
CYPSC COMMITTEE BUSINESS REPORT

Background

1. This report sets out a summary of the Committee's business as follows:
 - A correspondence update arising from recent scrutiny meetings;
 - Update on the SOP Task & Finish Group;
 - Update on the EOTAS Inquiry Task & Finish Group;
 - Update on the RLDP Task & Finish Group;
 - Updates on other business considered by this Committee informally; and
 - The latest position in relation to the 2023/24 CYPSC Work Programme.

Correspondence update

2. Following most Committee meetings, the Chair writes a letter to the relevant Cabinet Member or officer, summing up the Committee's comments and recommendations regarding the issues considered. Set out below is the latest position in terms of correspondence:

January 2023

- *Response received* – from Councillor Merry to the Chair's letter regarding SOP Annual Report and School Improvement Presentation
- *Response received* – from Councillor Lister to the Chair's letter regarding the Draft Children's Services Strategy 2023-26

February 2023

- *Response received* – from Councillor Weaver to the Chair’s letter regarding the Draft Budget Proposals 2023-24 and Draft Corporate Plan 2023 – 26.

March 2023

- *No response required* – to Councillor Lister regarding the Youth Justice Service (*response to points raised to be given at the June CYPSC meeting*)
- *Response awaited* – from Merry and the Central South Consortium regarding the CSC Annual Report
- *No response required* – to Councillor Merry regarding the School Admission Arrangements and Coordinated Secondary School Admission Arrangements 2024/2025; and School Organisation Planning: Primary School Places to Serve Cathays and Parts of Gabalfa, Heath, Llandaff North and Plasnewydd

April 2023

Meeting not held

May 2023

- *Response awaited* - from Councillors Merry and Lister to the Chair’s letter regarding CPAC Annual Report 2022/23
3. Copies of the public Chair’s letters and responses received can be found on the Council’s website page for the relevant Committee meeting, with a hyperlink provided at the top of the page, entitled ‘*correspondence following the committee meeting*’.

SOP Task & Finish Group

4. The SOP Task & Finish Group was established as a rolling Group to consider a number of School Organisation Planning proposals coming forward during 2022/23. Since the last report, the Task & Finish Group has met with the Cabinet Member and Senior Officers on the following occasions and submitted reports to CYPSC accordingly:

- **January 2023** – SOP Annual Report
- **March 2023** - School Admission Arrangements and Coordinated Secondary School Admission Arrangements 2024/2025; and School Organisation Planning: Primary School Places to Serve Cathays and Parts of Gabalfa, Heath, Llandaff North and Plasnewydd

EOTAS Inquiry Task & Finish Group

5. At the Committee's work programming forum in July 2022, the Committee agreed to undertake an in-depth Inquiry on **Young People who are educated other than at School (EOTAS) and what factors could lead to them becoming vulnerable to criminal exploitation** during the next 12 – 18 months.

6. Members of this Task Group are:

- Cllr Bridgeman
- Cllr Ferguson-Thorne
- Cllr Hopkins
- Carol Cobert
- Karen Dell'Armi (volunteer co-optee)

7. The Group met on the 31 January 2023 where they considered the scope for the Inquiry. It was agreed that a literature review be undertaken on this issue, and this is underway. As the Scrutiny Officer has been undertaking work in relation to the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) Task Group, the Chair of this

Committee agreed that the work of this Group recommence in September 2023, once the RLDP work has been completed.

RLDP Task & Finish Group

8. The RLDP will help shape Cardiff for the next 15 years to 2036, ensuring the right development happens in the right place at the right time, benefitting communities and the economy and setting out which areas need to be protected. The Plan is a high-level policy document which impacts on all 5 Scrutiny Committee's Terms of Reference. It will also be the final Plan produced by Cardiff Council.
9. The next stage of the RLDP will commence with a consultation on the preferred strategic options. This is currently programmed for July 2023. Scrutiny Chairs agreed that the most effective way to scrutinise this stage of the RLDP would be via a joint Group including all Scrutiny Chairs and 1-2 additional Members from each individual scrutiny committees – in this case, Councillors Boes and Ahmed.
10. The next meeting of the RLDP Group will take place on Friday 7th July 2023, and an update will be reported to this meeting in September.

CYPSC – Informal Business

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

- **Cardiff Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2022-2027** - CYPSC Members received this report with Committee papers at the January 2023 meeting of this scrutiny committee.

- **Children's Service Quarter 3 Performance 2022/23** – this was distributed to CYPSC Members via email for comments on the 26 April 2023. Q4 performance will be considered at this meeting, elsewhere on the agenda.

CYPSC Work Programme 2023/24

12. Each year, Scrutiny Committees are required to discuss and agree their Work Programme for the year. This is usually undertaken via an informal Work Programming Forum (WPF) of Committee Members. This report requests that Members agree that a WPF be arranged to consider and approve a Work Programme for 2023/24.

Way Forward

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

- reflect on the correspondence update.
- Note the progress in relation to the SOP Task & Finish Group; the EOTAS Inquiry Task & Finish Group; and RLDP Task & Finish Group
- Note progress in relation to those Items distributed informally.
- Agree to arrange a 2023/24 Work Programming Forum for CYPSC.

Legal Implications

14. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be

within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

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

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to;

- I. reflect on the correspondence update.
- II. Note the progress in relation to the SOP Task & Finish Group; the EOTAS Inquiry Task & Finish Group; and RLDP Task & Finish Group.
- III. Note progress in relation to those Items distributed informally.
- IV. Agree to arrange a 2023/24 Work Programming Forum for CYPSC.

DAVINA FIORE

Director of Governance and Legal Services

7 June 2023