



**Children's Services  
Quarter 3 Performance  
Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee  
15<sup>th</sup> March 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

- Director post appointed to and all permanent OMs in post.
- Positive inspection reports from CIW and HMIP.
- Recruitment and retention of social workers (net gain of 26 during year to date).
- On target to open the Assessment Unit in Quarter 1.
- 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 increasing demand and complexity.
- Capacity of service and partners to respond to increasing demand for attendance at child protection conferences and children looked after reviews.
- Number of 16 and 17 year olds in residential placements.
- Impact of lack of face to face contact for children and families due to COVID-19.



# What Are We Doing About It

- Regular meetings in place for senior managers in Children's Services and Education to prepare for COVID-19 recovery.
- 4<sup>th</sup> locality teams being introduced to strengthen management capacity.
- Review of demand in the conference service to be undertaken.
- Discussions with Police about capacity to meet demand ongoing.
- Regular review of independence planning for children looked after.
- Implementation of Assessment Unit to ensure young people go on to be placed in the right accommodation for them where rehabilitation home is not an immediate option.
- Reintroduction of face to face contact for babies under the age of 1.



# CIW Feedback from Risk Based Inspection

- Senior managers and lead members have introduced a new culture of raised expectation and standards.
- Local Authority is working hard with all stakeholders to support the safety and well-being of people who use and work in services.
- Cabinet leads for both Adult and Children's Services are well informed, understand the changes required and are focused on improving outcomes for people.
- Operational and strategic partnerships are working well to help people achieve their well-being outcomes.
- Throughout our inspection and monitoring activity, very high levels of engagement and cooperation from all concerned throughout inspection.



# Next Steps – Overview of Key Priorities for 2021-22

