

**CITY & COUNTY OF CARDIFF**

**DINAS A SIR CAERDYDD**

**COMMUNITY & ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**6 NOVEMBER 2019**

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**CABINET RESPONSE TO THE TASK AND FINISH REPORT OF CASSC & CYP RE:  
'PREVENTING YOUNG PEOPLE'S INVOLVEMENT IN DRUG DEALING'**

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**Purpose of Report**

1. To provide Members with an overview of the Cabinet response to the recommendations from Community & Adult Services and Children & Young People Scrutiny Committees joint Task & Finish Inquiry on 'Preventing Young People's Involvement in Drug Dealing'.

**Background**

2. At its meeting in September 2017 the Committee agreed to undertake a joint Task & Finish investigation into "preventing young people becoming involved in drug dealing". The issue was raised by Councillor Lynda Thorne in a letter to the Chair of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee.
3. The Committee agreed the following Terms of Reference for the task group:  
**Identify and Investigate:**
  - The contributing factors that give rise to young people becoming involved in drug dealing in the city.
  - The positive contributing factors that communities can put in place to protect and prevent young people becoming involved in drug dealing in the city.
  - Determine the effectiveness of current policies and services in protecting and preventing young people becoming involved in drug dealing in the city.
  - Identify good practice.
  - Determine how best statutory agencies can work with communities to ensure they are informed about services and support available and are confident to report concerns.
  - Make recommendations to be taken forward to the Safer & Cohesive Communities Programme Board.

4. Members of the Task & Finish group were:
  - Councillor Lee Bridgeman
  - Councillor Saeed Ebrahim (Chair)
  - Councillor Kathryn Kelloway
  - Councillor Ashley Lister
  - Councillor Mary McGarry
  - Councillor Mike Phillips
  - Councillor Kanaya Singh
  
5. The Task Group reviewed evidence gathered from discussions with a wide range of witnesses including Council Members and officers (including Youth Service); third sector organisations; Community Safety Board Members; schools; Cardiff & Vale UHB; residents and community representatives; and probation. The Members also reviewed a number of publications and reports, and developed, distributed and analysed a community survey to gain a snapshot of opinion across Cardiff.
  
6. Evidence from all of the above was used to identify suitable findings and recommendations from the Inquiry. The Inquiry Report was agreed at Committee on 5 December 2018 and was presented to Cabinet on 24 January 2019. The full Inquiry report is available at:  
<https://cardiff.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=151&MId=3543&Ver=4>

### **Cabinet Response to Recommendations**

7. Overall, the Committee made nineteen recommendations to the Cabinet.
  
8. The Cabinet agreed their response at their meeting 18 April 2019. The full response is attached at **Appendix A** and shows that:
  - 12 - of the recommendations are accepted – R1, R2, R4, R6, R7, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R18, R19
  - 6 – accepted in principle – R3, R5, R8, R14, R15, R16
  - 1 – was not accepted - R17.

## **Way Forward**

9. Councillor Lynda Thorne, Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities and relevant officers from the People & Communities directorate have been invited to present the directorate's Action Plan for the accepted recommendations (attached at **Appendix B**) and answer Members' questions.

## **Legal Implications**

10. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not making policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

## **Financial Implications**

11. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not making policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee is recommended to receive the Action Plan and agree the way forward for receiving progress reports on the work required in response to the recommendations in the report.

**Davina Fiore**

**Director of Governance and Legal Services**

**31 Oct 2019**