



**Children's Services  
Quarter 1 Performance  
Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee  
7<sup>th</sup> October 2021**



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



# Evaluation of Performance

- What is working well
- What are we worried about
- What are we doing about it



# What is working well

- Assessment Unit operational
- Management of business during second COVID-19 spike.
- Increase in the % of children returned home from care during the year - 6.1% from 5.5% at the same point last year.
- Continued increase in number of in house foster carers from 93 in September to 100 in December.



# What are we worried about

- Managing ongoing increasing demand and complexity.
- Increase in serious youth violence in Cardiff.
- Young people's mental health and emotional well-being.
- Complex safeguarding concerns with providers.
- Insufficiency of experienced social workers.
- Level of performance in some key areas.



# What are we doing about it

- Managing ongoing increasing demand and complexity.
  - Developing skills mix and focusing on prudent social work.
  - Interventions hub.
  - Reviewing hub.
  - Ongoing recruitment to permanent posts.
  - Use of funding opportunities to develop new approaches / proof of concept.



# What are we doing about it

- Increase in serious youth violence in Cardiff.
  - CSE strategy.
  - SAFE model.
  - Working closely with partners.
  - Locality working – to support early intervention and prevention.
  - Mapping – to understand links between young people and generational issues.



# What are we doing about it

- Young people's mental health and emotional well-being.
  - Allocated social work manager acting as conduit with CAMHS.
  - NYTH / NEST approach.
  - Sourcing accommodation for young people who do not require hospitalisation / are ready for discharge; but who aren't able to return home.
  - Development of wrap around support for children in hospital / at home / in placement.
  - Action plan with partners in place.



# What are we doing about it

- Complex safeguarding concerns with providers.
  - Escalating concerns process.
  - Continued work with providers and CIW.





# What are we doing about it

- Insufficiency of experienced social workers.
  - Ongoing recruitment campaign, including specific targeting of experienced workers.
  - Work with corporate colleagues to review internal processes.



# What are we worried about

- Level of performance in some key areas.
  - Including wellbeing assessments, CASP recording, initial core groups, CLA planning.
- Development of PowerBi reports.
- Engaged senior management team.
- Use of Resource Assistants to support OMs to follow up performance issues with TMs and social workers.

