit to Front-line Service within Children's Services



Individual(s) visiting setting:

Cllr Mike Ash Edwards, supported by Lucy Thomas CPAC officer

Author of report: Lucy Thomas / Cllr Mike Ash-Edwards

Date of Visit: 9 August 2023

Date of Report: 14 August 2023

Date reported to Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee: 2 Oct 2023

Location and Name of Service/ Team visited:

John Kane Centre, Gabalfa – Youth Justice Service

General description of visit – e.g. number of staff (approx) involved in meeting visitor; number spoken to and engaged in discussion; whether the visit involved service users and/or carers, how did the visit look,

Operational manager for YJS team and 9 other staff met and spoken with about the work of the team and their individual roles. No service users were present at the time the visit was made

Briefing provided as follows:

Cardiff YJS is a multi disciplinary partnership between different organisations to provide intervention and support for young people and their families. It includes (but is not limited to) The Youth Justice Board, Welsh Government and The

Police & Crime Commissioner. The aim of the partnership is to prevent anti-social behaviour, offending and re-offending by young people aged 10-17. It also offers support to victims of youth crime and anti-social behaviour. Children and young people are referred to the service via Police, Childrens Services and schools. Currently, there are approximately 150 children and young people using the service and there is an 80/20 split ratio of boys to girls.

Structure

The service is split into 3 areas; Prevention, Diversion and Court. The prevention team is for children and young people who have never offended before and have committed a low-level offence. Approximately 66% of the children and young people using the service are within this category. YJS undertook a consultation with children, young people and their parents and decided to rebrand the prevention service, which is now called Crossroads. It was felt that the young people were at a 'crossroads' in their life and could potentially take the wrong path- of those young people who engage with Crossroads, only 10-15% go on to offend.

It has become clear that girls and young women are not entering the YJ process until after the prevention stage. Work is going on to find out why more of them are not being identified as suitable for the Crossroads programme prior to committing offences.

Variety of skills within the Service

Cardiff YJS is the first service in Wales to have a full time speech and language therapist. Over 70% of the young people who use the service have speech and language needs, some of which are undiagnosed until they undergo direct assessment via YJS. The speech and language therapist also provides training to staff within schools to create awareness around the use of appropriate communication. Other team members include an art therapist, substance misuse worker, probation officer and restorative justice worker.

There is a strong health presence in the team to work with the many participants who do not have equal access to health services prior to their participation in the programme.

YJS offer a wide range of activities, which include proactive sessions to address racism, hate crimes and misogyny. Young people are able to use cooking and laundry facilities whilst at the centre and have access to support as they need it.

There is also a summer activity programme, whereby children and young people have had the opportunity to take part in activities such as fishing, biking and badminton as well as attending trips to St Fagans and Cardiff golf centre.

Ongoing work

YJS have identified that the children and young people who use this service are often those who are most vulnerable within society. They are co-ordinating a volunteer service to support these young people and to provide the good role models they need. Volunteer opportunities include Appropriate Adult, Community

Panel Member, Community Reparation Volunteer, Mentoring and School Holiday Programme Support.

Feedback on the service – Positive/ Negative

In 2020 YJS Cardiff had a well-publicised poor inspection report. There is now a new Operational Manager in post- Angharad Thomas, who is focusing on rebuilding the service from the ground up. Significant progress has already been made and the team are very much on an upwards trajectory. There was strong evidence of a committed and enthusiastic staff team working well together.

Any other Comments

Noted that further work is required to identify why girls and young women are not becoming engaged with the YJS at the prevention (Crossroads) stage

Volunteering opportunities with YJS could be brought to wider attention.

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**CORPORATE PARENTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

2 October 2023

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, CHILDRENS SERVICES

MEMBER VISIT PROGRAMME

Reasons for the report

1. This report sets out a programme of activity that will help the Committee to find out about the services and organisations that support care experienced young people in Cardiff.
2. The proposed members visits outlined in **Appendix A** have been developed to show the Children Services teams and other services within and outside of the local authority that support care experienced young people.

Background

3. To ensure members of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee gain a wider understanding of the services and organisations the proposed Members visits focuses on those services in line with the following 5 priorities of the Corporate Parenting Plan:
 - Priority 1: Improving emotional well-being and physical health
 - Priority 2: Better connections, improved relationships
 - Priority 3: A comfortable safe stable home whilst in care and after
 - Priority 4: Educational achievement, employment and training
 - Priority 5: Celebrating our children and young people

Issues

4. The members visits will provide an opportunity for members of the Committee to meet the staff and teams that support young people. Some of the visits will also provide an opportunity to hear directly from the children and young people. It is proposed that the members who undertake the visits will then provide an update to the rest of the Committee.
5. To ensure that an open discussion can take place it is proposed that some of the visits to smaller establishments are limited to two members of the Committee per

member visit. The visits will be organised and facilitated by the Corporate Parenting Officer.

6. **Appendix A** sets out proposed dates, times and venues for the members visits with a short description of the services. These proposed times have been agreed by the organisation and service area but can be amended to work around the commitments of members of the Committee.
7. Additional visits can be set up on request if there are other services or provisions members would like to find out more about. The work programme will then be amended to reflect this change.

Financial Implications

8. In the event of there being costs arising as a result of the visit programme then this will need to be managed within existing budgetary allocations for Member expenses.

Legal Implications

9. There are no legal implications arising from this report

RECOMMENDATION

10. To note the programme of visits as outlined **Appendix A** and indicate any expressions of interest in attending any of the visits contained within the programme.
11. To identify any other appropriate and relevant services or organisations to be included within the member visit programme that would benefit the committee in carrying out their role.

DEBORAH DRIFFIELD
Director, Childrens Services
11 September 2023

Appendix A– Member Visit Programme

Members Visits Programme

Service Area	Description	Proposed Date & Venue	Member Visiting
ENFYs	Enfys is an NHS based service within Child Psychology. Meet the team of clinical psychologists, graduate mental health workers, trainee clinical psychologists and an occupational therapist to find out about the support provided	Enfys Tuesday 11 July 9.00 – 10.00 Woodlands House, Maes-y-Coed Road, Cardiff, CF14 4TT	
Crosslands	Meeting staff at the home	Tuesday 1 August at 10am, Thursday 10 th August at 10am	
Cardiff Youth Justice Team/Service	Opportunity to meet staff (this will include the Summer Program)	Wednesday 9 August Or Wednesday 16 August 14.30 at John Kane Centre, 213a North Road, Cardiff CF14 3GH	Cllr Mike Ash Edwards- 9 August
Bright Sparks – Participation Group	Meet and hear direct experiences of children and young people	Monday 14 August Thursday 17 August Monday 21 August, 12 noon at NYAS Cymru, Canton House, Suite E1, 435-451 Cowbridge Road East, Canton, Cardiff CF5 1JH	
Fostering Events	Meeting families, carers and young people at a 'Cuppa & Catch up' support group	18 September, 10am-12 at Mercure Cardiff North Hotel	Cllr Mike Ash Edwards
St Teilo's High School	Meeting teaching staff and children and young people at the school	Time to suit members Tuesday 10 October	Cllr Daniel Naughton 10 October 9:30am

		Wednesday 18 October Thursday 26 October	
Rumney Primary School	Meeting teaching staff and children and young people at the school	Wednesday 18 October 9.30 – 11.00	
Tŷ Storrie Childrens Home	Meeting children and young people aged between 6 and 17 with disabilities and complex needs	Any date 10.00 – 2.00	Cllr Rhys Taylor 21 July 1-2pm Cllr Peter Littlechild 1-2pm
Fostering Events	Meeting families, carers and young people at a 'Cuppa & Catch up' support group	12 December 10am-12 Mercure Cardiff North Hotel	

**CORPORATE PARENTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE****2 OCTOBER 2023**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, CHILDRENS SERVICES

RESIDENTIAL ANNUAL REPORTS**Reason for this Report**

1. To give the Committee the opportunity to discuss the Accommodation Strategy, new residential homes in Cardiff and how the Committee would like to receive the Residential Annual Reports moving forward.

Background

2. There was a report shared at the March 2023 Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee meeting regarding the current and future residential placements being planned. The proposal within the Accommodation Strategy sets out the following:
 - Retain Crosslands as a 6-bed residential unit with minor upgrades to the home
 - Retain Falconwood as a 3 bed residential unit
 - Retain Oakway for use as an emergency provision for a 1 bed residential home
 - Develop Baden Powell and upgrade the property and register the property as a 2-bed residential home
 - Bronwydd Road – upgrade the property to be a therapeutic placement and register property as a 1-bed residential home
 - Purchase and develop additional properties to meet the demand;
 - 7 x 3 bed children's home
 - 3 x 4 bed children's homes

Since the report was shared in March 2023 there have been considerable updates to report;

- Baden Powell, a 2 bed residential home, has been fully refurbished and is in the final stages of registration with Care Inspectorate Wales
- Bronwydd Road, a 1 bed residential home has been upgraded with specialist adaptations and is in the final stages of registration with Care Inspectorate Wales.

The following properties have been identified as homes for children and young people in Cardiff as part of the Accommodation Strategy.

- South east of the city - Property 1 is a 1 bed residential home on a new housing development site that has been purchased and furnished to help with our current need for solo placements. It is now in the final stages of registration with Care Inspectorate Wales.
- South east of the city - Property 2, is a 1 bed residential home on a new housing development site that has been purchased and furnished to help with our current need for solo placements. It is now in the final stages of registration with Care Inspectorate Wales.
- North east of the city - a 3 bed residential home has completed the purchase process and refurbishment works are beginning imminently.
- South west of the City – a 4 bed residential home has completed the purchase process and detailed designs and plans are being discussed with contractor.
- East of the City – a 3 bed residential home has completed the purchase process and detailed designs and plans are being finalised with the contractor.
- East of the city – a further 3 bed residential home has been identified and the purchase is currently with our legal team with an estimated completion of November 2023.

As the number of new residential placements in Cardiff is increasing, the Committee will need to decide how it would like progress updates and annual reports to be shared going forward.

Issues

3. The Committee is invited to discuss the increase in the provision of residential placements within Cardiff and how they would like to receive updates in relation to the same.
4. The Committee will need to give consideration to the frequency of the information, updates regarding annual reports as well as the manner in which feedback is provided.

Legal Implications

5. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications

6. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

7. The Committee are asked to note the content of this report.

**DEBORAH DRIFFIELD
DIRECTOR, CHILDRENS SERVICES
14 SEPTEMBER 2023**

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**CORPORATE PARENTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE:****20 SEPTEMBER 2023**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, CHILDRENS SERVICES

FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME – MAY 2023 – APRIL 2024**Reasons for the Report**

1. This report seeks approval of the Committee's Forward Work Programme as provided at **Appendix A**.

Background

2. The Forward Work Programme (FWP) for the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee sets out the committee business that will be considered during the period identified in the programme. The proposed programme has been developed to enable the committee to monitor the progress being made to support the children looked after by the authority.
3. Previously, the Committee identified that the agenda for its meetings should be driven by looked after children in Cardiff and that a greater emphasis should be placed on the participation of young people in the work of the Committee.

Issues

4. Following an engagement session with children and young people looked after in October 2022, several themes were identified and are mirrored in the FWP to effectively plan the work of the committee for the municipal year. This will ensure that the agenda and issues considered at the committee will reflect the needs of young people.
5. The themes to be reflected are as follows:
 1. Improving emotional well-being and physical health
 2. Having a safe and stable home in and after care
 3. Education, employment, and training
 4. Better connections, improved relationships
6. Each meeting of the Committee will focus on one of these themes with relevant reports and updates being provided by the service areas and partners.

7. Other items will be added to the Committee Forward Work Programme to ensure that it meets the requirements under its terms of reference .

Committee Engagement with Young People

8. Several workshops, meetings and events will be planned with Elected Members in a range of settings. This will enable young people to discuss and raise any issues in a more informal setting. The option of attending committee meetings to young people will continue to be made available and with officer support. Continuous engagement of children and young people will help to inform the future work of the Committee.
9. Participation Partnership working will remain a priority for the upcoming year for the service area. Regular updates will be provided to the Committee on the key progress in this area which will include work undertaken on the development of a Participation Strategy.

Performance Monitoring

10. The programme includes an opportunity at each committee meeting to consider timely and relevant performance information. This will include a Bi Annual Performance Dashboard, looking at a range of data from statutory services. In line with the Committees Terms of Reference an Education Performance of Children Looked After Information report will be submitted annually. This performance information will inform the committee of progress being made in respect of the Corporate Parenting Strategy and the delivery of the services to our children looked after and young people.

Member Development

11. The FWP identifies a range of topics which committee members may be unfamiliar with. Committee members are requested to identify any learning opportunities which will support them in their role and would be beneficial to be added to the Member Development Programme.

Financial Implications

12. The report and accompanying appendix provide an overview of the planned work programme for the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee. As the committee fulfils an advisory role, there are no financial implications directly arising from this report. Any activities referenced within the report or programme are to be funded from within existing available resources.

Legal Implications

13. There are no legal implications arising from the report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

14. To consider and approve the Forward Work Plan (**Appendix A**)
15. To identify any future member development topics for inclusion in the Member Development Programme.

DEBORAH DRIFFIELD
Director, Childrens Services
20 September 2023

Appendix A – Forward Work Programme

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WORK PROGRAMME CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2023 -2024– v.2

Topic type	Agenda Item	Agenda topic	Description	Responsible Service Area and Additional Invitees
Committee Date: March 2023				
A comfortable safe and stable home whilst in care and after	1.	Homes for our children	To gain an understanding on the residential provisions for our children and young people and to make any observations or comments.	Children Services
	2.	Young person Gateway	To receive an update on young person accommodation gateway – homelessness support and provision and to make any observations or comments	Housing Directorate
	3.	Charter – NYAS – My things Matter Campaign	To receive an update of the My Things Matters campaign- a national campaign to help improve emergency placement process and to endorse the My Things Matter Campaign charter	NYAS Cymru
	4.	Supported Lodgings	To be provided information about the Supported Lodgings scheme and to make any observations or comments	Childrens Services
	5.	Members visit- Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers Children team	Members of the Committee to be provided with an update of a members visit to the Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children team	Members of CPAC
Performance management	6.	To receive draft annual report for the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee	To receive the draft annual report covering the Committees work from March 2022- March 2023.	Children’s Services

Topic type	Agenda Item	Agenda topic	Description	Responsible Service Area and Additional Invitees
Committee Date: 26th June 2023				
Emotional Health & Wellbeing	1.	My Things Matter Campaign	Members to be provided with an overview of the My Things Matter 5 point pledge by Candice Lloyd of NYAS. The aim of the pledge is to improve the emergency placement process for children and young people who are looked after.	NYAS
	2.	Enfys overview	Update and Overview of the ENFYS service.	Health
	3.	Emotional Health and Wellbeing Project	Members to be update on a joint project between Children's Services and Health to Support Children and young people with Mental Health Needs	Children's Services
	4.	Children and Young People Emotional Wellbeing Mental Health Service	Members to be updated on the relaunched service and to consider how CLA are supported within this.	Health Service
	5.	Update on Statutory Health and Information for Looked After Children	To receive an update on the progress of the Health of Looked After Children and Health Monitoring	Health Service
Performance management	6.	CLA Performance Dashboard Q4 of 2022-2023	To receive an update on the progress of Looked After Children and to make any observations or comments	Childrens Services, Education, Health, Youth Justice Service

Topic type	Agenda Item	Agenda topic	Description	Responsible Service Area and Additional Invitees
Committee Date: 2nd October 2023				
Educational Achievement, Employment & Training	1.	Cardiff Commitment	To receive an update on the joint work undertaken with the Cardiff Commitment team and Children Services to provide specific employment support and opportunities	Cardiff Commitment / Children Services
	2.	Virtual Head Teacher and School	Members to receive an overview on the new Virtual Head Teacher and School	Education Directorate
	3.	Bright futures update- Traineeship programme	To receive an update on the Bright futures work programme and to make any observations or comments.	Education/ Community Directorate
	4.	Participation Strategy	For Members of the Committee to receive an update on the developments of a participation strategy which provides and outline on how to improve participation	Children's Services
	5.	Care Leavers report	To receive an update on the Care Leavers service including NEET and Care Leavers as Parents, Care Leavers going to university and entering employment	Children's Services
	6.	Updates on Member Visits with children and young people services	Updates will include Member Visits to Enfys, Crosslands Children's Home, Youth Justice Service, Foster Carers Event and a Brightsparks Participation Group	Corporate Parenting Officer and CPAC Member
Performance Management	7.	Annual Education – Performance of Cardiff looked after	To receive the Education report for looked after children and to comment, seek clarification or raise questions on the information received.	Education Directorate

		children report 2022- 2023		
	8.	Ty Storrie and Crosslands Annual report	To receive a update on the Ty storrie and Crosslands reports	

Topic type	Agenda Item	Agenda topic	Description	Responsible Service Area and Additional Invitees
Committee Date: 4th December 2023				
Better connections, improved relationships	1.	Guaranteed Interview Scheme Report	Update regarding HR and Childrens Services working together to develop a Guaranteed Interview Scheme for CLA or Care Leavers who apply for vacancies within the Authority	Human Resources
	2.	Mentoring Scheme Report	Overview of the Mentoring Scheme pilot whereby volunteers of Authority employees will work with a small cohort of young people in supported lodgings	Children's Services
	3.	Residential Homes Annual Report Update	Update to the Committee on the Residential Homes within Cardiff, including the new Baden Powell provision as well as the existing homes.	Children's Services
	4.	Voices from Care Cymru Update	To provide the Committee with an update on Voices From Care Cymru's involvement In governmental programmes by supporting care experienced young people to shape policy in Wales	Voices from Care Cymru
	5.	Youth Service Report	To receive an overview of the Youth Service and what they are doing in terms of their support of children in Cardiff	Cardiff Youth Service
	6.	NYAS Update	An update on how NYAS are supporting our CLA with their advocacy services	NYAS Cymru

	7.	Child Friendly Cities Report	To receive an update on the Child Friendly Cities report, including the recent Rights Fest event that has taken place in the city.	Child Friendly City
Performance Management	8.	CLA Performance Dashboard	To receive an update on the progress of Looked After Children and to make any observations or comments	Childrens Services, Education, Health, Youth Justice Service

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