

Date 5 October 2016

My Ref SS/CYP/MJH  
Your Ref:



County Hall  
Cardiff,  
CF10 4UW  
Tel: (029) 2087 2087  
  
Neuadd y Sir  
Caerdydd,  
CF10 4UW  
Ffôn: (029) 2087 2088

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

Dear Sue

The Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee agreed to write to you in your capacity as Chair of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee to inform you and the Committee of my Committee's concerns around a number of performance issues, which the Committee considered fell within the Terms of Reference of your Advisor Committee

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on 27 September 2016 considered a report on **Quarter one performance for Children's Services**. Although the Committee continued to be pleased with the overall direction of Children's Services performance, it is noted that there was still slippage in some areas of performance. In particular the Members were concerned around the following:

- the reduction in young carers accessing the care systems from 83% in 2014-15 to 60% in 2015/16;
- that only 27.6% of Personal Education Plans were in place in 2015/16;
- Secondary school attendance for children looked after in Cardiff schools declined slightly to 91.8%, compared with 93.6% in 2014-15;
- Achievement of the Core Subject Indicator at Key Stage 2 (reaching Level 4 in Science, Mathematics and English or Welsh) was 54.5% compared with 65.2% in 2014-15; and
- Achievement of the Core Subject Indicator at Key Stage 3 (reaching Level 5 in Science, Mathematics and English or Welsh) was 34.4% from 37.0% in 2014-15.

The Committee recommends that your Advisor Committee investigates the reasons for the decline in performance and identifies actions to improve performance over the next year.

Yours sincerely

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

CC: Tony Young, Director of Children's Services  
Melanie Jackson - Personal Assistant to Deputy Leader