

Document Pack



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WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2016

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A MEETING OF THE **EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE **CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, CARMARTHEN AT 2:00PM ON THURSDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2016**, FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA.

Mark James CBE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE



PLEASE RECYCLE

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
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| Ref: | AD016-001 |

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**13 COUNCIL MEMBERS, 2 NON-ELECTED VOTING MEMBERS AND 3
ELECTED VOTING PARENT GOVERNOR MEMBERS**

PLAID CYMRU GROUP – 6 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Councillor | C.A. Campbell |
| 2. | Councillor | J.M. Charles |
| 3. | Councillor | W.G. Hopkins |
| 4. | Councillor | P. Hughes Griffiths |
| 5. | Councillor | M.J.A. Lewis |
| 6. | Councillor | J.E. Williams (Chair) |

INDEPENDENT GROUP – 3 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Councillor | I.W. Davies |
| 2. | Councillor | A. James |
| 3. | Councillor | D.W.H. Richards |

LABOUR GROUP – 4 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | Councillor | D.J.R. Bartlett (Vice-Chair) |
| 2. | Councillor | J.D. James |
| 3. | Councillor | P.E.M. Jones |
| 4. | Councillor | J. Williams |

NON ELECTED VOTING MEMBERS (2)

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | Mrs. V. Kenny | Roman Catholic Church Representative |
| 2. | Mrs. J. Voyle Williams | Church in Wales Representative |

ELECTED VOTING PARENT GOVERNOR MEMBERS (3)

Term of office expires on the 31/03/2018

- | | | |
|----|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. | Mrs. E. Heyes | Area 3 – Llanelli |
| 2. | Mrs. K. Hill | Area 1 – Dinefwr |
| 3. | Mrs. A. Pickles | Area 2 – Carmarthen |

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
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EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22nd DECEMBER 2016

**Forthcoming items for next meeting –
Thursday 26th January 2017**

| Discussion Topic | Background |
|--|---|
| <p>School Performance & Achievement 2016</p> | <p>The Committee will consider an analysis of quantitative and qualitative data in relation to the performance of schools during the 2015/16 academic year. The report will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Report on Standards & Outcomes (Teacher Assessments and Examinations, Attendance and Pupil Exclusions) • Outcomes of School Inspections • Developing values and skills for lifelong learning. <p>The report will also include how performance and standards in the county's schools compare with best performing schools across the ERW region.</p> |
| <p>Council's Well-Being Objectives 2017/18</p> | <p>The Well-being of Future Generations Act requires most public bodies in Wales to carry out sustainable development with the objective of improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of their area. It places a well-being duty on those public bodies to set and publish objectives designed to maximise their contribution to the seven national well-being goals. They are also required to take all reasonable steps to meet those objectives. This item will provide the Committee with an opportunity to consider and comment on the Council's proposed objectives for 2017/18.</p> |

| Discussion Topic | Background |
|---|---|
| Task & Finish Report – Attainment Gap and eFSM Learners | This item will provide the Committee with an opportunity to consider and comment on the Task & Finish Group’s review of the Attainment Gap and eFSM Learners. |

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22nd DECEMBER 2016

Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation 2017/18 to 2019/20

Appendix A – Corporate Budget Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20

Appendix A (i) – Efficiency summary for the Education & Children Department

Appendix A (ii) – Growth Pressures summary for the Education & Children Department

Appendix B – Budget extracts for the Education & Children Department

Appendix C – Charging Digest for the Education & Children Department

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- Members consider and comment on the budget strategy proposals
- Members consider and comment on the proposals for delivery of efficiency savings for their service area identified in Appendix A(i)
- Members are also invited to bring forward any other proposals for efficiency savings
- Members examine the Departmental Budgets
- Members endorse the Charging Digests
- That members formulate views for submission to the Executive Board for consideration

Reasons:

At its meeting on the 21st November 2016, the Executive Board considered the attached Revenue Budget Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20 (Appendix A) and endorsed it for consultation purposes. If appropriate, a verbal update will be given at the meeting in relation to any changes or specific proposals made by the Executive Board.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: YES

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holders:

- Cllr. David Jenkins (Resources)
- Cllr. Gareth Jones (Education & Children)

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Directorate: Corporate Services | Designation: Head of Financial Services | Tel No. / E-Mail Address: 01267 224886 obowen@carmarthenshire.gov.uk |
| Name of Head of Service: Owen Bowen | | |
| Report Author: Owen Bowen | | |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22nd DECEMBER 2016

Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation 2017/18 to 2019/20

The objective of the report is to allow members to consider the corporate budget strategy for the financial years 2017/18 to 2019/20 to consider the service delivery impact and options for the forthcoming years.

The report is set out as follows:

Appendix A – The attached report is a copy of the Revenue Budget Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20 that has been presented to the Executive Board. As part of the budget consultation process the report is presented to this Scrutiny Committee for your consideration.

The report provides members with an initial view of the revenue budget issues for the forthcoming year and also reflects departmental submissions.

Appendix B – Budget extracts for the Education & Children Department, which incorporates the initial efficiencies / service rationalisation proposals already reflected in the budget for consultation.

Appendix C – Charging Digest for the Education & Children Department. The charges for 2017-18 have yet to be adopted and any change to the proposed charges will impact on the budget/efficiency proposals.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: **Owen Bowen** **Head of Financial Services**

| Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities | Legal | Finance | ICT | Risk Management Issues | Staffing Implications | Physical Assets |
|---|-------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| YES | NONE | YES | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |

1. Policy and Crime & Disorder

The budget is being prepared having regard to the Improvement Plan.

3. Finance

The report provides an initial view of the Budget Strategy for 2017/18, together with indicative figures for the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years. The impact on departmental spending will be dependent upon the provisional and final settlements from Welsh Government, and the resultant final Budget adopted by County Council.

Current projections indicate an increase in the validated budget of £10.6m, before offsetting the potential efficiency savings.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: Owen Bowen Head of Financial Services

1. Local Member(s) – N/A

2. Community / Town Council – N/A

3. **Relevant Partners** – Consultation with relevant partners will be undertaken and results will be reported during the budget process.

4. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** – Consultation with other organisations will be undertaken and results will be reported during the budget process.

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

| Title of Document | File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection |
|---|---|
| 2017/18 3-Year Revenue Budget | Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen |
| Revenue Budget Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20 (Item 10, Carmarthenshire County Council's Executive Board – 21st November 2016) | <p>Cymraeg http://democratiaeth.sirgar.llyw.cymru/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=353&Ver=4</p> <p>English http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=353&Ver=4</p> |

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REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

Education & Children Scrutiny Committee

22nd December 2016

REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY 2017/18 to 2019/20

(Copy of report to Executive Board on 21/11/16)

| | | |
|---|--------------------|----------------------|
| HEAD OF SERVICE & DESIGNATION. | DIRECTORATE | TELEPHONE NO. |
| O Bowen, Head of Financial Services | Corporate Services | 01267 224886 |
| AUTHOR & DESIGNATION | DIRECTORATE | TELEPHONE NO |
| O Bowen, Head of Financial Services | Corporate Services | 01267 224886 |

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Executive Board in July 2016 received a report on the Revenue Budget Outlook for 2017/2018 to 2019/2020 which appraised members of the financial outlook and the proposals for taking forward the budget preparation for the three year period.
- 1.2. This report provides Members with the current view of the Revenue Budget for 2017/2018 together with indicative figures for the 2017/2018 and 2019/2020 financial years. The report is based on officers projections of spending need and takes account of the provisional settlement issued by Welsh Government on 19th October 2016. It also reflects the current departmental submissions for savings proposals.
- 1.3. Whilst significant work has already been undertaken in preparing the budget, this is only an initial position statement which will be updated over the coming months the budget will be further developed as figures are reviewed, and the settlement becomes known.
- 1.4. The report is broken down into 5 parts:
 - Funding Projections
 - Budget Requirement
 - Impact on the Authority's budget requirement
 - Consultation
 - Conclusion
 - Recommendations

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2. PROVISIONAL SETTLEMENT

- 2.1.** The provisional settlement was announced on Wednesday 19th October 2016. Again this year, indicative figures were provided for the one financial year only, 2017/18, with no forward indicative figures for future years, although it has been indicated that future years funding proposals may become available post the Chancellor of the Exchequers Autumn Statement
- 2.2.** The provisional settlement was significantly better than this Council and Local Government in Wales in general anticipated. However it must be recognised that a cash neutral settlement still has a significant negative impact on the Council's resources due to inflationary factors, demographic changes and demand.
- 2.3.** The main points of the Provisional Settlement 2017/2018 on an All Wales basis are as follows:

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- 2.3.1. Local government revenue funding for 2017-18 set at £4.107 billion, an increase of +0.1% (£3.8 million) compared to 2016-17, but this is after new responsibilities are taken into account of £4.8 million.
- 2.3.2. Additional £25 million as a result of the agreement between the Welsh Government and Plaid Cymru.
- 2.3.3. Additional £25 million in recognition of the importance of strong local social services
- 2.3.4. £4.5 million to fund the commitment to increase the capital limit used by local authorities who charge for residential care from £24,000 to £30,000.
- 2.3.5. £0.3 million to fund the commitment to introduce a full disregard of the War Disablement Pension in financial assessments for charging for social care.
- 2.3.6. £2.3 million of additional funding outside the settlement to ensure that no authority sees a reduction of greater than 0.5% compared to its 2016-17 settlement allocation and, where relevant, top-up funding.
- 2.3.7. £1 million for school transport
- 2.3.8. £3 million to support town centre car parking
- 2.3.9. The settlement includes 'transfers in' of £3.082m in respect of the Delivering transformation Grant (£2.830m), Deprivation of Liberty Standards (£0.184m), Blue Badge additional funding (£0.011m) and Food Hygiene Rating scheme, and 'transfers out' of £1.000m in respect of teacher registration fees subsidies.

2.4. The figures for Carmarthenshire are:

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2.4.1. Provisional Settlement 0% movement on the 2016-17 settlement. i.e. a small reduction of £17k.

2.4.2. New responsibilities:

2.4.2.1. £300k due to increase in the capital limit used by local authorities who charge for residential care from £24,000 to £30,000

2.4.2.2. £18k to fund the commitment to introduce a full disregard of the War Disablement Pension in financial assessments for charging for social care

2.4.2.3. £180k to support town centre car parking

2.4.2.4. £60k for school transport

2.4.3. Transfers In

2.4.3.1. £169k of funding previously provided via the social services *delivering transformation grant*

2.4.3.2. £12k to support *deprivation of liberty safeguards*

2.4.3.3. £3k to deliver the *food hygiene rating scheme*

2.4.3.4. £1k additional funding for the *blue badge scheme*.

2.4.4. Transfers Out

2.4.4.1. £54k in respect of teacher registration fee subsidies

2.5. Service specific Grants within the current year's budget stands at £107m, and details of future allocations are not available for all at this stage. With the exception of the Environmental Grant which is being reduced by 6.7%, it is assumed that all others will be maintained at their existing level during the three year period of the model

3. BUDGET REQUIREMENT 2017-2018

3.1. Current Years performance (2016/2017)

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3.1.1. As the Authority's core spending requirements remains constant year on year, a review of current year's performance is important in identifying whether there are any underlying problems within the base budget

3.1.2. The current projection for the Revenue Outturn for 2016/17 (based on the August 2016 monitoring) is as follows

| Service | Approved Budget £'000 | Total Expenditure Forecast £'000 | Variance Forecast For Year £'000 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Chief Executive | 13,666 | 14,179 | 513 |
| Education and Children's Services | 162,326 | 163,876 | 1,550 |
| Corporate Services | 22,301 | 22,039 | -262 |
| Communities | 90,991 | 91,779 | 788 |
| Environment | 47,235 | 47,621 | 386 |
| Departmental Expenditure | 336,519 | 339,494 | 2,975 |
| Cont from Dept/Earmarked Reserves | | -254 | -254 |
| Capital Charges | -9,519 | -10,269 | -750 |
| Pensions Reserve Adjustment | -5,085 | -5,085 | 0 |
| Levies and Contributions | 9,310 | 9,310 | 0 |
| Transfer to/ from Reserves | -265 | -265 | 0 |
| Net Expenditure | 330,960 | 332,931 | 1,971 |

The departmental overspends are primarily as a result of delays in the delivery of some of the savings proposals put forward for 2016-17, and a review of the savings proposals that were agreed in February 2016 has identified that some £1.8 m of the original proposals for 2016-17 are at risk of not being fully delivered in the current financial year.

The Education and Children's Services department continues to face pressure due in the main to school based EVR and redundancy costs, and short term transport costs for pupils from closed schools and property decommissioning costs.

The Authority is currently forecasting a variance of £1.971m at the year-end that will have to be met from General Balances.

In considering next year's budget, the current strategy assumes that departments will actually deliver/make good those savings proposals adopted for 2016/17 by the commencement of the next financial year.

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3.2. Validation

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- 3.2.1. Validation reflects the changes in expenditure requirements to deliver the **current level** of services in future years. Primarily this is inflation, but also includes some service specific changes. The key validation factors are as follows:

| | <u>2017/18</u> <u>Original</u> | 2017/18 Proposed | 2018/19 | 2019/20 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| General inflation | 1.4% | 2.3% | 2.2% | 2.0% |
| Electricity | 3.0% | 5.0% | 3.0% | 3.0% |
| Gas | 3.0% | 5.0% | 3.0% | 3.0% |
| Fuel | 3.0% | 5.0% | 3.0% | 3.0% |
| Pay Inflation - non teaching | 1.0% | 1.0% | 1.0% | 1.0% |
| Pay Inflation - Teaching | 1.0% | 1.0% | 1.0% | 1.0% |
| Levies | 1.0% | 1.0% | 1.0% | 1.0% |
| Pension Contributions | £297k | £298k | £302k | £305k |
| Auto Enrolment | £1,600k | £1,600k | | |
| Capital Charges | £250k | - | £250k | £250k |
| Main service Specifics: | | | | |
| County Elections | £230k | £230k | -£300k | |
| Apprentice levy | £850k | £850k | - | |

- 3.2.2. Under the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting)(Wales)(Amendment) Regulations 2010 [the Amendment Regulations] the authority is required to make an annual provision from revenue to contribute towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement at a rate that it considers to be prudent and having regard to the guidance issued. The Budget Strategy has been prepared based upon the Regulatory Method for supported borrowing in which the calculation is based on 4% of the opening Capital Financing Requirement and the Asset Life Method for the Unsupported Borrowing e.g. Modernising Education Provision and Fleet replacement.
- 3.2.3. The most significant specific validations over the three year period relate to Auto Enrolment and the introduction of the Apprentice levy from April 2017. Currently there is no information as to how the Apprentice Levy will be utilised within Wales.
- 3.2.4. There is a clear risk to the Budget Strategy that departments may find it difficult to manage their expenditure within these parameters, especially where the inflationary increases have been applied by service providers. This risk is something that will require close monitoring during the year.
- 3.2.5. In line with the previous Chancellors announcement relating to Public Sector pay, the Budget as constructed makes provision for the headline pay award of 1% in each of the financial years, together with higher percentages to those on lower pay

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points due in part to the introduction of the national Living Wage from 1 April 2016.

3.2.6. In total, validation adds £7.8m to the current year's budget.

3.3. Cost reduction Programme

3.3.1. In anticipation of the unprecedented reductions in this settlement round, significant work in identifying further service efficiencies/rationalisation proposals has been undertaken. Accordingly departments have developed a range of proposals, and these efficiencies are included in **Appendix A** of this report.

3.3.1.1. The efficiency proposals are categorised as follows:

Managerial – Efficiencies that result in no perceivable change to the overall level of service delivery but may in some instances affect quality of service provided

Policy – Efficiency or service rationalisation proposals that will directly affect service delivery.

| | 2017/18 £m | 2018/19 £m | 2019/20 £m |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Managerial | 4,435 | 4,462 | 2,940 |
| Existing Policy | 3,988 | 3,591 | 3,527 |
| New Policy | 347 | 181 | 1,307 |
| Total | 8,770 | 8,234 | 7,774 |

(Detail at **Appendix A**)

3.3.2. The summary sheet at Appendix A sets out the savings targets set for individual departments and the value of savings currently identified.

3.4. New Expenditure Pressures

3.4.1. New expenditure pressures are the combination of additional cost to meet existing service needs e.g. increased client base/greater service take up and the costs of meeting change in service provision e.g. policy changes.

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3.4.2. In the setting of the current financial year's budget, a total sum of £2.4m was allocated to services, of which £1.8m was allocated to Social Care.

3.4.3. The original budget outlook for 2017-18 and 2018-19 contained a sum of £3m per annum to meet growth pressures, and the same provision for growth is currently reflected in the 2019-20 indicative budget.

3.4.4. Initial growth bids of £3.3m have been submitted by departments for 2017-18, and the current strategy reflects an allocation of £2.542. Detail at Appendix B

3.5. Schools Delegated Budgets

3.5.1. The last year of WG funding protection for schools was 2015/16. The current budget proposals assume no protection going forward.

3.5.2. The original budget strategy proposals have been reviewed, and the effect on schools delegated budgets are:

| | 2017/18 £m | 2018/19 £m | 2019/20 £m |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Previous Years Budget | <u>109.247</u> | <u>107.313</u> | <u>105.527</u> |
| Validation | 1.845 | 1.699 | 1.326 |
| Savings requirement | -3.779 | -3.485 | -3.987 |
| Net Adjustment | -1.934 | -1.786 | -2.661 |
| Proposed Delegated Budget | 107.313 | 105.527 | 102.866 |

3.6. Internal Funding

3.6.1. Generally speaking whilst the use of reserves to support annual budgets should not be summarily discounted, it must be treated with caution. Funding on-going expenditure from such funds merely defers and compounds difficult financial problems to the following year. One-off items of expenditure within any budget proposal lend themselves better for such funding support.

3.6.2. In deliberating this point however, members must bear in mind any **inherent risks** that may be built into the budget strategy. These include:

- Challenging Efficiency targets
- Future inflation/interest rates
- Current economic climate continuing
- Impact of BREXIT.
- Additional pressure on demand lead Services

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- No indicative figures for future year's settlements have been provided by Welsh Government therefore there is the potential for the overestimation of the future settlements.

3.6.3. The following table summarises the main categories of reserves held by the Authority.

| | 1 st Apr 2016 £'000 | 31 st Mch 2017 £'000 | 31 st Mch 2018 £'000 | 31 st Mch 2019 £'000 | 31 st Mch 2020 £'000 |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Schools Reserves | 3,677 | 181 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| General Reserves | 8,779 | 6,743 | 6,743 | 6,743 | 6,743 |
| Earmarked Reserves | 66,131 | 49,124 | 24,264 | 21,309 | 20,736 |

3.6.4. School Reserves

3.6.4.1. Schools have delegated responsibility for the management of their own finances. The level of reserves held by an individual school at any point in time will depend on a number of factors including the level of contingency fund that the school governing body considers appropriate, and the particular plans each school has for expenditure. Officers have yet to be informed of any transfers to/from these reserves by individual schools for future years.

3.6.4.2. Legislation allows schools to carry forward reserves from one financial period to another. The School Funding (Wales) Regulations 2010 requires schools to limit their accumulated reserves at year end to £50,000 for Primary Schools and £100,000 for Secondary and Special Schools or 5% of their budget dependant on what is greater. School Improvement officers are currently working with schools to ensure they comply with the guidance. As at 31st March 2016, 27 schools were in deficit and 24 schools held surplus balances in excess of the £50k/£100k threshold.

3.6.5. General Reserves

3.6.5.1. In the changeable and challenging environment currently facing Local Government the Authority is committed to maintaining a reasonable level of

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General reserves or Balances. Whilst there is no prescribed minimum level for Balances, Council has previously deemed 3% of net expenditure as being a prudent level, which has been accepted by our Auditors as being reasonable

3.6.5.2. The overall level of balances is taken into consideration each year when the annual budget is set and has on occasions been utilised to augment expenditure/reduce council tax. The 2016-2017 budget was set on the basis of no transfers from the General Reserves. Based upon the August Budget monitoring (outlined in paragraph 3.1.2 above) there could be draw of £1,971k against General Reserves at the end of the current financial year.

3.6.5.3. Given the likely draw on this reserve in the current year therefore it is deemed imprudent at this stage to assume any further support for future years budgets from the current General Reserves.

3.6.5.4. Taking account of these changes the average level of the general reserves is forecasted to be around 2.0% of net expenditure during 2017/18.

3.6.6. Earmarked Reserves

3.6.6.1. The Authority holds earmarked reserves which have been set up to finance the delivery of specific projects, or in protecting the authority against future liabilities or issues. The reserves can be summarised as follows:

| Reserve | 31 March 2016 £'000 | 31 March 2017 £'000 | 31 March 2018 £'000 | 31 March 2019 £'000 | 31 March 2019 £'000 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Insurance | 7,886 | 7,386 | 7,386 | 7,586 | 7,786 |
| Capital Funds | 33,822 | 30,277 | 9,450 | 6,803 | 5,590 |
| Development Fund | 1,195 | 445 | 603 | 756 | 756 |
| IAG/OAG | 1,337 | 1,337 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Corporate Retirement Fund | 3,142 | 1,352 | 386 | 391 | 1,101 |
| Joint Ventures | 1,515 | 1,695 | 1,875 | 2,055 | 2,055 |
| Other | 17,234 | 6,632 | 4,555 | 3,709 | 3,439 |
| TOTAL | 66,131 | 49,124 | 24,264 | 21,309 | 20,736 |

3.6.6.2. As can be seen from the table above the level of earmarked reserves fluctuates greatly year on

year, and whilst the level in each fund is not an exact science it is based on an informed estimate and past experience of the likely call on the authority in future years in line with the intended purpose of each reserve. Great care must therefore be taken when considering utilising such funds for purposes other than those which they were created as this could lead to the authority being faced with substantial unfunded liabilities in the future

3.6.6.3. The budget proposals assume a sum of £200k per annum being transferred from the Insurance Reserve to support the revenue budget in 2017/18.

3.6.6.4. A further analysis of the reserves held will be undertaken over the coming months with any further proposed utilisation being considered at the budget finalisation stage.

3.6.6.5. Taking account of the proposals within this report, including the use of reserves, the Director of Corporate Services confirms that overall the estimated level of financial reserves (as indicated above) is adequate for the financial year 2017/18, with the General Reserves being at the minimum that could be supported.

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4. IMPACT ON THE AUTHORITY'S BUDGET STRATEGY

4.1. The table below provides an updated position on the current financial outlook taking account of the provisional settlement and also other recent validation changes, including the second year of the pay offer agreed by the national employers.

4.2. Current Financial Outlook (updated for the Provisional Settlement):

| | Current MTFP | | Financial Model | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 2017/18 £'000 | 2018/19 £'000 | 2017/18 £'000 | 2018/19 £'000 | 2019/20 £'000 |
| Previous Year's Budget | 331,226 | 330,541 | 331,226 | 333,784 | 334,188 |
| General Inflation | 1,416 | 1,637 | 2,197 | 2,134 | 1,847 |
| Pay Inflation | 2,399 | 3,041 | 2,427 | 2,973 | 2,954 |
| Other | 3,083 | 543 | 3,042 | 831 | 968 |
| Growth | 3,230 | 3,000 | 2,772 | 2,700 | 3,000 |
| Original & approved PBB Proposals | -11,013 | -10,155 | -8,770 | -8,234 | -7,774 |
| Net Expenditure | 330,341 | 328,607 | 333,584 | 334,188 | 335,183 |
| Revenue Settlement | -246,651 | -241,718 | -251,794 | -249,276 | -246,783 |
| Council Tax Receipts | -83,690 | -86,889 | -81,791 | -84,913 | -84,000 |
| Council Tax Increase: | 4.88% | 3.14% | 2.50% | 3.14% | 3.42% |

4.3. The total cost reductions now required for 2017/18 is £8.8m and for the 3 year period are estimated at £24.6m.

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5. CONSULTATION

Budget consultation has been planned for the coming months and a summary of the individual approaches are as follows:

- 5.1. Members seminars. (November and December 2015)
- 5.2. The consultation process will commence online from the 22nd November 2016.
- 5.3. The public and commercial ratepayers consultation in December 2016.
- 5.4. Consultation with Scrutiny Committees during November and December
- 5.5. 'Insight' youth conference in November 2016.
- 5.6. Consultation with the Schools Budget Forum in November 2016
- 5.7. Trade Union Consultation December 2016/January 2017

6. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015

- 6.1. In considering the budget proposals, members need to take into consideration the requirements of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Act requires that we must carry out sustainable development, improving the economic, social environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

'... the public body must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'

- 6.2. In doing so, we must demonstrate the following 5 ways of working:
 - i. Looking at the long-term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs
 - ii. Understanding the root causes of the issues to prevent them recurring
 - iii. Taking an integrated approach so that we look at all well-being goals and objectives of other services and partners
 - iv. Collaboration – Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions
 - v. Involving a diversity of population in decisions that affect them

APPENDIX A

6.3. The Act identifies 7 well-being goals, they provide a shared vision for public bodies to work towards. We must work towards achieving all of them.

- i. A prosperous Wales
- ii. A resilient Wales
- iii. A healthier Wales
- iv. A more equal Wales
- v. A Wales of cohesive communities
- vi. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language
- vii. A globally responsible Wales

6.4. As a Council we must set and publish well-being objectives by the 31st March 2017. Our well-being objectives must be designed to maximise our contribution to achieving the 7 well-being goals of the Act.

6.5. We must also publish a Well-being Statement that sets out how we will achieve our objectives and explain how we ensure resources, including financial are allocated to meet our objectives.

7. CONCLUSION

7.1. Currently the budget proposals assume the full delivery of all of the £24.6m savings proposals currently submitted.

7.2. The current budget proposals assume a Council Tax increase of 2.5% in 2017-18, 3.14% in 2018-19 and 3.42% in 2019-20. A 1% movement in the Council Tax rise equates to +/-£790k

8. RECOMMENDATION

8.1. Note the contents of the report and approve as a basis for consultation on the three year budget strategy, and specifically seek comments from consultees on the efficiency proposals in Appendice A.

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EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
22ND December 2016
Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation 2017/18 to 2019/20
(Extract of Revenue Strategy Report to Executive Board 21/11/16)

| | TARGETS | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | Total |
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Chief Executive | 600 | 605 | 424 | 1,629 |
| Education | 418 | 225 | 898 | 1,541 |
| Schools Delegated | 6,000 | 6,000 | 3,487 | 15,487 |
| Corporate Services | 174 | 262 | 177 | 613 |
| Community Services | 2,792 | 2,072 | 2,548 | 7,412 |
| Environment | 1,469 | 990 | 1,246 | 3,705 |
| | 11,453 | 10,154 | 8,780 | 30,387 |

| Current Proposals | | | | | EXISTING POLICY PROPOSALS | | | | NEW POLICY PROPOSALS | | | | TOTAL PROPOSALS | | | | Variance on Target | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|----------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| | MANAGERIAL | | | | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | Total | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | Total | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | Total | £'000 | | | | |
| | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Chief Executive | 547 | 661 | 287 | 1,494 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 547 | 661 | 287 | 1,494 | -135 | |
| Education | 138 | 225 | 75 | 438 | 180 | 70 | 0 | 250 | 100 | 0 | 398 | 498 | 418 | 295 | 473 | 1,186 | 418 | 295 | 473 | 1,186 | -355 |
| Schools Delegated | | | | 0 | 3,779 | 3,485 | 3,487 | 10,751 | 0 | 0 | 500 | 500 | 3,779 | 3,485 | 3,987 | 11,251 | 3,779 | 3,485 | 3,987 | 11,251 | -4,236 |
| Corporate Services | 207 | 148 | 258 | 613 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 207 | 148 | 258 | 613 | 207 | 148 | 258 | 613 | 0 |
| Community Services | 2,294 | 2,421 | 1,663 | 6,378 | 29 | 36 | 40 | 105 | 247 | 181 | 60 | 488 | 2,570 | 2,638 | 1,763 | 6,971 | 2,570 | 2,638 | 1,763 | 6,971 | -441 |
| Environment | 1,249 | 1,007 | 657 | 2,913 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 349 | 349 | 1,249 | 1,007 | 1,006 | 3,262 | 1,249 | 1,007 | 1,006 | 3,262 | -443 |
| | 4,435 | 4,462 | 2,940 | 11,836 | 3,988 | 3,591 | 3,527 | 11,106 | 347 | 181 | 1,307 | 1,835 | 8,770 | 8,234 | 7,774 | 24,777 | 8,770 | 8,234 | 7,774 | 24,777 | -5,610 |

| DEPARTMENT | 16-17 Budget | FACT FILE | 2017-18 Proposed | 2018-19 Proposed | 2019-20 Proposed | Total | EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTION |
|--|---------------|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|---|
| | £'000 | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | |
| Education & Children | | | | | | | |
| Strategic Development & Schools' Catering | | | | | | | |
| Catering Services - Free School Breakfasts | 796 | Free breakfasts are provided in most Carmarthenshire primary schools as required by legislation. The Catering Service has reviewed staffing levels at each site to ensure they are run as efficiently as possible, whilst ensuring the health & safety of all children who wish to have a free breakfast. This is the final part of implementing the previously approved Policy decision spanning 2 financial years. | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 | Remodel provision for Free Breakfasts in primary schools to reduce average time from 45 minutes to 30 minutes. |
| Catering Services | 168 | A central management & support team exists to support front line school catering staff. 'Back office' processes are continually being reviewed to make them as efficient as possible. As a result the team can manage with one less staff member. | 40 | 0 | 0 | 40 | Review of catering central support resulting in 1 FTE reduction through severance |
| Catering Services | 168 | School Meals Administration and Income banking arrangements | 0 | 70 | 75 | 145 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide the ability for parents to pay online for school meals (& other school payments, e.g. trips) through the Council web-site Introduce electronic meal registers in primary schools, removing paper based systems |
| Business Support | 513 | The central Business Support Team provides a range of support services to the Department and Building 2 at St. David's Park, Carmarthen. This includes reception duties, management of meeting rooms, management of pool cars, processing applications for Free School Meals, School Milk, and School Clothing Grants. It is expected that a reduction of 1 member of staff will be managed by reviewing existing processes and reducing the level of support available in some areas. | 0 | 20 | 0 | 20 | Release of staff member through severance |
| Business Support | | A small team supports the work of the Department including taking notes at key meetings, arranging meetings, and undertaking other support work required by senior officers. Through re-allocating work and changing ways of working, the team will reduce from 4 to 3 staff members. | 10 | 10 | 0 | 20 | Reduction in support to Departmental Management Team through severance |
| Total Strategic Development & Schools' Catering | 1,645 | | 60 | 100 | 75 | 235 | |
| Education Services & Inclusion | | | | | | | |
| Information & Improvement | 415 | We have annual licenses for IT packages from external companies to manage SEN and School Governor data and information. It is important that we manage the SEN Process effectively and have easy access to information. It is proposed to build our own solutions at a reduced cost. | 20 | 0 | 0 | 20 | Remove external licensed software for SEN and Governor management and replace with internal solution |
| Youth Support Services | 855 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Support Service Staff are funded from both core and grant income sources. A review of current arrangements suggests that we can further maximise use of external funding to support staffing costs. This will alleviate pressure on core funding which can be offered up as a saving | 11 | 0 | 0 | 11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salaries for two members of staff (who are currently 100% core funded) will be part funded from one of our most stable grant income sources. This has no effect on service delivery. However, the source of grant funding is open to review and it may challenge job security in the future |
| Total Education Services & Inclusion | 1,269 | | 31 | 0 | 0 | 31 | |
| Children's Services | | | | | | | |
| Education Welfare | 429 | The Education Welfare Service supports schools and families in securing regular school attendance. The service has been restructured to include the Young Carers service and enhance the capacity of both service areas, therefore, the reduction of one FEW post is not expected to affect the level of service provided. | 0 | 25 | 0 | 25 | Release of staff member through severance |
| Children's Services | 5,590 | We are currently reviewing a number of working methods and processes to identify where efficiencies can be made by providing a service in a different way, rationalising or by further amalgamating similar sections. As a result we expect to be able to release funding in those areas affected. | 47 | 0 | 0 | 47 | Reduction of staff member by not replacing vacant post / natural reduction / severance opportunities |
| Accommodating Looked After Children | 3,593 | The number of children coming into the care of the local authority has been reducing for the past 4 years. It is anticipated that this will continue. On this basis it is possible to save the cost of their accommodation as foster carers only receive payment when children are placed with them | 0 | 100 | 0 | 100 | Reduce the budget for accommodating Looked After Children in the expectation that the trend of less children becoming Looked After continues. |
| Total Children's Services | 9,612 | | 47 | 125 | 0 | 172 | |
| Education & Children Total | 12,526 | | 138 | 225 | 75 | 438 | |

Efficiency Proposals

EXISTING POLICY PROPOSALS

| DEPARTMENT | 16-17 Budget | FACT FILE | 2017-18 Proposed | 2018-19 Proposed | 2019-20 Proposed | Total | EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTION |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|---|
| | £'000 | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | |
| Education & Children | | | | | | | |
| Catering Services - School Meals | 168 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Catering Service provides school meals in all Carmarthenshire primary schools and 11 of our 12 secondary schools. The budget, including primary breakfasts, is some £7.7m. Taking account of income and Welsh funding for Free School Meals, the net cost of the service to the Council is in excess of £200k, not including indirect costs (such as Human Resources support, Health & Safety support etc). Based on current charges for a primary school meal, Carmarthenshire prices are the joint highest in Wales. Costs have been saved over recent years by reducing staffing levels and smarter purchasing of food and other supplies. | 100 | 70 | 0 | 170 | Increase the cost of a primary school meal price to £2.50 in April 2017 and £2.60 in April 2018. There will be similar increases in charges for food in secondary schools. The price was increased by 10p per meal this financial year 2016-17 and there has been some reduction in the number of children having school meals. |
| Youth Services | 855 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Services currently uses the Quay centre in Carmarthen for activities including meetings (youth groups, referral order panels, Duke of Edinburgh Open access Awards, training events and working with young offenders. Some 20 young people from two youth clubs also use the centre each week. The building is currently underutilised with weekday occupancy of just 10% (half a day per week). There are escalating costs in relation to maintenance and repair which include the surrounding grounds, which the Youth Support Service is unable to meet. Prior to vacating the building, suitable alternative venues would be sought in Carmarthen so that a youth service presence and provision for young people would be maintained within the town. | 20 | 0 | 0 | 20 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Quay Centre Carmarthen will cease to be used by the Youth Support Service (on or before 31st March 2017) and handed over to the LA Corporate Property Service for alternative use This may produce income for the County Council distributing activities from The Quay Centre will require some planning and require agreements with other locations and providers and is not guaranteed to be fully cost neutral at this stage. |
| Educational Psychology | 906 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Educational Psychology service provides specialist educational and emotional support to children and young people. It is a statutory service under the Education Act 1996. The budget for the service is £928k, and there are 13 staff in the team. A loss of one post will mean the service standard will reduce accordingly. | 60 | 0 | 0 | 60 | Reduction of one post through review of existing structure; following the departure of one member of staff who has moved out of the county. |
| Delegated school budget | 109,247 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the budget delegated to every school under the Fair Funding formula. The budget is to meet all the costs associated with running a school e.g. staff costs, premises costs, SEN specialist support, Service Level Agreements for specific services such as HR, IT, legal, grounds maintenance, music. | 3,779 | 3,485 | 3,487 | 10,751 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced school budgets will lead to schools having to review their spending and to consider staffing levels, class sizes and provision. To manage this level of reduction there will be an impact on staffing as a high % of a school's budget is used to employ staff. A reduction of £3.7m in the first year could possibly result in 60 teachers or 130 support staff (or a combination) being made redundant. Schools have been encouraged to work in partnership and collaborate with other schools in matters of resourcing and employment, however the scale of the budget reduction will result in some redundancies. Reduced provision could impact on the high standards achieved by Carmarthenshire's learners and the support provided for vulnerable/disabled pupils. |
| Education & Children Total | 111,176 | | 3,959 | 3,555 | 3,487 | 11,001 | |

NEW POLICY PROPOSALS

| DEPARTMENT | 16-17 Budget | FACT FILE | 2017-18 Proposed | 2018-19 Proposed | 2019-20 Proposed | Total | EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTION |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|--|
| | £'000 | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | |
| Education & Children | | | | | | | |
| School Improvement (ERW) | 1,089 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is presently a legal agreement in place governing the level of contribution made by Carmarthenshire to the regional School Improvement Service (ERW). This agreement would need to be amended and would require the approval of the Welsh Government and other ERW partners. | 0 | 0 | 150 | 150 | Review annual financial contribution to ERW on the assumption that school standards remain high and continue to improve through enhanced school to school support and collaboration, reducing the need for external intervention. |
| Out of County Placements | 669 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to the extremely complex and specific needs of a small number of children and young people, their needs cannot be met within Carmarthenshire. Suitable provision is procured from settings which specialise in meeting these complex needs. There are currently 5 children in out of county placements. | 0 | 0 | 148 | 148 | Seek to reduce the number of children or young people placed in specialist provision out of county by developing local services, including highly skilled foster placements. |
| Music Service | 143 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The music service provides peripatetic tuition to around 6,000 pupils. It arranges a number of high quality county ensembles and choirs. Music service staff also provide curriculum tuition to all pupils in a number of schools. Maintaining and evolving the service is being planned in tune with proposed reforms to the Welsh schools' curriculum. The aim is for music to thrive in support of young people's creative and aesthetic development. | 30 | 0 | 100 | 130 | Additional income to be generated by increasing the charge to schools by £3 per hour, from £56 to £59. This may mean schools will pass the extra charge on to parents for additional lessons by changing their Parental Charging policy. The service is also proposing to generate further income by charging parents of participating pupils £10 per term for the junior county ensembles. Both proposals may place additional burdens on schools and/or families. The schools increase could pose a risk to the continuation of the service. |
| Special Education Needs (SEN) | 1,679 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools are delegated a budget to provide support to pupils with additional learning needs e.g autism, speech and language difficulties, dyslexia. Currently 947 pupils in Carmarthenshire have a statement of Special Educational Needs. There are other pupils who access support at school action/school action+ stages of the SEN Code of Practice. The funding is used for various services such as additional specialist teaching, teaching assistant support, specialist teaching resources and special educational needs co-ordinators. | 70 | 0 | 0 | 70 | Reduce the core budget to schools. This would be distributed between 82 schools (all those with more than 100 pupils). Each school affected would need to reassess their provision, or realign budgets in order to make up for the shortfall. This could result in less 1:1 support sessions, reduced Teaching Assistant support or reduced hours for Additional Learning Needs Coordinators to support learners. |
| Delegated school budget | 109,247 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the budget delegated to every school under the Fair Funding formula. The budget is to meet all the costs associated with running a school e.g. staff costs, premises costs, SEN specialist support, Service Level Agreements for specific services such as HR, IT, legal, grounds maintenance, music. | 0 | 0 | 500 | 500 | Rationalise primary schools that are disproportionately expensive to operate and unable to sustain educationally effective teaching and learning structures due to financial constraints, through carefully selected decommissioning and strategically driven expanded school federation. |
| Education & Children Total | 112,828 | | 100 | 0 | 898 | 998 | |

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| | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | Total | Comment |
|---|------------|-----------|----------|------------|---|
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | |
| Education & Children | | | | | |
| Leaving Care/When I'm ready | 100 | 0 | 0 | 100 | Statutory Code of Practice relating to Part 6 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 sets out a local authority's legal responsibilities in respect of post-18 living arrangements for young people in foster care. Local authorities are required to set up local 'When I am Ready' schemes in line with the requirements in the code. Estimated costs in relation to accommodation, education, training, work and maintenance |
| Respite centres | 100 | 0 | 0 | 100 | £100k efficiency in 2015-16 was on the basis of agreeing additional income from the LHB for the level of medical related care required at the respite centres. This is to be progressed as part of wider collaboration discussions and there is no timescale currently which has created a budget deficit in a challenging service |
| Psychology and ALN reform/CFU expansion | 40 | 20 | 0 | 60 | Legislative changes within the ALN reform bill planned by December 2016, to be implemented during 2017/18, anticipated that additional staffing resource will be needed |
| Education Other than at School | 100 | 0 | 0 | 100 | Demand is increasing at an accelerated pace with the budget having overspent by an increasing amount over the past 2 years or more |
| Total Education & Children | 340 | 20 | 0 | 360 | |

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EDUCATION AND CHILDREN SCRUTINY

| 2016-17 | | | Statutory S/NS/Both | 2017-18 | | | 2018-19 | | | 2019-20 | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Expenditure | Income | Net | | Expenditure | Income | Net | Expenditure | Income | Net | Expenditure | Income | Net |
| £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| | | | Director & Management Team | | | | | | | | | |
| 788 | -255 | 533 | B | 797 | -255 | 542 | 805 | -255 | 550 | 814 | -255 | 559 |
| 788 | -255 | 533 | | 797 | -255 | 542 | 805 | -255 | 550 | 814 | -255 | 559 |
| | | | Education Services Division | | | | | | | | | |
| 109,247 | 0 | 109,247 | S | 106,919 | 0 | 106,919 | 105,127 | 0 | 105,127 | 102,461 | 0 | 102,461 |
| 21,485 | -1,107 | 20,378 | NS | 21,488 | -1,107 | 20,381 | 21,491 | -1,107 | 20,384 | 21,494 | -1,107 | 20,387 |
| 898 | 0 | 898 | S | 1,123 | 0 | 1,123 | 1,141 | 0 | 1,141 | 1,160 | 0 | 1,160 |
| 387 | -250 | 137 | B | 392 | -250 | 142 | 396 | -250 | 146 | 401 | -250 | 151 |
| 493 | 0 | 493 | B | 504 | 0 | 504 | 514 | 0 | 514 | 524 | 0 | 524 |
| 3,389 | -1,449 | 1,940 | S | 3,378 | -1,482 | 1,896 | 3,435 | -1,515 | 1,920 | 3,489 | -1,545 | 1,944 |
| 2,056 | -260 | 1,796 | B | 2,180 | -266 | 1,914 | 2,205 | -271 | 1,934 | 2,230 | -277 | 1,953 |
| 342 | -12 | 330 | B | 346 | -12 | 334 | 350 | -12 | 338 | 354 | -13 | 341 |
| 968 | 0 | 968 | B | 963 | 0 | 963 | 977 | 0 | 977 | 990 | 0 | 990 |
| 139,265 | -3,078 | 136,187 | | 137,293 | -3,117 | 134,176 | 135,636 | -3,155 | 132,481 | 133,103 | -3,192 | 129,911 |
| | | | Strategic Development | | | | | | | | | |
| 257 | -244 | 13 | B | 257 | -244 | 13 | 257 | -244 | 13 | 257 | -244 | 13 |
| 544 | 0 | 544 | B | 550 | 0 | 550 | 555 | 0 | 555 | 561 | 0 | 561 |
| 718 | 0 | 718 | B | 717 | 0 | 717 | 694 | 0 | 694 | 701 | 0 | 701 |
| 87 | 0 | 87 | S | 89 | 0 | 89 | 90 | 0 | 90 | 91 | 0 | 91 |
| 6,718 | -4,982 | 1,736 | B | 6,797 | -5,199 | 1,598 | 6,944 | -5,385 | 1,559 | 6,948 | -5,492 | 1,456 |
| 8,324 | -5,226 | 3,098 | | 8,410 | -5,443 | 2,967 | 8,540 | -5,629 | 2,911 | 8,558 | -5,736 | 2,822 |
| | | | School Improvement | | | | | | | | | |
| 411 | -23 | 388 | NS | 390 | -23 | 367 | 389 | -24 | 365 | 389 | -24 | 365 |
| 1,195 | -55 | 1,140 | B | 1,207 | -56 | 1,151 | 1,219 | -58 | 1,161 | 1,078 | -59 | 1,019 |
| 302 | -15 | 287 | NS | 306 | -15 | 291 | 309 | -16 | 293 | 313 | -16 | 297 |
| 8,445 | -7,771 | 674 | B | 8,452 | -7,771 | 681 | 8,458 | -7,771 | 687 | 8,465 | -7,771 | 694 |
| 4,797 | -4,659 | 138 | NS | 4,797 | -4,659 | 138 | 4,797 | -4,659 | 138 | 4,797 | -4,659 | 138 |
| 15,150 | -12,523 | 2,627 | | 15,152 | -12,524 | 2,628 | 15,172 | -12,528 | 2,644 | 15,042 | -12,529 | 2,513 |
| | | | Learner Programmes | | | | | | | | | |
| 6,184 | -6,184 | 0 | S | 6,184 | -6,184 | 0 | 6,184 | -6,184 | 0 | 6,184 | -6,184 | 0 |
| 97 | -75 | 22 | NS | 184 | -76 | 108 | 173 | -78 | 95 | 63 | -80 | -17 |
| 786 | -659 | 1,127 | B | 1,769 | -660 | 1,109 | 1,782 | -660 | 1,122 | 1,794 | -661 | 1,133 |
| 849 | -772 | 77 | NS | 849 | -772 | 77 | 849 | -772 | 77 | 849 | -772 | 77 |
| 719 | -438 | 281 | NS | 719 | -438 | 281 | 721 | -440 | 281 | 721 | -440 | 281 |
| 755 | -755 | 0 | NS | 755 | -755 | 0 | 755 | -755 | 0 | 755 | -755 | 0 |
| 19,390 | -8,883 | 1,507 | | 10,460 | -8,885 | 1,575 | 10,464 | -8,889 | 1,575 | 10,366 | -8,892 | 1,474 |
| 173,917 | -29,965 | 143,952 | | 172,112 | -30,224 | 141,888 | 170,617 | -30,456 | 140,161 | 167,883 | -30,604 | 137,279 |

| |
|--|
| EDUCATION AND CHILDREN SCRUTINY |
|--|

| 2016-17 | | | Statutory S/NS/Both | 2017-18 | | | 2018-19 | | | 2019-20 | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|---|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Expenditure | Income | Net | | Expenditure | Income | Net | Expenditure | Income | Net | Expenditure | Income | Net | |
| £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | |
| 20,917 | -29,965 | 143,952 | Education and Children's Services b/f | 172,112 | -30,224 | 141,888 | 170,617 | -30,456 | 140,161 | 167,883 | -30,604 | 137,279 | |
| Children's Services Division | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6,662 | -19 | 6,643 | Commissioning and Social Work | S | 6,747 | -23 | 6,724 | 6,840 | -20 | 6,820 | 6,920 | -22 | 6,898 |
| 832 | 0 | 832 | Corporate Parenting & Leaving Care | B | 946 | 0 | 946 | 962 | 0 | 962 | 977 | 0 | 977 |
| 3,688 | 0 | 3,688 | Fostering Services & Support | S | 3,763 | 0 | 3,763 | 3,733 | 0 | 3,733 | 3,799 | 0 | 3,799 |
| 530 | -55 | 475 | Adoption Services | S | 540 | -56 | 484 | 549 | -58 | 491 | 558 | -59 | 499 |
| 725 | -53 | 672 | Out of County Placements (CS) | S | 742 | -54 | 688 | 758 | -55 | 703 | 622 | -56 | 566 |
| 551 | -156 | 395 | Garreglwyd Residential Accommodation | NS | 561 | -159 | 402 | 573 | -163 | 410 | 580 | -166 | 414 |
| 1,012 | -151 | 861 | Respite Units | NS | 1,030 | -54 | 976 | 1,046 | -56 | 990 | 1,058 | -57 | 1,001 |
| 429 | -118 | 311 | Childcare | B | 434 | -118 | 316 | 438 | -118 | 320 | 442 | -118 | 324 |
| 620 | -82 | 538 | Direct Payments/Short Breaks | S | 629 | -82 | 547 | 638 | -82 | 556 | 647 | -82 | 565 |
| 394 | -67 | 327 | Children's/Family Centres and Playgroups | NS | 399 | -67 | 332 | 405 | -68 | 337 | 408 | -68 | 340 |
| 3,901 | -3,847 | 54 | Flying Start Grant | NS | 3,901 | -3,847 | 54 | 3,901 | -3,847 | 54 | 3,901 | -3,847 | 54 |
| 1,326 | -1,150 | 176 | Families First Grant (incl core) | NS | 1,327 | -1,150 | 177 | 1,329 | -1,150 | 179 | 1,330 | -1,150 | 180 |
| 222 | 0 | 222 | Preventative incl Section 17 payments | S | 228 | 0 | 228 | 233 | 0 | 233 | 237 | 0 | 237 |
| 13 | 0 | 13 | Aids & Adaptions | B | 13 | 0 | 13 | 14 | 0 | 14 | 14 | 0 | 14 |
| 254 | 0 | 254 | Family Aide Services | B | 258 | 0 | 258 | 262 | 0 | 262 | 265 | 0 | 265 |
| 286 | -89 | 197 | Other Family Services incl Young Carers and ASD | B | 291 | -91 | 200 | 296 | -92 | 204 | 301 | -93 | 208 |
| 204 | 0 | 204 | Out of Hours Service | S | 208 | 0 | 208 | 211 | 0 | 211 | 215 | 0 | 215 |
| 2,029 | 0 | 2,029 | Children's Services Mgt and Support Service (incl Care First) | B | 2,043 | 0 | 2,043 | 2,057 | 0 | 2,057 | 2,071 | 0 | 2,071 |
| 483 | 0 | 483 | Education Welfare | S | 441 | 0 | 441 | 421 | 0 | 421 | 425 | 0 | 425 |
| 24,161 | -5,787 | 18,374 | Total Children's Services Division | | 24,501 | -5,701 | 18,800 | 24,666 | -5,709 | 18,957 | 24,770 | -5,718 | 19,052 |
| EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES TOTAL | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 198,078 | -35,752 | 162,326 | | | 196,613 | -35,925 | 160,688 | 195,283 | -36,165 | 159,118 | 192,653 | -36,322 | 156,331 |

APPENDIX C

CHARGING DIGEST - Education & Childrens' Services

| 2015/16 Actual £ | 2016/17 Budget £ | 2017/18 Budget £ | Business Unit | Service Provided | 2016/17 Charge Levied £ | 2017/18 Proposed Charge £ | Comments |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--|---|---|---|
| 14,928 | 8,653 | 8,653 | Learner Programmes | <u>Community Centres</u> Room Hire Hourly - No Refreshments - minimum 2 hours | 10.25 + VAT | 10.50 + VAT | 2.4% increase |
| 19,058 | 14,500 | 800 | | <u>Welsh for Adults</u> Welsh for Adults charge for courses provided on behalf of the National Learning Welsh Centre (Full/Concessionary) Welsh for the family course (45 hours over 1 year) Welsh for the family course (30 hours over 2 terms) Welsh for the family course (15 hours taster over 1 term) | 60.00/30.00 15.00 10.00 5.00 | 60.00/30.00 15.00 10.00 5.00 | 2016/2017 charges will stand until 31/07/2017. Charges to be reviewed and amended by the National Learning Welsh Centre wef 01/08/2017 |
| 42,654 | 10,000 | 10,000 | Learner Programmes | <u>Adult Community Learning</u> LA courses - Full fee per course term Basic Skills & ESOL - One off registration fee at Basic Skills Centre Dyslexia Screening - 2.5 hours & resources Dyslexia Full Assessment - 9 hours & resources ESOL City & Guilds examination fee GCSE Maths and English (Initial paper / second maths paper) | 75.00 10.00 75.00 250.00 50.00 60.00/30.00 | 75.00 10.00 75.00 250.00 50.00 60.00/30.00 | No increase appropriate for client group Charge doubled in 2016/17. No further increase appropriate for client group No increase appropriate for client group No increase appropriate for client group No increase appropriate for client group |

APPENDIX C

CHARGING DIGEST - Education & Childrens' Services

| 2015/16 Actual £ | 2016/17 Budget £ | 2017/18 Budget £ | Business Unit | Service Provided | 2016/17 Charge Levied £ | 2017/18 Proposed Charge £ | Comments |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---|--|--|---|
| 1,463 | 2,391 | 2,446 | Education Services | <u>In Service Training (INSET) - Course/Consultancy Fees</u> Courses Fees - LA staff (ERW) (inc schools) Courses Fees - LAs (non ERW) and external applicants Cancellation Fees Consultancy Fees - LAs (ERW) Consultancy Fees - LAs (non ERW) Inspection Duties / Advisory Services | 0.00 80.00/50.00 Full Charge 400.00 600.00 As per contract/tender | 0.00 82.00/52.00 Full Charge 410.00 620.00 As per contract/tender | No charge except where there are additional costs for external providers or venues-costs to be split between course participants £82 per day for 1 or 2 day courses / 3 day+ courses charged at £52 per day Applied if an alternative date cannot be arranged Charge includes preparation time and travel costs (any accommodation required extra) Charge includes preparation time and travel costs (any accommodation required extra) |
| 17,386 | 17,000 | 17,391 | Learner Programmes | <u>Carmarthenshire Music Service</u> Concert Ticket Charges for concerts, including the Lyric & Ffwrnes Theatres | Adult 8.50 Concession 6.50 | Adult 9.00 Concession 7.00 | |
| 9,565 | 16,000 | 16,368 | | Parental charge for Intermediate and Senior Ensemble pupils attending weekly rehearsals. | £60 per pupil for the academic year | £65 per pupil for the academic year | Proposed increase to £65 however further consultation is required with the Music Service Forum. |
| 0 | 0 | 15,300 | | Parental charge for Junior Ensemble pupils attending termly rehearsals. | | £30 per pupil for the academic year | Currently entering into consultation with parents, headteachers and the Music Service Forum regarding this charge, due to start January 2017 |

APPENDIX C

CHARGING DIGEST - Education & Childrens' Services

| 2015/16 Actual £ | 2016/17 Budget £ | 2017/18 Budget £ | Business Unit | Service Provided | 2016/17 Charge Levied £ | 2017/18 Proposed Charge £ | Comments |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| 43,870 | 44,506 | 44,682 | | Griffith Jones Training Centre Lettings Griffith Jones Centre - Half Day/Full day | 52.50/85.00 | 54.00/87.50 | 2.9% increase |
| 0 | 0 | 2,000 | Education Services | Neuadd y Gwendraeth Hall - Half Day / Full Day / Evening Sound & Light - System only / System & Technician Training Room - Half Day / Full Day / Evening Meeting Room - Half Day / Full Day / Evening Full building - Half Day / Full Day / Evening Performance package (practice & show) - full building Half day practice - full building | 100.00/150.00/130.00 20.00/40.00 52.50/85.00/72.50 52.50/85.00/72.50 150.00/200.00/180.00 180.00 50.00 | 100.00/150.00/130.00 20.00/40.00 52.50/85.00/72.50 52.50/85.00/72.50 150.00/200.00/180.00 180.00 50.00 | The venue is still in the process of being re-established as a meeting, training and performance facility. The 2016/17 charges are being implemented but will be reviewed during the spring term in readiness for the 2017/18 financial year. |
| 5,933 | 0 | 0 | | Youth Service Mini Bus Hire - Internal | 45p/mile for first 100 miles and 55p/mile for any mileage over 100 miles | N/A | No further mini bus hire from 2016/17. All vehicles returned. |

APPENDIX C

CHARGING DIGEST - Education & Childrens' Services

Page 40

| 2015/16 Actual £ | 2016/17 Budget £ | 2017/18 Budget £ | Business Unit | Service Provided | 2016/17 Charge Levied £ | 2017/18 Proposed Charge £ | Comments |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 4,846,025 | 4,931,837 | 5,147,569 | School Meals | Primary Schools Pupil Meal Adult Meal Secondary Schools Free Meal Token (Adults & pupils) | 2.40 3.70 2.40 | 2.50 3.84 2.50 | In line with efficiency proposals In line with efficiency proposals In line with efficiency proposals |

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22nd DECEMBER 2016

Five Year Capital Programme – 2017/18 – 2021/22

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- As part of the budget consultation, Committee members are asked to examine the attached capital programme and in particular, consider the projects relating to the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee's service areas.

Reasons:

- To undertake consultation with the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee on the five year Capital Programme for 2017/18 to 2021/22.
- That members formulate views for submission to the Executive Board for consideration.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: YES

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holders:

- Cllr. David Jenkins (Resources)
- Cllr. Gareth Jones (Education & Children)

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Directorate: Corporate Services</p> <p>Name of Director: Chris Moore</p> <p>Report Author: Chris Moore</p> | <p>Designation:</p> <p>Director of Corporate Services</p> | <p>Tel No. / E-Mail Address:</p> <p>01267 224160 cmoore@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> |
|--|--|--|

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22nd DECEMBER 2016

Five Year Capital Programme – 2017/18 – 2021/22

This report (a copy of the report to Executive Board on 21st November 2016) provides members with an initial view of the 5 year Capital Programme from 2017/18 to 2021/22.

The report will form the basis of the budget consultation process with members and other relevant parties. Feedback from this consultation process along with the outcome of the final settlement will inform the final budget report which will be presented to members in February 2017.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: **Chris Moore** Director of Corporate Services

| Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities | Legal | Finance | ICT | Risk Management Issues | Staffing Implications | Physical Assets |
|---|-------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| NONE | NONE | YES | NONE | NONE | NONE | YES |

3. Finance

The updated Capital Programme is projected to be funded for the first 4 years from 2017/18 to 2020/21. There is currently a shortfall of £3.123m in 2021/22 which will be reviewed before the final budget report is approved by County Council.

The programme includes potential grant funding sources that are yet to be confirmed and as the programme develops these proposals may need to be revisited if anticipated funding is not forthcoming.

7. Physical Assets

New assets created from the Capital Programme will be added to the Council's portfolio. In addition the Programme proposes expenditure to improve the existing assets and comply with statutory responsibilities.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services

1. Local Member(s) – N/A

2. Community / Town Council – N/A

3. Relevant Partners – Consultation with relevant partners will be undertaken and results will be reported during the budget process.

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – Consultation with other organisations will be undertaken and results will be reported during the budget process.

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

| Title of Document | File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection |
|---|--|
| Five Year Capital Programme – 2017/18 – 2021/22 (CCC Executive Board, 21st November 2016) | <p>Agenda a Chofnodion Cymraeg http://democratiaeth.sirgar.llyw.cymru/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=353&Ver=4</p> <p>English Agenda and Minutes http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=353&Ver=4</p> |
| 2016-21 Capital Programme | Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen |
| 2017-22 Capital Programme | Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen |

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

22nd DECEMBER 2016

FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME – 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22

(Copy of the report to Executive Board on 21/11/16)

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------|
| HEAD OF SERVICE & DESIGNATION | DIRECTORATE | TELEPHONE NO. |
| C Moore, Director of Corporate Services | Corporate Services | 01267 224160 |
| AUTHOR & DESIGNATION | DIRECTORATE | TELEPHONE NO. |
| C Moore, Director of Corporate Services | Corporate Services | 01267 224160 |

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The report provides members with an initial view of the 5 year Capital Programme 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22.
- 1.2. The report will form the basis of the budget consultation process with members and other relevant parties. Feedback from this consultation process, along with the outcome of the final settlement, will inform the final budget report which will be presented to members in February 2017.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. Members will recall that the Authority last year agreed a 5 year capital programme 2016 to 2021 which was approved at County Council on 23rd February 2016.
- 2.2. When the capital programme was approved it was fully funded by the end of the 4th year but showed a shortfall in the final year 2020/21. The programme was therefore approved on the basis that the budgets for this year be reviewed or reprofiled in order to address the funding shortfalls. This shortfall in funding was subsequently addressed during the closure of the 2016-17 accounts.
- 2.3. The capital programme has been revisited by the Strategic Assets Steering Group (SASG) and Departments were also asked to submit proposals to bring forward expenditure within the existing capital programme and to identify any new strategic projects.

- 2.4. Departments have also submitted proposals for new projects in 2021/22 which is the new 5th year of the programme. Projects have been assessed along similar lines to previous years with only those regarded as a high priority being included in the programme.
- 2.5. The proposed capital programme is detailed in the attached Appendix A showing the forecast expenditure and income over the five year period.

3. PRIORITIES

- 3.1. The current Corporate Strategy for 2016-2021 sets out the Authority's strategic priorities and aspirations and its overarching themes and core values, and the programme has been developed in line with these.
- 3.2. The proposed capital programme is £208m over the 5 years, and is aimed at delivering a number of key projects that will create jobs and improve the quality of life for the people of Carmarthenshire, with the key investment headings being:

| | £m |
|--------------|----|
| Schools | 79 |
| Housing | 10 |
| Lesiure | 23 |
| Regeneration | 28 |
| Environment | 60 |

4. FUNDING

- 4.1. The provisional settlement that has recently been received from the WG indicates capital funding of £9.400m for the Authority in 2017-18. This is made up of Supported Borrowing of £5.844m and General Capital Grant of £3.556m. This means a small decrease in funding of £9k or 0.1% compared to the current financial year 2016-17. In the absence of any forward indications by WG this level of funding has been assumed for each year of the five year programme.
- 4.2. The level of capital receipts funding included within the programme has been revised in line with latest estimates. General capital receipts of £11.096m are forecast over the 5 year period together with earmarked Education receipts from the sale of school buildings at £1.739m. The level of receipts is continually monitored during the year and may require future capital programmes to be adjusted if there is a shortfall.
- 4.3. Usage of earmarked reserves were approved as part of previous year's reports and were included as funding for the current capital programme. Additional funding has now been identified and allocated within the new proposed have been submitted by Departments. In total some £26.267m of reserve funding is included over the five years of the programme as set out in this report.

- 4.4. Within the Modernising Education Programme (MEP) additional resources have been approved in recent years for the Band A 21st Century Schools projects. This had arisen as the WG had asked Authorities to bring forward their Band A projects for completion by 2018/19. This investment includes supported borrowing, earmarked reserves and capital receipts and is part of the County Council's 50% contribution towards the Band A projects with the balance coming from the WG. The Authority will need to monitor closely the development of this programme in order to ensure that funding is available to cover the projects as they are committed.

5. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18 TO 2021/22

- 5.1. When the capital programme was approved at County Council on 23rd February 2016, it was fully funded by the end of the 4th year but showed a shortfall of £2.789 in 2020/21. As outlined in paragraph 2.2, this shortfall was addressed at the end of the 2016-17 financial year.
- 5.2. The review looked at both the existing projects and the new proposals put forward and the revised capital programme is set out within the report for consideration.

Community Services

- 5.3. Within Community Services the main additions include the Restaurant/Café, Visitor Hub, Indoor Activity Centre and Beach Sports Zone Area at Pembrey Country Park in 2017/18. A further investment of £500k into Carmarthen Museum £250k (2018/19) and £250k (2019/20)
- 5.4. Included within the Social Care section, is the budget of £5.5m for the Llanelli Area Review. This budget will be used in conjunction with the £1.5m allocated in 2016/17. Thereby the total budget still stands at £7.0m
- 5.5. In 2021/22 within Private Sector Housing, funding is provided for Disabled Facility Grants £2m, while in Leisure the Rights of Way Improvement Programme is allocated £50k and to replace the Astro Pitch at Carmarthen Leisure Centre £250k

Environment

- 5.6. A number of new proposals for the 2021/22 year have been included. Some of these are a continuation of existing rolling programmes of work such as Highway Improvements £600k, Bridge Maintenance £400k and Road Safety Improvement £500k.
- 5.7. There is also further funding allocated in 2021/22 to existing projects such as the Cross Hands Economic Link Road Phase 2 with £750k CCC funding and the Tywi Valley Transport Corridor Concept £500k CCC funding.

- 5.8. A new proposal has been included in 2021/12 for a further phase of redevelopment of the Glanamman Industrial Estate at £1m. The continuation and ongoing investment into Capitalised Maintenance £3m is retained for 2021/22

Education and Children

- 5.9. In the Education and Children capital programme the MEP includes the continuation of the Band A 21st Century Schools improvement programme. The programme has been reprofiled to reflect updated costs and the phasing of work. New schemes has also been included for proposed works at Gorslas, Dewi Sant and Laugharne £17.250m (17/18 to 19/20) which is funded by Welsh Government grant and the Authority .
- 5.10. Further funding has also been allocated in 2021/22 for the next stage of the 21st Century Schools improvement programme. The Band B projects have been allocated County Council funding of £5.538m for Ammanford Primary and Llandeilo Primary and it has been assumed that WG will provide 50% as is the case with Band A, although this is yet to be confirmed.
- 5.11. In 2021/22 the continuation of the Pupil Referral Unit scheme has been included for the upgrade on an existing site at Porth Tywyn old site £1.800m.

Chief Executive and Corporate Services

- 5.12. In the Chief Executive and Corporate Services programme, which now includes Economic Development, funding has also been allocated in 2021/22 for various IT Developments £900k and the Transformation Strategy Project Fund £1.5m. In 2017/18 and 2018/19 £200k per annum has been allocated to Digital tranformation schme development.

6. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015

6.1. In considering the capital programme, members need to take into consideration the requirements of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Act requires that we must carry out sustainable development, improving the economic, social environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

‘... the public body must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’

6.2. In doing so, we must demonstrate the following 5 ways of working:

- i. Looking at the long-term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs
- ii. Understanding the root causes of the issues to prevent them recurring
- iii. Taking an integrated approach so that we look at all well-being goals and objectives of other services and partners
- iv. Collaboration – Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions
- v. Involving a diversity of population in decisions that affect them

6.3. The Act identifies 7 well-being goals, they provide a shared vision for public bodies to work towards. We must work towards achieving all of them.

- i. A prosperous Wales
- ii. A resilient Wales
- iii. A healthier Wales
- iv. A more equal Wales
- v. A Wales of cohesive communities
- vi. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language
- vii. A globally responsible Wales

6.4. As a Council we must set and publish well-being objectives by the 31st March 2017. Our well-being objectives must be designed to maximise our contribution to achieving the 7 well-being goals of the Act.

6.5. We must also publish a Well-being Statement that sets out how we will achieve our objectives and explain how we ensure resources, including financial are allocated to meet our objectives.

7. SUMMARY

The table below shows an overall summary of the expenditure and its funding both by County Council and externally.

Capital Programme Summary

| | 2017/18 £'000 | 2018/19 £'000 | 2019/20 £'000 | 2020/21 £'000 | 2021/22 £'000 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <u>Expenditure</u> | | | | | |
| Community Services | 20,850 | 10,850 | 2,350 | 2,100 | 2,550 |
| Environment | 16,296 | 11,195 | 11,880 | 9,185 | 11,490 |
| Education & Children | 22,899 | 24,226 | 7,669 | 10,500 | 13,375 |
| Chief Executive and Corporate Services | 10,955 | 5,225 | 4,750 | 4,750 | 5,400 |
| Total Expenditure | 71,000 | 51,496 | 26,649 | 26,535 | 32,815 |
| <u>Funding</u> | | | | | |
| External Funding | 25,118 | 24,727 | 9,925 | 11,775 | 13,792 |
| Net Expenditure Funded by CCC | 45,882 | 26,769 | 16,724 | 14,760 | 19,023 |
| <u>CCC Funding</u> | | | | | |
| Supported Borrowing | 5,844 | 5,844 | 5,844 | 5,844 | 5,844 |
| Unsupported Borrowing | 5,500 | 250 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| General Capital Grant | 3,556 | 3,556 | 3,556 | 3,556 | 3,556 |
| Additional Borrowing – LGBI | 675 | 325 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Capital Receipts | 2,994 | 3,042 | 2,060 | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Capital Reserves | 14,646 | 3,287 | 147 | 3,860 | 0 |
| Outcome Agreement Grant | 1,328 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Additional Borrowing - MEP | 2,438 | 4,401 | 4,987 | 0 | 0 |
| Prudential Borrowing - Fleet Replacement | 1,826 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Prudential Borrowing – 21 st Century Schools | 2,311 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MEP Revenue Contribution/Cap Receipts | 2,764 | 3,564 | 130 | 0 | 5000 |
| Joint Venture Funding Llanelli Leisure Centre | 2,000 | 2,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Funding Carried Forward | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Overall Net Position - Surplus (+)/Deficit (-) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -3,123 |

- 7.1. To summarise the overall position, the capital programme is funded for the first 4 years from 2017/18 to 2020/21. There is currently a shortfall of £3.123m in the final year of the programme 2021/22.
- 7.2. The total cost of the programme is £208.495m which is funded by the County Council £120.035m and External Funding £85.337m, leaving the shortfall of £3.123m.
- 7.3. The full detail of the proposed capital programme for the five year period 2017/18 to 2021/22 is attached in Appendix A.

8. REVENUE IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. No revenue implications have been validated within the revenue budget and if funding is required, departments will need to find resources from within their existing budgets.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1. That Executive Board notes the content of this report and endorses it as a provisional capital programme for consultation purposes.

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Appendix A

Five Year Capital Programme 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22

Capital Programme

| COUNCIL FUND | County Council Funding 2017/18 £'000 | External Funding 2017/18 £'000 | Total Scheme 2017/18 £'000 | County Council Funding 2018/19 £'000 | External Funding 2018/19 £'000 | Total Scheme 2018/19 £'000 | County Council Funding 2019/20 £'000 | External Funding 2019/20 £'000 | Total Scheme 2019/20 £'000 | County Council Funding 2020/21 £'000 | External Funding 2020/21 £'000 | Total Scheme 2020/21 £'000 | County Council Funding 2021/22 £'000 | External Funding 2021/22 £'000 | Total Scheme 2021/22 £'000 |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| COMMUNITY SERVICES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Private Sector Housing | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Disabled Facility Grants | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0 | 2,000 | 2,000 | | 2,000 |
| Social Care | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Llanelli Area Review | 5,500 | 0 | 5,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Leisure | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sports & Leisure | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Llanelli Leisure Centre | 6,000 | 2,000 | 8,000 | 6,000 | 2,500 | 8,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| AstroTurf Pitch (ATP) replacement at CLC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 250 | | 250 |
| Parks & Countryside | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rights of Way Improvement Programme | 50 | 50 | 100 | 50 | 50 | 100 | 50 | 50 | 100 | 50 | 50 | 100 | 50 | 250 | 300 |
| Rights of Way Bridge Strengthening Programme | 200 | 200 | 400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Strategic Open Spaces - site development and linkages | 400 | 400 | 800 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Pembrey Country Park - strategic infrastructure development - Visitor hub & Café | 600 | 0 | 600 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Pembrey Country Park - Indoor Activity Centre & New Beach Sports Zone | 700 | | 700 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arts & Culture | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Oriel Myrddin Gallery Redevelopment, Carmarthen | 250 | 750 | 1,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Libraries & Museums | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Carmarthenshire County Museum Abergwili | 0 | 0 | 0 | 250 | 0 | 250 | 250 | 0 | 250 | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Carmarthenshire Archive Relocation | 1,750 | 0 | 1,750 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Total Community Services | 17,450 | 3,400 | 20,850 | 8,300 | 2,550 | 10,850 | 2,300 | 50 | 2,350 | 2,050 | 50 | 2,100 | 2,300 | 250 | 2,550 |

Appendix A

Five Year Capital Programme 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22

| COUNCIL FUND | County Council Funding 2017/18 £'000 | External Funding 2017/18 £'000 | Total Scheme 2017/18 £'000 | County Council Funding 2018/19 £'000 | External Funding 2018/19 £'000 | Total Scheme 2018/19 £'000 | County Council Funding 2019/20 £'000 | External Funding 2019/20 £'000 | Total Scheme 2019/20 £'000 | County Council Funding 2020/21 £'000 | External Funding 2020/21 £'000 | Total Scheme 2020/21 £'000 | County Council Funding 2021/22 £'000 | External Funding 2021/22 £'000 | Total Scheme 2021/22 £'000 |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ENVIRONMENT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Street Scene | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Highways Infrastructure | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| - Highways | 750 | 0 | 750 | 600 | 0 | 600 | 600 | 0 | 600 | 600 | 0 | 600 | 600 | 0 | 600 |
| - Bridges | 1,050 | 0 | 1,050 | 400 | 0 | 400 | 400 | 0 | 400 | 400 | 0 | 400 | 400 | 0 | 400 |
| Street Lighting Replacement & Upgrade | 360 | 0 | 360 | 360 | 0 | 360 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Coastal Defence | 300 | 0 | 300 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pantyglyn Retaining Wall & Culvert | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Transportation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Multi Storey Car Park, Llanelli | 50 | 0 | 50 | 60 | 0 | 60 | 60 | 0 | 60 | 60 | 0 | 60 | 60 | 0 | 60 |
| Road Safety Improvement Schemes | 250 | 0 | 250 | 250 | 0 | 250 | 250 | 0 | 250 | 250 | 0 | 250 | 500 | 0 | 500 |
| Cross Hands Economic Link Road Phase 3 | 75 | 2,425 | 2,500 | 0 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 1,750 | 1,750 | 3,500 | 300 | 1,200 | 1,500 | 750 | 530 | 1,280 |
| Tywi Valley Cycle Way | 300 | 950 | 1,250 | 325 | 950 | 1,275 | 550 | 950 | 1,500 | 500 | 1,000 | 1,500 | 500 | 800 | 1,300 |
| Ammanford Distributor Road Phase 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 400 | 500 | 150 | 350 | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Llanelli Rail Station | 25 | 475 | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Walking & Cycling Linkages | 25 | 725 | 750 | 25 | 725 | 750 | 125 | 875 | 1,000 | 125 | 875 | 1,000 | 125 | 2,875 | 3,000 |
| Transport Interchange & Bus Corridor Improvements | 0 | 200 | 200 | 0 | 200 | 200 | 20 | 200 | 220 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Safe Routes in the Communities | 25 | 225 | 250 | 0 | 250 | 250 | 25 | 225 | 250 | 25 | 225 | 250 | 25 | 225 | 250 |
| Wind St/Tirydail Junction Ammanford | 100 | 900 | 1,000 | 25 | 325 | 350 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| A4138 Hendy Link Road | 25 | 225 | 250 | 25 | 475 | 500 | 100 | 400 | 500 | 25 | 0 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Highway Junction Improvements/Signals Upgrade | 25 | 75 | 100 | 25 | 75 | 100 | 25 | 75 | 100 | 25 | 75 | 100 | 25 | 75 | 100 |
| Carmarthen West New Road - Developer Contribution | 0 | 110 | 110 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fleet Replacement - Prudential Borrowing | 1,826 | 0 | 1,826 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Property | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Capital Maintenance | 3,250 | 0 | 3,250 | 3,000 | 0 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0 | 3,000 |
| County Farms - Farm houses & Outbuildings | 300 | 0 | 300 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| St Davids Park | 1,150 | 0 | 1,150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Glanamman Industrial Estate Redevelopment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,000 | 0 | 1,000 |
| Total Environment | 9,986 | 6,310 | 16,296 | 5,095 | 6,100 | 11,195 | 7,005 | 4,875 | 11,880 | 5,460 | 3,725 | 9,185 | 6,985 | 4,505 | 11,490 |

Appendix A

Five Year Capital Programme 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22

Capital Programme

| COUNCIL FUND | County Council Funding 2017/18 £'000 | External Funding 2017/18 £'000 | Total Scheme 2017/18 £'000 | County Council Funding 2018/19 £'000 | External Funding 2018/19 £'000 | Total Scheme 2018/19 £'000 | County Council Funding 2019/20 £'000 | External Funding 2019/20 £'000 | Total Scheme 2019/20 £'000 | County Council Funding 2020/21 £'000 | External Funding 2020/21 £'000 | Total Scheme 2020/21 £'000 | County Council Funding 2021/22 £'000 | External Funding 2021/22 £'000 | Total Scheme 2021/22 £'000 |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| EDUCATION & CHILDREN | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Modernising Education Programme | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coedcae Phase 1 | 100 | 0 | 100 | | | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Seaside - New School | 2,861 | 1,864 | 4,725 | 818 | | 818 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Llanelli Vocational Village | 87 | 0 | 87 | | | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Trimsaran | 1,500 | 800 | 2,300 | 1,300 | | 1,300 | 144 | | 144 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Cwm Tywi - New Area Primary School | 1,061 | 939 | 2,000 | 1,064 | 1,000 | 2,064 | 100 | | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| St John Lloyd Phase 1 | 504 | 1,436 | 1,940 | 38 | 73 | 111 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Ammanford Primary - Major Development | 75 | 0 | 75 | 75 | | 75 | 75 | | 75 | 1,325 | 1,250 | 2,575 | 3,813 | 3,812 | 7,625 |
| Llandeilo A | 60 | 0 | 60 | 70 | | 70 | 70 | | 70 | 1,810 | 1,700 | 3,510 | 1,725 | 1,725 | 3,450 |
| Parc Y Tywyn | 3,761 | 2,339 | 6,100 | 1,275 | | 1,275 | 170 | | 170 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Carmarthen West New School | 0 | 500 | 500 | 0 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 0 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 500 | 500 |
| Pontyberem | 500 | 500 | 1,000 | 500 | 1,500 | 2,000 | 800 | | 800 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| 21st Century Schools Band B | 110 | 0 | 110 | 110 | | 110 | 110 | | 110 | 1,865 | 1,750 | 3,615 | | | 0 |
| Gorslas | 500 | 0 | 500 | 2,946 | 1,904 | 4,850 | 1,550 | | 1,550 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Laugharne | 200 | 0 | 200 | 300 | 1,000 | 1,300 | 400 | | 400 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Dewi Sant | 1,287 | 1,000 | 2,287 | 1,863 | 3,550 | 5,413 | 750 | | 750 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Rhys Prichard | 300 | 200 | 500 | 550 | 1,550 | 2,100 | 800 | | 800 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Pupil Referral Unit | 15 | 0 | 15 | 40 | | 40 | 120 | 0 | 120 | 500 | 300 | 800 | 1,800 | | 1,800 |
| Rhydygors School Refurbishment | 400 | 0 | 400 | 200 | 1,000 | 1,200 | 200 | 0 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Catering | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ysgol Griffith Jones Kitchen Refurbishment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 130 | 0 | 130 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Emlyn Comprehensive Kitchen Refurbishment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 150 | 0 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Brynsaron Kitchen Refurbishment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Total Education & Children | 13,321 | 9,578 | 22,899 | 11,149 | 13,077 | 24,226 | 5,669 | 2,000 | 7,669 | 5,500 | 5,000 | 10,500 | 7,338 | 6,037 | 13,375 |

Appendix A

Five Year Capital Programme 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22

| Page 6 of 6 | Capital Programme | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| COUNCIL FUND | County Council Funding 2017/18 £'000 | External Funding 2017/18 £'000 | Total Scheme 2017/18 £'000 | County Council Funding 2018/19 £'000 | External Funding 2018/19 £'000 | Total Scheme 2018/19 £'000 | County Council Funding 2019/20 £'000 | External Funding 2019/20 £'000 | Total Scheme 2019/20 £'000 | County Council Funding 2020/21 £'000 | External Funding 2020/21 £'000 | Total Scheme 2020/21 £'000 | County Council Funding 2021/22 £'000 | External Funding 2021/22 £'000 | Total Scheme 2021/22 £'000 |
| CHIEF EXECUTIVE & CORPORATE SERVICES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IT Strategy Developments | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Enhancements to County Backbone Network | 200 | 0 | 200 | 200 | 0 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Licence Management | 50 | 0 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| E Government / Service Transformation Developments | 75 | 0 | 75 | 75 | 0 | 75 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| IT Security Provision | 50 | 0 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Systems Consolidation | 50 | 0 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Mobile Developments | 50 | 0 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Applications Interfacing | 50 | 0 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Virtual Unix Replacement | 200 | 0 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 110 | | 110 |
| I/O Virtualisation | 200 | 0 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| IT Strategy Developments | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 250 | 0 | 250 | 250 | 0 | 250 | | | 0 |
| Information Security and Governance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 60 | | 60 |
| Virtualised Server & Storage Environment Replacement | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 315 | | 315 |
| Digital Transformation | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 75 | | 75 |
| Disaster Recovery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 190 | | 190 |
| Legacy Network & Telephony Equipment Replacement | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 150 | | 150 |
| Digital Transformation - Scheme development | 200 | | 200 | 200 | | 200 | | | | | | | | | |
| Regeneration | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Transformation Strategy Project Fund | 1,500 | 3,000 | 4,500 | 1,500 | 3,000 | 4,500 | 1,500 | 3,000 | 4,500 | 1,500 | 3,000 | 4,500 | 1,500 | 3,000 | 4,500 |
| Rural Enterprise Fund | 1,000 | 1,000 | 2,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Transformation Commercial Property Development Fund | 1,500 | 1,830 | 3,330 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 |
| Total Chief Executive & Corporate Services | 5,125 | 5,830 | 10,955 | 2,225 | 3,000 | 5,225 | 1,750 | 3,000 | 4,750 | 1,750 | 3,000 | 4,750 | 2,400 | 3,000 | 5,400 |
| TOTAL COUNCIL FUND | 45,882 | 25,118 | 71,000 | 26,769 | 24,727 | 51,496 | 16,724 | 9,925 | 26,649 | 14,760 | 11,775 | 26,535 | 19,023 | 13,792 | 32,815 |

Appendix A

Five Year Capital Programme 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22

Capital Programme

| COUNCIL FUND | County Council Funding 2017/18 £'000 | External Funding 2017/18 £'000 | Total Scheme 2017/18 £'000 | County Council Funding 2018/19 £'000 | External Funding 2018/19 £'000 | Total Scheme 2018/19 £'000 | County Council Funding 2019/20 £'000 | External Funding 2019/20 £'000 | Total Scheme 2019/20 £'000 | County Council Funding 2020/21 £'000 | External Funding 2020/21 £'000 | Total Scheme 2020/21 £'000 | County Council Funding 2021/22 £'000 | External Funding 2021/22 £'000 | Total Scheme 2021/22 £'000 |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>County Council Funding</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Supported borrowing | 80 | | | 4,098 | | | 5,464 | | | 344 | | | 5,844 | | |
| Supported borrowing-MEP | 5,764 | | | 1,746 | | | 380 | | | 5,500 | | | | | |
| Unsupported borrowing | 5,500 | | | 250 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | | | |
| Additional Borrowing (Highways) | 675 | | | 325 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General Capital Grants | 3,556 | | | 3,556 | | | 3,556 | | | 3,556 | | | 3,556 | | |
| Capital Receipts | 2,994 | | | 3,042 | | | 2,060 | | | 1,500 | | | 1,500 | | |
| Reserves | 14,646 | | | 3,287 | | | 147 | | | 3,860 | | | | | |
| Outcome Agreement Grant (Allocated not yet secured) | 1,328 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | | | |
| Additional Borrowing MEP | 2,438 | | | 4,401 | | | 4,987 | | | 0 | | | | | |
| Joint Venture Funding Llanelli Leisure Centre | 2,000 | | | 2,500 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | | | |
| Education Revenue/Reserve Contribution | 2,355 | | | 2,364 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 5,000 | | |
| Education Capital Receipts | 409 | | | 1,200 | | | 130 | | | 0 | | | | | |
| Prudential Borrowing - Fleet Replacement | 1,826 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | | | |
| Prudential Borrowing - 21st Century Schools LGBI | 2,311 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | | | |
| Total County Council Funding | 45,882 | | | 26,769 | | | 16,724 | | | 14,760 | | | 15,900 | | |
| Net Position (Minus = Shortfall) | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | -3,123 | | |

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EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22nd DECEMBER 2016

Education & Children Departmental Business Plan 2017-20

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- The draft Department for Education & Children Departmental Business Plan 2017-20

Reasons:

- Scrutiny Committees have a key role to play in scrutinising business plans as part of the Authority's performance management framework.
- To give members an opportunity to review the Departments business plan alongside the budget.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: NO

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder: Cllr. Gareth Jones (Education & Children)

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Directorate: Education & Children</p> <p>Name of Director: Gareth Morgans</p> <p>Report Author: David Astins</p> | <p>Designations:</p> <p>Interim Director of Education & Children's Services</p> <p>Strategic Development Manager</p> | <p>Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:</p> <p>01267 246450 edgmrogans@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 246426 dastins@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> |
|--|---|--|

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22nd DECEMBER 2016

Education & Children Departmental Business Plan 2017-20

This summary business plan provides the Committee with an update of progress made against actions for the Education & Children Department which are included in its departmental business plan from 2017-20

The full business plan, to be presented to members in the New Year, will contain an update on the priorities for the department during 2017-20. This plan will be developed following a series of workshops with senior managers and staff which are currently underway.

The Business Plan also identifies how the Department supports the 5 Ways of Working and the 7 Goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: **David Astins** Strategic Development Manager

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------|---------|------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities | Legal | Finance | ICT | Risk Management Issues | Staffing Implications | Physical Assets |
| NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: **David Astins** Strategic Development Manager

1. Local Member(s) – N/A
2. Community / Town Council – N/A
3. Relevant Partners – N/A
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – A series of workshops with senior managers and staff have been held by the Department.

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

| Title of Document | File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Well-being of Future Generations Act | <p>Cymraeg http://thewaleswewant.co.uk/cy/cefndir/future-generations-bill</p> <p>English http://thewaleswewant.co.uk/about/well-being-future-generations-wales-act-2015</p> |

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Departmental Business Plan

Education & Children

2017-20

December 2016

OUR DEPARTMENTAL VISION.....

Carmarthenshire is a community where children are safe and nurtured and learners are able to achieve their full educational potential

Contents

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Executive Board Member Foreword

TO BE AGREED WITH CLLR GARETH JONES



I have great pleasure in introducing the new Department for Education & Children Business Plan for 2017-20. I am satisfied that this Business Plan provides a comprehensive overview of the Departmental performance over the past year. It also provides the Department's aims and objectives for 2017-20.

I also feel that the delivery of the outcomes contained in Section 4 of this Plan will ensure that we are supporting the delivery of the outcomes in the Integrated Community Strategy, and the Well-being of Future Generations Act (2015).

This will help me to hold the Department to account.

Cllr. Gareth Jones

Sign Off

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. O. Jones".

Cllr. Gareth Jones

Date:

1. Departmental Overview

Introduction by Director



As we embark upon another new financial year we do from a position of strength with regard to the quality and performance of our education and children's services, notwithstanding the deepening pressures brought upon us by central government's austerity programme and a diminishing financial base. Our challenge for the year is to sustain our high levels of performance and to continue to develop policies and programmes that will in time secure progression in outcomes for the education and wellbeing of the county's children and young people.

2016/2017 was another successful year for the Department with notable successes across education and children's services.

For the third year in succession our school pupils achieved their best ever examination results at GCSE, achieving 65.2% against the key Level 2 Inclusive indicator (at least 5 number GCSE passes at grade A* to C including mathematics and language) with the outcomes of national literacy and numeracy tests at other key stages of education improving and comparing favourably with other authorities. This was the fifth consecutive year that improvement has been secured in the key examination results indicators. School attendance rates improved once more and were significantly better than they were a few years ago. We were the first Welsh local authority to

have its children's services inspected by the CSSIW under the new inspection framework aligned to the expectations of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and received a very good judgement, with only a few relatively straightforward recommendations to address.

Our Modernising Education Programme continued apace, with major school development projects completed at Ysgol Bro Dinefwr, Ysgol Maes y Gwendraeth, Ysgol Carreg Hirfaen, and Bryngwyn school, with thousands of children benefiting.

These successes reflect the hard work and commitment of staff across the Department and in our schools. This year we will continue in the same vein, developing services wherever possible and managing contraction where funding has regrettably been reduced, always retaining our focus upon the people that we serve.

Our Business Plans for 2017/2018 set out an exciting programme of service activity and development. The main headlines of our ambition are summarized here in this departmental overview, with more detailed actions and objectives set out in more detailed plans at divisional and service level.

2017/2018 brings new opportunities alongside financial challenges. We will continue with the exciting work of developing a uniquely engaging, motivating and stretching Carmarthenshire Curriculum for our learners, within the context of a new national curriculum framework. The newly enacted Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 will challenge us to consider the long-term implications of our services for people and communities and to consider how we can support the sustainable development of our communities by prioritising preventative action to reduce costs in the long-term whilst raising standards of wellbeing and achievement.

We look forward to a continuingly vibrant school investment programme with some £23 million to be spent in the year completing a project at Coedcae School, continuing major school development projects at Ysgol Penrhos (Seaside), Ysgol Trimsaran and St. John Lloyd School and commencing construction at Ysgol Llangadog, Ysgol Parc y Tywyn, Ysgol Dewi Sant, Ysgol Pontyberem, Ysgol Rhys Pritchard and Ysgol Rhydygors, whilst also continuing to develop a number of other projects in readiness for investment in the coming years.

In May we shall have elections to the County Council with a refreshed strategy to follow soon thereafter. At a national level we shall watch with interest the programme to develop closer regional collaboration on strategic public services.

I look forward to another successful year for education and children's services in Carmarthenshire.

Gareth Morgans
Director of Education and Children

How is the Department:

Meaningfully involving service users?

We have the lead role for children & young people's participation, delivered through the Children & Young People's Participation Strategy. This includes engagement of vulnerable young people, support for the Carmarthenshire Youth Council, School Councils, and the views pupils on the education they receive. Through the new Social Services & Well-being Act we have to annually ask all users of our statutory services what they think of the services they receive. Every 2 years we undertake a survey of schools to seek their views on the services the Local Authority provide them.

Focusing on prevention?

A number of our services are focused on early intervention and prevention, including early years services, Team Around the Family, the Families First and Flying Start programmes, and the Education Welfare Service.

Considering the long term impact?

The whole ethos of the services the department provides sets foundations for sustainable futures, socially, environmentally and economically, through learning and safeguarding.

Embedding effective collaboration?

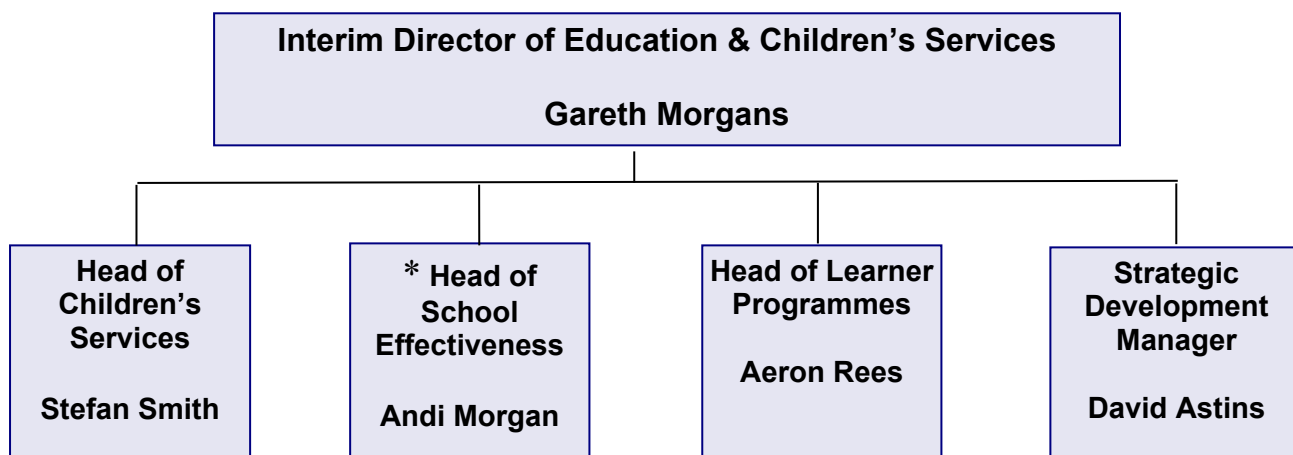
There Department is engaged in a number of collaborative approaches. These include Regional approaches to Social Services and Education, and the Mid & West Wales Adoption Service covering Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion & Powys. Through ERW (Education through Regional Working) we have a shared Head of School Effectiveness with Pembrokeshire. The strength of local partnership working to deliver the 14-19 curriculum continues to be sector-leading in Wales.

Taking an integrated approach to well-being?

The Healthy Schools Initiative takes an integrated approach to well-being, engaging different organisations and services including the school meals service to promote well-being for all pupils.

Departmental Profile

Departmental Senior Management Structure



* Post Shared with Pembrokeshire County Council



Interim Director of Education & Children's Services – Gareth Morgans

Key Responsibilities:

- Education Standards and Learner Outcomes
- Inclusion
- School Organisation and Modernisation
- School Governance
- Welsh in Education
- Service Co-ordination



Head of Learner Programmes – Aeron Rees

Key Responsibilities:

- Curriculum Learning Programmes and Networks
- Youth Services
- Youth Offending and Prevention Service
- Adult and Community Learning
- Music Service



Head of School Effectiveness – Andi Morgan

Key Responsibilities:

- Education Standards and Learner Outcomes
- ERW Western Hub School Improvement Service
- Safeguarding in Schools
- Governor Professional Development



Head of Children's Services - Stefan Smith

Key Responsibilities:

- Safeguarding
- Child Welfare
- Complex Needs
- Fostering and Adoption
- Looked After Children
- Early Years and Family Support
- Education Psychology



Strategic Development Manager - David Astins

Key Responsibilities:

- Catering
- School Admissions
- Service Performance and Intelligence
- Business Processes
- Strategic Partnerships and Engagement

Departmental Overview

The vision for Carmarthenshire..... 'A Carmarthenshire that enables people to live healthy and fulfilled lives by working together to build strong, bilingual and sustainable communities' (Source: Integrated Community Strategy – 2011/16)

In support of the vision that the Authority and our partners have agreed for Carmarthenshire above, and our Departmental vision (front cover), we have set out the following **mission statement** for the Department:

- *To provide the highest quality services to children, young people, families and learners in ways that best meet their specific needs.*
- *We will do this by organising our professional expertise and resources in a fully integrated manner to deliver education and family support services that are configured around the needs of service users, children and young people, with particular consideration being given to those who are most vulnerable.*
- *Our services, whether provided directly or commissioned from others, will be equitable, inclusive, of the highest standards and offer good value for money.*
- *We will engage children and young people and providers in the design and monitoring of continuously improving services.*
- *We will protect children and young people from harm and our schools will offer high standards of comprehensive education, increasingly in modern environments that are fully equipped for 21st century learning*

The Director of Education and Children's Services directly reports to the Chief Executive. There are approximately **5,000** members of staff working within the Department centrally & in schools:

- Departmental staff – approximately **1,500** in total, with some:
 - 750 in School Catering
 - 250 in Education Services, including Learner Programmes, Inclusion, and School Effectiveness
 - 450 in Children’s Services, including Social Work Teams, Fostering & Adoption, Educational Psychology and Early Years Services
 - 30 in Strategic Development
- School based teaching staff - **1,700**
- School based non-teaching staff - **1,800**

As at the January 2016 Pupil Level Annual School Census, there were **27,109** pupils registered in our schools:

- 1 Nursery School (80 pupils)
- 101 Primary Schools (15,793 pupils in total, ranging from 12 to 478)
- 12 Secondary Schools (11,119 pupils in total, ranging from 441 to 1,576)
- 2 Special Schools (114 pupils)
- 2 Pupil Referral Units (pupils are registered at ‘home’ school included in the count above)

The majority of office based staff are located at St David’s Park (Building 1, Building 2 & St Annes), Carmarthen or at Ty Elwyn, Llanelli. Outside of schools, we have services based at:

- 3 Integrated Children’s Centres (Llwynhendy, Morfa and Felinfoel);
- 2 Respite Centres (Blaenau and Llys Caradog);
- 29 Flying Start Settings in 17 areas (Betws, Richmond Park, Lakefield, Bigyn, Llwynhendy, Felinfoel, Carway, Morfa, Trimsaran, Pwll, Pembrey, Carmarthen Town North, Glanamman, Garnant, Bury Port, Pantyffynnon and Dafen);
- Flying Start and IFST teams based at Morfa;
- 3 Basic Skills Centres (Carmarthen Learning Centre, Llanelli Library and the Cennen Centre Ammanford)
- 4 Youth Centres (Quay Centre Carmarthen, Pwll Seaside Llanelli, Glanamman Resource Centre and Streets Ammanford)
- Education Resource Centre, St Clears
- 2 Childrens Services Front Line Teams at the Old Library Ammanford and Cambrian Place
- Conferencing and Resource team based at Coleshill Terrace
- 2 Resource Centre’s at Ty Gelli and Argel

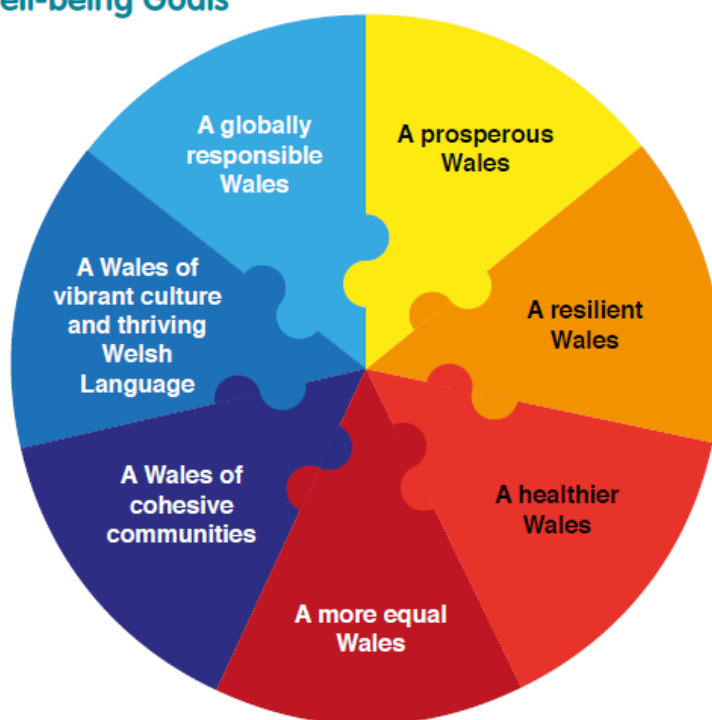
2. Strategic Context

Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015

This is a new Act introduced by the Welsh Government, which will change aspects of how we work. The general purpose of the Act is to ensure that the governance arrangements of public bodies for improving the well being of Wales take the needs of future generations into account. The Act is designed to improve the economic, social and environmental well being of Wales in accordance with sustainable development principles.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act is about encouraging public bodies to think more about the long-term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach. This will help us to create a Wales that we all want to live in, now and in the future. To make sure we are all working towards the same vision, the Act puts in place **seven** well-being goals, which are noted below:

Well-being Goals



The Sustainable Development Principle and the 5 Ways of Working

The principle is made up of **five key ways of working** that public bodies are required to take into account when applying sustainable development. These are:-

- A. Looking to the **long term** so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs;
- B. Taking an **integrated** approach so that public bodies look at all the well-being goals in deciding on their priorities;
- C. **Involving** a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them;
- D. Working with others in a **collaborative** way to find shared sustainable solutions;
- E. Understanding the root causes of issues to **prevent** them from occurring.

Strategic Links

- **The County of Carmarthenshire’s Well-being Plan**

Over the course of 2017 Carmarthenshire’s [Public Services Board](#) (PSB) will be developing their partnership plan for improving the environmental, economic, social and cultural well-being of Carmarthenshire. The Well-Being Plan will identify priorities for the County and outline how the public bodies will work together to achieve them. Following the publication of the Well-Being Plan in March 2018 Carmarthenshire County Council will be able to identify the areas that we can maximise our contribution towards.

- **Service Specific Acts**

Legislation introduced recently that is changing the way we work includes:

- Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- Children & Families Act 2014

Significant change is also expected in the way children and young people with Additional Learning Needs are supported, through a new Bill which could become law in 2019.

- **Carmarthenshire County Council’s Well-being Objectives**

The County Council’s Well-being Objectives are currently being developed and will be published in March 2017.

The current draft Well-being Objectives that the Department leads on are:

- *Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences.*
- *Continue to improve learner attainment;*
- *Reduce the number of young people that are NEET.*

There are other draft Well-being Objectives that the Department has a major supporting role in:

- *Help children live healthy lifestyles;*
- *Tackling poverty;*
- *Supporting good connections with friends, family and communities.*

How Services join-up to show contributions to the National Well-being Goals

The identification of well-being objectives should flow from having a clear view of the contribution a public body can make to the seven well-being goals SPSF 2 Para 4

KEY: **L** = Lead Role / **S** = Supporting Role

The 7 Well-being of Future Generations Goals (See Appendix 2 for Definitions)

| Department | Division | Prosperity | Resilience | Healthier | More Equal | Cohesive Communities | Culture and Welsh Language | Global Responsibility |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Education & Children | Children's Services | S | S | S | S | S | S | S |
| | Education Services | S | S | S | S | S | L | S |
| | Strategic Development | S | S | S | S | S | S | S |

- **Carmarthenshire's Corporate Strategy 2015-20**

- In September 2015 the Council published its Corporate Strategy and outlined its key areas of focus across seven outcome areas. The Corporate Strategy will be revised following the May 2017 Local Government Elections.
- In particular, the Department supports the following outcomes within the Corporate Strategy:

| Ref | Corporate Strategic Expected Outcomes and Strategic Focus | Lead Role | Significant Support |
|-----|---|-----------|---------------------|
| | | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Making Better Use of Resources | | |
| 1 | Managing and making best use of the Council's property and assets with a focus on rationalising office accommodation and sharing with other partners as well as facilitating community ownership of assets for community benefit | | ✓ |
| 2 | Providing services as efficiently as possible, ensuring value for money and supporting staff in order to reduce sickness absence rates | | ✓ |
| 3 | Investigating and developing new ways of working and providing services | | ✓ |
| 4 | Working in collaboration with other organisations to identify areas for shared services and economies of scale to reduce running costs | | ✓ |
| 5 | Reviewing management and 'back office' costs in order where possible to safeguard 'front line' services. | | ✓ |
| | Building a Better Council | | |
| 6 | Promoting local democracy and transparency by further developing approaches to engaging and communicating with our residents and stakeholders including the increased use of digital technologies | | ✓ |
| 9 | Developing an integrated workforce plan that supports the Council's strategic objectives. | | ✓ |
| 10 | Increasing collaboration with our partners and communities in order support the delivery of services | | ✓ |
| 11 | Responding to the need to reform local government and ensuring Carmarthenshire is well positioned in any future arrangements. | | ✓ |
| 12 | Strengthening the position of the Welsh language in Carmarthenshire by implementing the recommendations of the 'Welsh Language in Carmarthenshire's report (March 2014) | ✓ | |
| | People in Carmarthenshire are healthier | | |
| 13 | Ensuring further integration of community focused Council support services with health services | | ✓ |
| 14 | Enhancing the range of community options to support older people to remain independent in their later years | | ✓ |
| 15 | Supporting disadvantaged children and families to build their resilience with early intervention through targeted intervention programmes such as Flying Start, Families First and Communities First and embedding this practice within our core services | ✓ | |
| 17 | Mitigating the local impacts of welfare reform by supporting effected residents through the changes | ✓ | |
| 19 | Getting more Carmarthenshire people more (physically and creatively) active, more often in order to improve the health and well-being of our residents. | | ✓ |
| | People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential | | |
| 20 | Ensuring continuous improvement in education outcomes for all children and young people across all learning phases | ✓ | |
| 21 | Successfully introducing and translating the new national curriculum and qualifications into an inspiring and engaging local curriculum | ✓ | |
| 22 | Developing a self-improving school system across the County making every school a good and improving school | ✓ | |
| 23 | Continuing to improve school attendance | ✓ | |
| 24 | Ensuring a range of youth support services to foster the engagement of young people in education, work and community life | ✓ | |
| 25 | Continuing to improve the condition, suitability and resource efficiency of our schools network through the Modernising Education Plan by investing a further £170m in the improvement of school premises through the 21 st Century School Programme | ✓ | |
| 26 | Further developing the 'Un Sir Gâr - Yr Hwb' service approach by simplifying access to learning and employment support services for young people and working age people. | ✓ | |
| 27 | Further developing Welsh medium and bilingual education provision within the County in | | |

| | | | |
|----|--|---|---|
| | accordance with the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan | | |
| | People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer | | |
| 28 | Protecting and safeguarding children and adults from harm | ✓ | |
| 29 | Supporting children, young people and families at times when they are facing challenging circumstances and enabling them to build their resilience to cope in the future | ✓ | |
| 30 | Being good corporate parents to children and young people who come into the care of the Authority | ✓ | |
| 32 | Reducing anti-social behaviour by working in partnership with other agencies and communities to tackle local problems | | ✓ |
| 33 | Reducing drug and alcohol misuse within the county | | ✓ |
| | Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable | | |
| 35 | Supporting resilience with our rural and urban communities | | ✓ |
| 37 | Improving digital inclusion within the county but ensuring access to IT equipment, developing digital literacy and supporting connectivity for our communities | | ✓ |
| | Carmarthenshire has a stronger and more prosperous economy | | |
| 38 | Creating jobs and growth throughout the County | | ✓ |
| 39 | Developing training and learning opportunities for local people | ✓ | |
| 41 | Ensuring long-term economic and social benefits for Carmarthenshire through the Swansea Bay City Region and future European and external funding avenues | | ✓ |

Core Values



Customers First – we put the needs of our citizens at the heart of everything that we do

Listening – we listen to learn, understand and improve now and in the future

Excellence – we constantly strive for excellence, delivering the highest quality possible every time by being creative, adopting innovative ways of working and taking measured risks

Integrity – we act with integrity and do the right things at all times

Taking Responsibility – we all take personal ownership and accountability for our actions

3. Review and Evaluation

- The review & evaluation below is based on progress for the first half of 2016/17 (i.e. to end of September 2016) – a full year review will be included in the final version of this plan to be published in May 2017
- The last full year review (for 2015/16) is in the 2016/17 Departmental Business Plan (an internal document)
- Progress against the current Business Plan & other key performance information is monitored regularly using an electronic Departmental performance dashboard
- Each Division within the Department has a more detailed Business Plan

Current Strengths

The quality and performance of our services across both education and children's services is strong, evidenced by data and external evaluation.

In Summer 2016, for the third year in succession, our school pupils achieved their best ever examination results at GCSE, achieving 65.2% against the key Level 2 Inclusive indicator (at least 5 GCSE passes at grade A* to C including mathematics and language). This placed us 5th in Wales with the 3rd highest % increase. Outcomes of national literacy and numeracy tests at other key stages of education are also improving and comparing favourably with other authorities.

School attendance rates are now significantly better than they were a few years ago, with attendance at secondary schools at a record high. There was an average of 6% increase in school attendance across all referrals to the Education Welfare Service in the last academic year, with 74% of referrals improving or maintaining the level of attendance after referral.

We were the first Welsh local authority to have its children's services inspected by the CSSIW under the new inspection framework aligned to the expectations of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and received a very good judgement, with only a few relatively straightforward recommendations to address. The Chief Inspector said: *"We found a local authority committed to supporting children and families to stay together whenever it was safe to do so. Their approach to delivering family support services underpinned this commitment"*.

We have continued to see reductions in the number of looked after children (LAC), with 2015-16 having seen the most significant reduction of 11% (24 less children at the year end). As at September 2016 the number has dropped by a further 7, to 208. Our increased emphasis on prevention and refocusing the work of front-line children's social work teams has helped achieve this. A new model of practice has also seen the number of children placed on the child protection register reduce.

Garreglwyd received good feedback from the CSSIW inspection during the summer, who felt *'the service was very flexible in responding to the staffing needs of the young people. Staff were able to communicate in a variety of ways, which helped them to understand the young people's needs and choices'*.

Our ambitious Modernising Education Programme continued to deliver major school development projects, including Ysgol Bro Dinefwr, Ysgol Maes y Gwendraeth, Ysgol Carreg Hirfaen, and Bryngwyn School, with thousands of children benefiting.

The Cynnydd programme is now up and running and already supporting vulnerable young people into employment, education and training. Our 2 Welsh Government funded programmes, Flying Start and Families First, continue to provide a range of support services to thousands of families and children.

Our Youth Support Services are effective with less young people entering criminality. We are the lead authority within Wales for the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. The Council's and schools approaches to inclusion continue to be successful with very low school exclusion rates.

The second Play Sufficiency Assessment was submitted to Welsh Government in July 2016, with a number of priorities identified, and an action plan put in place. We are continuing to develop local play opportunities, and mid-year reviews have shown the majority of actions are already on target to be achieved by the end of 2016/17.

As a Department we have been proactive in seeking 'back office' efficiencies in order to protect front line services. This has included ongoing work in the School Meals Service to reduce the amount of paper, work which led to an inaugural TIC (Transform, Innovate & Change) Award in October 2016. The Mid & West Wales Adoption Service panels are now paperless which has resulted in more effective use of administrative time and reduced costs. We have amalgamated management information systems across some services resulting in further savings.

Areas for Improvement

Despite the strong performance across all services there are always pressures and areas for improvement.

The new Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 places a great emphasis on prevention work, requiring all agencies to engage proactively with families in order to avoid reaching thresholds for statutory intervention wherever possible, whilst always ensuring safety. A recent CSSIW inspection (July 2016) recognised our need to work together with partners *'to develop an integrated approach to delivering information, advice and assistance, preventative services and statutory provision to achieve greater continuity and reduce duplication for children and families accessing these services'*.

Carmarthenshire was the worst performing authority in Wales for the percentage of looked after children who had three or more placement moves during 2015/16 (14.9%). Some children have returned to live with a parent/relative carer, which counts as a placement move, albeit a positive one. We have done well in maintaining children within the same school (2nd best in Wales) which has provided good education outcomes (we had no children, including those looked after, age 15 who have left education or training without an approved external qualification during 2015/16).

The 12% cut in funding to the Families First programme (£262k) in 2016/17 has placed increased pressure on services, which has meant a 6-8 week waiting list in some areas.

Continuing to improve educational standards will be a challenge, but we have identified a number of focus areas:

- Undertake a full review of the Foundation Phase
- Continue to close achievement gaps and raise standards for pupils eligible for Free School Meals
- Target schools which continue to cause concern
- Share effective practice
- Tackle pupils prone to persistent absenteeism (<85%)
- Further develop staff deployment across services
- Utilise the potential of the CCC apprenticeship levy fund to employ more higher-level apprentices in schools and the local authority

We failed to attract funding to pilot the 'Holiday Hunger' scheme in 2016, so we are working hard to put a pilot on in 2017.

Levels of children who are obese or overweight in Carmarthenshire is a concern (Child Measurement Programme data for 2014/15 showing Carmarthenshire to be the 3rd highest in Wales). There is a need to work collaboratively on this, with the school meals service, Healthy School Initiative, and parenting services playing an important role.

Carmarthenshire is lagging behind other Councils who offer parents the ability to pay for school meals online. Online payments is more convenient for most parents, and also reduces risk.

Regulatory Report Recommendations and Proposals for Improvement

The recent CSSIW Inspection (July 2016) identified the following recommendations:

1. Multi-agency arrangements should be established to strengthen operational plans to support effective co-ordination of statutory partner's completion of Joint Assessment Frameworks.
2. The local authority should establish effective systems to ensure that thresholds for access to statutory services are understood and consistently applied by staff and partners.
3. The consistency and quality of social work and risk analysis contained in assessments and plans must be improved.
4. The quality of management oversight of assessment and planning should be strengthened.
5. Strong political and corporate support for children's services must continue to ensure service improvements underway are prioritised and the pace of improvement sustained.
6. The local authority and partners should continue to work together to develop an integrated approach to delivering information, advice and assistance, preventive services and statutory provision to achieve greater continuity and reduce duplication for children and families accessing these services.

In respect of above, the following progress has been made (to date):

- Continued progress has been made in implementing the TAF (and JAFF) model across Carmarthenshire with training provided for staff and partner agencies. During the summer further work has been undertaken on reviewing the process and paperwork through consultation with providers and partners to make it clearer for everyone to understand.
- A guidance document is being produced to support the development of thresholds between preventative and statutory services to ensure families receive the right help at the right time.
- Additional training on the National Outcome Framework has been arranged to assist managers' oversight and challenge, as well as specific training for social workers on the completion of assessments.
- Membership of the corporate parenting panel has been widened and training set up and ready to deliver to all professionals to ensure everyone is equipped and better able to meet their corporate parenting responsibilities and to ensure improvements are prioritised and sustained. The terms of reference of the MALAC (multi-agency looked after children carer management group) has been reviewed to focus on outcomes.
- We have been reviewing how we provide Information, Advice and Assistance and access to our services as part of the Mid & West Wales Collaborative children's services programme board, and following a review by Institute of Public Care (IPC) a regional action plan is in place for implementation. We are continuing to roll out our 'partnership working with schools' initiative to further promote and publicise the Family Information Service (FIS) to families and professionals throughout the county. Alongside this we are continuing to work in partnership with Flying Start, Families First, job centres and other community groups in order to improve co-ordination of information and reduce duplication.

We have had an Internal Audit report looking at school meal payments, which raised a number of 1 and 2 star issues. All being addressed, but the long term solution is to remove cash from the system and taking school meal income through online payments (such as Direct Debits, debit and credit cards). A project proposal to take this forward has been endorsed and invitations to tender for an IT system to manage this will be sought in January 2017.

4. Departmental Priorities

Risks

The Departmental Risk Assessment has identified a number of risks. Actions to mitigate these risks are included in detailed Divisional Business Plans, and in the tables that follow. The risks are:

EC100001 - Failure to raise standards at each key stage and especially the Level 2i indicator (ERW Risks – School Improvement 1 & 2).

EC100002 - Failure to support schools to remodel curriculum in light of WG reviews.

EC100003 - Failure to support the implementation of the ALN reform.

EC100004 - Failure to deliver the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.

EC100005 - Failure to provide appropriate support for vulnerable learners.

EC100006 - Failure to manage the 2^{1st} Century School Programme and to invest in infrastructure and reduce the number of surplus places with the schools system.

EC200001 - Failure to safeguard children

- Failure to protect Children at Risk
- Failure to recruit and retain adequate number of social workers
- Failure to appropriately manage social care caseloads

EC200002 - Foster Care payments

EC200003 - Failure to provide appropriate support for children with complex needs

EC300001 - Drop in school meal take-up as a result of budget efficiencies (including price increases) leading to unviability of the service

Children's Services Division

We must take all reasonable steps (in exercising functions) to maximise our contribution to the 7 Well-being Goals

| Ref | Service Priorities With Key Actions and Key Outcome Measures | By When ^{#1} | By Who |
|------|---|-----------------------|----------------|
| CS01 | Continuing to transform children's social work practice by rolling out the Child and Family Unit model, prioritising prevention work with children and families to reduce the number of children becoming looked after or placed on the child protection register, ensuring at all times that children and young people are protected from harm, intervening formally when required, and promoting high standards of welfare. | March 2020 | Stefan Smith |
| CS02 | We will continue to develop the Mid & West Wales Regional Adoption service in line with national, regional and local priorities. | April 2018 | Frances Lewis |
| CS03 | We will continue to develop and implement the Child and Family Unit (CFU) systemic model of working within our children's services teams (Pod's) and combine cohesively with Signs of Safety. | April 2018 | Frances Lewis |
| CS04 | We will actively participate in the regional review of child protection thresholds and multi-agency arrangement to audit child sexual exploitation (CSE) cases and implement the ' MASCE ' model. | April 2018 | Noreen Jackman |
| CS05 | We will continue to develop and implement how we provide information, advice and assistance (IAA), ensuring information is available and easily accessible, and linking with the Dewis system. | April 2018 | Noeline Thomas |
| CS06 | We will continue to extend the Team Around the Family (TAF) approach across the county for 0-25 year olds, clarifying thresholds to help inform families and other agencies to ensure they are able to access the right help at the right time. We will develop a threshold document to support this practice. | April 2018 | Noeline Thomas |
| CS07 | We will continue to develop the Flying Start programme, promoting early intervention for disadvantaged families with children (0-3) living in specific deprived communities, ensuring good multi agency support to families across the | April 2018 | Nia McIntosh |

| | | | |
|--------|--|------------|----------------|
| | spectrum of need by developing clear pathways with internal and external partners. | | |
| CS08 | We will develop the regional proposal for the enhanced childcare offer in line with Government guidelines and financial / resource support. We will develop play opportunities for children by exploring the potential for utilising school outdoor spaces where possible. | April 2018 | Lisa Grice |
| CS09 | We will review the plan for improving placement stability. | April 2018 | Jayne Meredith |
| SCC/26 | Percentage of looked after children returned home from care during the year. | April 2018 | Stefan Smith |
| SCC/32 | We will reduce the % of children looked after at 31 March who have experienced one or more change of school, during a period or periods of being looked after, which were not due to transitional arrangements, in the 12 months to 31 March. | April 2018 | Stefan Smith |
| SCC/33 | We will reduce the % of children looked after on 31 March who have had three or more placements during the year. | April 2018 | Stefan Smith |
| CS10 | We will continue to work with partners to improve appropriate accommodation options and housing support for all vulnerable young people (aged 16-25). | April 2018 | Bethan James |
| SCC/35 | We will reduce the % of care leavers who have experienced homelessness during the year. | April 2018 | Stefan Smith |
| CS11 | We will develop a multi-agency strategy for disabled children aged 0-25, which will ensure it is easy to understand and access the help that is available via an integrated support pathway. | April 2018 | Kelvin Barlow |

#1 By When: If a three year project, also enclose a 2017/18 Milestone

Education Services Division

We must take all reasonable steps (in exercising functions) to maximise our contribution to the 7 Well-being Goals

| Ref | Service Priorities With Key Actions and Key Outcome Measures | By When ^{#1} | By Who |
|----------|--|-----------------------|---------------|
| ES01 | Further enhancing programmes for safeguarding in schools, services and other settings to fully embed safe recruitment practices and strategies, including action to meet the Prevent duty to protect children and young people from the risks of radicalisation. | March 2020 | Bethan Tinney |
| ES02 | Continuing to promote regular school attendance to maximise educational opportunities and child welfare, robustly challenging poor attendance and persistent absenteeism | March 2020 | Bethan James |
| EDU/016a | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will increase the % of pupil attendance in Primary schools from 94.8% to 95.0% | July 2017 | Bethan James |
| EDU/016b | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will increase the % of pupil attendance in Secondary schools from 94.5% to 94.6% | July 2017 | Bethan James |
| ES03 | Continuing to hold all schools and ERW to account for further improving standards and outcomes for learners, intervening in schools where performance is not satisfactory. | March 2020 | Andi Morgan |
| ES04 | Work to improve the quality of leadership and its impact on improving outcomes across the consortium. | March 2020 | Andi Morgan |
| EDU/017 | We will increase the % of pupils age 15 achieving Level 2 threshold including GCSE A*-C in English or Welsh and mathematics from 65.1% to 66.0% | July 2017 | Andi Morgan |
| ES05 | Supporting schools, in tandem with ERW, to further improve outcomes for all pupils but with a particular emphasis on raising the achievements of pupils entitled to free school meals and looked after children. | March 2020 | Andi Morgan |
| 5.0.3.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will increase the % of pupils eligible for Free School Meals who achieved the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A*-C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics. | July 2017 | Andi Morgan |

| | | | |
|-----------|---|------------|------------------|
| ES06 | Completing a review of behaviour management services and presenting proposals to reform provision. | March 2020 | Gareth Morgans |
| ES07 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support integrated approaches/planned developments at Rhydygors School to meet future curricular, behavioural, care and therapeutic needs of our most troubled/complex pupils and their families | March 2018 | Rebecca Williams |
| ES08 | Reshaping services to meet the challenge of the new legislation for additional learning needs by further developing person centred practice. | March 2020 | Elinor Williams |
| ES09 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support LA strategic development of person- centred coaching model and development of Individual Development Plans (IDPs) | March 2018 | Elinor Williams |
| ES10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop ALN outreach support working in partnership with specialist setting staff to share expertise to support pupils in mainstream settings | March 2018 | Rebecca Williams |
| ES11 | Continuing to advance the objectives of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan. | March 2020 | Catrin Griffiths |
| ES12 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop a revised Welsh in Education Strategic Plan in line with Welsh Government guidance to further promote and increase bilingual education in Carmarthenshire. | March 2018 | Catrin Griffiths |
| EDU/006i | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We shall increase the percentage of pupils to receive a teacher assessment in Welsh (first language) at the end of Key Stage 2. | July 2017 | Elin Forsyth |
| EDU/006ii | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We shall increase the percentage of pupils to receive a teacher assessment in Welsh (first language) at the end of Key Stage 3. | July 2017 | Elin Forsyth |
| ES13 | Continuing with the design of the Carmarthenshire Curriculum in partnership with schools and other providers, incorporating national policy developments as they emerge. | March 2020 | Aeron Rees |
| ES14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish a Carmarthenshire Curriculum Declaration as an interim developmental step | March 2018 | Aeron Rees |
| ES15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In collaboration with others, design accredited and non-accredited courses in curriculum design for senior and middle school leaders | March 2018 | Aeron Rees |
| ES16 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the 11-19 Curriculum review, formulate implementation plan and implement year 1 proposals | March 2018 | Matt Morden |
| ES17 | Investing around £23 million in major school construction and modernisation projects at Coedcae, Penrhos (Seaside), Trimsaran, St.John Lloyd, Llangadog, Parc y Tywyn, Dewi Sant, Pontyberem, Rhys Pritchard and Rydygors. | March 2020 | Simon Davies |
| ES18 | We will further reduce young people No in Education, Employment or Training (NEET). | March 2020 | Matt Morden |
| ES19 | Deliver the local elements of the Cynnydd and Cam Nesa European Social Fund (ESF) projects to reduce the number of young people who become NEET. | March 2020 | Matt Morden |
| 5.1.0.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will reduce the % of Year 11 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) | March 2018 | Matt Morden |
| 5.1.0.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will reduce the % of Year 13 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) | March 2018 | Matt Morden |
| ES20 | Deliver literacy, numeracy, digital literacy and English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) courses for Carmarthenshire residents and in-comers to the County | March 2020 | Matt Morden |
| ES21 | Implement the TIC (Transform, Innovate and Change) approach to support schools in reviewing structures and systems to ensure efficiency, effectiveness and value for money. | March 2020 | Andi /Elin |

Strategic Development Division

We must take all reasonable steps (in exercising functions) to maximise our contribution to the 7 Well-being Goals

| Ref | Service Priorities With Key Actions and Key Outcome Measures | By When | By Who |
|------|--|---------------|--------------|
| SD01 | As further price rises are implemented, explore opportunities to increase school meal take-up to include the development of a concise marketing plan. | December 2018 | Helen Bailey |
| SD02 | Introduce on-line payments for school meals | December 2018 | Helen Bailey |
| SD03 | Continue to develop & maximise the use & benefits of electronic processes with operational staff to include on-line ordering, e-learning, electronic invoices etc. | July 2017 | Helen Bailey |
| SD04 | Work collaboratively to support the work being undertaken on a national level to address rising levels of childhood obesity e.g. Holiday Hunger initiative, partnership working with Healthy Schools Programme and Public Health, raising awareness of the health benefits associated with eating school food, & maximising the uptake of Free School Meals. | March 2020 | Helen Bailey |
| SD05 | Continue to review back office processes to deliver efficiencies whilst protecting front line services | March 2020 | David Astins |
| SD06 | Implement Carmarthenshire's Children's Rights Promise | March 2018 | Sarah Powell |
| SD07 | Support the further development of the Carmarthenshire Youth Council, including broader representation from across Carmarthenshire, better engagement with Council decision makers including Elected Members and participation in the 'Insight' programme. | March 2018 | Sarah Powell |
| SD08 | Undertake a complete review of school admission processes | March 2020 | Sue John |
| SD09 | Implement agreed development plan for Teacher Centre (TC), including wider use of TC by LA officers (including senior managers) & sharing good practice across primary schools | March 2020 | Luke Howells |

Ways of Working

| Which of the 5 Ways of working have we met? | | Strong Partial None | How much work do we still need to do to meet these ways of working? |
|---|--|---------------------------|--|
| A | Looking at the long term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs | Partial | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education as a long-term 'invest to save' service, laying down the foundations for life, living and the world of work, so that employable and well-qualified young people can be fully prepared to live and thrive as independent adults |
| B | Understanding the root causes of the issues to prevent them reoccurring | Partial | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote high standards of attendance, behaviour, care, support guidance and application in school, so that learners can enjoy schooling free from any major detrimental issues Promote restorative approaches in the Youth Support Service The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 places a great emphasis on prevention work, requiring all agencies to engage proactively with families in order to avoid reaching thresholds for statutory intervention wherever possible, whilst always ensuring safety. |
| C | Taking an integrated approach so that we look at all well-being goals and objectives of other services and partners | Partial | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have regard for formal, informal and non-formal learning both inside and outside school and other settings - in partnership with other agencies locally and further afield A recent CSSIW inspection (July 2016) recognised our need to work together with partners 'to develop an integrated approach to delivering information, advice and assistance, preventative services and statutory provision to achieve greater continuity and reduce duplication for children and families accessing these services' Multi-agency arrangements should be established to strengthen operational plans to support effective co-ordination of statutory partner's completion of Joint Assessment Frameworks. |
| D | Collaboration - Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions | Partial | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote a strong ethos of school-to-school working and collaborative activity Build 'professional capital' to arrive at sustainable local solutions |
| E | Involvement a diversity of population in decisions that affect them | Partial | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote participation of all children & young people Promote voice of the learner, school councils and citizenship education so that learners develop as active participants in democratic society |

Maximising Contributions

| 7 National Goals | How the function / priority maximises its contribution to National Goals |
|---|---|
| <i>A prosperous Wales</i> | Improved learner attainment Reduced pupils Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) |
| <i>A resilient Wales</i> | Participation in the Eco Schools Award scheme |
| <i>A healthier Wales</i> | Providing nutritious School meals Early Years and Family Support Education Psychology Complex Needs Safeguarding Healthy Schools award |
| <i>A more equal Wales</i> | Welsh language Curriculum development ALN Inclusion Youth Service Child Welfare |
| <i>A Wales of cohesive communities</i> | Welsh language Child Welfare Adult and Community Learning Safeguarding Respite Care Fostering and Adoption LAC Strategic Partnerships and Engagement |
| <i>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language</i> | Welsh language (WESP) Music Service |
| <i>A globally responsible Wales</i> | Eco schools award |

5. Resources

Budget Summary

The budget summary for 2017/18 will be included following the approval of the Council's budget in February 2017.

Savings and Efficiencies

Efficiency savings will be included here following the approval of the Council's budget in February 2017.

Workforce Planning

A Departmental Workforce Plan is being drafted by the Departmental Management Team with support from HR staff, this section will be updated early in 2017.

6. Key Departmental Measures by Division

Children's Services

| Definition / Measure Reference (abbreviated definition is fine) | | 2014/15 | | 2015/16 | | | 2016/17 | | 2017/18 | Cost Measure (£) |
|--|--|------------|-------------|----------------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| | | Our Result | Our Result | All Wales Comparative data | | | Target set | Result (when available) | Target set (at EOY) | |
| | | | | Quartile * to **** | Welsh Median | Welsh Best Quartile | | | | |
| SCC/002 New PI SCC/32 16/17 | % children looked after on 31 March who have experienced one or more change of school, which were not due to transitional arrangements (in last 12 months) | 5.4% | 3.9% | **** | 13.1% | 9.2% | 5.0% | | | |
| SCC/004 New PI SCC/33 16/17 | % of children looked after on 31 March who have had three or more placements during the year | 11.7% | 14.9% | * | 9.6% | 8.6% | 13.5% | | | |
| SCC/002ii | % of Pupils in local authority care, in any local authority maintained school, aged 15 as at the preceding 31 August who leave compulsory education, training or work based learning without an approved external qualification. | 0.0% | 0.0% | **** | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | | | |
| 9.1.8.1 | % attendance at the free Flying Start (FS) Child Care Placement | | 79% | N/a | N/a | N/a | 77% | | | |
| 9.1.8.2 | Number of children living outside the FS area who are able to access the service through referral for outreach | | 17 | N/a | N/a | N/a | 23 | | | |
| 9.1.8.3 | % high need families living in FS area receiving at least a monthly contact from FS Health Visiting service | | 96% | N/a | N/a | N/a | 93% | | | |
| 9.1.8.6 | % of families with additional social welfare needs linked to poverty, living in a FS area receiving time specified interventions from wider FS team | | 96% | N/a | N/a | N/a | 95% | | | |
| 9.1.8.8 | % of unauthorised attendance at the free FS child care settings | N/a | New measure | N/a | N/a | N/a | 6% | | | |

| Definition / Measure Reference (abbreviated definition is fine) | | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | | | | 2016/17 | | 2017/18 | Cost Measure (£) |
|--|--|--------------------|-------------|------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------|------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | Our Result | Our Result | All Wales Comparative data | | | Target set | Result (when available) | |
| | | Quartile * to **** | | | Welsh Median | Welsh Best Quartile | | | | |
| 9.1.8.9 | % of children in FS areas reaching, exceeding or within one age band of their development milestone at age 2 (assessed within 23-25 month) | N/a | New measure | N/a | N/a | N/a | 85% | | | |
| 9.1.9.0 | % children in FS areas reaching, exceeding or within one age band of their development milestone at age 3 (assessed within 35-37 month) | N/a | New measure | N/a | N/a | N/a | 90% | | | |
| SCC/24 | % of assessments completed for children within statutory timescales | | | | | | New PI | | | |
| SCC/25 | % of children supported to remain living within their family | | | | | | New PI | | | |
| SCC/26 | % of looked after children returned home from care during the year | | | | | | New PI | | | |
| SCC/27 | % of re-registrations of children on local authority Child Protection Register (CPR) | | | | | | New PI | | | |
| SCC/28 | Average length of time for all children who were on the CPR during the year | | | | | | New PI | | | |
| SCC/29a | % of children receiving care and support achieving the core subject indicator at key stage 2 | | | | | | New PI | | | |
| SCC/29b | % of children receiving care and support achieving the core subject indicator at key stage 4 | | | | | | New PI | | | |
| SCC/30 | % of children seen by a registered dentist within 3 months of becoming looked after | | | | | | New PI | | | |
| SCC/31 | % of children looked after at 31 March who were registered with a GP within 10 working days of the start of their placement | | | | | | New PI | | | |
| SCC/32 | % of looked after children who experienced one or more change of school during a period of periods of being looked after which were not due to transitional arrangements in the year to 31 March | | | | | | 5.0% | | | |

| Definition / Measure Reference (abbreviated definition is fine) | | 2014/15 Our Result | 2015/16 All Wales Comparative data | | | 2016/17 | | 2017/18 | Cost Measure (£) |
|--|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| | | | Our Result | Quartile * to **** | Welsh Median | Welsh Best Quartile | Target set | Result (when available) | |
| SCC/33 | % of children who are looked after, who have had 3 or more placement moves during the year | | | | | | 13.5% | | |
| SCC/34a | % of all care leavers who are in education, training or employment at 12 months after leaving care | | | | | | New PI | | |
| SCC/34b | % of all care leavers who are in education, training or employment at 24 months after leaving care | | | | | | New PI | | |
| SCC/35 | % of care leavers who have experienced homelessness during the year | | | | | | New PI | | |

Education Services

| Definition / Measure Reference (abbreviated definition is fine) | | 2014/15 (AY 2013/14) Our Result | 2015/16 (Academic Year, AY, 2014/15) All Wales Comparative data | | | 2016/17 (AY 2015/16) | | 2017/18 (AY 2016/17) | Cost Measure (£) |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| | | | Our Result | Quartile * to **** | Welsh Median | Welsh Best Quartile | Target set | Result (when available) | |
| EDU/016a | % of pupil attendance in Primary Schools | 95.0 | 95.2 | **** | 95.0 | 95.2 | 95.4 | 94.8 (provisional)(Jan 2017) | 95.0 |
| EDU/016b | % of pupil attendance in Secondary Schools | 93.9 | 94.2 | *** | 93.9 | 94.3 | 94.4 | 94.5 | 94.6 |
| EDU/013 | Number of pupils per teacher in Primary Schools | 19.5 | 19.6 | No comparable data available | | | 19.4 | 19.9 | |
| 4.1.2.2 | % of authorised absence in Secondary schools | 5.6 | 5.1 | | 4.9 | | 5.0 | 4.9 | 4.8 |
| 4.1.2.3 | % of authorised absence in Primary schools | 4.3 | 4.0 | | 4.1 | | 3.9 | (Dec 2016) | |
| EDU/006i | % of pupils receiving Teacher Assessment in Welsh First Language at KS2 (Year 6) | 50.3 | 51.9 | **** | 20.2 | n/a | 52.4 | 50.0 | |
| EDU/003 | % KS2 pupils achieving Core Subject Indicator (Year 6 pupils expected performance in English or Welsh first language, maths and science) | 87.4 | 88.2 | *** | 88.1 | 89.4 | 88.7 | 89.0 (provisional) (Dec 2016) | |

| | | 2014/15 | 2015/16 (Academic Year, AY, 2014/15) | | | | 2016/17 | | 2017/18 | |
|-----------|--|---------|--------------------------------------|------|-------|------|---------|--------------------------------|---------|--|
| EDU/006ii | % of pupils receiving Teacher Assessment in Welsh First Language at KS3 (Year 9) | 39.0 | 43.2 | **** | 17.8 | 19.4 | 43.7 | 42.2 | | |
| EDU/004 | % KS3 pupils achieving Core Subject Indicator (Year 9 pupils expected performance in English or Welsh first language, maths and science) | 84.5 | 85.1 | | 83.9 | | 85.6 | 86.3 (provisional) (Dec 2016) | | |
| EDU/017 | % of pupils age 15 achieving Level 2 threshold incl. GCSE A*-C in English or Welsh and mathematics | 58.7 | 61.1 | | 57.9 | | 61.6 | 65.1 (provisional) (Dec 2016) | 66.0 | |
| EDU/002i | % of pupils age 15 leaving secondary school without a qualification | 0.0 | 0.0 | **** | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | (Apr 2017) | | |
| EDU/011 | Average wider point score of pupils aged 16 (all exam results score) | 579.8 | 580.3 | | 530.7 | | 581.0 | (Dec 2016) | | |
| EDU/009a | Average number of school days that permanently excluded pupils did not receive an offer of full time appropriate education provision | 0.0 | 0.0 | | | | 0.0 | (Mar 2016) | | |
| EDU/009b | Average number of school days that permanently excluded pupils did not receive an offer of part time appropriate education provision | 0.0 | 0.0 | | | | 0.0 | (Mar 2016) | | |
| EDU/010a | % of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions in Primary Schools | 0.008 | 0.015 | | | | 0.010 | (Mar 2016) | | |
| EDU/010b | % of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions in Secondary Schools | 0.039 | 0.039 | | | | 0.037 | (Mar 2016) | | |
| 5.0.2.9 | % of pupils achieving the Foundation Phase Indicator (Year 2 achieving language, maths and personal development) | 84.1 | 86.8 | | 86.8 | | 87.3 | 85.9% (provisional) (Dec 2016) | | |

| | | 2014/15 | 2015/16 (Academic Year, AY, 2014/15) | | | | 2016/17 | | 2017/18 | |
|----------|---|---------|--------------------------------------|---|------|-------|---------|--------------------------------|---------|--|
| 5.0.2.2 | % of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE's grade A*-C or vocational equivalent | 84.7 | 87.0 | | 84.1 | | 87.5 | 88.7% (provisional) (Dec 2016) | | |
| 5.0.2.6 | % of 15/16 yr olds achieving Core Subject Indicator (expected performance in English or Welsh first language, maths and science) | 56.1 | 58.2 | | 54.8 | | 58.7 | 62.2% (provisional) (Dec 2016) | | |
| 5.0.2.3 | % of 17 year olds who enter a volume equivalent to 2 A Levels and who achieve the Level 3 threshold (2 A Levels Grades A-E) | 98.6 | 98.1 | | 97.0 | | 98.6 | 99.5% (provisional) (Dec 2016) | | |
| 5.0.2.8a | Number of pupils permanently excluded from Primary Schools | 0.0 | 0.0 | | 0.0 | | 0.0 | (Mar 2016) | | |
| 5.0.2.8b | Number of pupils permanently excluded from Secondary Schools | 0.1 | 0.0 | | 0.0 | | 0.0 | (Mar 2016) | | |
| 5.0.2.8c | Number of pupils permanently excluded from Special Schools | 0.0 | 0.0 | | 0.0 | | 0.0 | (Mar 2016) | | |
| EDU/015a | % of final statements of special education need issued within 26 weeks including exceptions | 22.9 | 34.8 | * | 68.1 | 96.2 | 40.0 | 60.0 @ Qtr2 | | |
| EDU/015b | % of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks excluding exceptions | 75.0 | 80.0 | * | 94.5 | 100.0 | 90.0 | 85.7 @ Qtr2 | | |
| 5.0.3.1 | % of FSM pupils who achieved the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A*-C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics | 28.9 | 33.7 | | 31.6 | | 34.2 | 41.5% (provisional) (Dec 2016) | | |
| 5.1.0.1 | % of Year 11 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET's) | 3.4 | 3.5 | | 2.8 | | 3.0 | (Apr 2016) | | |
| | % of Year 13 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET's) 5.1.0.2 | N/A | 2.8 | | | | 2.6 | (Apr 2016) | | |

| | | 2014/15 | 2015/16 (Academic Year, AY, 2014/15) | | | | 2016/17 | | 2017/18 | |
|-------------|---|---------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|---------|------------|---------|--|
| 8.3.1 .4 | % of schools achieving phase 3 of the Healthy Schools Initiative | 83 | 86 | | | | 87 | (Jan 2017) | | |
| 8.3.1 .5 | % of schools achieving phase 4 of the Healthy Schools Initiative | 53 | 59 | | | | 60 | (Jan 2017) | | |
| 4.3.1 .7 | School places removed as a result of Modernising Education Programme | 46 | 394 | | | | 141 | (Apr 2017) | | |
| 4.3.1 .8 | % of schools graded as "Good" or "Satisfactory" for school building condition | 53 | 55 | | | | 56 | (Apr 2017) | | |

Strategic Development

Local performance measures are being developed for this service.

The Council's Well-being Objectives - To be determined by March 2017

| Draft Council Well Being Objectives | The department contributes significantly to the following Council Well Being Objectives | XXX Division | XXX Division | XXX Division | XXX Division | XXX Division |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| A | | | | | | |
| B | | | | | | |
| C | | | | | | |
| D | | | | | | |
| E | | | | | | |
| F | | | | | | |
| G | | | | | | |
| H | | | | | | |

The seven Well-being goals of the Future Generations Act

| | |
|--|---|
| <i>A prosperous Wales</i> | <p>An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change), and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.</p> <p>📞 Contact Stuart Walters 3241 or Helen Morgan 4902 / Contact Dave Astins 6426</p> |
| <i>A resilient Wales</i> | <p>A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).</p> <p>📞 Contact Rosie Carmichael 2727 or Isabel Macho 3390</p> |
| <i>A healthier Wales</i> | <p>A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.</p> <p>📞 Contact Joel Martin 2619</p> |
| <i>A more equal Wales</i> | <p>A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).</p> <p>📞 Contact Llinos Evans 4914</p> |
| <i>A Wales of cohesive communities</i> | <p>Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.</p> <p>📞 Contact Kate Thomas 4202</p> |
| <i>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language</i> | <p>A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.</p> <p>📞 Contact Jane Davies 2180</p> |
| <i>A globally responsible Wales</i> | <p>A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing makes a positive contribution to global well-being</p> |

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EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22nd DECEMBER 2016

Welsh in Education Strategic Plan

To consider and comment on the following issues:

That the Committee:

- Considers responses to the draft Welsh in Education Strategic Plan following public consultation.
- Receives an oral update in the meeting regarding the public consultation which closes on 19th December 2016.

Reasons:

- To comply with the Wales School Standards and Organisation Act (2013) which became law on 4 March 2013. The Act places a statutory duty on local authorities to prepare and submit a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan. The Act enables the Government to approve the plan submitted, to approve the Plan with modifications, or reject the Plan and prepare another plan.
- Developing the plan requires local authorities to consult with the public and statutory consultees.
- Scrutiny committees have a key role to play in the development of policies.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: YES

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder: Cllr. Gareth Jones (Education & Children)

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Directorate: Education & Children</p> <p>Name of Director: Gareth Morgans</p> <p>Report Authors: Aeron Rees</p> <p>Catrin Griffiths</p> | <p>Designations:</p> <p>Interim Director of Education & Children's Services</p> <p>Head of Learner Programmes</p> <p>Challenge Advisor</p> | <p>Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:</p> <p>01267246450 edgmorgans@cararthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 246532 jarees@cararthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 246641 cgriffiths@cararthenshire.gov.uk</p> |
|---|---|--|

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22nd DECEMBER 2016

Welsh in Education Strategic Plan

The Wales School Standards and Organisation Act (2013) which became law on 4 March 2013, places a statutory duty on local authorities to prepare and submit a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). The Act enables the Government to approve the plan submitted, to approve the Plan with modifications, or reject the Plan and ask us to prepare another plan. WESPs detail how local authorities aim to achieve the Welsh Government's outcomes and targets outlined in the Welsh Medium Education Strategy (WMES) which sets out the Welsh Government's vision for an education and training system that responds in a planned way to the growing demand for Welsh-medium education.

They also have to reflect the context of the Welsh Government's wider strategy for the Welsh language. The Welsh Government's vision is to see '**A million Welsh speakers by 2050**'. To achieve that, the Welsh Government believes that several things need to happen:

- more children in Welsh-medium education;
- better planning in relation to how people learn the language;
- more easy-to-access opportunities for people to use the language;
- a stronger infrastructure and a revolution to improve digital provision in Welsh; and
- a sea change in the way we speak about it.

According to the most recent Census in 2011 there were 562,000 Welsh speakers in Wales. On that basis, the aim of the strategy will be to almost double the number of Welsh speakers by the middle of the century. In order for that to happen, the Welsh Government's draft strategy for the Welsh language prioritises 6 key areas for action:

1. Language planning and policy
2. Normalisation
- 3. Education**
4. People
5. Support
6. Rights

The Welsh Government recognises that the education system is the main way for ensuring that children are able to develop their Welsh skills, and for creating new speakers. The WESPs will provide the means for the Welsh Government to monitor the way in which local authorities respond and contribute to the implementation of these objectives.

- The Plan should provide the strategic direction for the planning and delivery of Welsh-medium and Welsh-language education in the authority as well as a vision statement.
- The Plan should be approved by the Executive Board and signed by the person with the statutory responsibility for education within the authority.
- The Plan needs to be underpinned and informed by Welsh Government's current Welsh-medium Education Strategy (April 2010) and policy statement for 2015-16 (March 2016).
- The Plan needs to reflect the following Welsh Government policies/strategies-
 - Welsh Language Strategy
 - Rewriting the Future
 - Successful Futures
 - Future Generations
 - Aligning with Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools Programme
 - Welsh-medium Education Assessment and Childcare sufficiency assessment

The Plan will need to deliver on the following:

- **more seven-year-old children being taught through the medium of Welsh as a percentage of the Year 2 cohort;**
- **more learners continuing to improve their language skills on transfer from primary school to secondary school;**
- **more learners studying for qualifications through the medium of Welsh;**
- **more learners aged 16-19 studying Welsh and subjects through the medium of Welsh; and**
- **more learners with improved skills in Welsh.**

There is a requirement to address standards of attainment in Welsh and Welsh Second Language, Welsh-medium provision for learners with additional learning needs (ALN) and Workforce planning and continuing professional development (CPD).

We will need to consult with a range of stakeholders for a period of at least 8 weeks which include the statutory consultees:

- neighbouring local authorities
- the head teacher of each school maintained by it
- the governing body of each school maintained by it
- each institution within the further education sector in its area
- other prescribed persons.

“Other prescribed persons” are listed in Regulation 9:

- the Welsh Language Commissioner
- the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership
- school councils
- Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales
- such organisations providing services to children and young people as the local authority considers appropriate
- such other persons or bodies as appear to the local authority to be appropriate.

(Public consultation closes on 19th December 2016 which lies beyond the submission date for this report. However, an oral synopsis will be available at the Scrutiny Committee’s meeting on the 22nd December 2016).

Once agreed, the Plan should be published on the local authority’s websites by the 1st June 2017 with copies made available in offices and in any other place the local authority considers appropriate.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

NO – However, draft consultation version of the WESP is included for information

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: **Gareth Morgans** **Interim Director of Education & Children**

| Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities | Legal | Finance | ICT | Risk Management Issues | Staffing Implications | Physical Assets |
|---|------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| YES | YES | YES | NONE | YES | NONE | NONE |

1. Policy and Crime & Disorder

Developments are consistent with the Local Authority's and Welsh Government's strategies and plans. It complies with Welsh Government statutory requirements.

2. Legal

Appropriate consultation will need to be undertaken and views from consultees considered.

3. Finance

As noted in the Census Working Group's recommendations, sufficient support and resources are required in order to develop and lead on the strategy to promote and extend Welsh medium education in Carmarthenshire.

5. Risk Management Issues

Not delivering an aspirational Welsh in Education Strategic Plan could see problems being perpetuated and the County Council failing to meet WG requirements in respect of the development of Welsh medium education.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: **Gareth Morgans** Interim Director of Education & Children

1. Local Member(s) – All members have had an opportunity to respond to the draft Welsh in Education Strategic Plan. In addition, they have the opportunity to respond as members of a Governing Body

2. Community / Town Council – Not one of the statutory consultees.

3. Relevant Partners – A range of partners will be consulted – list in the Executive Summary.

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – School staff unions have had an opportunity to respond during the formal consultation stage.

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

| Title of Document | File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection |
|--|---|
| Welsh in Education Strategic Plans 2017-2020 – Welsh Government Guidance | Education & Children Department, Building 2, Parc Dewi Sant |
| Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020 – Consultation | <p>Cymraeg http://leoli.sirgar.gov.uk/ymgyngoriadau/wesp/</p> <p>English http://ilocal.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/consultations/wesp/</p> |
| Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2014-17 | <p>Cymraeg http://www.sirgar.llyw.cymru/cartref/cyngor-a-democratiaeth/iaith-gymraeg/</p> <p>English http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/welsh-language/</p> |

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CARMARTHENSHIRE'S

Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020



Diogelu Plant a Gwella Safonau Addysg i Bawb
Safeguarding Children and Improving Education
Standards for All

DRAFT OCTOBER 2016

1. Our vision is: A bilingual Carmarthenshire.

To achieve this we will: Ensure significant growth in Welsh-medium education and training to increase the number of people of all ages to become fluent in both Welsh and English and have the ability to use their languages confidently with their families, in their communities and in the workplace.

2. Principles

- Welsh medium education is available to all learners, within reasonable travelling distance from their homes.
- Learners who have followed the Welsh 1st language programme in the primary phase will be expected to continue with this programme when transferring to the secondary phase.
- Work with other services to promote and increase bilingualism.
- Celebrate progress and commitment to developing the Welsh language
- All learners to become proficient in 'two and more' languages.
- Learners with additional learning needs receive equal linguistic opportunity.

3. Objectives

- Ensure that every pupil is completely bilingual (and multilingual) when leaving school so that they have the skills to operate as bilingual citizens in their communities, the workplace and beyond/worldwide.
- Promote the cognitive, economic, social, educational and community benefits of bilingualism.
- Promote the development of the learners' bilingual skills at every opportunity within formal and informal settings in order that Welsh is used naturally for communicating.
- Promote opportunities for parents and the wider family to develop their Welsh language skills so they can support their children's language development.
- Provide services that will ensure high quality learning opportunities for all Carmarthenshire's children, young people and adults, and thereby enabling them to achieve their full potential as a lifetime learners in the context of the unique bilingual nature of the County.
- Ensure that the Welsh language is taught as a 1st language and/or a 2nd language in all of our schools, in accordance with the 2002 Education Act, and proactively preparing for the teaching of Welsh as a single continuum by 2020.
- Ensure that all pupils are able to speak, read and write the Welsh language fluently by the end of Key Stage 2 in accordance with their expected stage of development;

- Ensure progression from pre-school Welsh medium provision to bilingual primary and secondary education.
- Ensure linguistic progression across curricular areas when transferring from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3, from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4 and promote linguistic progression from Key Stage 4 to lifelong learning.
- Develop a clear County statement in terms of expectations when considering pupils' competence and the need to ensure appropriate challenge for all pupils in order to fully achieve their educational potential;
- Work in partnership with all providers to improve the standard of Welsh within the learning environment.
- Develop and promote training programmes which will enable the school workforce to gain the competency and confidence to teach through the medium of Welsh.
- Ensure that latecomers are supported to make the best possible use of the teachers who support the development of the Welsh language in order that they can integrate naturally in their local school and community.

4. Link with Welsh Government Policies

Rewriting the Future- we are committed to the principle of raising aspiration and attainment in Carmarthenshire's schools by actively working to remove the barriers faced by learners from disadvantaged backgrounds. We will provide appropriate support to learners including effective and appropriate use of the Pupil Deprivation Grant in all settings.

Successful Futures- the role of the Welsh language in the new curriculum for Wales is stated clearly and frequently in the Successful Futures vision. We are committed, through designing a Carmarthenshire curriculum, to promoting the Welsh language as a subject, as a medium of instruction, as a competence and as the language for informal communication in our schools.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015- we commit to creating a Carmarthenshire which is a society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.

Welsh Government's Draft Strategy- a million Welsh speakers by 2050- we commit to achieving a significant increase in the number of children and young people who access Welsh-medium education and have skills in Welsh, for only by enabling more people to learn Welsh will it be possible to realise a million Welsh speakers across Wales. We will focus on the early years because the earlier a child has contact with the language, the more opportunity the child has to become fluent.

21st Century Schools and Education Programme- Carmarthenshire's investment programme will consider the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and work to develop learning environments that will enable the successful implementation of strategies for improvement and better educational outcomes.

5. Local authorities have a statutory duty under Section 10 of the Learner Travel Measure (Wales) 2008 to promote access to education and training through the medium of Welsh.

The local authority meets the requirements of Section 10 of the Learner Travel Measure (Wales) 2008. Primary Welsh medium education is available almost in every community in Carmarthenshire. There are some areas e.g. Laugharne/Tremoilet/Llanmiloe, where access to Welsh medium education a challenge. The County Council has a plan to respond to this issue. In the secondary sector Welsh medium education is available to all pupils. Each school community is part of a designated Welsh medium school's catchment

6. Role and Remit of the Language Forum

- To help develop the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and to identify and develop performance measures in order that the objectives and targets are measured/achieved.
- To monitor and ensure implementation of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan's objectives and targets.
- Ensure cross-reference to other relevant strategies and plans e.g. Integrated Community Strategy.
- Advise on undertaking a *Survey of Need* to advise on developing Welsh medium education
- Consider attainment data and receive reports on specific aspects of the Plan
- Consider and comment on the monitoring reports provided to the Welsh Government
- To provide feedback to the Scrutiny Committee, the Welsh Language Members' Advisory Panel and other committees as required
- Receive evidence from relevant parties/partners and consider ways in which the Council and the wider community can address the reduction in Welsh speakers challenge
- To provide support and challenge on implementing the WESP.
- To share effective practice.

7. Objectives and action plan

Outcome 1: More seven-year-old children being taught through the medium of Welsh

The current position relating to the number of seven year olds taught through the medium of Welsh and our targets for the next three years are as follows-

| Current position | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 58.2% | 59% | 60% | 61% |

To achieve this outcome we will-

- Work with pre-school and child care providers to increase the number of learners who choose Welsh medium education, by promoting the benefits of bilingualism.
- Achieve a consensus to increase the number of Welsh medium places and supporting schools to move along the language continuum.
- Promote the Language Charters and other initiatives in order to develop the use of Welsh outside formal learning
- Ensure high standards of attainment in Welsh in all schools.

Supporting Statement:

In Carmarthenshire pre-school education is provided by schools and non-maintained settings. We will work with partners on increasing Welsh-medium provision targeting areas where there is currently no provision available. We will provide support and guidance via our Early Years team and share materials in relation to the value of bilingualism with parents in order that they have a better understanding and be able to make informed decisions about statutory education.

We will provide support and guidance to schools via our AGGaD team in how to respond to parental enquiries. We will share materials with parents/carers/guardians in relation to the value of bilingualism in order that they have a better understanding and are able to make informed decisions at all transitional stages.

We will ensure that parents, through our *Information to Parents* booklet know which schools offer Foundation Phase and Key Stages 2-5 Welsh medium provision. The information about the linguistic nature of each school, in accordance with the Welsh Government's 'Defining Schools according to Welsh medium provision', 2008, is also available on the County Council's website.

<http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/residents/education-schools/find-a-school/#.WAoGfMuV-1s>

The current definition of our primary schools is as follows-

| Type of school | Number | % | Number of pupils |
|---------------------------------------|--------|------|------------------|
| Welsh Medium | 58 | 58.6 | 6784 |
| Transitional | 2 | 2 | 292 |
| Dual Stream | 11 | 11.1 | 2885 |
| English Medium with significant Welsh | 3 | 3 | 698 |
| English Medium | 25 | 25.3 | 4626 |

In order to increase the number of Welsh medium places available we will reconfigure the current provision by-

- Developing more child care/pre-school provision through the medium of Welsh.
- Supporting our current dual stream and transitional schools to become Welsh medium schools.
- Invest in establishing new Welsh medium/dual stream schools utilising 21st Century Schools and Section 106 funding where appropriate.
- Supporting English medium schools to develop Welsh Foundation Phase provision.
- Extending the age range of specific schools and creating a space for providing Welsh medium early years provision.
- We will continually monitor with partners the demand in our urban areas and expand provision as required.
- The spare capacity in Carmarthenshire Schools is monitored on a regular basis and plans are put in place to address any issues. In January 2016, 33% of Primary and 42% of Secondary Schools had less than 10% spare capacity.
- We will consider housing and economic developments and impact on school places and expand provision as required.

We will work with partners e.g. Welsh Government, ERW, Mentrau Iaith, University College Trinity St. David's to finalise our promotional material on the benefits of bilingualism. We will ensure that our publications are based on the most recent and relevant scientific research. We will use local case studies and examples of the positive impact of bilingualism to share with stakeholders. We will actively promote the value of being bilingual in Carmarthenshire in order to achieve our vision.

We will support schools and work with partners to develop opportunities for using Welsh outside the classroom. The 'Codi Caerau' and 'Cymraeg Campus' Welsh Language Charters will be promoted and we will celebrate and share good practice. We will continue to encourage a range of Welsh medium extra-curricular activities which provide opportunities for learners to socialise through the medium of Welsh e.g. Mentrau Iaith, Yr Urdd, YFC

Currently we support latecomers by providing bespoke in-school packages of intervention. We will investigate the practicalities and associated costs of implementing the Gwynedd/Ceredigion immersion model however, in the current economic climate there will be a need for political agreement and financial input.

Our School Improvement Team will support and challenge schools to ensure that Welsh language outcomes are improved and sustained. We will undertake a study of outcomes and attainment of our learners in Welsh with a focus on pedagogy, moderation of assessments and resources. This will lead to identifying effective practice and developing an action plan for improvement. This may include a programme of school federations which will lead to strengthened leadership and improved outcomes.

Responsibility

- Primary School headteachers and their Governing Bodies
- Head of School Effectiveness and Challenge Adviser team and AGGaD
- School Modernisation Manager
- Mudiad Meithrin

Outcome 2: More learners continuing to improve their language skills on transfer from primary to secondary school.

Our current position and targets for the next three years relating to the number of Year 9 learners who are assessed in Welsh (First Language) are as follows-

| Current Position | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 42.2% | 43% | 44% | 45% |

To achieve this outcome we will-

- Promote the benefits of bilingualism
- Ensure linguistic progression from early years sector to KS2 and to the secondary sector.
- Increase the provision of bilingual education in the secondary sector.
- Adopt a clear progression protocol to increase the number of pupils who continue to study through the medium of Welsh at each key stage and ensure that this is communicated clearly to all stakeholders.

Supporting Statement:

The current definition of our secondary schools is as follows-

| Type of school | Number | % | Number of pupils |
|--|--------|------|------------------|
| Welsh Medium | 1 | 8.3 | 877 |
| Bilingual- 2A | 2 | 16.6 | 1920 |
| Bilingual- 2B | 2 | 16.6 | 2757 |
| English Medium with significant Welsh (EW) | 3 | 25 | 2779 |
| English Medium (EM) | 4 | 33.3 | 2848 |

In order to increase the number of bilingual places available we will reconfigure the current provision by-

- Increasing the number of subjects available through the medium of Welsh in our 2B, EW and EM schools.
- Ensuring that our EW and EM schools provide Welsh as a 1st language.
- Measuring the demand for bilingual education in our urban areas with a focus on secondary education before the end of the plan.

We will ensure that all pupils are able to speak, read and write the language fluently by the end of Key Stage 2 to their expected levels. We will develop a protocol which outlines our expectations that learners who have followed the Welsh 1st language programme in the primary school will continue with this programme when transferring to the secondary phase. It will also articulate our expectation that all learners who have attended bilingual primary schools will study at least 3-5 curricular areas through the medium of Welsh at Key Stage 3 in order to embed and further develop their linguistic competency.

Of the Year 6 pupils in 2013 who were assessed in Welsh (808 pupils/56.5% of all the county's pupils), 751 pupils/92.9% of them were assessed in Welsh (as a subject) at the end of KS3 in 2016. There is clearly a reduction in the numbers between Key Stages which will be addressed by the above.

Responsibility

- Primary and Secondary headteachers and their Governing Bodies
- Head of School Effectiveness and Challenge Advisor with responsibility for the Welsh language and AGGAD
- Mudiad Meithrin

Outcome 3: More students aged 14-16 studying for qualifications through the medium of Welsh.

Outcome 4: More students aged 14-19 in study subjects through the medium of Welsh, in schools, colleges and work-based learning

Our current position and targets relating to the percentage of learners entered for GCSE Welsh (first language) who are studying for 2 or more further Level 1 or Level 2 qualifications through the medium of Welsh are as follows-

| Current Position | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <i>To be confirmed</i> | 90% | 91% | 92% |

Our current position and targets relating to the percentage of learners entered for GCSE Welsh (first language) who are studying for 5 or more Level 1 or Level 2 qualifications through the medium of Welsh are as follows-

| Current Position | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <i>To be confirmed</i> | 65% | 66% | 67% |

To achieve these outcomes we will-

- Increase the number of subjects offered and taught through the medium of Welsh.
- Increase the volume of learners studying subjects through the medium of Welsh.
- Improve the delivery and quality of teaching through the medium of Welsh with an emphasis on training of staff at all levels of proficiency and by using a range of methods
- Ensure progress in standards against recognized indicators.

Supporting Statement:

We intend to move every primary and secondary school along the language continuum (except those schools which already implement the model in its entirety). This entails a comparatively shorter timescale for those schools who are already on the journey; for others, it will be a longer term aim. We will develop a list of schools with the appropriate expectations noted with this strategy and ensure that progress sought is both reasonable and achievable.

For the medium/longer term (5 years+) we will move schools along then continuum. In the short term (by 2020) we will set targets and support 2A, 2B, 2C, EW and EM secondary schools to increase the numbers learning through the medium of Welsh. These figures to be appropriately challenging, but reasonable and achievable, with appropriate assistance.

It will also be important to work with employers and secure labour market information in order to target vocational areas and emphasise the importance of school ethos and the hidden curriculum whilst promoting Welsh identity and culture and teaching through the medium of Welsh.

In addition, we aspire to implement recommendations of the 11-19 curriculum review for Carmarthenshire: *'The curriculum identified in the 11-19 Review will be developed in Welsh, English and bilingually where appropriate. This will include the prioritisation of course options to ensure a range and linguistic continuum of Welsh-medium opportunities for learners in line with the Learning and Skills (Wales) Measure 2009. For Welsh-medium provision, the role of the Partneriaeth Addysg Gymraeg (PAG) cluster network that includes Welsh Medium schools, Coleg Sir Gar and key local employers, will be essential in ensuring that effective progression into Welsh-medium course options in Key Stages 4 and 5 will be available. Stronger links into local higher education provision in the medium of Welsh will also be developed to enable further linguistic progression for young people.'*

We will also develop strategic and policy partnerships with stakeholders on every level, including the Professional Adviser for Welsh in Education (Welsh Government). Additionally, we will lobby Welsh Government for resources and developments in overarching provision which would complement activity on a County Level, This may entail changes to legislation/regulations. More locally we wish to lead on Welsh within the Curriculum in co-operation with the ERW region, promoting the findings of a strategic document at this level and work proactively to implement recommendations 21-30 of the Donaldson Review, 'Successful Futures' within the county's schools as highlighted in the internal report, 'Paving the Way'.

Responsibility

- Secondary School headteachers and their Governing Bodies
- Head of Learner Programmes
- Head of School Effectiveness and Challenge Adviser team
- Challenge Advisor with responsibility for the Welsh language and AGGAD.

Outcome 5: More students who have higher language skills in Welsh

Our current position and targets relating to the current total A level Welsh first language entries as a % of GCSE Welsh first language entries two years earlier.

| Current Position | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 3.7% | 4% | 4.3% | 4.6% |

Our current position and targets relating to the current total A level Welsh second language entries as a % of GCSE Welsh second language entries two years earlier.

| Current Position | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 | 2019/2020 |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1.3% | 1.5% | 1.8% | 2% |

To achieve this outcome we will-

- Create a Professional Learning Community across the LA/ERW to discuss successes and challenges and how to address them.
- Continue to work with employers and higher education to promote bilingualism as a key skill for further education and the world of work.
- Further develop opportunities to use Welsh in informal activities (e.g. volunteering, Duke of Edinburgh, Youth Clubs).
- Promote improved skills for the lifelong use of the Welsh language (research into and develop a Professional Welsh module for post-16 students e.g. through Welsh Bac).

Supporting Statement:

We intend discussing ways of recruiting more young people to A Level/AS Level Welsh especially boys. We also wish to consider working cooperatively in order to develop a higher course in Professional Welsh. This course to be offered:

- as an A/AS level course in its own right
- via free-standing modular elements that students can aim for, irrespective of whether they are studying Welsh to A Level e.g. Post 16 certificate/accreditation in Welsh for Scientists. This can entail investigating further possibilities within the Welsh Bac by encouraging students which are not on academic Welsh routes to hone their skills e.g. towards

proficiency regarding our skills framework

Towards the medium term and beyond, we aim to offer positive input whilst developing Welsh as one continuum, including options in the medium term to dual register pupils at GCSE level in the relevant schools. Additionally, we wish to: develop and promote the contribution older students in 11-18 schools can make as role models and mentors e.g. via initiatives such as PCAI; extend the proficiency of the Youth Service, especially based in schools in order to promote informal use of Welsh and develop promotional material which shows the value placed on bilingualism by employers.

We will support schools and work with partners to develop opportunities for using Welsh outside the classroom. We will continue to support a range of Welsh medium extra-curricular activities which provide opportunities for learners to socialise through the medium of Welsh.

Responsibility

- Welsh Language/Literacy Co-ordinators within schools
- Headteachers and Governing Bodies
- Head of Learner Programmes, Head of School Effectiveness and team
- Members of the Welsh Language Forum
- Challenge Advisor with responsibility for the Welsh language and AGGAD

Outcome 6: Welsh medium provision for learners with additional learning needs (ALN)

To achieve this outcome we will-

- Continue to ensure that all Additional Learning Needs specialist support services are available bilingually.
- Develop a bilingual system to respond to the ALN reform agenda.
- Work with our Special Schools/Units and Behavioural Support Team to further develop bilingual provision.
- Further develop the skills of our Additional Learning Needs Coordinators to support learners.

Supporting Statement:

The Local Authority is committed to providing a bilingual service to Carmarthenshire's learners. Our vision is as follows- *'We will work with our partners to ensure that every child and young person has the opportunity to fulfil their potential in a bilingual environment which respects and values all cultures and traditions.'*

As a high proportion of our schools are bilingual we are able to meet requests for mainstream education provision in a timely fashion. All support services and statutory processes are available bilingually and we provide training and support to ALNCos in order that they can meet each learner's needs.

All interventions are available bilingually and we commit to ensuring that all resources developed within Carmarthenshire are available in both Welsh and English.

We will continue to monitor requests for specialist support and work with school leaders, ALNCos and inclusion officers to identify areas to develop and incorporate these developments in our

school modernisation scheme.

We will reflect the new way of working and supporting learners with ALN (Child-centred, Individual Development Plan, and Voice of the Child) ensuring that the approach is available bilingually.

We recognise that bilingual provision in our Special Schools and Units is limited. We will work with these settings in developing bilingual provision to ensure that learners with complex additional needs can access bilingual provision and support in their chosen language.

Responsibility

- Inclusion Managers
- Authority Advisory staff
- Partners e.g. Health Board Officers
- Headteachers and ALNCos

Outcome 7: Workforce planning and continuing professional development.

To achieve this outcome we will-

- Use language skills questionnaires to identify the Welsh skill levels of all staff.
- To develop the skills and confidence of the current school workforce we will work with partners (ERW, National Centre for Learning Welsh) to deliver training programmes with a specific focus on teaching through the medium of Welsh.
- Work with partners on the future recruitment, development and training of the schools workforce in order to be able to deliver this Plan and the Welsh Government's 'A million Welsh speakers by 2050' aspiration.
- Support and provide advice to Governors and school leaders on staff appointments and development.

Supporting Statement:

All providers will biannually undertake a school workforce Welsh Language Skills questionnaire. Analysis of the data will identify current provision and areas for further development which will be reflected in the school's self-evaluation and school development documentation. Schools will be required to use their resources to provide opportunities for staff to access developmental opportunities.

Currently there are no issues in recruiting Welsh speaking education staff to work in our Welsh medium schools. However, challenges in recruiting Welsh speaking school leaders are becoming more obvious and we plan to instigate and formalise school federations to assist with the situation. We will provide guidance and training and support this new leadership role by facilitating school to school support.

Further analysis by the Local Authority of the workforce data will inform us of gaps in provision and future training needs/content of training programmes. As the Plan includes references to enhancing bilingual provision we will work with partners e.g. Consortia/Welsh Government on ensuring that we have a suitably skilled school workforce. This will include implementing the new Professional Standards for Teachers, increasing the number of teachers who can teach Welsh as a subject and work effectively in bilingual settings, take advantage of alternative routes into teaching, access national workforce planning systems and the Wales-wide approach to small and rural schools.

We will offer staff training to improve reading, writing and speaking in Welsh, and to refine the Welsh skills of those who already have a command of the language. We will use the County Council's Language Skills Framework, as a basis for this work. In addition, we intend developing the skills and confidence of teachers to teach through the medium of Welsh and also upskill support staff to lend assistance to pupils through the medium of Welsh.

Furthermore, we will upskill staff to ensure that appropriate pedagogy is adopted, in order to ensure that standards will be maintained and raised whilst teaching through the medium of Welsh. This can be supported by Leaders of Learning and Professional Learning Communities in order to ensure practical support for practitioners teaching increasingly through the medium of Welsh, especially with respect to classroom resources. This can then lead into working with publishers of educational materials (e.g. CAA, Peniarth, outside agencies) to develop teaching resources, apps etc. and work with WG in order to secure financial resource to develop this aspect.

The Local Authority will provide support and challenge to Governors and school leaders on appointing suitably qualified staff in order that they can address the requirements of this Plan and continue to improve educational standards. We will work with Consortia colleagues on school workforce training and leadership development.

Responsibility

- Headteachers and Governing Bodies
- Human Resources officers
- Challenge Advisor
- Challenge Advisor with responsibility for the Welsh language and AGGAD

Signed:

Date:

(This needs to be signed by the Chief Education Officer within a local authority)

Appendix 1- DATA

Outcome 1: More seven-year-old children being taught through the medium of Welsh

| Expanding Provision | Current | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| What is the percentage of seven-year-old children currently taught through the medium of Welsh? | 58.2 | 59% | 60% | 61% |

Outcome 2: More learners continuing to improve their language skills on transfer from primary school to secondary school

| | Current | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 |
|---|-------------|---------|---------|---------|
| What is the current percentage of learners in Year 9 who are assessed in Welsh (First Language)? | 42.2 | 43% | 44% | 45% |
| How does this figure compare with percentage of learners in Year 6 who were assessed in Welsh (First Language) three years earlier? | 50.4 (-8.2) | | | |

Effective transfer and linguistic continuity

What are the rates of progression between:

| | |
|---|------------|
| Non-maintained Welsh-medium childcare settings for children under 3 and maintained Welsh-medium/bilingual schools delivering the Foundation Phase? | <i>tbc</i> |
| Non-maintained Welsh-medium childcare settings for children under 3 and funded non-maintained Welsh-medium settings delivering the Foundation Phase? | <i>tbc</i> |
| Funded non-maintained Welsh-medium settings and maintained Welsh-medium/bilingual schools? | <i>tbc</i> |
| Non-maintained Welsh-medium childcare settings for children under 3 and funded non-maintained Welsh-medium settings delivering the Foundation Phase and subsequently maintained Welsh-medium/bilingual schools? | <i>tbc</i> |
| Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2? | 93.1 |
| Key Stages 2 and 3? | 92.9 |
| Key Stage 3 and 4? | 98.6 |

If your authority has bilingual secondary schools (categories 2A, 2B, 2C and 2CH), please provide data for each school showing how many pupils are in the Welsh-medium stream and how many are in the English-medium stream, by Key Stage.

| School Name | Welsh Stream | | | English Stream | | |
|------------------------|--------------|----------|----------|----------------|----------|----------|
| DYFFRYN AMAN (2B) | KS3- 369 | KS4- 277 | KS5- 4 | KS3- 365 | KS4- 264 | KS5- 271 |
| BRO DINEFWR (2B) | KS3- 353 | KS4- 258 | KS5- 5 | KS3- 162 | KS4- 162 | KS5- 185 |
| STRADE (2A) | KS3- 540 | KS4- 335 | KS5- 181 | KS3- 0 | KS4- 0 | KS5- 0 |
| MAES Y GWENDRAETH (2A) | KS3- 451 | KS4- 235 | KS5- 157 | KS3- 0 | KS4- 0 | KS5- 0 |

Outcome 3: More learners aged 14-16 studying for qualifications through the medium of Welsh

Outcome 4: More learners aged 16-19 studying subjects through the medium of Welsh in schools, colleges and work-based learning

Increasing the percentage of learners aged 14 -16 studying for qualifications through the medium of Welsh

| | Current | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| What is the current percentage of Year 11 learners who are entered for GCSE Welsh First Language who are studying for 5 or more further Level 1 or Level 2 qualifications through the medium of Welsh? | TBC | TBC | TBC | TBC |
| What is the current percentage of Year 11 learners who are entered for GCSE Welsh First Language who are studying for 2 or more further Level 1 or Level 2 qualifications through the medium of Welsh? | TBC | TBC | TBC | TBC |

Increasing the percentage of learners aged 16-19 who study subjects through the medium of Welsh in schools

| | |
|--|------|
| What is the percentage of learners aged 16-19 who study 2 or more subjects | |
| a) through the medium of Welsh? | 38.5 |
| b) bilingually (e.g. elements of qualifications/modules)? | 7.5 |

| Outcome 5: More learners with higher skills in Welsh | | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Improving provision and standards in Welsh First Language | Current | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 |
| What is the percentage of learners at the end of the Foundation Phase who reach at least Foundation Phase Outcome 5 in Language, Literacy and Communication Skills in Welsh-medium/bilingual schools? | 90.4% | 91% | 91.5% | 92% |
| What is the percentage of learners at the end of Key Stage 2 who reach at least Level 4 in teacher assessment in Welsh? | 88.3% | 89% | 89.5% | 90% |
| What is the percentage of learners at the end of Key Stage 3 who reach at least Level 5 in teacher assessment in Welsh? | 88.5% | 89% | 89.5% | 90% |
| What is the percentage of learners at the end of Key Stage 4 who achieve grades A*-C in GCSE Welsh first language? | 72.8% | 73.5% | 74% | 75% |
| Improving provision and standards of Welsh Second Language | Current | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 |
| What is the percentage of learners at the end of Key Stage 2 who reach at least Level 4 in the teacher assessment of Welsh Second Language? | 66.5% | 67% | 68% | 69% |
| What is the percentage of learners at the end of Key Stage 3 who reach at least Level 5 in the teacher assessment of Welsh Second Language? | 78.4% | 80% | 82% | 83% |
| What is the percentage of learners at the end of Key Stage 4 who achieve grades A*-C in GCSE Welsh Second Language Full Course? | 82.1% | 83% | 84% | 85% |
| What is the percentage of learners at the end of Key Stage 4 who achieve grades A*-C in GCSE Welsh Second Language Short Course? | 74.9% | 76% | 77% | 78% |
| <i>What percentage of the cohort is entered for</i> | | | | |
| (i) GCSE Welsh Second Language Full Course; | 63.9 | | | 60% |
| (ii) GCSE Welsh Second Language Short Course | None | | | None |
| (iii) not entered for either? | 5.2 | | | 4.2% |
| More learners with higher-level Welsh language skills | | | | |
| What are the current total A Level Welsh first language entries as a percentage of GCSE Welsh first language entries two years earlier? | 3.7 | | | |
| What are the current total A Level Welsh second language entries as a percentage of the full and short course GCSE Welsh second language entries two years earlier? | 1.3 | | | |

Appendix 2- Defining schools according to Welsh medium provision

Primary Schools

| | |
|--|---|
| Welsh Medium [WM] | Welsh medium primary school- all Pupils in the Foundation Phase experience the areas of learning through the medium of Welsh. Welsh is the main teaching medium at KS2 with at least 70% of the teaching through the medium of Welsh. English is introduced formally as a subject at Key Stage 2 and is taught through the medium of English, and English may occasionally be used for some aspects of some subjects. |
| Dual stream [DS] | Dual Stream Primary school- Two types of provision exist side-by-side in these schools. Parents/pupils opt either for the mainly Welsh-medium or mainly English-medium provision which is usually delivered as in categories WM and EM respectively. |
| Transitional [TR] | Transitional primary school: Welsh medium with significant use of English- Pupils in the Foundation Phase experience the areas of learning mainly through the medium of Welsh. Both languages are used in teaching at Key Stage 2 but with greater emphasis on Welsh so that Welsh is used as the medium of instruction for over half and up to 70% of the curriculum. (Schools would usually only be in this category on a temporary basis) |
| English (with significant Welsh) [EW] | Predominantly English medium primary school but with significant use of Welsh- Pupils in the Foundation Phase experience the areas of learning in both languages but with greater emphasis on English. In Key Stage 2, both Welsh and English is used in teaching but there is greater emphasis on English. Welsh is used as the medium of teaching or learning for between 20% and 50% of the primary curriculum overall. |
| English medium [EM] | Predominantly English medium primary school- All pupils in the Foundation Phase experience the areas of learning mainly through the medium of English. English is the main teaching medium at KS2. Welsh is taught as a second language in KS2, and some aspects of some subjects may be taught in Welsh. Less than 20% of the teaching is through the medium of Welsh. |

Secondary Schools

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 1 | Welsh medium secondary school- All subjects (including RE and PSE) apart from English are taught through the medium of Welsh to all pupils, although some schools may introduce English terminology in one or two subjects. |
| 2A | Bilingual Secondary School- At least 80% of subjects apart from English and Welsh are taught only through the medium of Welsh to all pupils. One or two subjects are taught to some pupils in English or in both languages. |
| 2B | Bilingual Secondary School- At least 80% of subjects (excluding Welsh and English) are taught through the medium of Welsh but are also taught through the medium of English. |
| 2C | Bilingual Secondary School- 50-79% of subjects (excluding Welsh and English) are taught through the medium of Welsh but are also taught through the medium of English |
| EW | Predominantly English medium secondary school with significant use of Welsh- Both languages are used in teaching with 20-49% of subjects taught through the medium of Welsh. All subjects would normally also be taught through the medium of English. |
| EM | English Medium secondary school- Pupils are mainly taught through the medium of English. Welsh is taught as a second language up to KS4. One or two subjects (which would include Welsh first language) may be taught as an option through the medium of Welsh or using both languages. |

Appendix 3- ACRONYMS

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| AGGaD | Team of Teachers who support the development of the Welsh language in schools |
| ALN | Additional Learning Needs |
| CAA | Welsh Publisher |
| ERW | ERW is an alliance of six local authorities (Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Neath Port-Talbot, Pembrokeshire, Powys and Swansea) who work together to agree a regional strategy and business plan to deliver school improvement services. |
| Foundation Phase | The statutory phase for all 3 to 7 year olds in Wales |
| GCSE | General Certificate of Secondary Education |
| Key Stage 2 | The second phase of compulsory primary education (ages 7-11). |
| Key Stage 3 | The third phase of compulsory primary education (ages 11-14). |
| Key Stage 4 | The fourth phase of compulsory primary education (ages 14-16). |
| Key Stage 5 | The fifth phase of compulsory primary education (ages 16-18). |
| LA | Local Authority |
| PAG | Carmarthenshire's Welsh Education Partnership |
| PCAI | Project to support language practices |
| Peniarth | Welsh Publisher |
| WESP | Welsh in Education Strategic Plan |
| YFC | Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs |
| Yr Urdd | Welsh Youth organisation |

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EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22nd DECEMBER 2016

Draft Carmarthenshire Curriculum Declaration

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- Outline opportunities offered by the current national policy agenda in providing the basis for a local curriculum for Carmarthenshire.
- Outline how local ownership of the curriculum can be planned and structured.
- Present a draft Carmarthenshire curriculum declaration for corporate consideration.

Reasons:

- To seek the Scrutiny Committee's views on the Draft Carmarthenshire Curriculum declaration.
- To enable elected members to exercise their scrutiny function regarding the Department for Education and Children's approach to addressing an important component of future curriculum design

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: YES

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder: Cllr. Gareth Jones (Education & Children)

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Directorate: Education & Children</p> <p>Name of Head of Service: J. Aeron Rees</p> <p>Report Author: J. Aeron Rees</p> | <p>Designation:</p> <p>Head of Learner Programmes</p> | <p>Tel No. / E-Mail Address:</p> <p>01267 246532 jarees@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> |
|---|--|--|

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22nd DECEMBER 2016

Draft Carmarthenshire Curriculum Declaration

Curriculum reform is currently in the ascendancy in Wales. The Qualified for Life (2014) agenda has spawned a number of key reports which map out future reforms to curriculum and assessment, not least, 'Successful Futures' (Donaldson 2015). 'A curriculum for Wales – a curriculum for Life' (2015) is the high level plan for implementing this new curriculum for 3-16 year olds. This plan, which has the Pioneer Schools' programme as its backbone, is currently subject to review and reflection on a national level and, potentially, may be revised. Despite that, and assuming the national rollout remains on track, we expect the new curriculum to be available by September 2018 and operative from 2021.

Allied reports such as 'Teaching Tomorrow's Teachers' (Furlong 2015) and proposed reforms to continuing professional development, such as the ministerial 'New Deal' add impetus and capacity to the reform process. More recently, the OECD are perusing this component of the change process and developing the work of schools as 'learning organisations'.

The above, and a morass of other curriculum-related initiatives (e.g. Lead Creative Schools; Global Futures, 14-19 learning pathways; the Digital Competence Framework) require careful handling and a great deal of planning – especially as much of the change process for this policy area is in flux. However, Welsh Government remain committed to curriculum reform, a sentiment firmly echoed within Carmarthenshire.

We wish to foster a culture of intelligent curriculum design in schools, to innovate and be at the forefront of new developments. There's a lot to be achieved within the timescale outlined, as we seek to capitalise upon a number of key opportunities, most specifically for the purposes of this report, the prospect of greater '**local ownership**' of the curriculum 'within a clear national framework of expectation and support' (Successful Futures recommendation no.62). We wish to embrace the concept of 'Subsidiarity', namely delegating control of the curriculum to the places where it's most likely to have greatest added value, namely in our schools.

The report appended is a power point synopsis of how **local ownership of the curriculum can be planned and structured**. It will become apparent that curriculum design is potentially complex and can be viewed as a multi-layered system – operating at Local Authority, School, subject/phase level and, ultimately and most critically, within the hands of teachers and learners in the classroom.

The report presents the skeletal components of local curriculum design and offers draft high level principles in the form of a draft **Carmarthenshire Curriculum Declaration** for Scrutiny Committee’s consideration. Subject to corporate approval, this blueprint will be further developed in a rolling programme between now and 2021 and will involve school practitioners at every stage of the process. Significant time, creative effort and training will be required to realise this agenda - coupled with a coherent communications strategy - communicated by various media to, and informed by, all major stakeholders.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: **J. Aeron Rees** **Head of Learner Programmes**

| | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities | Legal | Finance | ICT | Risk Management Issues | Staffing Implications | Physical Assets |
| NONE | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | NONE |

2. Legal

The current National Curriculum dates back to the 1988 Education Reform Act and, over the intervening years, has been subject to several revisions - most notably in 2008 and 2012. School curriculum is thus enshrined in statute and is further informed by a plethora of non-statutory guidance.

The Successful Futures (February 2015) report has received Ministerial approval and will herald an unprecedented phase of curriculum reform up to 2021 and beyond. It is envisaged that the vital components of this programme will be captured in primary legislation, with other aspects covered by non-statutory guidance.

3. Finance

Successful Futures is a major Welsh Government policy initiative, which has been driven forward initially by the Pioneer Schools network. Each Pioneer School has been granted funding to develop this agenda.

Pioneer schools are expected to disseminate early findings and test ideas with their wider school networks and local clusters. Carmarthenshire's vision is that this reform agenda is 'for the many and not the few' i.e. we are of the opinion that all schools need to be engaged. This will entail coordination and support – as outlined by the governance model proposed in the internal 'Paving the Way' report which has already been adopted corporately. Capitalising upon 'in-kind working' and encouraging effective and targeted use of school directed time, potential costs can be kept down. That said, some resource pressure will be inevitable and can be further quantified according to perceived need and availability as the agenda unfolds.

4. ICT

Digital Competence is a major cross-cutting theme in the emerging curriculum, which has been accorded equal status to Literacy and Numeracy. Pioneer Digital schools have been working with Welsh Government to formulate the Digital Competence framework, which was launched in September 2016.

It is foreseen that there will be demands for additional ICT resource in schools as a result of this framework. Additionally, there is a significant training agenda for teachers and school support staff, as we move from the rather mechanical notion of school ICT (using software such as spreadsheets, word processing etc.) to the creation of software and applications, coding and other high level digital competencies.

5. Risk Management Issues

Successful Futures (and associated policy initiatives) has the potential to transform the Welsh education landscape and has been heralded as the *'most thought-provoking and exciting set of proposals for a generation'* (Huw Lewis, former Minister for Education – March 2015). At best, the recommendations should serve to realize an exciting and engaging curriculum, truly fit for 21st Century life and living. However, if implemented half-heartedly or sporadically, there is potential for mediocrity – in curriculum planning, in the resultant teaching and learning and its associated assessment. Failure to fully undertake the reform programme poses risks to school standards and will challenge young peoples' life chances and prospects.

We must therefore get the vision implemented properly and seek to eliminate or nullify any potential risks. The infrastructure to ensure successful implementation needs to be supported – and, in its formative stages, is currently operating on a meager resource base. WG support to underpin the implementation will be necessary and will be actively canvassed.

6. Staffing Implications

As the agenda unfolds, there may be capacity issues to address, which can be assessed by: an appraisal of current staffing deployment within the Learner Programmes division; seeking support with certain operational matters – e.g. via ERW and/or considering short term secondments as funding becomes available. Realising reform of this scale will demand input across the whole system and school leaders and school staff in general will be expected to engage with the proposals, via in-house and school to school activity. Additionally, there will be opportunities for school staff to work on a county-wide and regional basis in various task and finish groups.

An underlying theme pervading through the whole programme will be developing the leadership attributes of the education workforce at all levels. People can, and should be, developed via this agenda – to aid with succession planning, to foster ownership, to help take the principles of school to school working into a state of maturity and to further professionalise the workforce.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: **J. Aeron Rees** **Head of Learner Programmes**

- 1. Local Member(s)** – An all-members’ development seminar was held on 1st November 2016
- 2. Community / Town Council** – N/A
- 3. Relevant Partners** – Focus Group of school practitioners, secondary timetablers, primary and secondary school head teachers appraised of developments
- 4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** – N/A

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

| Title of Document | File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection |
|---|---|
| Draft Promotional Brochure | \\ntcarmcc\cftp\Education & Skills\Learner Programmes\Local Curriculum\SCHOOLS CURRICULUM BROCHURE(003).pdf |
| Draft Video Clip | https://www.powtoon.com/online-presentation/fiCnS0LusRL/?mode=movie#/ |
| Proposals for 3-19 Curriculum and Assessment – Reform in Carmarthenshire Schools (Education & Children Scrutiny Committee, 21st January 2016) | <p>Cymraeg http://democratiaeth.sirgar.llyw.cymru/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=153&MId=255&Ver=4</p> <p>English http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=153&MId=255&Ver=4</p> |

Cwricwlwm Lleol i Sir Gaerfyrddin

A Local Curriculum
For Carmarthenshire



EICH CYNGOR arleinamdani
www.sirgar.llyw.cymru
YOUR COUNCIL doitonline
www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales

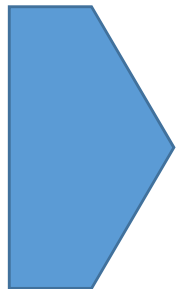
“ There is a continuing need for the local authority to play a central and active role in the definition of a local curriculum. This involves getting the work of schools together and taking intelligence from the regional school improvement service to construct a system wide supportive and progressive curriculum within a clear national framework of guidance. This will enable us to deliver the new vision set out by Professor Donaldson’s Successful Futures review (2015).”

“ Mae’r angen yn parhau i’r awdurdod lleol chwarae rhan gweithredol a chanolog wrth ddiffinio cwricwlwm lleol. Mae hyn yn golygu asio gwaith ysgolion at ei gilydd a chymryd gwybyddiaeth o’r gwasasanaeth gwella ysgolion rhanbarthol er mwyn adeiladu cwricwlwm cefnogol a blaengar o fewn fframwaith ac arweiniad cenedlaethol clir. Bydd hyn yn ein galluogi i wireddu’r weledigaeth newydd a osodwyd allan gan adolygiad yr Athro Donaldson, Dyfodol Llwyddiannus (2015).”

Cwricwlwm i Gymru
A Curriculum for
Wales

Deddfwriaeth a chanllawiau
Cenedlaethol
National Legislation and
guidance

Consortiwm / Consortium

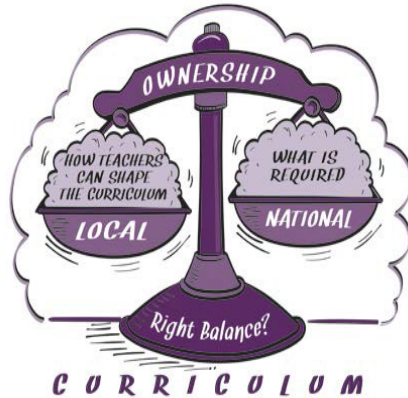


Perchnogaeth Leol
Local Ownership

AAP CS Gâr / DEC CCC

Ysgolion / Schools

Y Dosbarth / The Classroom



Mae'r Awdurdod Lleol yn awyddus:

- I ddatblygu **Cwricwlwm Lleol** a hyrwyddo perchnogaeth leol o'r cwricwlwm, yn unol ag argymhelliad 62 Adroddiad Donaldson
- Bydd y cwricwlwm lleol yn bodoli o dan fframwaith disgwyliadau Cenedlaethol clir

The **Local Authority** is keen to:

- Develop a **Local Curriculum** and promote local ownership of the curriculum, consistent with recommendation 62 of the Donaldson Report
- The Local Curriculum will exist under a clear framework of national guidance

Bydd y cwricwlwm lleol yn diffinio **Hawlogaeth** i ddisgyblion Sir Gâr at gwricwlwm, addysgu a dysgu o'r radd flaenaf. Bydd y Cwricwlwm Lleol yn gweithdeu ar sawl lefel:

- Lefel SIROL – Cyfres o egwyddorion lefel uchel gall bawb uniaethu â hwy
- Lefel YSGOL
 - **Siartr Ysgol** – nodweddion cwricwlwm sydd yn werthfawr i'r ysgol yn benodol
 - **Cynnig i Ddisgybl** - dysgu a phrofiadau addysgol o fewn a thu fas i'r dosbarth sy'n cyfoethogi ac ymestyn addysg ein disgyblion

The local curriculum will define Carmarthenshire pupils' **Entitlement** to a first rate curriculum, and first rate teaching and learning. The Local curriculum will operate on many levels:

- COUNTY LEVEL – A series of high principles which everyone can identify with
- **SCHOOL** Level
 - **School Charter** – curriculum attributes valued specifically at the school in question
 - **Pupil Offer** – learning and educational experiences both in and out of the classroom which enrich and extend the education of our pupils

SIROL / County

YSGOL / SCHOOL

Ardal & Tîs /
Department &
Phase

Dosbarth /
Classroom

Datganiad Cwricwlwm
Curriculum Declaration

&

Siartr Dysgwr
Learner Charter



Cwricwlwm Lleol
Local Curriculum

&

Cynnig Disgybl
Pupil Offer



Cynllun Gwaith / Cynllun Gwers Dysgu a Phrofiad Disgybl
Scheme of Work / Lesson Plan / Student Learning and Experience

Cydrannau Strategol
Strategic Components

Cydrannau Gweithredol
Operational Components

Cydrannau Tactegol
Tactical Components

Rydym yn chwilio
eich sylwadau ar
y strwythur hwn

We're seeking
your observations
on the following
structure

Cydrannau Strategol

- Datganiad Cwricwlwm
- Siartr Disgybl

Strategic Components

- Curriculum Declaration
- Learner Charter



Mae'r **Datganiad Cwricwlwm** yn dilyn dros y pedair sleid nesaf ac yn cynnwys:

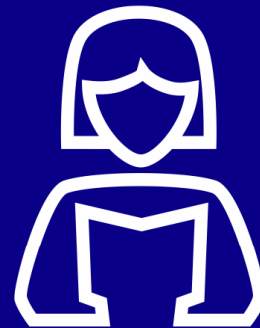
- Pennawd lefel uchel
- Egwyddorion
- Llinyn Aur
- Her lefel uchel i ysgolion

The **Curriculum Declaration** unfolds over the next four slides and includes:

- High Level Strapline
- Principles
- Golden Thread
- High level challenge to schools

Byddwn yn sicrhau fod plant
a phobl ifanc yn Sir Gâr:
Yn cael **cymwysterau da** ac yn cael **addysg dda**

We will ensure that children and
young people in Carmarthenshire:
are both **well qualified** and **well educated**



Ein
pennawd
lefel
uchel

Our high
level
strapline

Egwyddorion

- Paratoi pobl ifanc ar gyfer bywyd, byw a byd gwaith yn yr 21ainG
- Arfogi pobl ifanc ar gyfer byd newidiol
- Cyflogadwyedd
- Datblygiad holistaidd a chrwn
- Gwreiddiau ac adenydd
- Dechrau'n lleol i feddwl yn fydol

Principles

- Preparing young people for 21stC life, living and the world of work
- Equipping young people for a changing world
- Employability
- Holistic and well-rounded development
- Roots and wings
- Start locally to think globally

Mae gennym uchelgais ar gyfer adeiladu dyfodol gwell a disgleiriach drwy:

Sicrhau fod pobl ifanc yn Sir Gâr yn ddiogel ac yn cael eu meithrin fel y gall dysgwyr gyrraedd eu potensial addysgol llawn

Osod sylfeini dysgu gydol oes

Alluogi ein pobl ifanc i fyw bywydau hapus, iach a chyflawn

Ddatblygu dinasyddiaeth gweithredol pobl ifanc mewn cymunedau cryf, cynaliadwy a dwyieithog

Fynnu addysg ddisglair i'n holl ddisgyblion

We aspire to build a better, brighter future by:

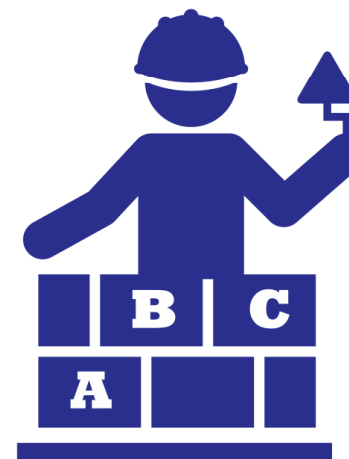
Ensuring that young people in Carmarthenshire are safe and nurtured so that learners can achieve their full educational potential

Laying down the foundations for lifelong learning

Enabling our young people to live happy, healthy and fulfilled lives

Developing young peoples' active, global citizenship in strong, sustainable, bilingual communities

Insisting on an excellent education for all our pupils



Y Llinyn Aur fydd yn rhedeg trwy gwricwla pob ysgol

The Golden Thread running through all school curricula

Cwricwlwm fydd yn edrych fel hyn:

Cynhwysol – i bob dysgwr ymhob sefyllfa ddysgu

Uchelgeisiol ac **arloesol**

Ysgogol ac **ysbrydoledig**

Dwyieithog ac **amlieithog**

Dyheadol, ond **cyrraeddadwy**

Mentrus ac **anturus**

Diddan a Blaengar

What this curriculum will look like:

Inclusive - for all learners in all settings

Aspirational and **innovative**

Motivational and **inspirational**

Bilingual and **multilingual**

Ambitious, but **attainable**

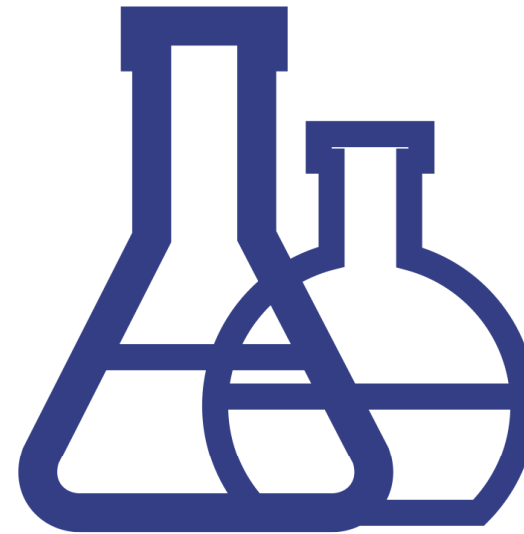
Maximises Learners' Progress

Enterprising and **adventurous**

Enjoyable and **progressive**

Anghenion lefel uchel
wrth ddylunio
cwricwlwm – yr her y
byddwn yn ei gynnig
i'n hysgolion

High level
requirements for
curriculum design –
the challenge we will
offer to our schools



YSGOL / SCHOOL

Learner Charter:

**Our Shared Expectations
for lifelong learning...**

Every learner should...

Learner Charter:

**Our Shared Expectations
for lifelong learning...**

Every learner should...



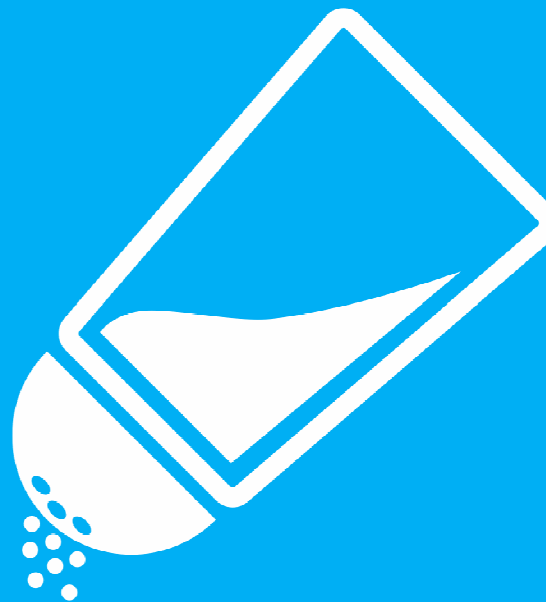
- Nodweddion cwricwlwm sydd yn werthfawr i'r ysgol yn benodol – i'w creu a'u mynegi ar lefel ysgol
- Curriculum attributes valued specifically at the school in question – to be articulated and formulated at whole school level

Cynhwysion Cwricwlwm Lleol

- Gwybodaeth
- Dealltwriaeth
- Sgiliau
- Cymwyseddau
- Nodweddion Personoliaeth
- Gwerthoedd
- Agweddau

Ingredients of a Local Curriculum

- Knowledge
- Understanding
- Skills
- Competencies
- Character Qualities
- Values
- Attitudes



Amserlen Ddrafft

| Lefel | Cydran o'r cwricwlwm | Cyfrifoldeb | Cynulleidfa | Pryd yn barod | Statws |
|-------------|---|-------------------|---|---------------------------|------------------|
| Strategol | Egwyddorion Lefel Uchel | CSG; AAP | Aelodau etholedig, Staff hŷn ysgolion, Swyddogion, Llywodraethwyr | Rhagfyr 2016 | Wedi eu drafftio |
| | Siartr Dysgwr Ysgol | Ysgolion | Staff hŷn ysgolion, Llywodraethwyr, Athrawon, Rhieni, Disgyblion | Nadolig 2018 | Ar y gweill |
| Gweithredol | Cynnig Disgybl ac enghreifftiau o'r cwricwlwm lleol | Adran pwnc / Ffês | Rheolwyr Canol, Athrawon | Medi 2018 ymlaen hyd 2021 | |
| Tactegol | | Dosbarth | Athrawon, Disgyblion | | |

Draft Timetable

| Level | Component of the Curriculum | Responsibility | Audience | When ready | Status |
|-------------|--|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---------|
| Strategic | High level Principles | CCC; DEC | Elected members, Senior school staff, Officers, Governors | December 2016 | Drafted |
| | School Learner Charter | Schools | Senior school staff, Governors, Teachers, Parents, Pupils | Christmas 2018 | Pending |
| Operational | Pupil offer and local curriculum exemplars | Subject Department / Phase | Middle managers, Teachers | September 2018 onwards to 2021 | |
| Tactical | | Classroom | Teachers, Pupils | | |

Cydrannau Gweithredol

- Cwricwlwm Lleol
- Cynnig Disgybl

Operational Components

- Local Curriculum
- Pupil Offer



- Bydd rhain yn cael eu datblygu dros amser
- These will be developed over time

Cyhoeddusrwydd / Publicity

- Taflen i Aelodau, Llywodraethwyr ac Arweinwyr Ysgol
- Clip fideo
- Cyfres o Seminarau:
 - Arweinwyr Ysgol
 - Rheolwyr Canol
 - Cyflogwyr
- eDaflen
- Taflenni i rieni a disgyblion
- Brochure for Members, Governors and School Leaders
- Video Clip
- Series of Seminars:
 - School Leaders
 - Middle Managers
 - Employers
- eBrochure
- Brochures for parents and pupils

Hyfforddiant / Training

- Cwrs achrededig / profiadau anachrededig
- Hyrwyddo diwylliant o ddylunio cwricwlwm yn ein Ysgolion
- Accredited course / non-accredited experiences
- Promoting a culture of curriculum design in our schools

**EDUCATION & CHILDREN
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
22nd DECEMBER 2016**

**Explanation for the non-submission
of scrutiny report**

Task & Finish Report – Attainment Gap and eFSM Learners

Responsible Officer(s): Matthew Hughes (Democratic Services)

Explanation: The Group has finalised its report but subject to the inclusion of additional data and information.

However, due to the number of items on the agenda of the December meeting, the Chair has agreed to defer this report until the Committee's next meeting.

Revised Submission Date: 26th January 2017

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EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE **10th OCTOBER 2016**

Present: Councillor J.E. Williams (Chair)

Councillors: D.J.R. Bartlett, C.A. Campbell, J.M. Charles, I.W. Davies, W.G. Hopkins, P. Hughes-Griffiths, J.D. James, M.J.A. Lewis, D.W.H. Richards, J. Williams

Mrs. V. Kenny – Roman Catholic Church Representative
Mrs. K. Hill – Parent Governor Member (Dinefwr Area)
Mrs. A. Pickles – Parent Governor Member (Carmarthen Area)

Also in attendance:

Councillor G.O. Jones – Executive Board Member for Education & Children
Councillor L.M. Stephens – Executive Board Member for Human Resources, Efficiencies and Collaboration (*for Item 6*)

The following officers were in attendance:

Mr. R. Sully – Director of Education & Children's Services
Mr. G. Morgans – Chief Education Officer / Head of Education Services
Mr. A. Morgan – Head of School Effectiveness
Mr. A. Rees – Head of Learner Programmes
Mr. D. Astins – Strategic Development Manager
Mr. J. Owen – TIC Programme Manager
Mr. M. Hughes – Democratic Services Officer

Present as an observer:

Mrs. J. Owen – Democratic Services Officer

Venue: County Hall Chamber, Carmarthen (10:05am – 12:15pm)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P.E.M. Jones as well as Mrs. E. Heyes (Parent Governor Member Llanelli Area) and Canon B. Witt (Church in Wales Representative).

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

3. **DECLARATION OF PROHIBITED PARTY WHIPS**

There were no declarations of party whips.

4. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

No public questions were received.

5. **FORTHCOMING ITEMS**

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the items to be considered at the next scheduled meeting on Monday 21st November 2016, be noted.

6. **TIC PROJECT UPDATE**

The Committee received an update on the 'Transform, Innovate and Change' (TIC) programme. Members noted that the initiative, established in 2012, was launched in response to the significant financial challenges being faced by the Local Authority and that to date, the TIC approach had assisted in identifying, or was helping to deliver, approximately £6.4m of efficiency savings. The Committee also received an overview of projects relating to services in the Education & Children Department which had led to significant savings in both time and money, as well as leading to more efficient methods of working. The projects were:

- Food orders for school kitchens
- School catering timesheet returns
- Petty cash
- Free school meals service

The following issues were discussed during consideration of the update:

Reference was made to the different contact points within the food orders process for school kitchens (e.g. supplier, Education Department and Financial Services) and whether this could be further rationalised to one point of contact. The Strategic Development Manager noted that partnership working was key to this particular project, especially from the supplier's perspective. As a spin-off from this project, the Department had identified other processes where the number of contact points had been challenged and significantly reduced. In one particular area of work, his team had been removed from the process altogether, enabling the delivery of cashable savings.

In response to a query as to whether schools themselves had realised savings from the food orders, the Strategic Development Manager noted that these were processes related to the work of the Local Authority but that there was significant potential for schools to benefit from employing the TIC methodology to their activities. This was the main reason that the Department would be developing a business case in conjunction with the TIC Team to employ an officer dedicated to working with schools on efficiency projects.

It was asked whether the savings achieved to date were good enough or was the Authority aiming higher and working commercially enough to sort out issues of waste

and inefficiency, as would happen in the private sector. The TIC Programme Manager informed the Committee that the approach from the outset had been one of working in partnership and alongside services rather than demanding savings from departments, an approach that would have been a barrier to developing relationships with services. The TIC Programme Team considered the identified savings as a positive outcome although he reminded the Committee that whilst efficiencies were welcomed, the approach had also brought about streamlined and efficient processes and the opportunity for services to invest to save (i.e. to request additional funding / staff in order to gain greater efficiencies in the longer term).

The Committee welcomed the developments and thanked officers for their presentation. The Chair also suggested that the Committee receive further updates on progress relating to the projects considered.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the update be received.

7. ERW BUSINESS PLAN 2016-19

The Committee received a presentation in relation to the work of the ERW (Education through Regional Working) Consortium during 2015/16 and its business plan for 2016-19. The presentation outlined ERW's functions, the continuation of the statutory responsibilities within each local authority as well as the collaborative working across the region. The Committee noted the progress made during the past year and was also updated on the outcomes of the recent ESTYN inspection of the quality of the school improvement services provided by the ERW Consortium, in June 2016. ESTYN had rated four out of five aspects of ERW's work as 'Good' with one listed as 'Adequate'.

The following issues were discussed during consideration of the report and presentation:

Clarification was sought as to the arrangements for those local authority officers that were seconded to ERW. The Head of School Effectiveness informed the Committee that secondees were funded by ERW through reimbursement to the host local authority which in turn, enabled further commissioning of officers. The central ERW team budget paid for two members of full-time professional staff, including the Managing Director, as well as for four administrative officers. In addition, ERW commissioned and funded a small number of specific posts from Welsh Government grant funding on an annual basis.

Reference was made to a recent report in the media suggesting that ESTYN would not be inspecting local authorities in future. The Head of School Effectiveness stated that there might have been some misunderstanding and that ESTYN would be following up on the recent inspection of the four Welsh school improvement consortia during the current academic year. ESTYN was also currently developing plans for a revised inspection model for local authorities and schools.

It was suggested that the school categorisation process was misunderstood by parents across the ERW region, having been discussed at the ERW Scrutiny Councillor Group in September. It was also suggested that the system needed to be effectively communicated to parents. The Head of School Effectiveness acknowledged members' concerns and reminded the Committee that the categorisation process was about the level of support that an individual school

received from ERW. There were a number of different factors that influenced what type of support a school might require. He assured the Committee that ERW did everything and anything possible to assist schools with specific difficulties (e.g. no permanent head teacher) and reminded members that for 2015/16, there was not one Carmarthenshire school in the red support category.

It was asked whether there was an alternative method of categorising schools, especially those smaller schools where a single child with special educational needs might significantly impact the overall performance / results of the school. The Head of School Effectiveness acknowledged the comments adding that he sympathised with schools in this situation based on his own experience as a head teacher. He informed the Committee that there was a means of over-riding the system when dealing with small schools in this situation (e.g. those schools with special units). Being able to demonstrate that a school was actually performing better than what its Standards judgement might suggest, was one of the most important discussions that the challenge advisors had with schools during the categorisation process.

In response to a question as to why there was not more pupil progress data available between the different key stages, the Head of School Effectiveness acknowledged that there wasn't enough of this type of data available at present.

In response to further comments regarding the current school categorisation process, the Director of Education & Children acknowledged that these were fundamental issues and that officers had been lobbying the Welsh Government for a very long time but to date, no changes had been forthcoming. He stated that the system of using teacher assessments as part of the process to determine school categorisation was fundamentally flawed and this gave a distorted view of performance to parents. However, officers hoped that as the Donaldson reforms took effect, a new monitoring system would be introduced.

It was asked how exemplary cases of good practice found within Carmarthenshire's schools were shared and promoted. The Head of School Effectiveness informed the Committee that examples of good practice were fully utilised and shared with schools across the region. One example was the ERW 'Celebrating Schools Work' event which allowed schools to share information with other schools, rather than through ERW's officers.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report be received.

8. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PANEL

The Committee considered an update on the work of the School Improvement Panel which was established in November 2014 to enable the Executive Board Member for Education & Children and the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee to effectively discharge constitutional and statutory responsibilities for monitoring school performance. The report outlined the 'learning' from the Panel meetings to date and the proposals on how to disseminate the good practice identified.

The following issues were discussed during consideration of the report and presentation:

It was asked how schools were monitored or actions for schools resulting from Panel meetings were tracked. The Chief Education Officer informed the Committee that the

plan was to link the Panel programme with the Committee's main school visit programme in order that the Committee itself could visit a particular school, six months to a year after it had appeared before the Panel. There were more serious cases however, where it was right and proper for a school to be invited back in six months or so in order for the Panel to monitor and consider progress.

It was also asked how schools were selected to appear before the Panel. The Chief Education Officer informed the Committee that there were a number of factors that determined whether a school was invited to a Panel meeting. Firstly, the outcome of a school's recent ESTYN inspection was a key factor, especially if the outcome had been less than favourable. Secondly, officers might suggest specific schools be invited in based on concerns that they might have regarding their performance or governance issues. Thirdly, high performing schools were also invited in so that Panel members might gain an understanding of the reasons for their success and how such good practice could be shared across all the county's schools.

In response to a question, The Chief Education Officer confirmed that four additional members had been added to the Panel's membership and that the list in the report was of the original members of the Panel at its inception.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report be received.

9. EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE SCHOOL VISIT ACTIVITY REPORT 2015/16

The Committee considered an activity report on its site visits undertaken during the 2015/16 academic year. A total of 19 schools / children's services facilities had been visited between October 2015 and June 2016.

Councillor P. Hughes-Griffiths requested that it be noted that he was present during the Committee's visits to Tremolet, Llanmiloe and Laugharne Schools on the 24th June 2016.

The Committee **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Activity Report for 2015/16 be endorsed.

SIGNED: _____ (Chair)

DATE: _____

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