

Document Pack



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County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

FRIDAY, 22ND SEPTEMBER, 2017

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 10.00 A.M. ON THURSDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER, 2017** 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

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

PLAID CYMRU GROUP – 7 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|----------------------|
| 1. | Councillor | Liam Bowen |
| 2. | Councillor | Kim Broom |
| 3. | Councillor | Betsan Jones |
| 4. | Councillor | Jean Lewis |
| 5. | Councillor | Darren Price (Chair) |
| 6. | Councillor | Emlyn Schiavone |
| 7. | Councillor | Dorian Williams |

LABOUR GROUP – 4 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|---------------|
| 1. | Councillor | Dot Jones |
| 2. | Councillor | Gary Jones |
| 3. | Councillor | Kevin Madge |
| 4. | Councillor | Shahana Najmi |

INDEPENDENT GROUP – 2 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | Councillor | Ieuan Wyn Davies |
| 2. | Councillor | Edward Thomas (Vice-Chair) |

UNAFFILIATED 1 MEMBER

- | | | |
|----|------------|--------------|
| 1. | Councillor | John Jenkins |
|----|------------|--------------|

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
2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST
3. DECLARATIONS OF PROHIBITED PARTY WHIPS
4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (NONE RECEIVED)
5. PROVISIONAL EXAMINATION AND TEACHER ASSESSMENT RESULTS AND PROVISIONAL SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DATA. 5 - 20
6. CARMARTHENSHIRE YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICE BUSINESS PLAN 2017-20. 21 - 66
7. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR THE COUNCIL'S 2017/18 WELLBEING OBJECTIVES - QUARTER 1. 67 - 96
8. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2017/18. 97 - 110
9. ADOPTION SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT. 111 - 138
10. CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016/17. 139 - 230
11. EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17. 231 - 256
12. EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18. 257 - 264
13. MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME - PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF GORSLAS COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL FROM 110 TO 210. 265 - 316
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16. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 24TH APRIL, 2017. 365 - 370

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**EDUCATION & CHILDREN
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
28th SEPTEMBER 2017**

**Provisional Examination and Teacher Assessment Results and
Provisional School Attendance Data**

Purpose: To consider provisional External Examination, Teacher Assessment Results and School Attendance Data.

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- Foundation Stage Teacher Assessment Results
- Key Stage 2 Teacher Assessment Results
- Key Stage 3 Teacher Assessment Results
- 2017 GCSE Results- Level 1, Level 2, Level 2i
- 2017 A / AS Level Results
- Primary and Secondary Schools Attendance rates

Reasons:

- To enable members to exercise their scrutiny role in relation to monitoring performance.

To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: NO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Councillor Glynog Davies

Directorate:
Education & Children

Name of Head of Service:
Andi Morgan

Report Author:
Andi Morgan

Designations:
Head of Education Services

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 28th SEPTEMBER 2017

Provisional Examination and Teacher Assessment Results and provisional school attendance data

The report supports Members' work in respect of scrutinising school performance data at the earliest opportunity in the new academic year. Scrutiny committee members will be aware that some data (Key Stage / Attendance) will be unverified at this point.

The report includes unverified 2017 data, some narrative on performance comparisons with national and regional performance, emerging challenges and potential areas to develop.

Officers will present a finalised and verified performance data report to members and other stakeholders as part of the Annual Performance and Achievement Report which will be available at the start of 2018

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: *Gareth Morgans*, Director of Education and Children's Services

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

Finance:

As a Council, we need to ensure ongoing funding for our School Improvement Service in partnership with ERW. Without this resource, further improvement and support for all our Carmarthenshire learners will be greatly challenged.

Staffing Implications:

As a Council, we need to ensure sufficient staffing levels are achieved both within our school improvement service (including all support services for our most vulnerable learners) and across our schools. Without these key resources, the delivery and enhancement of high quality provision to support all Carmarthenshire learners achieve the greatest potential will be greatly challenged.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: *Gareth Morgans*, Director of Education and Children's Services

1. Local Member(s) – N/A
2. Community / Town Council – N/A
3. Relevant Partners – N/A
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:

THERE ARE NONE

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
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Department of Education & Children

Data Perfformiad a Chyflawniad Diwedd Cyfnod Allweddol

2017

End of Key Stage Performance and Achievement Data

28.9.17

OUR DEPARTMENTAL VISION.....

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



Content:

1. Foreword
2. Overview of End of Key Stage assessment and examination outcomes
3. School Attendance Data
4. Next steps
5. Glossary

1. Foreword:

Once again, we have much to celebrate in Carmarthenshire as we take our annual overview of the achievement and performance of our children and young people at the end of each Key Stage for 2017. Some aspects of the report, namely Key Stage 4 performance data, remain 'provisional' as we await confirmation of any outstanding marking and grade award queries.

At a national level, this year's GCSE results have understandably taken many of the headlines with the potential impact of revised examination content and 'early entries' triggering levels of variance in outcomes across Local Authorities in Wales. We have to be cautious when considering any comparisons with the performance trends from previous years' data. Kirsty Williams, Education Cabinet Secretary stated "It is not fair to compare this year's results with previous years. They are not comparable. But this year gives us a baseline to measure performance in year's going forward."

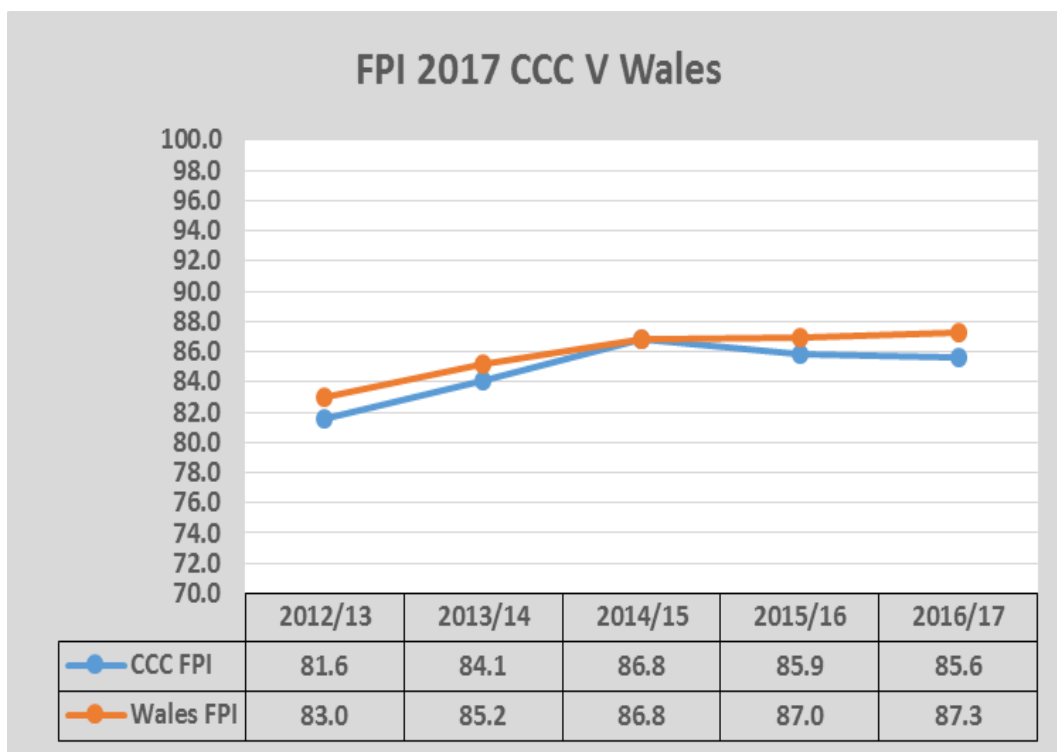
Within Carmarthenshire, we continue to emphasize and focus on the progress our learners achieve from their individual starting point and firmly believe that this is the true measure of success and celebration. We utilize the outcomes of teacher assessment and external examination systems to inform our support and challenge work with schools as we strive in partnership to ensure ongoing provision and outcomes of the highest standard.

Gareth Morgans, Director of Education and Children's Services

2. Overview of End of Key Stage assessment and examination outcomes

Foundation Phase (FP)

Foundation Phase Indicator (FPI) and Areas of Learning (AoL) Outcomes



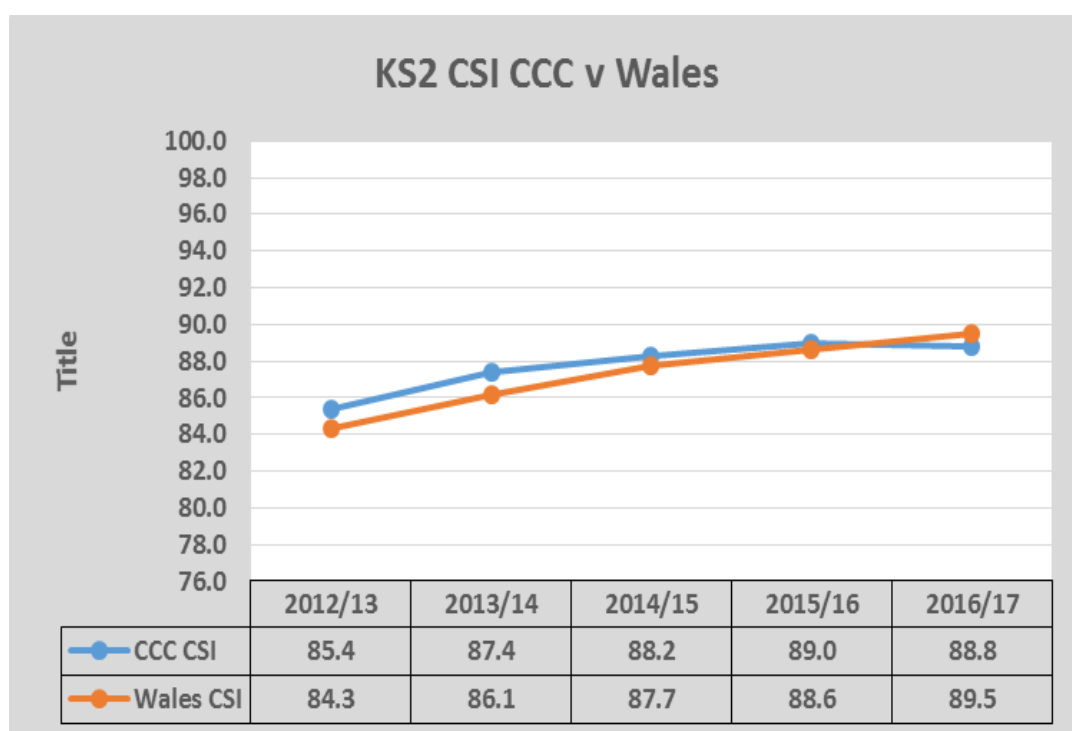
Foundation Phase	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	TREND
Foundation Phase Indicator	81.6	84.1	86.8	85.9	85.6	
Language, Literacy and Communication Skills in English	81.0	81.1	83.4	83.0	82.1	
Language, Literacy and Communication Skills in Welsh	86.2	89.2	91.4	90.2	90.5	
Mathematical Development	85.9	88.1	89.8	89.6	89.6	
Personal and Social Development, Well-Being and Cultural Diversity	93.0	94.0	95.2	94.8	94.8	

Our 2017 outcomes demonstrate:

- a very small decrease in FPI performance of 0.3 percentage points from last year (85.9% points to 85.6% points)
- that we remain slightly under the Wales average in our FPI performance
- a general upward trend in Mathematical Development has been maintained for five years

Key Stage 2 (KS2)

KS2 Core Subject Indicator (CSI) and Core Subject Outcomes



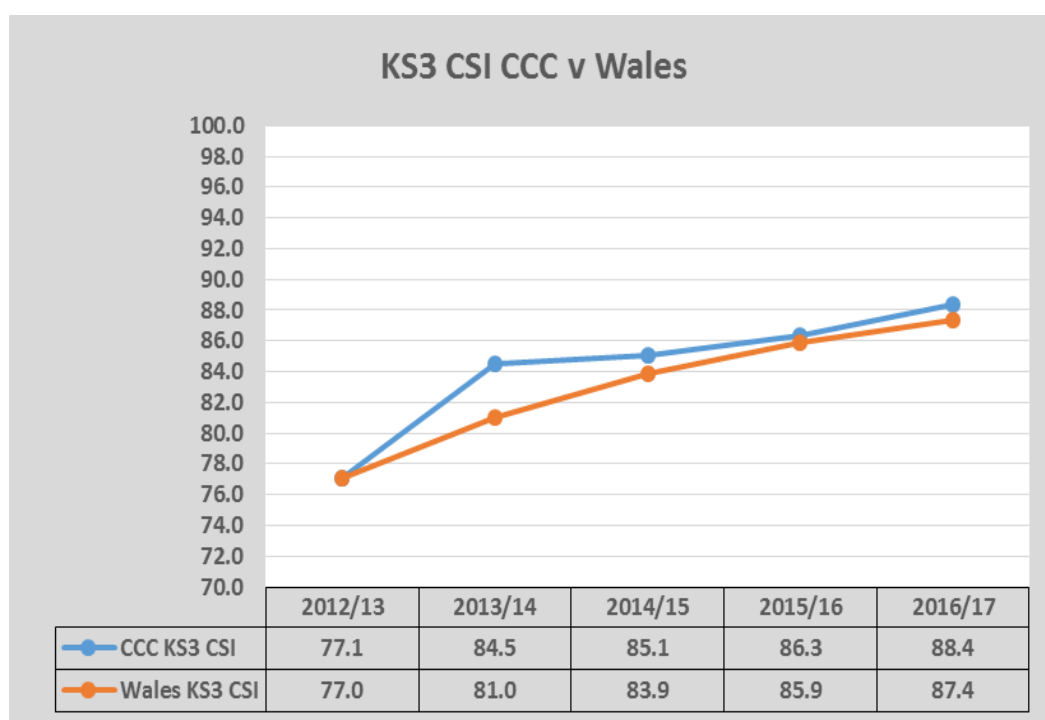
Key Stage 2	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend
Core Subject Indicator	85.4	87.4	88.2	89.0	88.8	
English	87.2	90.0	90.0	91.1	90.2	
Mathematics	88.1	89.7	90.4	91.7	91.4	
Science	90.7	91.1	91.9	92.8	91.7	
Welsh as 1st Language	84.5	84.4	88.6	88.5	90.6	

Our 2017 outcomes demonstrate:

- a very small decrease in our CSI performance of 0.2% points from last year (89.0% points to 88.8% points)
- that we are placed slightly below the Wales average for the CSI this year for the first time in five years (by 0.7% points)
- encouraging gains in 1st Language Welsh over five years (6.1% points)
- a general upward trend in Mathematics and CSI performance over five years

Key Stage 3 (KS3)

KS3 Core Subject Indicator (CSI) Outcomes



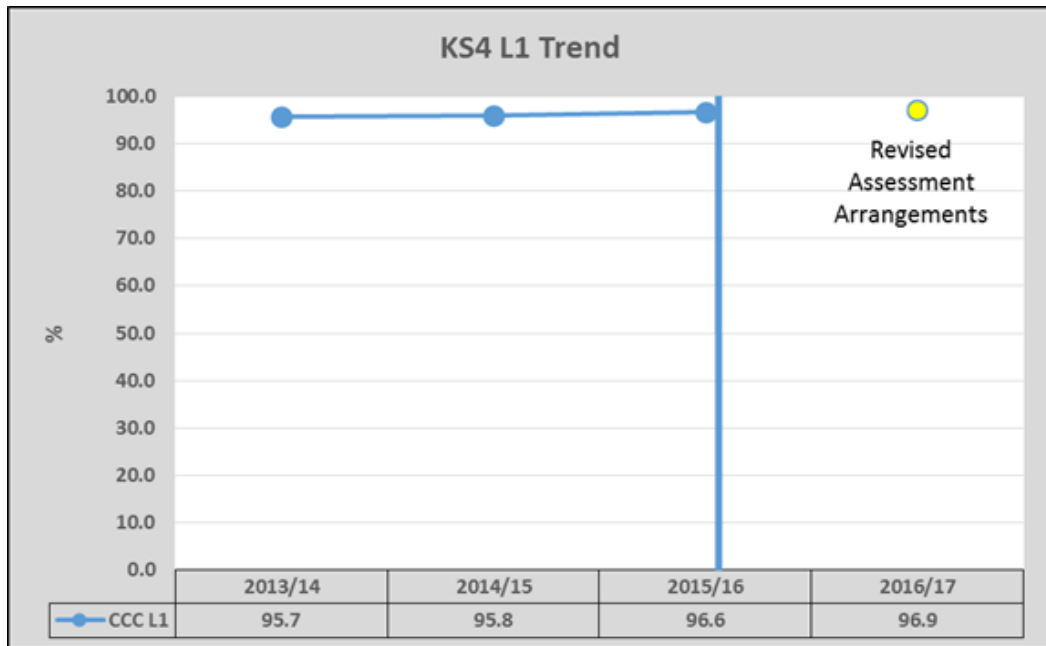
Key Stage 3	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend
Core Subject Indicator	77.1	84.5	85.1	86.3	88.4	
English	83.1	88.5	88.4	89.3	90.0	
Mathematics	83.8	88.4	90.4	90.3	92.4	
Science	86.2	91.1	91.9	92.7	94.1	
Welsh as 1st Language	83.6	88.7	86.5	88.6	92.1	

Our 2017 outcomes demonstrate:

- strong gains in performance across all subjects
- the Core Subject Indicator rising healthily over five years from 77.1% points to 88.4% points – an impressive gain of 11.3% points
- we continue to remain above the Wales average for our CSI performance

Key Stage 4 (KS4) **this data is provisional*

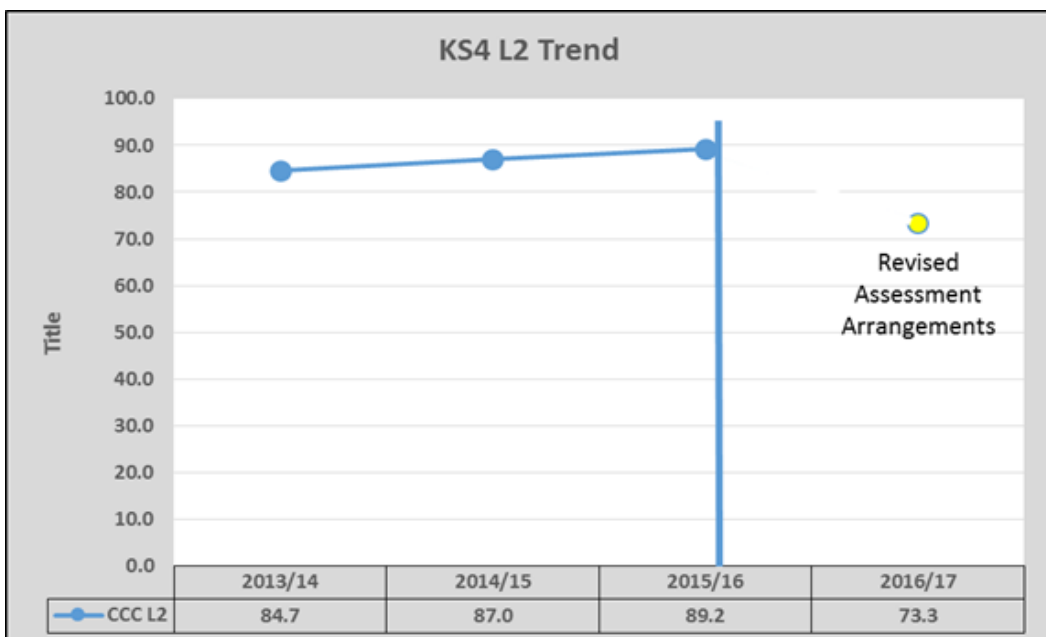
Level 1 (5 GCSEs - D to G)



Our 2017 outcomes demonstrate:

- our strong performance continues with a slight increase of 0.3% points this year under the revised arrangements
- the success of our learners at Level 1 reflects the inclusive nature of our schools' provision

Level 2 (5 GCSEs - A*to C.)



Our 2017 outcomes demonstrate:

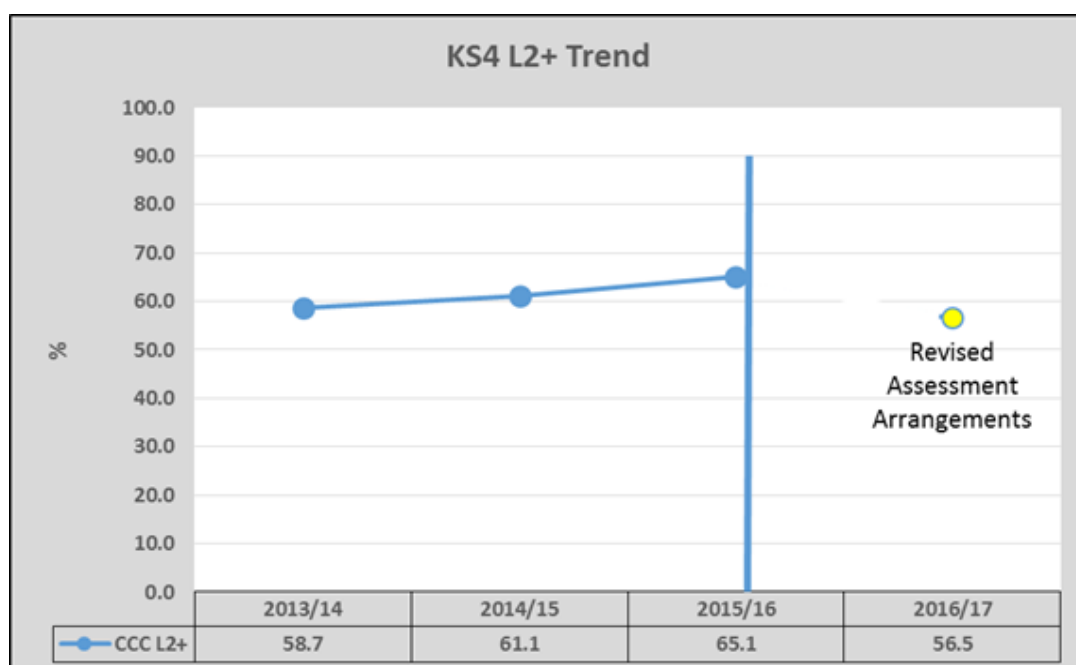
- an ongoing upward trend in performance under the previous assessment arrangements
- a perceived decrease in performance (15.9% points) under the revised arrangements* 'if' we undertake a direct comparison as opposed to viewing this as our 'new benchmark'

**First awarding of new GCSEs in Welsh language, English language, Welsh literature and English literature*

First summer award for new GCSE Mathematics and Mathematics Numeracy qualifications

First year for application of the 40% rule for vocational subjects

Level 2+ (5 GCSEs - A* to C including Welsh/English and maths)



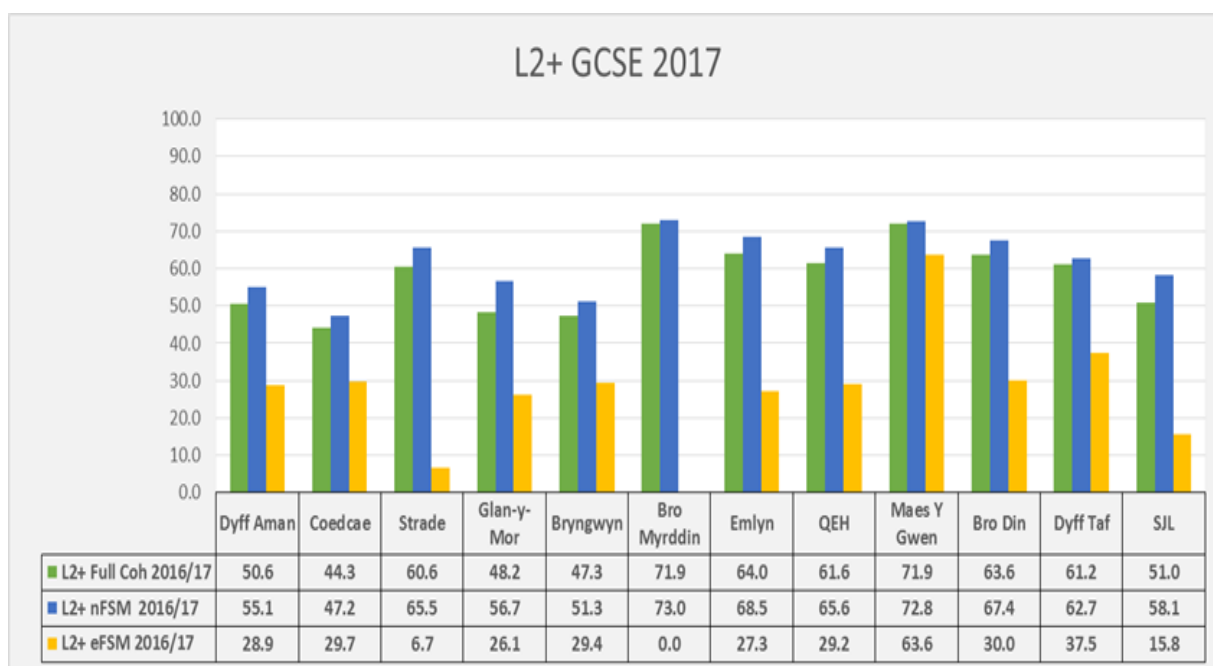
Our 2017 outcomes demonstrate:

- similar to the L2 performance above, an ongoing upward trend in performance under the previous GCSE examination arrangements
- a perceived decrease in performance (8.6% points) under the revised arrangements 'if' we undertake a direct comparison as opposed to viewing this as our 'new benchmark'

It is useful to share the provisional ERW outcomes at this point. They demonstrate the range of variance across the six Local Authorities.

Local Authority	2015	2016	2017 (revised)	difference (2016 - 2017)
Powys	64	65	61	-4
Ceredigion	63	70	62	-8
Pembrokeshire	54	59	55	-4
Carmarthenshire	61	65	57	-8
Swansea	64	65	57	-8
NPT	58	61	50	-11
ERW	61	64	56	-8

Level 2+ (eFSM Performance)



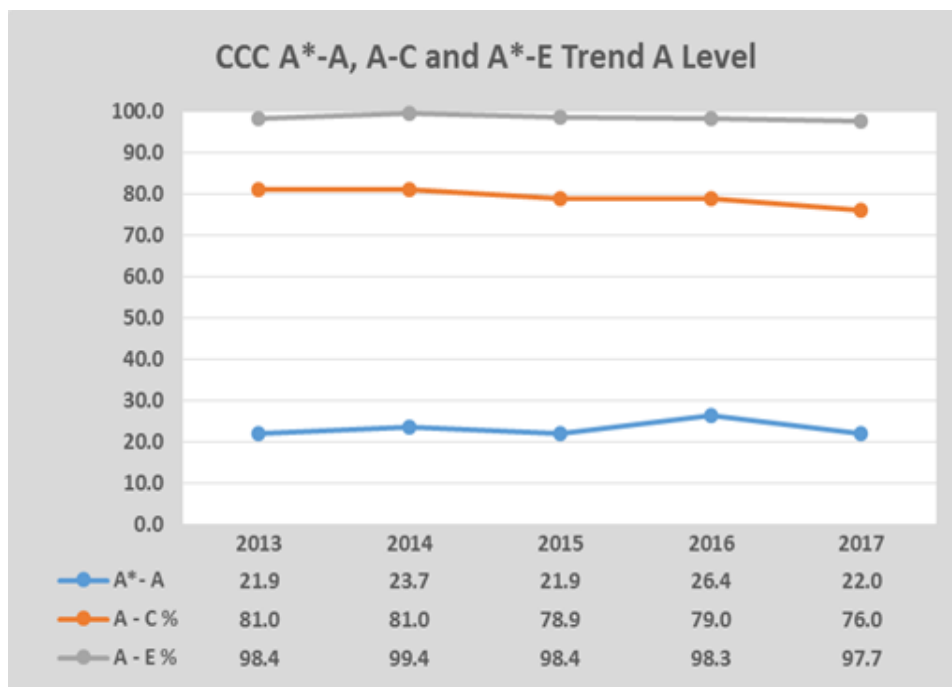
	Dyffryn Aman	Coedcae	strade	Glan-y-Mor	Bryngwyn	Bro Myrddin	Emlyn	Queen Elizabeth High	Maes Y Gwendraeth	Bro Dnetwr	Dyffryn Taf	ST John Lloyd
eFSM Cohort	45	37	15	23	34	2	11	24	11	20	8	19

Our 2017 outcomes demonstrate:

- the ongoing commitment of our schools to drive standards and achievement up for this specific group
- the need to view this data within the context of each individual school's level of challenge

Key Stage 5 (KS5)

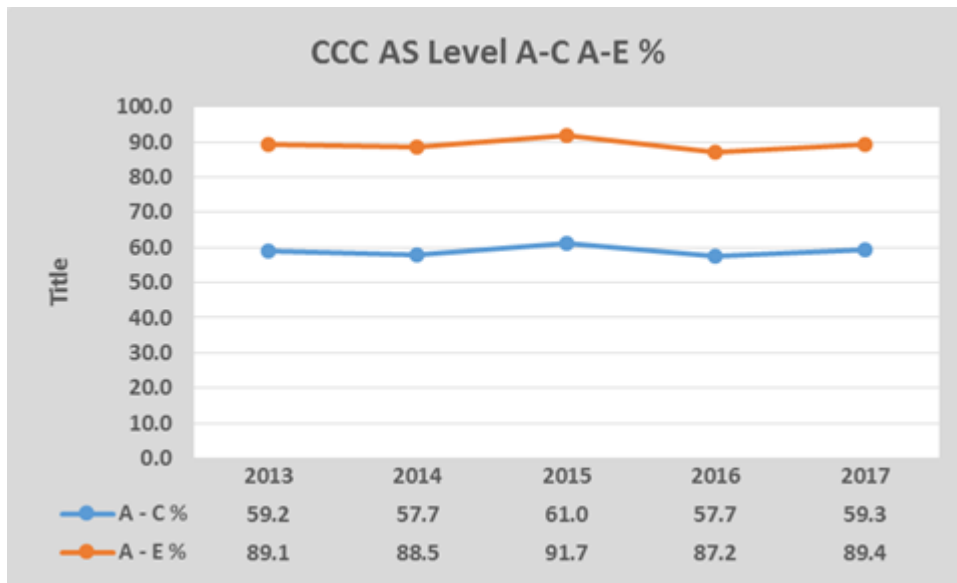
A Level Performance



Our 2017 outcomes demonstrate:

- a positive picture across the grade range despite slight decreases this year
- Carmarthenshire continues to perform above the ERW average and is ranked 2nd out of the six Local Authorities

AS Level Performance



Our 2017 outcomes demonstrate:

- an ongoing upward trend in performance towards our 2015 results
- the number of students studying at AS Level continues to increase 89.4% points
- our A* - E pass rate is comfortably above the national average of 88.9% points

3. School Attendance Data

Primary					
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 (Provisional results- Return to WG 15/09/17)
Present	93.5	95.0	95.2	94.8	
Authorised	6.1	4.3	4.0	4.3	
Unauthorised	0.4	0.7	0.8	0.9	
Welsh Average	93.7	94.8	94.9	94.9	Comparable data to be published Dec 2017
Rank	15th	6th	6th	13th	Comparable data to be published Dec 2017

Secondary

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Present	92.0	93.9	94.2	94.5	94.2
Authorised	7.6	5.6	5.1	4.9	4.9
Unauthorised	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.9
Welsh Average	92.6	93.6	93.8	94.2	94.1
Rank	19th	8th	9th	7th	= 9th

We continue to make good progress with our rates of school attendance. Primary data has yet to be published, however our secondary school statistics demonstrate that we continue to perform just above the Wales average. We are certain that this positive level of engagement reflects the impact of valuable work undertaken in partnership between schools and the Local Authority to promote inclusivity and tackle non-attendance.

4. Next steps to ensure ongoing support and success for all our learners

We continue to support our schools across all areas and aspects of curriculum provision. We maintain a central focus on the key areas noted below. As Estyn implements its revised inspection framework from this term onwards, it is even more appropriate and timely to ensure our ongoing, comprehensive focus on supporting and measuring 'progress' at an individual pupil level. Our School Improvement Team works in close collaboration to provide an effective and bespoke service for our schools.

Focus areas and actions:

➤ **Foundation Phase:**

- i) Continue to support schools across the Areas of Learning through our FP Training Officer, Challenge Advisers, wider school improvement team and school-to-school support networks.
- ii) Provide additional Foundation Phase leadership support through targeted Headteacher seminars (sharing 'good practice') and bespoke support programmes.
- iii) Continue to support standardization and moderation activities across all school Clusters.

➤ **Key Stage 4:**

- i) Undertake 'Secondary Headteachers' GCSE Workshop' (a round table analysis of outcomes and sharing of practice to enhance provision and performance).
- ii) Complete ongoing individual school discussions with Challenge Advisers as part of the ERW Core Support Visit 1 agenda (findings to agree appropriate areas of subject support and networking).
- iii) Liaise with ERW colleagues to formulate implementation of 'Leaders of Learning' within agreed areas e.g. mathematics/numeracy.

5. Glossary

Core Subject Indicator (CSI)	Achieving Level 4 or above in Welsh/English, Maths and Science
Foundation Phase Indicator (FPI)	Achieving Outcome 5 or above in Welsh/English, PSD and Mathematical Development
End of Key Stage	Assessment / examination undertaken at the end of each 'Key Stage' in our schools: Foundation Phase – statutory curriculum for all 3 to 7 year olds in Wales (from entry to Yr 2) Key Stage 2 – statutory curriculum for all 7 to 11 year olds in Wales (Yrs 3 to 6) Key Stage 3 – statutory curriculum for all 11 to 14 year olds in Wales (Yrs 7 to 9) Key Stage 4 – statutory curriculum for all 14 to 16 year olds in Wales (Yrs 10 and 11)
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education
Level 1 (L1)	A volume of qualifications at Level 1 equivalent to the volume of 5 GCSEs at grade D to G.
Level 2 (L2)	A volume of qualifications at Level 2 equivalent to the volume of 5 GCSEs at grade A*-C.
Level 2+ (L2+)	A volume of qualifications at Level 2 equivalent to the volume of 5 GCSEs at grade A*-C, including English or Welsh first language and mathematics.

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 28th SEPTEMBER 2017

Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service Business Plan 2017-20

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- That the Committee consider and comment on the Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service Business Plan 2017-20.

Reasons:

- The Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service Business Plan 2017-20 provides information about the Youth Support Service Structure; governance arrangements and resources available to the service (finance and staff).
- The Youth Support Service Business Plan describes the main areas of activity and identifies the principal risks associated with children and young people in the Youth Justice System. Information is included about the use of data, the development of the workforce and the possible risks to future service delivery.
- To enable members to exercise their scrutiny role in relation to monitoring performance.

To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: NO

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder: Cllr. G.Davies (Education & Children)

<p>Directorate: Education & Children</p> <p>Names of Heads of Service: Aeron Rees</p> <p>Andi Morgan</p> <p>Report Author: Gill Adams</p>	<p>Designations:</p> <p>Head of Curriculum and Wellbeing</p> <p>Chief Education Officer</p> <p>Principal Manager – Youth Support Service</p>	<p>Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:</p> <p>01267 246532 jarees@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 246645 AndiMorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01554 744322 GAdams@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 28th SEPTEMBER 2017

Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service Business Plan 2017-20

Service Background

Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service was established on 1/1/16 bringing together the Carmarthenshire Youth Service and the Carmarthenshire Youth Offending Service under a single integrated management structure. The Youth Support Service allows for the development of a more holistic approach to the delivery of youth support services across Carmarthenshire. The service retains the statutory functions of the Youth Justice Team; promotes the ethos of working together to deliver targeted support and retains elements of direct universal youth work provision.

Vision

A service that provides a robust range of support from open access to specialised support, enabling children, young people and young adults (aged 8-25 years) to access *what* they need, *when* and *where* they need it so that they can reach their full personal, social and educational potential.

Developing a Youth Support Service Business Plan for Carmarthenshire

The production of an annual Youth Support Service Business Plan has to meet the requirements of a variety of audiences:

- The Youth Justice Board – as a legislative requirement (Crime & Disorder Act 1998) and condition of grant
- YSS Youth Justice Local Management Board members and others who are part of the YOT partnership
- The County Council – both strategically and for scrutiny
- Youth Support Staff as an operational plan

The plan therefore has to meet legislative, grant making and business planning requirements.

**DETAILED REPORT
ATTACHED?**

YES



IMPLICATIONS

We 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: **Aeron Rees** **Head of Curriculum and Wellbeing**
 Andi Morgan **Chief Education Officer**

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

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service Business Plan 2016-17 contributes to one of the key themes of the Integrated Community Strategy, namely that of, “Feeling Secure –Safer Communities.” It also actively contributes to section 17 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, which requires Local Authorities to have done all we reasonably can to reduce crime and disorder locally.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: **Aeron Rees** **Head of Curriculum and Wellbeing**
 Andi Morgan **Chief Education Officer**

1. Local Member(s) – N/A

2. Community / Town Council – N/A

3. Relevant Partners – The Youth Support Service - Youth Justice Local Management Board members have been consulted about this plan.

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:**

THERE ARE NONE

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection



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Youth Support Service

Business Plan

2017- 2020



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1. The Service

Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service (established in January 2016) is an integrated service bringing together youth work and youth justice statutory provision under a single management structure. The Service allows for the development of a holistic approach to the delivery of youth support services across Carmarthenshire.

Vision

A service that provides a robust range of support from open access to specialised support, enabling children, young people and young adults (aged 8-25 years) to access *what* they need, *when* and *where* they need it so that they can reach their full personal, social and educational potential.

Core Principles

Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service:

- is innovative and creative in its service delivery;
- contributes to the Welsh Government priority of reducing poverty;
- utilises restorative approaches within its practice;
- promotes inclusion and participation of children and young people;
- has a well-trained, skilled and supported workforce, able to offer a range of services in Welsh and English;
- has a team of trained, skilled volunteers (e.g. Referral Order Panellists; Bureau; Duke of Edinburgh's Award and universal provision);
- engages with families and carers for better outcomes.

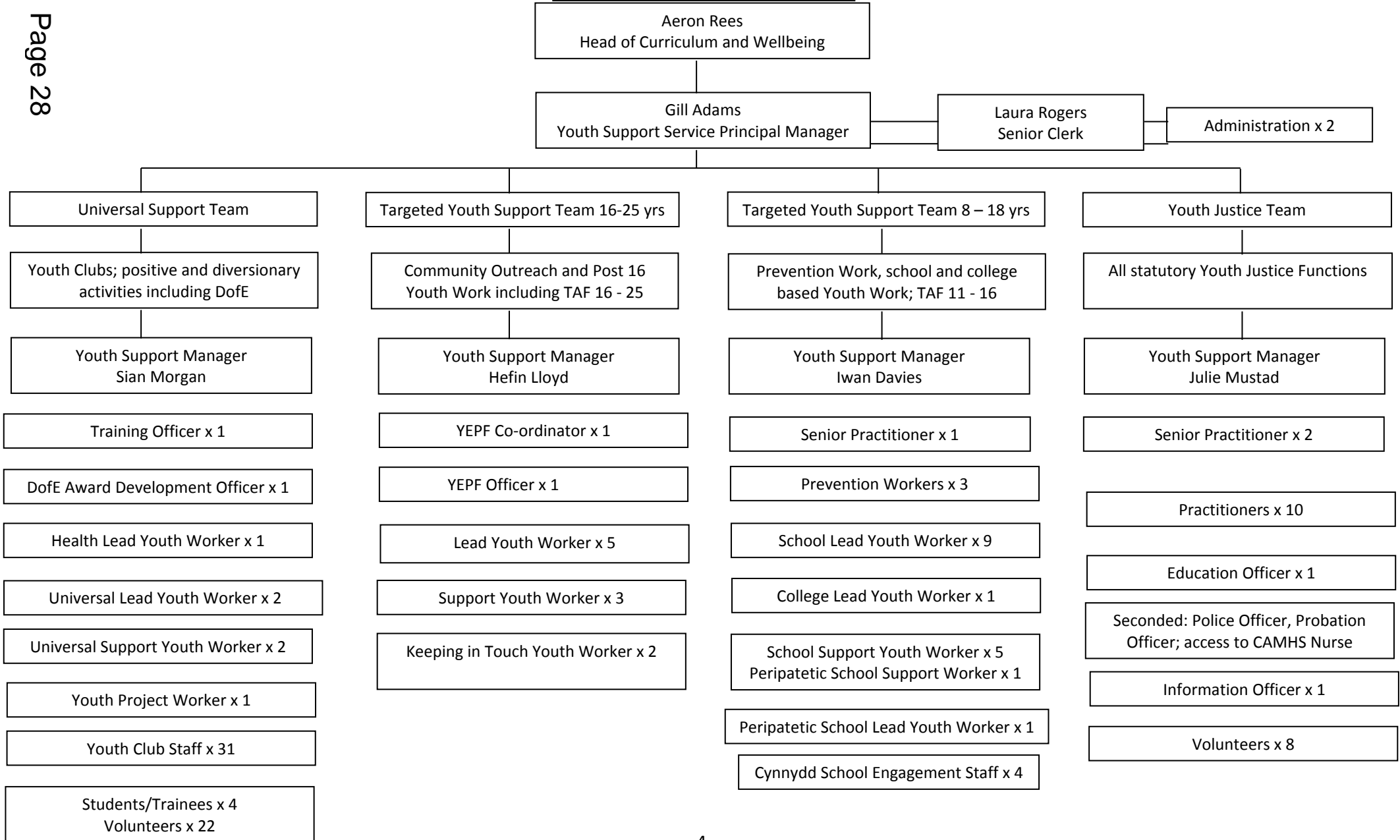
Staffing

The Youth Support Service brings together staff responsible for providing a range of services extending from youth work provision and support to the delivery of youth justice services and administrative, performance management and business support. Staffing comprises of total of 108 posts (including two seconded officer posts) equating to 65.81 (full-time equivalent) members of staff. Access to a link nurse is provided by the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS).

The Youth Support Service also utilises 35 trained volunteers who assist in the delivery of key aspects of work and provides for student placements.

Welsh Language provision within service delivery is strong across the Youth Support Service.

Youth Support Service Structure



Delivery of Youth Work Provision and Youth Support

The statutory requirement of the local authority for youth support services is identified in the *Learning and Skills Act 2000 (s.123 (1))* directing local authorities to provide, secure the provision of, or participate in the provision of, youth support services.

The Welsh Government's vision of the future for young people in Wales aged between 11-25 years, is based on the concept of *universal entitlement*, which means that every young person in Wales has a basic entitlement to a range of high quality services enabling them to participate effectively in opportunities for learning, employment, good health, citizenship and social inclusion. In 2012, the Cymorth Grant supporting delivery of WG's "Extending Entitlement" programme was transformed into the Families First Grant. This grant is intended to be used to support families and young people experiencing poverty and to support transitions to employment, education and training.

Welsh Government National Youth Work Strategy for Wales 2014-2018 highlights the importance of the statutory youth service in meeting a variety of ministerial portfolio agendas including poverty, health, education, employment and skills, community, housing and prosperity. This work is integral to developing Carmarthenshire Team Around the Family (TAF) approaches; reducing poverty and improving school outcomes. Support offered to children, young people and young adults is based upon the principal of voluntary participation, and draws from 'The Five Pillars of Youth Work in Wales'. Youth Work National Occupational Standards set out the key purpose of youth work.

Delivery of Youth Justice Services

Youth Offending Teams (known in Carmarthenshire as 'Youth Justice Team') were established by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 with the stated intention of reducing the risk of young people offending and re-offending. The Carmarthenshire Youth Justice Team is a statutory, multi-disciplinary partnership that is co-ordinated by the Local Authority. Governance is carried out locally by a management board made up of key partners, and nationally by the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, which is part of the Ministry of Justice. The Youth Justice Team is made up of staff from Children's Services, Police, Probation, Health and Education.

Carmarthenshire Youth Support Service - 4 Teams

Universal Support Team

Responsible for the delivery of open access provision including; adventurous outdoor activities and programmes; county-wide youth club provision; supporting the delivery of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award; programmes of accredited learning; delivery of activities to support community safety and to reduce anti-social behaviour; co-ordination of staff training and continuing professional development; support for young people's participation in decisions that affect them; residential programmes for young people both in the UK and abroad.

Targeted Youth Support Team (16-25 years)

Delivery of targeted personal support for young people and young adults aged 16-25 years and their families. All duties undertaken are in alignment with the WG Families First programme and the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework.

The team engages with young people and young adults who can be affected by a broad range of issues associated with family poverty; homelessness; risk of becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) etc. A range of youth work strategies and approaches are used to provide individualised needs-based support and interventions.

Targeted Youth Support (8-18 years)

The team undertakes work with children and young people across the spectrum of low to high need. Interventions are designed to reduce risks of disengagement from education and the prevention of young people from offending. The team includes school-based youth workers based in all Carmarthenshire secondary schools and Coleg Sir Gar. The work is supported by WG Families First to meet the

requirements of developing Team Around the Family approaches, and is linked with WG Youth Engagement and Progression Framework. Cynnydd (European Social Fund) contributes to educational and engagement support for 11-16 year olds in schools who are at greatest risk of disengagement. Welsh Government and the Police and Crime Commissioner contribute funding towards the delivery of intervention programmes to reduce youth crime, support community safety and reduce anti-social behaviour.

Youth Justice Team

The team works with children and young people aged from 10 - 17 years. Staff provide holistic assessments utilising the Youth Justice Board standard assessment tool – AssetPlus which helps to inform decisions made for a range of Out of Court Disposals via Bureau, as well as providing information to courts for sentencing purposes. The team is responsible for supervising children and young people subject to statutory community orders and custodial sentences. Resettlement and reintegration planning work is critical in aiding the successful reintegration of young people from custody back into the community under the terms of their Licence requirements. Arrangements are in place with the National Probation Service for identified cases to be transferred over to adult supervision as part of a structured planning process.

Restorative Justice underpins the work of the team. This includes victim-offender mediation; facilitating meetings to encourage improved outcomes for victims of offences; utilising restorative approaches to allow for reparation.

A number of grant funding streams supplement the resources contributed by statutory partners. The Youth Justice Board for England and Wales monitors the performance of all Youth Offending Teams in Wales against seven performance indicators:

- re-offending rates
- number of first time entrants
- custodial sentences
- young people's access to substance misuse assessment and treatment
- young people's access to suitable accommodation
- young people's access to education, training or employment
- young people's access to emotional and mental health assessment and treatment.

Administration, Performance Management, and Business Support

Administrative support is provided by a Senior Clerk and 2 Clerical Officers. Youth Justice Team performance management and submission of data to the Youth Justice Board is led by the Youth Support Service Information Officer. The Service Co-ordinator and Awards Administrator from the departmental Education Systems Team provide a range functions such as monitoring and compliance against conditions of grant funding; collating performance data; financial planning and management; project management, human resource requirements, asset management and the administration of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

2. Context

Local

The Youth Support Service, overseen by the Head of Curriculum and Wellbeing, sits within the Education Services Division of the Department for Education and Children. The Service provides two key delivery areas for Carmarthenshire County Council's Families First Programme, and oversees a co-ordination function in implementing the Welsh Government's Youth Engagement and Progression Framework.

The service contributes to the delivery of the Cynnydd (European Social Fund) which provides for a full and complimentary range of engagement, learning and training activities for 11 – 19 year olds in order to reduce the number of young people who are at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training) and to increase the attainment levels of 11 – 16 year olds who are at risk of becoming NEET.

The Public Services Board (PSB) was established in May 2016, following the introduction of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The PSB is a collection of public bodies including 4 statutory

members – the County Council, Hywel Dda University Health Board, Natural Resources Wales and the Fire Service - working together with wider partners to improve the well-being of our county.

Carmarthenshire PSB has made an Assessment of the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being locally and, as a result, a Well-being Plan will be published in May 2018, setting out the PSB's local objectives and the steps to be taken to meet them. The PSB has a number of multi-agency thematic groups to assist it in delivering an improvement in well-being, including the 'Fair and Safe Communities' group. Members include partners which have a statutory duty to work together to reduce crime and disorder, reduce reoffending, reduce anti-social behaviour and tackle substance misuse – the Police, Council, Probation, Hywel Dda University Health Board and Fire Service – and other key stakeholders including the Principal Manager of the Youth Support Service.

The group also aims to raise awareness relating to crime and disorder issues, such as harassment and victimisation, affecting groups of people who share a protected characteristic and to build cohesive communities that are resistant to tension and are resilient in dealing with such issues to prevent crime and disorder taking place.

The priorities of the Youth Support Service are also channelled through the Education Service Business Plan; Education and Children Services Departmental Business Plan and are reflected in the high level outcomes contained within the Carmarthenshire Integrated Community Strategy.

The production of a Youth Justice Plan is a statutory duty of the Local Authority (Part 3; s40) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Therefore, the Youth Support Service Business Plan is approved by the Local Management Board; presented at the Local Authority's Education and Children's Scrutiny Committee and at the Hywel Dda University Health Board. It is formally submitted to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, as a statutory requirement. It is reported to Fair and Safe Communities and submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The local governance of Carmarthenshire Youth Justice Team is the responsibility of the Local Management Board where all the statutory partners are represented - Children's Services; Education; Police; Probation; Health. The Board is further strengthened by membership from Fair and Safe Communities and membership at a senior level from the Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (Specialist CAMHS); Local Authority Housing Services, H.M. Courts and Tribunals Service and Executive Board Member representation from Carmarthenshire County Council.

The Local Management Board performs key functions including:

- holding the service to account for its practice;
- monitoring and meeting conditions set out in any grant made by the YJB, e.g. timely submission of data, compliance with secure estate placement information, completion of national standards audits and procedures for reviewing community safeguarding and public protection incidents;
- supporting the YOT in overcoming barriers to effective multi-agency working and ensuring that partner agencies make an effective contribution to delivering against key youth justice outcomes.

Youth Support Service Local Management Board

Name	Agency representing	Post in agency	Ethnicity	Gender
Jake Morgan (Chair)	Carmarthenshire County Council	Director of Communities	White	Male
(Vice-Chair)	To be confirmed			
Aeron Rees	Carmarthenshire County Council	Head of Learner Programmes	White	Male
Stefan Smith	Carmarthenshire County Council	Head of Children's Services	White	Male
Steve Thomas	Dyfed Powys Police	Chief Inspector	White	Male
Christine Harley	National Probation Service	Assistant Chief Executive	White	Female
Angela Lodwick	Hywel Dda University Health Board	Head of Specialist CAMHS & Psychological Therapies Service	White	Female
To be confirmed	Hywel Dda University Health Board			
Kate Thomas	Carmarthenshire County Council	Community Safety Manager	White	Female
Robin Staines	Carmarthenshire County Council	Head Of Housing Services	White	Male
John Davies	H.M. Court and Tribunal Service	Legal Advisor	White	Male
Cllr Glynog Davies	Carmarthenshire County Council	Executive Board Member for Education and Children	White	Male
Gill Adams	Carmarthenshire County Council	Youth Support Service Principal Manager	White	Female

The Youth Justice Team operates as a local partner to other criminal justice agencies who contribute to the administration of justice. Equally, the Youth Justice Team operates with other services, some universal and some targeted, which deliver services to children and young people.

The Youth Support Service Principal Manager represents the service at partnership meetings including those organised for the delivery of the 'Prevent Duty' (Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015). The Service is also represented at the Multi Agency Public Protection (MAPPA) Strategic Management Board; the Area Planning Board (APB) and at the regional Safeguarding Children forum: Children and Youth Safeguarding - Unifying the Region (CYSUR); CYSUR Local Operational Group as well as at Integrated Offender Management meetings.

Regional

The Youth Support Service links with the Youth Engagement & Progression Framework South West & Mid Wales Regional Working Group; and the Joint Carmarthenshire & Pembrokeshire (11-25) Executive Group.

The Youth Justice Team is represented at the (Dyfed Powys) Local Criminal Justice Board which comprises of membership from all the criminal justice agencies who work collaboratively to deliver an efficient and effective local criminal justice system. The Board recognises the importance of preventing children and young people from offending.

The commissioning of substance misuse treatment services through the development of Area Planning Boards has resulted in decision-making moving to a regional forum and has led to managers of county-based services collaborating to ensure representation at a regional level. Good working protocols exist with the universal substance misuse treatment provider for young people – Choices, as well as with adult alcohol and substance misuse services.

The Dyfed Powys Prevention of Youth Crime Steering Group (established in 2013) coordinates regional activities and strategies aimed at preventing young people from engaging in offending behaviour. The Youth Support Service is increasingly working with the other Youth Offending Teams in the Dyfed-Powys region to ensure that youth crime prevention is aligned with the priorities of the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Youth Justice Board and the Welsh Government.

National

The Youth Support Service delivers its services in accordance with key legislation, policy and guidance underpinned by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; Welsh Government 7 Core Aims and Children's Rights in Wales.

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act (2014) came into force in April 2016 and sets out to improve the well-being of people who need care and support as well as carers who need support. Youth Support Service staff have engaged in training arranged by Carmarthenshire County Council in order to ensure that legislative responsibilities are being met in delivering services.

The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 establishes a statutory Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, whose role is to act as a guardian for the interests of future generations in Wales, and to support the public bodies listed in the Act to work towards achieving the 'Well-being Goals'.

Welsh Government National Youth Work Strategy for Wales 2014 - 2018 identifies how youth work should be delivered across Wales and includes the establishment of a Quality Mark for youth work organisations as set out in The Quality Mark for Youth Work in Wales: Introduction and guidance (September 2015).

In March 2016, the Deputy Minister for Skills and Technology announced The Wales Charter for Youth Work - designed to secure the conditions for youth work provision to be more consistently accessible to all young people as they grow to adulthood in Wales, and to be adapted to the changing needs and interests of individuals and communities.

Welsh Government and the YJB published, "Children and Young People First", a joint strategy to improve services for young people from Wales at risk of becoming involved in, or in, the youth justice system (July 2014). Sitting below the strategy is a national annual Delivery Plan which is monitored by the Wales Youth Justice Advisory Panel.

Following on from the publication of the Charlie Taylor Review of Youth Justice Services in December 2016, the government has set out plans to reform youth justice to help drive forward improved outcomes for young offenders both in custody and in the community. This includes retaining the Youth Justice Board for

England and Wales; the establishment of a Youth Custody Service (YCS) which sits within Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service, headed by an Executive Director with specific and distinct responsibility for young people (under 18s) in custody.

The Youth Support Service Principal Manager is a member of the national Principal Youth Officers' Group and YOT Managers Cymru.

3. Resources

For 2017/18, the Youth Support Service budget has shown a 2.1% overall reduction compared with 2016/17 (£45,666); core funding reduced by £49,308; Families First Funding reduced by £7,999. The Youth Support Grant (incorporating WG Youth Work Strategy Grant and Youth Engagement and Progression Framework funding) shows a £2,440 reduction compared with 2016/17.

Funding targeted at prevention of offending/re-offending has shown an overall reduction for 2017/18 of £12,803 (1.6%). The YJB grant contributes to the provision of 7 posts linked to preventing and reducing offending within the Youth Support Service; this funding increased slightly by £804. The Police and Crime Commissioner increased the contribution for prevention work from £25,000 in 2016/17 to £50,000 for the next 3 years. The National Probation Service's financial contribution of £5000 remains the same, however the contribution of a seconded Probation Officer to the Youth Justice Team has reduced from 5 days a week, as per national agreement, to 3 days. WG Promoting Positive Engagement (for those at Risk of Offending) funding remains the same as in the previous year.

The majority of Youth Support Service funding sources demand focus on the delivery of targeted work both in terms of youth work, prevention work and youth justice provision. This creates significant challenges in the delivery of universal youth work provision which has been the subject of cuts over many years. The most recent WG statistics (October 2016) show that Carmarthenshire 'Youth Service' core funding was fifth off bottom compared with other Welsh Local Authorities.

Targeted Youth Work provision within the Youth Support Service is greatly supported by Families First and helps to employ a large number of Youth Work staff. Revised Families First Guidance was published in 2017 and currently, the programme is in a phase of transition. The 2 Youth Support Service led Families First projects were extended initially from 1/4/17 to 30/9/17 and then more recently from 1/10/17 to 31/3/18. YSS will be required to make savings against Families First funding in the next financial year (2018/19).

The current financial climate without doubt, causes Youth Support Service staff to experience feelings of uncertainty in relation to their future employment. The majority of funding sources are determined year on year, and this can present challenges in terms of planning for and setting long-term goals.

Youth Justice Specific Funding Comparison – 2016/17 and 2017/18

FUNDING BODY	FINAL BUDGET 2016/17	FINAL BUDGET 2017/18	COMMENTS
Probation Service	£5,000	£5,000	
Youth Justice (YOT) Grant	£201,021	£201,825	
WG Promoting Positive Engagement Grant	£201,168	£201,168	
Police & Crime Commissioner	£25,000	£50,000	
Local Authority – Youth Justice Core Budget	£407,511	£368,904	
Youth Justice Funding Total	£839,700	£826,897	Reduction in funding of £12,803 (1.6%)

Rest of Service Funding Comparison – 2016/17 and 2017/18

FUNDING BODY	FINAL BUDGET 2016/17	FINAL BUDGET 2017/18	COMMENTS
Local Authority - Youth Core Budget	£434,614	£423,913	
Families First - School Support Youth Work	£431,333	£422,334	
Families First - Post-16 Youth Work	£230,643	£231,643	
WG Youth Support Grant	£150,645	£204,531	Includes element of funding for YEPF in 17/18
WG Youth Engagement & Progression Framework Grant	£56,326	£0	Included in the Youth Support Grant in 17/18
WG Education Improvement Grant	£55,000	£63,523	
WG Post 16 Grant	£67,746	£47,500	Reduction in funding in 17/18
YSS Budget Total	£2,266,007	£2,220,341	Reduction in overall YSS funding of £45,666 (2.1%)

Youth Justice Funding 2017/18*

AGENCY	Delivery Costs	Payments in kind	Other Delegated Funds	TOTAL	Confirmed 2017/18
Dyfed Powys Police	£0	£51,800 (note 1)	£0	£51,800	Yes
National Probation Service	£0	£27,449 (note 2)	£5,000	£32,449	Yes
Hywel Dda University Health Board (note 3)	£0	£45,280	£0	£45,280	Yes
Carmarthenshire County Council (Youth Justice element only)	£368,904	£0	£0	£368,904	Yes
Welsh Government Promoting Positive Engagement for Young People (at risk of offending)	£201,168	£0	£0	£201,168	Yes
Police and Crime Commissioner (note 4)	£40,000	£0	£10,000	£50,000	Yes
Youth Justice Board Youth Justice Grant	£201,825	£0	£0	£201,825	Yes
TOTAL	£811,897	£124,529	£15,000	£951,426	

Notes:

*set out as required by the Youth Justice Board

1. Dyfed Powys Police second a full-time Police Officer to the Service.
2. The National Probation Service seconds 0.6 of a Probation Officer to the Service.
3. The Youth Support Service has access to a nurse, input from a Mental Health Advisor (£10k) and access to Dialectical Behaviour Therapy and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy.
4. Regional YOTs received Police and Crime Commissioner funding in 2017/18

Performance Report - 2016/17:

During the period, the Youth Support Service has made excellent progress in terms of overall achievements. For the first time, a Business Plan incorporating the service as a whole was produced setting out the Vision, Principles, Operational Plan and Training Plan. The Business Plan has underpinned the critical importance of bringing the Youth Service and the former Youth Offending and Prevention Service together into a well-integrated service. Great care has been taken to ensure that this has been achieved whilst maintaining and developing service delivery. Across the service there have been major improvements in performance, for example, in relation to Families First project delivery.

2 Staff Development Days were held in July 2016 and December 2016, with the aim of bringing a large staff group from across the service together. The opportunity to meet, network and learn about the work of the teams has been very well received by staff who gave very positive feedback in relation to both events. In addition to this, a number of Practice Development Days have been held in order to promote effective practice and strengthen knowledge and skills. There have also been opportunities for youth work staff to shadow youth justice practice and delivery. Youth Club staff and volunteers from across the service were also brought together in order to brief them about service developments.

The Youth Support Service Management Group meets on a monthly basis in order to ensure that the service continues to develop and keep up-to-date with local, regional and national developments. Performance meetings are held on a quarterly basis allowing for YJB performance to be closely monitored. During the year, Families First performance and Youth Engagement and Progression Framework data has been included within these meetings. Care is taken to ensure that budgets are closely monitored throughout the year.

A number of Task and Finish Groups were established in the period involving staff across the service to complete pieces of work and in doing so to share ideas and shape service delivery and practice.

Team Managers meet on a monthly basis to enhance service developments. Team Meetings are also regularly held and staff receive supervision and appraisals. There is sound evidence of multi-agency working within the county as well as regional collaboration between Youth Justice and Youth Work partners.

Youth Support Service Actions: Extract from Carmarthenshire County Council Council's Performance Information Management System - 2016/17

Action	Comment
Ensuring that a clear ethos of Safeguarding pervades through Youth Support Service (YSS) and is manifested in its procedures, measures and actions taken. (122210)	Complete: Safeguarding of children, young people and young adults has been a priority set within the Youth Support Service Business Plan. Practice Development events; and Service Development days have included workshops to provide input to staff. Safeguarding is included within the service training plan which is monitored to ensure that staff are up-to date with training needs.

Support the further remodelling of Youth Support Services and development of a coherent support staff structure. (12214)	Complete: The Youth Support Service has been established since 1/1/16 and during this time the staff structure has been established; staff are organised into 4 pillars; each overseen by a Team Manager.
Appoint YOT Based Educational Officer to work with vulnerable learners at risk of offending/re-offending to promote educational engagement. (12226)	Complete: Education Officer appointed in October 2016.

YSS Performance 2016/17 Operational Plan

Priority	How did we do?
To encourage children and young people to access universal youth work provision	<p>9 youth clubs across the county worked with 1434 (distinct) young people showing a total of 12,657 youth club attendances. Financial contributions were given by the Youth Support Service to youth clubs towards purchase of equipment; organised trips and bus hire. Bwlch and Streets Youth Centres had a 'make over'. Young people were consulted in relation to re-decoration; a graffiti artist worked with young people to produce wall art at the Bwlch Youth Centre. Feedback indicates that young people and staff are pleased with the results.</p> <p>Youth clubs collaborated within the county to organise residential activities; trips and activities during the year.</p> <p>1087 young people attended Universal Youth Work programmes; 529 young people attended holiday activities.</p> <p>The Duke of Edinburgh Award in Carmarthenshire continued to be the highest performing in Wales for the period. Award Completions: Bronze – 450; Silver – 85; Gold – 67 - Total: 602 New starts: Bronze – 763; Silver – 133; Gold – 87 - Total: 983.</p>
To support young people to access appropriate health and wellbeing services	<p>(See Prevention of Offending and Re-offending section – Access to Substance Misuse Services and Mental Health Key Performance Indicators)</p> <p>All young people receiving prevention or statutory supervision are assessed using AssetPlus. This helps to determine a range of needs including health. Those receiving Families First services are assessed using the Joint Assessment Family Framework (JAFF).</p> <p>17 Safety, Trust and Respect Programmes (STAR) have been delivered by YSS staff throughout the county (in schools and other community settings) with 112 young people benefitting from completion of the programme.</p> <p>The Lead Health Youth Worker engaged with 222 individuals; 418 young people accessed group support; 133 young people accessed bespoke 1-1 health and wellbeing support.</p> <p>The Youth Support Service Lead Health worker and colleagues delivered the following activities:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A residential for 20 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) young people from across the county. Attendees took part in outdoor activities and were consulted in relation to the recreational and support needs of LGBT young people in Carmarthenshire. A report on the consultation outcomes will shape future service provision. • Targeted Well Being Group (boys - Year 7) at Stradey School; Targeted Well Being Group (girls - Year 9/10) at Stradey School. Issues dealt with included anger management; managing emotions; substance misuse awareness; smoking; sexual health. • Girls group (aged 13-17 years) in conjunction with Dr Mz, Carmarthen. Themes included healthy relationships; sexual health; alcohol and substance misuse awareness. • Having identified a need, the Lead Health Worker and colleagues established a young parents group in Ammanford. The group was regularly attended by at least 10 young parents and has now transferred over to Plant Dewi who are able to offer longer term support. • Weekly health 'drop-ins' and health education workshops were held at a variety of venues. <p>3 members of staff from the Targeted Youth Support Team were (8-18) were trained to deliver the Adolescent to Parent Abuse intervention pilot in partnership with Domestic Violence Workers and the Education Psychology Department. A programme of intervention was commenced with a family during 2016 and will be completed in June 2017.</p> <p>Community Safeguarding and Public Protection Incidents and associated Critical Learning Reviews are discussed at the Youth Justice Management Board, this allows for any risks/ safeguarding issues to be managed at a senior level and allows for practice/procedures to be modified as appropriate.</p>
<p>To support educational attendance and attainment:</p> <p>Reducing the number of school leavers without qualifications :</p> <p>Reducing the number of children and young people at risk of</p>	<p>Family engagement work delivered by school based youth workers has increased and has been strengthened by training delivered by the Integrated Family Support Team; Restorative Approaches training and 'Take 3' parenting training. There was strong performance in relation to transition of pupils from primary to secondary schools and from school on to college (1644 pupils were supported from primary to secondary school and 247 young people were supported from school to college).</p> <p>School based youth workers provide for a diversity of 1:1 and group work interventions and the provision of various accredited qualifications, namely- John Muir, SWEET, ASDAN. Activities have included animal care; co-production of interactive theatre e.g. 'The Boy who Bit Picasso'; and various arts based projects.</p> <p>The Youth Support Service School Engagement Project (Cynnydd) became operational in October 2016 and in the first 5 months engaged with 50 pupils. Cynnydd staff also provide OCN accreditation to some of their work.</p> <p>93% of secondary school pupils worked with as part of Families First showed improved attendance at school.</p> <p>Integral to the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework (YEPF), Vulnerability Assessment Profile case loading meetings are held on a termly basis during the academic year and are attended by representatives from each school; Careers Wales; Coleg Sir Gar; Cynnydd; Education Welfare Service Senior; TAF; YSS. These meetings identify and support interventions for young people at risk of disengagement from education/training/employment.</p>

<p>becoming NEET. Supporting Children, young people and young adults who are NEET back into Education, Employment, Training</p>	<p>YEPF led Support in Education Employment and Training case loading meetings (SEET) are held monthly and include a wide range of agencies brought together to focus upon young people aged 16 - 17 in Tier 1 (Unknown to Careers Wales) and those who present in Tier 2 (not ready/not able to enter education/employment/training). In the period, 121 16 -18 year olds at Tier 1 level were worked with and 68 16 -18 year olds at Tier 2 were worked with. 86.35% of 16-24 year olds went on to enter employment and 93.88% entered further learning or training; 94.63% of 16 - 25 year olds supported by the Youth Support Service as part of Families First attained a nationally recognised qualification or accreditation.</p> <p>Accommodation stability is key to being able to take up ETE opportunities, and in the period, 119 young people were supported with housing needs.</p> <p>83 young people were supported to access volunteering opportunities.</p> <p>Youth Support Service staff worked with Coleg Sir Gar to target Year 11 pupils, who were undecided about future options after leaving school. 11 young people attended a Taster Week in February half-term. All of the 11 young people went on to apply for courses. Plans are in place regarding a college summer transition program.</p> <p>During the period, School Based Youth Workers have worked with Education Services colleagues to engage/support or re-integrate Electively Home Educated children and young people. Some very positive 'post 16' youth work engagement was also demonstrated with 2 young people who had been electively home educated for 3 years. Work focussed upon improvement of skills in dealing with social situations. As a result, 1 young person commenced a traineeship with Coleg Sir Gar. The second young person, who suffered high levels of anxiety, attends weekly drop-in sessions run by youth work staff; is volunteering; is to attend 'Interview Skills' course with Hafan Cymru; is considering training programmes for the near future.</p> <p>2 targeted youth work projects were nominated for Youth Work Excellence Awards and progressed to the final held in Cardiff on 23/6/17 - "Ser y Byd" Netball Project – a collaboration between Heol Goffa School and Coleshill Day Centre, Llanelli and the Burns/YSS Project - an 8 week community project providing diversionary opportunities for young people to engage in community farm activities.</p>
<p>To safeguard children young people and young adults</p>	<p>The Youth Support Service aligns its safeguarding practices with the regional multi-agency Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention Strategy and Action Plan. The service regularly contributes to multi-agency strategy meetings under the All Wales Protocol for Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children who are at Risk of Abuse through Sexual Exploitation (AWCPPRG, 2013) and The All Wales Protocol – Missing Children (2011) and for Looked After Children. YSS staff attend a range of other meetings organised and co-ordinated by Children's Services designed to safeguard children and young people as appropriate.</p> <p>30 Youth Support Service Risk Management Meetings were convened to discuss 121 cases in the period in relation to risk of harm posed to others or where there was identified safety and wellbeing risks.</p> <p>All Youth Support Service prevention referrals; Youth Engagement and Progression Framework identified cases and statutory cases are checked against a range of information systems to help inform assessment and safeguard young people.</p>

All Youth Support Service staff have undertaken safeguarding training to a minimum of Level 1 with named officers fulfilling roles and duties at a higher level.

All schools within Carmarthenshire utilise the Evolve system to record educational trips, visits and activities including residential visits and trips abroad. Robust safeguarding measures and risk assessments play an integral role in this process. Training, advice & guidance is provided by the Training, Accreditation & Outdoor Learning Officer within the YSS to ensure that appropriate systems are in place.

Summary for the period:

Total Visits – 1554

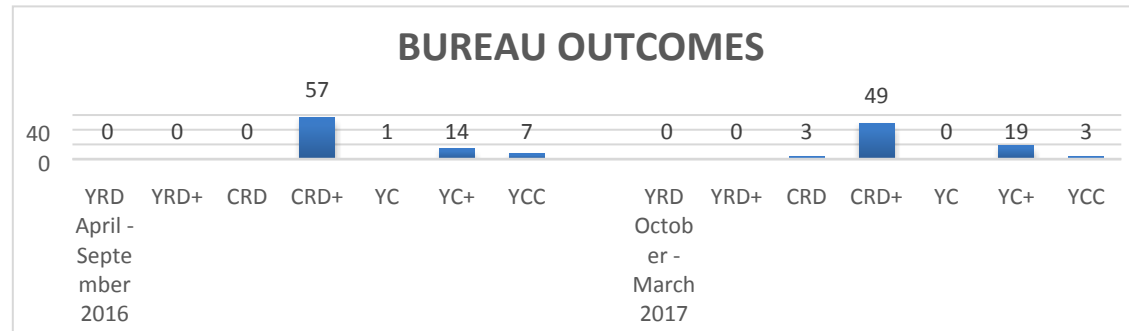
Total number of students in selected cohort - 38,214

Total number of days – 2027

Total number of participant days - 52,139

To divert children and young people away from criminal justice system

Bureau arrangements (introduced in Carmarthenshire in June 2014) are now well established across Dyfed-Powys. This approach is conducive with the Welsh Government’s ‘child first, offender second’ agenda, allowing for children and young people to access appropriate interventions to support them to lead productive lives free from further offending. Sign-posting on to other suitable services to address identified need is also an essential element of diversion. During the period, 153 Out of Court Disposals were administered to 126 young people.



Interventions can be delivered pre-court e.g. provision of harm reduction information in relation to substance misuse; some young people are signposted on to other services, so that they receive the appropriate advice, help and support. Other young people participate in a mix of interventions post-Bureau which are designed to reduce the risk of further offending.

Of the 153 disposal administered, the 15-17 year old age group was the most represented (108 Out of Court Disposals). All young people referred into Bureau are tracked using a regionally developed Bureau Tracking Tool. Quarterly meetings are held with managers and senior practitioners allowing for analysis of data. Emerging themes are considered and particular attention is given to features such as: age at point of entry; presenting risks and vulnerability factors. Such analysis contributes to more responsive and targeted service delivery.

Regional Bureau arrangements have been subject to an independent evaluation and review conducted by Aberystwyth University in 2015. The core findings and recommendations have been taken forward in a regional Bureau Action Plan formulated to unify, consolidate and build on the success of working practices across the region. Regional YOTs have been working with the YJB and key stakeholders to progress this work, overseen by the Dyfed-Powys Youth Crime Prevention Steering Group.

Performance- YJB Key Performance Indicators 2016/17

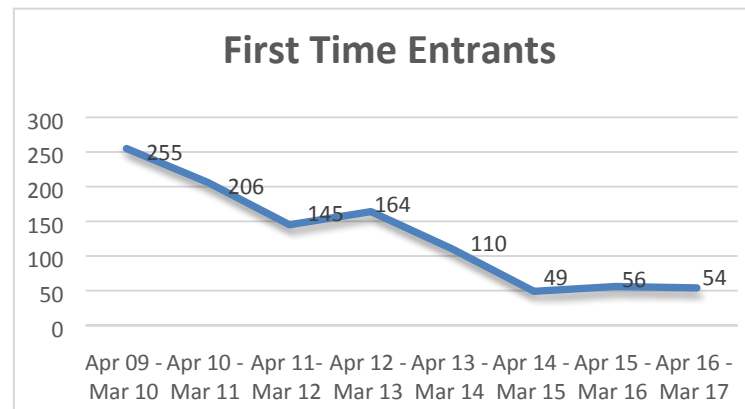
During the period, the Youth Justice Team worked with 32 young people subject to 36 statutory interventions. 42 prevention of offending programmes commenced in the period.

First Time Entrants:

Work has been undertaken to strengthen the interface between the School Based Youth Workers and prevention (of offending) staff to ensure more effective and efficient targeting of interventions. Over the last 3 years, First Time Entrant figures have been maintained at a low level.

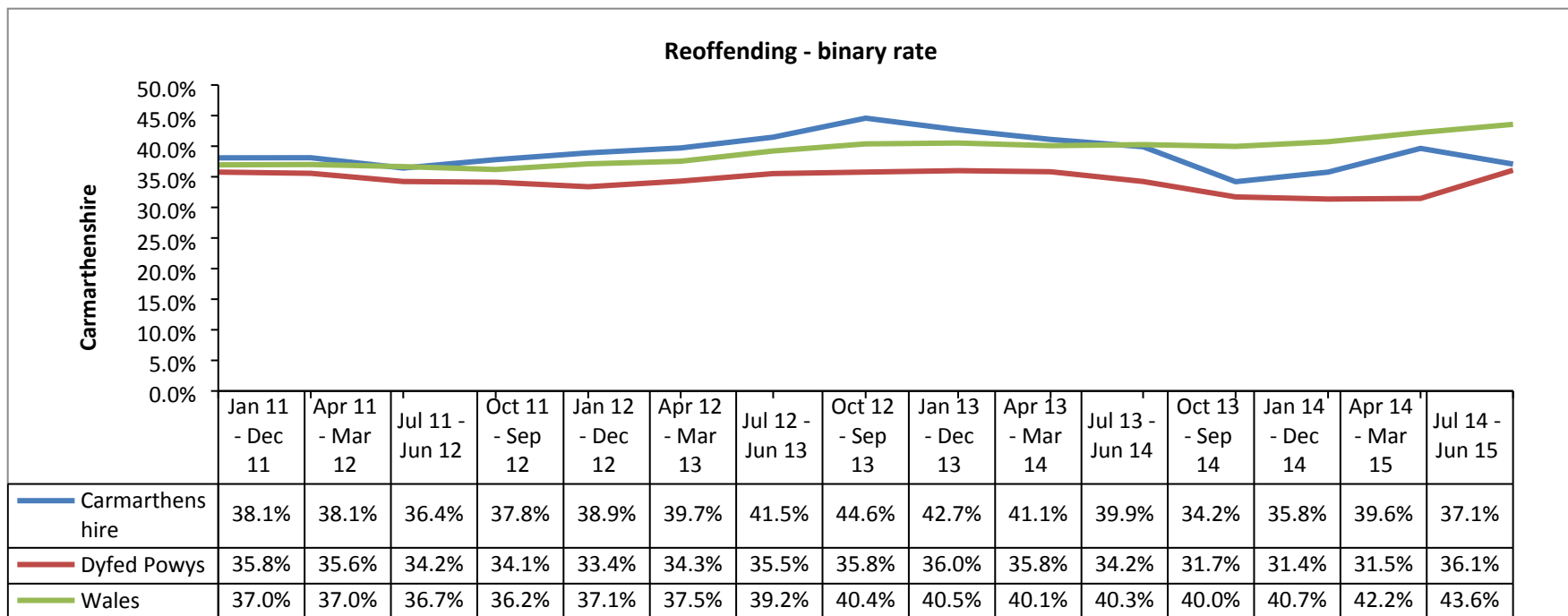
The Youth Support Service has engaged at strategic and operational levels as part of the county's approaches to tackling anti-social behaviour. This includes membership of Fair and Safe Communities Group (formerly known as the Community Safety Partnership); attendance at the Substance Misuse, Anti-Social Behaviour and Violent Crime Group as well as attendance ASB Problem Solving Groups. The Youth Support Service offers bespoke interventions based on assessment of need to young people and their families who are identified by the Police as engaging in acts of repeated Anti-Social Behaviour.

During the summer, Youth Support Service staff participated in the delivery of the 'Motivating our Youth' programme alongside the Police and Mid and West Wales Fire Service colleagues. 18 young people attended a 5 day programme which engaged Year 8 pupils from secondary schools in the County. The 8 - 18 team prevention Senior Practitioner has worked with the Mid and West Wales Fire Service in relation to targeting those young people most at risk, for inclusion in schemes such as the Phoenix Project.



Re-offending:

The Youth Justice Team's overall performance remains very positive. It is of note that the re-offending rate of young people has fluctuated over a number of years and started to show signs of increase during the October 2011 to September 2012 period, climbing several percentage points up until July 2013 to June 2014. 2014 to 2015 figures for the same period show that the reoffending rate for Carmarthenshire has decreased by 2.8% to 37.1% in comparison with 43.6% for Wales. This reduction is very pleasing and has been noted by the Youth Justice Board.



It is widely recognised that over the years, the number of young people entering into the criminal justice system has reduced dramatically. This means that the smaller cohort of children and young people supervised by YOTs present the highest likelihood of re-offending due to their high level of need/complexity. Indeed, the actions of one or two young people who may commit several offences within a shrinking cohort have a significant impact upon re-offending rates.

This situation has required careful management oversight and a number of strategies have been implemented by the Youth Support Service since the summer of 2014, designed to tackle re-offending rates. These have included use of the 'live re-offending tracker' to assist in profiling and targeting interventions including prevention and early intervention work; provision of specialist training to deliver the Enhanced Case

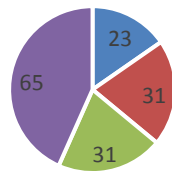
Management Model as well as AIM 2 assessments (for those young people who display harmful sexual behaviour); use of person centred intervention planning techniques. In 2016 staff were trained in AssetPlus - a new assessment and planning interventions framework which provides holistic end-to-end comprehensive assessment and an intervention plan. The framework is designed to provide better quality assessments and intervention plans in order to improve outcomes.

In addition to the development of the Bureau tracking toolkit, work is also being finalised to develop a regional tracker for prevention (of offending) cases. This will be used by Youth Support Service to effectively target those young people identified at greater risk of going on to offend.

The Management Board is regularly involved in monitoring and review of re-offending through use of the YJB toolkit, local data review and use of case study information.

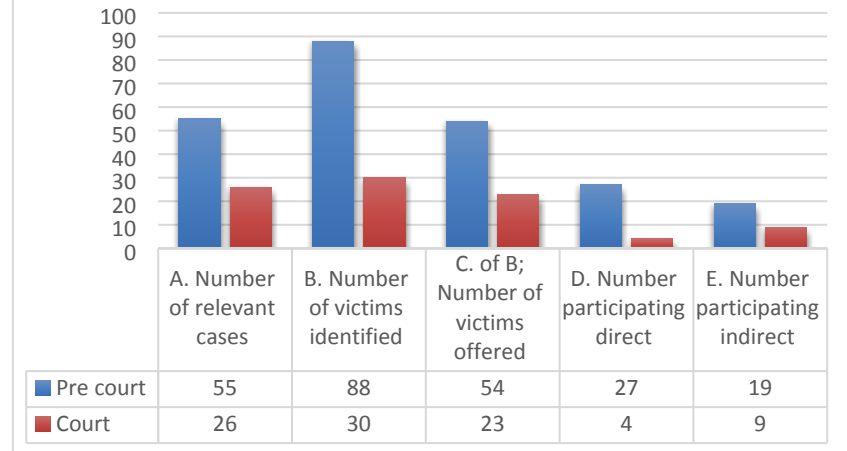
Restorative Approaches continue to inform practice delivery across the Youth Support Service. Each identifiable victim is contacted by the Victim Offender Mediator. A programme of training to Youth Work staff; volunteers and staff and other agencies has been provided in the period. During 2016/17, 853 hours of reparation work was completed by young people within Carmarthenshire as part of an agreed youth justice intervention plan. Some young people were jointly supervised by Youth Justice Team staff and a staff member from the Universal Support Team, and this has proved to be an effective method of engaging young people.

Restorative Approaches Training

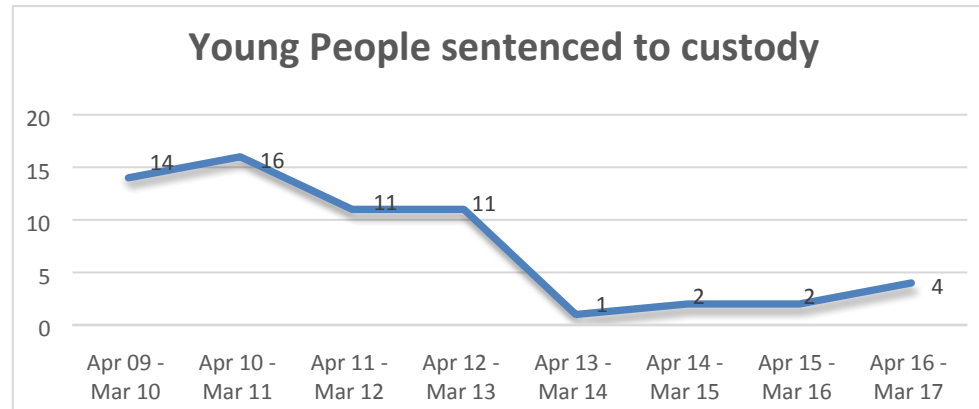


- (A) Number of YJS/YOT staff (including volunteers) undertaking training
- (B) No of School-based staff undertaking training
- (C) No of other agencies staff (all)
- (D) Number of trainees (all) providing feedback on RA

Restorative Process



Custody:



The graph shows that 4 custodial sentences were made in the period; this relates to 1 young person who, whilst in custody, was subject to 3 concurrent sentences.

Welsh YOTs are awaiting WG and YJB regulations and statutory guidance in relation to Resettlement and Re-integration Partnership Boards aimed at improving resettlement outcomes for children and young people who have experienced custody. As part of an interim measure therefore, in April 2016, the Local Management Board agreed to provide arrangements for the establishment of Carmarthenshire’s Re-integration and Re-settlement Panel in order that this area of work can be overseen from a multi-agency perspective. This approach has been maintained and is proving to be an effective mechanism in the sentence planning process. All young people subject to a Detention and Training Order have been regularly reviewed whilst serving their sentence in the secure estate and during the licence period. This helps ensure that young people are afforded every possible opportunity to address factors associated with their offending behaviour risks. Work to strengthen protective factors such as family relationships, education, employment and training and accommodation are also addressed in order to ensure that suitable provision is in place upon release into the community. This would include release on temporary licence as appropriate in order to maximise access to services and resources in the community. The Enhanced Case Management model has been used in working with a young person whilst in custody and following release on Licence; this allowed for continuity of approach towards achieving more effective supervision outcomes.

A National Standard Audit ‘Reducing Custody’ was completed in March 2017. Against 5 National Standards being audited, 3 were met; in one instance, standards were met with some recommended improvement. This matter was immediately addressed and rectified. 1 standard was not applicable (long-term custodial sentences).

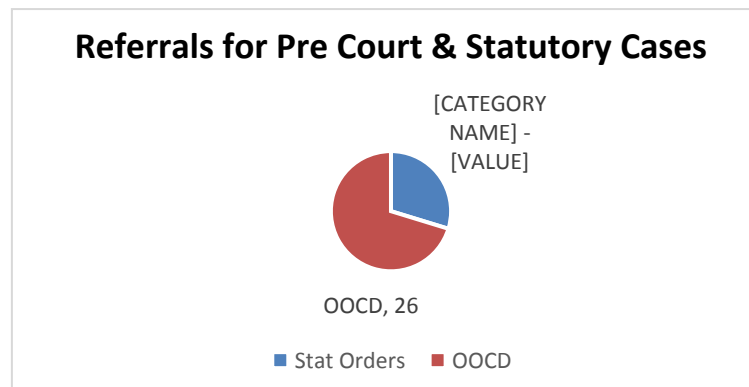
Access to Substance Misuse Services:

Statutory Cases referred into the Substance Misuse Service 2016/17 = 11 young people.

*All young people supervised on statutory orders by YSS are screened for substance misuse using AssetPlus. Of those screened, those with identified needs receive appropriate comprehensive assessment within 5 working days'. **YSS Performance Outcome for 2016-17 = 100 %.***

*'Following the comprehensive assessment, young people are offered the interventions they require within 10 working days.' **YSS Performance Outcome for 2016-17 = 100%.***

26 young people subject to Bureau or prevention work were referred into the Substance Misuse Service. All were assessed within 5 working days; furthermore all interventions were delivered within 10 working days. Youth Support Service Substance Misuse Workers have strong links with the lechyd Da/Youth Health Team as well as the Dual-Diagnosis Nurse (Specialist CAMHS).



During the year, Youth Support Service Substance Misuse staff collected data in order to establish identified Child Sexual Exploitation risks, taking into consideration Looked After Children; Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessment Framework and 'Missing Person' information. A report outlining findings was presented to the Local Management Board in June 2017. Out of 37 young people who required treatment from the Substance Misuse Service during the period; 8 were deemed to be at risk of Sexual Exploitation (21%) and 10 had emotional and mental health needs that required an intervention (27%). 5 were LAC. This information assists in understanding the complexities of some of the young people presenting with substance misuse needs and emphasises the need for close multi-agency working.

Access to Suitable Accommodation:

All but 2 young people living in the community under statutory supervision have been in unsuitable accommodation for the period. The Youth Support Service continues to improve its links with Housing Options in order to explore the most suitable options for each young person.

Access to Mental Health Services:

3 young people were identified as requiring a mental health assessment and were referred to Specialist CAMHS. 2 of these young people received an assessment within 28 days; the 3rd young person was assessed outside of the 28 day period. The Youth Support Service, CAMHS

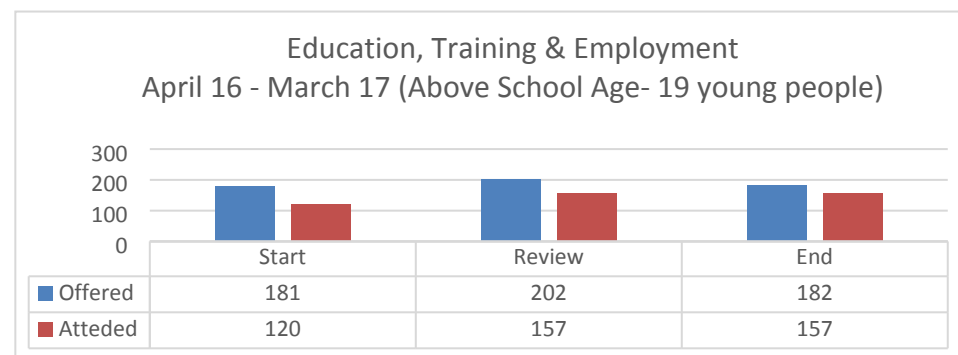
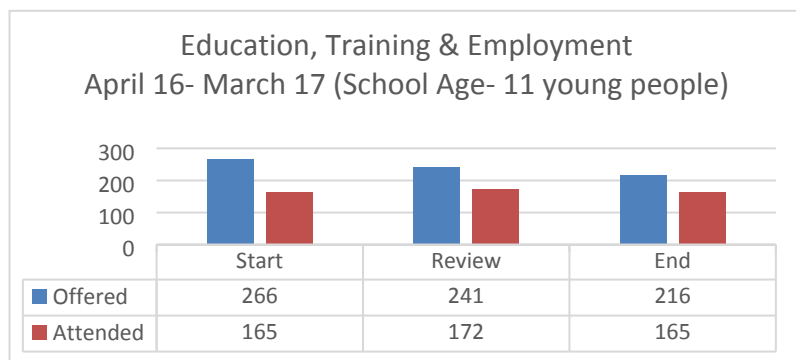
and lechyd Da hold quarterly meetings to review performance, and ensure that for those young people entering their services, appropriate emotional, mental health and wellbeing services are in place.

Access to Employment, Training and Education:

11 young people of school age were offered an average of 24.2 hours per week at the start of their orders and attended an average of 15 hours a week. The same young people were offered an average of 19.6 hours at the end of their orders, but attended an average of 15 hours per week. This fell short of the 25 hour per week entitlement. Out of the 11 young people, one young person attended 25 hours at the start of his order, but by the end, was offered 0 hours. This was due to school transport not being available to the young person pending a risk assessment.

2 young people were offered 25 hours a week but did not attend any hours for the duration of their orders. Another young person was offered 25 hours throughout, attended 5 hours at the start and 5 hours at the end. When concerns arise in relation to individual young people regarding educational provision, these are escalated in order that discussions can take place with senior departmental managers towards finding solutions.

19 young people above school leaving age were offered an average of 9.52 hours a week at the start of their orders and achieved an average of 6.31 hours. At the end of their orders the average weekly hours achieved increased to 8.26 hours per week against the desired 16+ hours. Challenges are met in instances when young people refuse/fail to engage in any ETE programme. There are examples where young people have made excellent progress and achieved in excess of the 16 hour weekly target; however there are other instances, for example, when a training programme has come to an end and no other provision is immediately available.



The appointment of an Education Officer within the Youth Justice Team from October 2016 will allow for every effort to be made to monitor young people who are subject to statutory orders. It also allows for liaison with YEPF colleagues and Cynnydd colleagues; schools, colleges and training providers.

From October 2014, the Youth Justice Team was one of 3 test sites in Wales engaged in the delivery of the Enhanced Case Management (ECM) Model of supervision. The test drew to a close in November 2016, with Cordis Bright producing an evaluation report in March 2017. This recommended further implementation and trial of the approach. The Youth Support Service has 8 members of staff trained to deliver Enhanced Case Management interventions to young people who have experienced significant trauma during their upbringing. During the test period, 12 young people were engaged. Feedback from young people and staff involved in the test has been very positive and Carmarthenshire is to continue its delivery of this work from October 2017. The Youth Justice Team Restorative Approaches Co-ordinator has been seconded on a part-time basis for the roll-out of the model in Western Bay YOT; this experience will also serve to enrich practice within the YSS.

The Youth Support Service remains committed to the county-wide Therapeutic Intervention Service for Sexually Harmful Behaviour (TISSH-B). 7 members of staff are trained in assessing (AIM2) and delivery ('Good Lives Model') in 2014. 3 managers have received in AIM 2 supervision training and as a result staff have developed confidence and expertise within this specialist area of work. The oversight of a Clinical Psychologist is invaluable in key stages of assessment and intervention delivery. Bespoke interventions often include work alongside family members/carers as appropriate, in order to achieve the best possible outcomes. More recently, an opportunity has arisen to joint work a case with a Children's Services' Social Worker. The Youth Support Service has worked with 2 young people under TISSHB during the period.

Youth Justice Team staff ensure that exit strategies for young people completing their statutory supervision are in place. In the period, 4 young people agreed to continue to work on voluntary interventions in order that any identified risk/needs could continue to be addressed

Youth Justice Management Board Oversight:

Under the direction of the Local Management Board, an audit was completed with Children's Services colleagues against outcomes and recommendations set out in Lord Lamming's report, 'In Care Out of Trouble' (May 2016). The Management Board found that collaboration between the Youth Support Service and Children's Services teams was evident e.g. the Youth Justice Team has trained Fostering Service staff in the provision of AA duties in line with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act; Children's Services colleagues have received briefings in relation to Bureau. Further skill sharing and training opportunities exist e.g. the Youth Support Service delivering Restorative Approaches training; joint working.

An audit of cases was also presented to the Local Management Board which showed that those young people assessed using AssetPlus who were identified as having emotional health and wellbeing needs, were appropriately referred or signposted on to relevant services by staff.

Any relevant young people who fall within the remit of the All Wales Guidance for the appropriate Management and Transfer of Children by the Police and Local Authorities are discussed on a case by case basis at each Local Management Board.

5. YSS Priorities and Operational Plan 2017/18

Corporate Wellbeing Objective linked to Youth Support Service for 2017/18:

<p>'We will deliver our Toy Box and Hamper Appeal to those children and families identified to us as requiring some support.'</p>	<p>Planning to deliver the Toy Box and Hamper Appeal commences during the summer and the project is delivered in December each year to young people, young adults and families identified in Carmarthenshire.</p>
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Support Service Actions for 2017-18 - extract from Education Services Divisional Business Plan:

Strategic Service Priorities With Key Actions and Key Outcome Measures	By When^{#1}
<p>Ensuring that a clear ethos of Safeguarding pervades through Youth Support Service (YSS) and is manifested in its procedures, measures and actions taken.</p>	<p>March 2018</p>
<p>The Youth Support Service will use the Bronze Level Quality Standards as a tool for improving the quality and impact of its youth work provision.</p>	<p>March 2018</p>
<p>The Youth Support Service will support educational attendance, behaviour and attainment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the number of school leavers without qualifications. • Reducing the number of children and young people at risk of becoming NEET. • Supporting children, young people and young adults who are NEET back into Education, Employment, Training 	<p>March 2018</p>
<p>Support the process of curriculum development in schools ensuring that youth workers become 'enablers' who seek to 'multiply the impact of each other's efforts' so that children and young people develop as ethical, informed citizens; are ambitious, capable learners; are healthy confident individuals and are enterprising, creative contributors.</p>	<p>March 2018</p>
<p>We will carry out a self-assessment of the Youth Support Services against the National Participation Standards.</p>	<p>March 2018</p>

Youth Support Service Operational Plan 2017/18

	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Success Criteria</u>
1.	<p>To ensure that the Youth Support Service provides a high quality, responsive and accessible youth work provision for children, young people and young adults.</p>	<p>To work towards the achievement of the Bronze Quality Mark for Youth Work in Wales To carry out a self-assessment against the Children and Young People's National Participation Standards for Wales</p> <p>To re-align staffing within the Youth Support Service Universal Support Team</p> <p>To maintain a strong focus upon Youth Club provision, including links with the Urdd; Carmarthenshire Young Farmers and other independent youth clubs</p> <p>To develop referral processes which enable children and young people are able to access what they need when they need it.</p> <p>To provide opportunities to those children and young people who may require additional support, guidance and encouragement to achieve the Duke of Edinburgh Award</p> <p>To provide a comprehensive term time and holiday programme for children and young people to access via Universal Youth Support Team.</p>	<p>Completion of the Award in 2017/18</p> <p>Completion of self-assessment; production of Participation Action Plan as appropriate</p> <p>Recruitment of Universal Support Team staff into re-aligned roles.</p> <p>Number Youth Club Staff Development Sessions held; number of staff trained; Youth Clubs attendees to be consulted in relation to what activities they would like organised during holiday periods</p> <p>Number of young people referred from Youth Justice Team into youth work provision and universal programmes</p> <p>Number of young people accessing the Duke of Edinburgh Open Award Centres.</p> <p>Number of young people attending programmes and activities</p>
2.	<p>To support children and young people to access appropriate health and wellbeing services</p>	<p>To ensure that children, young people and young adults are appropriately assessed to identify their particular need.</p> <p>To refer children and young people into CAMHS/Primary Mental Health services.</p> <p>To signpost children, young people and young adults on to suitable services</p>	<p>Youth Justice Board Key Performance Indicators Families First performance</p> <p>Quarterly meetings with CAMHS/Iechyd Da to review referrals</p> <p>Data provided by Iechyd Da regarding number of referrals from Youth Support Service</p>

		To provide substance misuse interventions within Youth Support Service or to refer onto other appropriate provision	Data gathered by Youth Support Service Substance Misuse Service
3.	To support the process of curriculum development in schools and support educational attainment and attendance for children, young people and young adults.	<p>Reducing the number of school leavers without qualifications.</p> <p>Reducing the number of children and young people at risk of becoming NEET.</p> <p>Supporting children, young people and young adults who are NEET back into Education, Employment, Training</p> <p>To strengthen the YEPF early identification processes through links with Teacher Centre and administrative support</p> <p>Further enhancement of tracking approaches to be explored with Careers Wales as part of Support into Education, Employment and Training (SEET).</p> <p>To commence engagement work supported by Cam Nesa (European Social Fund) to provide additional in working with 16-25 year olds who are NEET.</p> <p>To Utilising Gwirvol grant funding to deliver an engagement programme to support 16-25 year olds with ETE opportunities.</p>	<p>Youth Justice Board Key Performance Indicators</p> <p>Reducing numbers identified as Tier 1 and 2 on the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework</p> <p>Number of VAP cases engaged with School Based Youth Work</p> <p>Number of qualifications and accreditations achieved</p> <p>Number of TAF plans contributed to or Key worked</p> <p>Number of programmes delivered in schools by Universal Youth Support Team</p> <p>Number of young people supported in transitioning to secondary school/college</p> <p>Cynnydd data</p> <p>Cam Nesa outcomes/ data</p> <p>Number of participants</p>
4.	To become an 'ACE Aware' service	YSS staff are trained in awareness of ACEs; screening and associated risk factors	<p>Number of staff trained</p> <p>Number of children/young people/young adults identified and screened for ACEs</p>
5.	To divert children and young people away from the criminal justice system	Delivery of Bureau arrangements	<p>Number of young people diverted from court</p> <p>Number of Community Resolutions</p> <p>Number of Youth Cautions</p>

6.	To prevent offending and re-offending of children and young people	Use of Prevention Tracker toolkit Planning for exit strategies and signposting of young people into prevention services/youth work provision Accepting Anti-Social Behaviour referrals Accepting prevention referrals	Number of First Time Entrants and re-offending rates Number of young people worked with Number of referrals to prevention/youth work from Youth Justice Team Number of Anti-Social Behaviour referrals received and worked with Number of referrals for prevention work from partners/ external agencies
7.	To adopt holistic approaches in working with children, young people and families	Youth Support Service staff to undertake commissioned parenting training Joint working with partners in the delivery of parenting programmes Further development of Person Centred Planning approaches Delivery of TAF approaches	Number of staff trained in parenting Number of programmes delivered Number of staff receiving person centred planning training Families First data

6. Workforce planning

The YJB Youth Justice Workforce Development Strategy 2017-20 (April 2017) sets out 6 aims and objectives designed to the development of a highly motivated and skilled workforce in the youth justice sector. The Youth Support Service will monitor developments outlined within the strategy in order to ensure that the youth justice workforce can remain skilled, motivated and effective. Though there is no current workforce development strategy relating to Youth Workers, all staff's training needs and development are fully considered within the Youth Support Service Training Plan (Appendix 2).

Youth Support Service staff will receive regular, formal supervision and annual appraisals which identify their professional development needs. Corporate training is accessed through the Local Authority and there is a particular arrangement with Children's Services enabling access to specific training related to children and young people. The Youth Support Service encourages staff to complete appropriate e-learning modules promoted by the Local Authority's Learning and Development arrangements. Staff can also utilise YJB Hwb Doeth (Youth Justice Resource Hub) to access youth justice specific e-learning through the Youth Justice Interactive Learning Space (YJILS) as well as accessing examples of effective practice.

YSS Team Managers' lead responsibilities were reviewed recently; it is expected that all managers work together to ensure that the service as a whole benefits from their areas of leadership.

Practice Development Days for staff will continue to be used to skill share; to focus upon emerging practice and to receive training input. A Youth Support Service Development Day is to be held in July 2017, to include discussions regarding departmental and service priorities. Workshops will be held to include participation, supporting emotionally vulnerable children and young people and staff health and wellbeing.

Team Managers regularly hold team meetings which assist in helping to support staff and disseminate performance information; learning and good practice.

Welsh Language provision remains a priority across the County Council and staff are able to access training which is suited to their individual need.

As part of the Youth Support Service business planning process, the YSS Training Plan for 2016/17 has been reviewed and performance against the plan has been noted. Sound progress has been made in the last year. The Youth Support Service will continue to work towards achievements against the 2017/18 Training Plan which reflects service priorities and gives managers an overview of the professional development needs of staff.

Qualified Youth Workers and Youth Support Workers are required to register with the Education Workforce Council with effect from April 2017. Social workers maintain their professional registration Social Care Wales; this includes evidence of a relevant professional training record.

The Youth Support Service also provides training, induction and development of volunteers who play a significant role in the delivery of Referral Order Panels, Bureau and the delivery of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

In 2017/18 attention will be continue to be focussed upon the need to ensure that volunteers, Youth Club Leaders and support staff are very much involved in future training opportunities and service developments.

Delivering quality is a strong theme for the forthcoming year. This links well with carrying out a self-assessment against the National Children and Young People's Participations Standards and submitting an application to achieve the Youth Mark Quality Bronze Award by January 2018.

Areas for skills development for 2017/18 include, production of good quality youth work assessments; delivery of parenting programmes; building on ACE awareness to inform effective interventions; supporting staff to work with emotionally vulnerable young people. Adult safeguarding training is arranged in October 2017, and all staff will be able to access substance misuse/health training in December 2017. Awareness raising in relation to Violence Against Women and Domestic Abuse and the associated risk management process - MARAC is an area for further development.

Work will be undertaken to further develop links with Housing Options, and YSS will liaise with Children's Services in the development of suitable accommodation pathways for those young people with more complex needs.

Preparation is currently underway for the YSS to contribute to the delivery of Cam Nesa (European Social Fund project extending across ERW). This project will provide a range of engagement, learning and training activities for 16–24 year olds in order to reduce youth unemployment and the number of young people who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET); also to increase the attainment levels of 16–24 year olds who are NEET.

The YSS staff group has emphasised the need for the service to utilise social media effectively in terms of communicating what we offer. This work is being progressed through a Task and Finish group in liaison with the Corporate Communications Office. Furthermore, work is ongoing to promote risk assessment in relation to activities being delivered as well as lone working responsibilities.

7. Risks to future delivery

The Youth Support Service has emerged out of the need for radical structural change in response to facing a number of challenges and opportunities. The next year will be of critical importance in continuing to consolidate the delivery of services against identified priorities. Whilst each team within the service will be tasked with fulfilling their roles and functions in accordance with a range of performance measures, it is critical that staff within teams also work together so that children, young people and young adults are able to access a high level of service suitable to their individual need.

Performance delivery; maintaining /improving performance; managing human resources in the face of decreasing budgets, continue to present a challenge and this will require very careful oversight to ensure that standards are maintained at a high level. However there is a strong determination that the progress made in the last year will continue to be built upon.

The Youth Support Service will monitor and respond to key developments such as the establishment of a National Youth Support Service Board and the Welsh Government review of Extending Entitlement (the statutory direction and guidance for youth support services in Wales). It is anticipated that the updated Extending Entitlement will be published in summer 2018. Following this, Welsh Government will begin the process of consulting on a new National Youth Work Strategy.

Alongside these developments, in February 2017, the Government announced youth justice reforms involving a package of measures intended to provide stronger, clearer governance of the youth justice system. Within these measures, the Youth Justice Board retains its status and purpose; and reforms relating to the day to day running of the youth secure estate have been outlined. Announcements relating to further reforms are yet to be made pending consultation of stakeholders across the youth justice sector. It is critical that Welsh YOTs are enabled to be fully participative in key processes which will shape future provision.

8. Approval

This business plan was approved by the Youth Justice Team Local Management Board at its meeting on

Signed

Jake Morgan

Chair of Carmarthenshire Youth Justice Team Management Board

Appendix 1

Staff Profiles -Youth Justice Team

	Strategic Manager (PT)	Strategic Manager (FT)	Operational Manager (PT)	Operational Manager (FT)	Practitioners (PT)	Practitioners (FT)	Administration (PT)	Administration (FT)	Sessional	Students/trainees	Volunteer	Total
Permanent		1	1		4	7	2	3				18
Fixed-term												
Outsourced												
Temporary											8	8
Vacant						1						1
Seconded Children's Services												
Seconded Probation Officer					1 (vacant)							1
Seconded Police Officer						1						1
Seconded Health					1							1
Seconded Education												
Seconded Connexions												
Seconded Other												
TOTAL		1	1		6	9	2	3			8	30
Disabled (self-classified)												

Staff Profile by Role; Gender; Welsh Language Competence and Ethnicity

	Managers Strategic		Managers Operational		Practitioners		Administrative		Sessional		Student		Volunteer		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
White British		1		1	5	7		5					2	5	7	19
White Irish																
Other White																
White & Black Caribbean																
White & Black African																
White & Asian																
Other Mixed					1										1	
Indian																
Pakistani																
Bangladeshi																
Other Asian																
Caribbean																
African																
Other Black													1		1	
Chinese																
Any other ethnic group																
Not Known*															1	1
TOTAL															10	20
*Total includes 2 vacancies marked as 'Not Known'																
Welsh Speakers		1			2	3									3	3

Restorative Justice trained staff and volunteers 2016/17:

65 staff members and volunteers across YSS have received Restorative Justice training during this period.

**Cynllun Hyfforddi Gwasanaeth Cymorth Ieuenctid - Youth Support Service Training Plan
2016 – 2017**

Training Title	Why	Who	Delivery	Cost	When	Duration	Completion
Personal Safety/Lone Working	Safeguarding/H&S/Sharing of good practice/staff support	All Staff	Eddie Cummings (internal)	No – internal delivery	April – September 2016	Day	11/4/17- YYS Management Group
Child Sexual Exploitation (inc. Online)	Safeguarding /update knowledge & inform practice developments	All Staff	TBC	Yes TBC	2016/2017	Day	1 member of staff - (2 courses cancelled)
Equality & Diversity	Safeguarding/update knowledge & inform practice developments/ inclusion/mandatory CCC training/policy & strategy compliance	All Staff	E-learning	No – e-learning	April – September 2016	1hr	Carried forward to 2017/18
Outlook Training – Basic & Advanced	CPD/update knowledge/effective use of resources	Admin Staff	Paul Morgan/Suzanne Jordan	No - internal	April – September 2016	1 day	Yes
QES Update	CPD/update knowledge/effective use of resources	Admin Staff	Paul Morgan	No - internal	April – September 2016	½ day	Yes
ASDAN training	CPD/update/increase staff knowledge to inform & widen practice development	Nominated Staff	ASDAN	Yes – TBC	September – December 2016	1 day	12/9/16 - 10 staff
Families First	Update knowledge/ensure compliance with funders/address any practice issues/support staff	All Families First funded Staff	Hefin Lloyd & Iwan Davies	No – internal	April 2016	½ day	11/4/16 - 23 staff
Restorative Approaches	Update knowledge/ inform practice development/Sharing of good practice	Nominated Staff	James Perdue & Davinia Harries-Davies	No – internal	April – July 2016	2-3 days	16 staff
Speech & Language Screening Tool	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Youth Justice Staff	Elinor Williams Advisory Teacher	No – internal	2016 - 2017	½ day	Carried forward to 2017/18
Domestic Abuse STAR training (11-13)	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Nominated Staff	Gemma Jones Welsh Women's Aid	Yes – purchase resources (£450)	April – December 2016 (2 separate	2 days 14-25 & 1 additional day for 11-13	14 & 15/6/16; 30/6 & 14/7/16 7 & 8/9/16 17 & 18/1/17

					courses)		26 & 27/1/17 41 staff trained to date (14-25 programme) (11-13 programme) - 25/1/17 14 staff to date; Awaiting confirmation of another 11-13 date
Adult Safeguarding Process & Systems	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion/Sharing of good practice	Nominated Staff (Mainly post 16)	Internal – Adult Social Services	No – internal	July - December 2016	½ day	17/10/16 - 27 staff
Housing & Benefits	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion/Sharing of good practice	Post 16	Internal –	No – internal	2016 - 2017	½ day	HL to develop in relation to recent changes
Substance Misuse Level 1	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion/Sharing of good practice	Nominated Staff	YSS substance misuse staff 7 Choices	No – internal	2016 - 2017	1 day	Ongoing – corporate training
First Aid Training (16hr)	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & licence compliance	Nominated staff (12)	Rob Clapham (RT Training Wales)	Yes – (£1300 - £1500)	February 2017	2 days	23/24/6/16 7/8/11/16 2/3/3/17 35 staff 18/3/17 p/t staff (6hrs) 8 staff
White Water Swift Rescue	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & licence compliance	Nominated Staff	Bill Beynon	Yes – TBC	April – July 2016	2 days	8 & 12/7/16 12 staff
Regional Training	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update	Identified Staff	Regional	Yes - £1000	April 2016 – March 2017	1 day	April 2016 65 staff regionally

Page 60	knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion			contribution to regional pot			
	Data Protection	Safeguarding/update knowledge & inform practice developments/ inclusion/mandatory CCC training/policy & strategy compliance	Identified Staff	E-learning	No – internal e-learning	2016-2017	1 hr
<u>2017 – 2018</u>							
Training Title	Why	Who	Delivery	Cost	When	Duration	
Confidentiality	Safeguarding/update knowledge & inform practice developments/ inclusion/mandatory CCC training/policy & strategy compliance	All Staff	E-learning	No – e-learning	April – September 2017	1 hr	
Effective Skills for supervisors	CPD/update knowledge & inform practice developments/support staff	Managers & Senior Pracs	L&D	No – internal	2017/2018	2 days	
Internal Verification Qualification/s	Ensure Centre Status/Accreditation/Quality Assurance/Agored Cymru Requirement/Compliance with Youth Work Strategy/YEPF	Nominated Staff	Agored Cymru	No-internal	2017/2018	3-6 months	
Motivational Interviewing	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Nominated Staff	L&D contact	Yes - TBC	2017/2018	2 days	
Evolve & Risk Assessment	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/ policy & licence compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	School Based Youth Workers	Sian Morgan	No – internal	2017/2018	1 day	Identify staff as need arises for use of system
Regional Training	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/ policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Identified Staff	Regional	Yes - £1000 contribution to regional	April 2017 – March 2018	1 day	April 2017 68 staff regionally

				pot			
Mental Health First Aid	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Identified Staff	L&D contact	No - internal	2017/2018	2 days	
Sexual Health Training	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Identified Staff	Adult Learning Wales (partnership agreement)	NO – as part of partnership agreement	2017/2018	3 days	
Introduction to the Award (Duke of Ed Award)	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Identified Staff	DoE Award	Yes	2017/2018	1 day	
Duke of Edinburgh Supervisors Award	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Identified Staff	DoE Award	Yes	2017/2018	2 days	
MARAC Training	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Identified Staff		No-internal	2017/2018	1 day	
Navigation/Orienteering Training	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Identified staff	Alison Owen – Yeates	No – internal	2017/2018	1 day	3 staff 12/5/17
Site Specific Training	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Identified Staff	Alison Owen – Yeates/Sian Morgan	No – internal	2017/2018	1 day	16/6/17 12 staff
Adult Safeguarding	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Identified Staff	L&D	No – internal	2017/2018	1 day	
Substance Misuse	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice	Identified Staff	L&D	No – internal	2017/2018	1 day	

	development/inclusion						
Participation	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Identified Staff	Sarah Powell	No – internal	2017/2018	1 day	
Assess Training	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Identified Staff	L&D	No – internal	2017/2018		
Enhanced Case Management	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	All Staff	Jonny Matthews	Yes	2017/2018	1 day	
UNCRC	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	YJ staff	Sarah Powell & TSD	No - internal	2017/2018	1 day	
Victim Work	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Nominated Staff	TBC	TBC	2017/2018	1 day	
Adverse Childhood Experiences	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	All staff	TBC	TBC	2017/2018	1 day	
Practice Development Days	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Identified staff	TBC	TBC	2017/18	1 day	ECM & CAMHS – 6/4/17 JAFF update Restorative Approaches
Service Development Days	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	All staff	Managers	No - internal	12/7/17 7/12/17	1 day	
<u>Additional Training accessible 2016 – 2018</u>							

Training Title	Why	Who	Delivery	Cost	When	Duration	
ILM 5-7	CPD/update knowledge & inform practice developments/support staff	Managers & Senior Pracs	L&D	TBC	2016 - 2018	1 Year	
Self-Harm Awareness	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice developments/inclusion	Nominated Staff	L&D contact	Yes – bespoke	2016 -2018	1 day	
Mental Health First Aid	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice developments/inclusion	Nominated Staff	L&D contact	Yes – bespoke	2016 - 2018	1 day	
Attachment	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice developments/policy compliance/inclusion	Nominated Staff	LAC Team	No - internal	2016 - 2018	1 day	
Appropriate Adult	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion/Sharing of good practice	Nominated Staff (Mainly post 16)	Louisa Jones	No - internal	2016 - 2018	1 day	
Engaging with Families	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion/Sharing of good practice/Families First Compliance/YEPF & Youth Work Strategy compliance	Families First Staff	TBC	TBC	2016 - 2018	1 day	
Social Services & Wellbeing Act Implementation	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion/Sharing of good practice	Nominated Staff	L&D	No – internal	2016 - 2018	½ day	Ongoing corporate
Youth Work Award Level 2	Safeguarding/H&S/Update knowledge/policy & compliance /Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion	Volunteers	Sian Morgan & Regional Partners	Yes – dependant on numbers	2016 – 2018	9 days or 3 weekends	2 courses completed Future dates TBC summer term
Safeguarding	Safeguarding/update knowledge & inform practice developments/ inclusion/mandatory CCC training/policy & strategy compliance	Identified Staff	E-learning	No – internal e-learning	2016 - 2018	1 hr	Ongoing corporate
Person Centred	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform		L&D	No -	2017 - 2018	1 Day	21/3/17

Planning	& widen practice development/inclusion/Sharing of good practice			Corporate			4 staff
Sexually Harmful Behaviour	Safeguarding/Update knowledge/inform & widen practice development/inclusion/Sharing of good practice		L&D	No – corporate	2017 -2018	½ Day	24/4/17 4 staff

Additional in year training received:

- Youth Justice and prevention of offending staff have received training in UNCRC and participation.
- An event was held with YSS volunteers to acknowledge their contribution and to discuss the YSS vision, principles and priorities.
- 2 YSS Development Days were held for all staff in June and Dec 2016.
- Throughout 2017/16, a programme of Practice Development Days and training days involving staff across the Youth Support Service has been organised and has included training on the Enhanced Case Management Approach; Emotional and Mental Health (CAMHS) and Restorative Approaches; Joint Assessment Family Framework (Families First).
- Staff representatives involved in prevention of offending and re-offending work attended a Youth Justice Board training event in March 2017. There was an emphasis on 'Child first, offender second'; the voice of the child in the design and development of service delivery; the impact of labels on a young person.
- Staff attended a National Youth Work Conference in March 2017 where there was an emphasis on the quality of youth work.

Appendix 3: Glossary

Acronym / Term	Meaning
APB	Area Planning Board
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
ASBO	Anti-Social Behaviour Order
ASDAN	ASDAN qualifications are approved for pre- and post-16 provision by the regulatory authorities for England (Ofqual), Wales (Qualifications Wales) and Northern Ireland
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
CCC	Carmarthenshire County Council
CYSUR	Child and Youth Safeguarding- Unifying the Region
Careers Wales	Welsh Government body offering careers advice and guidance to young people
Communities First	WG programme to reduce poverty in the most deprived communities in Wales
CPN	Community Psychiatric Nurse
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
CYC	County Youth Council – representative group for young people
CYPP	Children and Young People’s Partnership – body overseeing delivery of education and youth support services for young people aged 11-25
CPD	Continuous professional development – keeping staff skills and knowledge up to date
DfES	Welsh Government department for Education & Skills (responsible for education policy)
DTO	Detention and Training Order
DofE	Duke of Edinburgh’s Award
ECM	Enhanced Case Management model
EOTAS	Educated other than at school – children and young people of statutory age who are not attending mainstream state schools but are accessing education delivered by the local authority (e.g. pupil referral units, home tuition, alternative education provision)
EHE	Elective Home Education – children and young people being educated at home by their parents following parental decisions not to educate their children in state schools
EPC	Engagement & Progression Co-ordinator – key LA contact for delivering the YEPF (see below)
ERW	Regional school improvement partnership for the 6 south west and mid Wales Local Authorities (Ceredigion, Powys, NPT, Swansea, Pembrokeshire & Carmarthenshire)
ESF	European Social Fund – EU funding scheme to address social inequalities
Estyn	Inspection body overseeing compliance to WG learning policy and delivery requirements
ETE	Education Training and Employment
Extending Entitlement	WG policy for support services for young people aged 11-25
FACTS	Forensic Adolescent Consultant Service
Families First	Welsh Government policy and grant to lift families out of poverty
KPI	Key Performance Indicator

LCJB	Local Criminal Justice Board
LSCB	Local Safeguarding Children Board
MAPPA	MAPPA – Multi agency public protection arrangements
MARAC	Multi-agency risk assessment conference
NEET	Not in employment, education or training – a classification for young people aged 16-25 not deemed by government to be engaged in productive activity
OCN	The Open College Network provides for awarding of flexible qualifications
PBB	Priority Based Budgeting – the on-going programme of corporate budget cuts within CCC
PSR	Pre-sentence Report
RJ	Restorative Justice
SEN	Special Educational Needs
STAR	Safety, Trust and Respect Programme
SWEET	SWEET is a learning and skills development programme offering a specialist BTEC Level 1 or 2 qualification in Personal & Social Development (PSD)
VAP	Vulnerability Assessment Profile – a spreadsheet used to identify young people at risk of becoming NEET based on young people's attendance, achievement and behaviour
WAO	Wales Audit Office
WDI	Welsh Devolved Indicators
WG	Welsh Government
WLGA	Welsh Local Government Association
YEPF	Youth Engagement & Progression Framework – WG NEET reduction strategy
YJB	Youth Justice Board
YJMIS	YJMIS – Youth Justice Management Information Service
YOPS	Youth Offending and Prevention Service
YOT	Youth Offending Team
YMC	YOT Managers Cymru
YRO	Youth Rehabilitation Order
YSS	Youth Support Service

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 28th SEPTEMBER 2017

2017/18 Well-being Objectives Performance Monitoring Report

Quarter 1 – 1st April to 30th June 2017

To consider and comment on the following issues:

That the Committee scrutinises the 2017/18 Well-being Objectives Performance Monitoring Report for Quarter 1. The report includes:

- Actions and measures in the 2017/18 Well-being Objectives delivery Plan relevant to the Committee’s remit.

Reasons:

- To ensure that any areas of concern are identified and relevant action taken.
- To enable members to exercise their scrutiny role in relation to performance monitoring.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: NO

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder:

Cllr. Glynog Davies (Education & Children)

Directorate: Education & Children	Designations:	Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:
Name of Head of Service: Aeron Rees	Head of Curriculum and Well-being	01267 246532 JARees@cararthenshire.gov.uk
Andi Morgan	Head of Education Services	01267 246645 AndiMorgan@cararthenshire.gov.uk
Stefan Smith	Head of Children’s Services	01267 246530 SJSmith@cararthenshire.gov.uk
Report Author: David Astins	Strategic Development Manager	01267 246426 dastins@cararthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 28th SEPTEMBER 2017

2017/18 Well-being Objectives Performance Monitoring Report

Quarter 1 – 1st April to 30th June 2017

The attached report sets out the progress against the actions and measures in the 2017/18 Well-being Objectives delivery Plan relevant to the Committee's remit, as at 30th June 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: Aeron Rees Head of Learner Programmes
 Andi Morgan Head of School Effectiveness
 Stefan Smith Head of Children's Services

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

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

- The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires public bodies :-
- i. to set and publish Well-being Objectives by 31st March 2017 - *published*
 - ii. to publish a statement about Well-being Objectives - *published*
 - iii. **to take all reasonable steps to meet those Objectives**

2. Legal

In our published Well-being Statement we committed to monitor our Well-being Objective action plans.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed:	Aeron Rees	Head of Curriculum and Wellbeing
	Andi Morgan	Head of Education Services
	Stefan Smith	Head of Children's Services

1. Local Member(s) – N/A

2. Community / Town Councils – N/A

3. Relevant Partners – N/A

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – All departments have been consulted and have had the opportunity to provide comments on their performance and progress.

**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 Well-being Objectives delivery plan	http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/consultation-performance/well-being-of-future-generations/our-well-being-objectives.aspx#.Wa6wu2eovIU
Performance Measurement Records	Performance Management Unit, Regeneration & Policy Division
Departmental Business Plans 2016/17	Performance Management Unit, Regeneration & Policy Division
Budget Monitoring Reports	Corporate Services Department



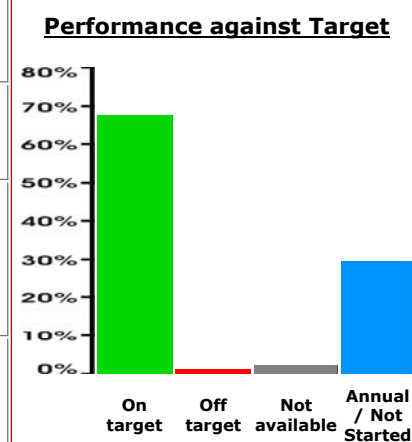
Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Education and Children scrutiny - Quarter 1 2017/18



Filtered by:
 Organisation - Carmarthenshire County Council
 Department - Education & Children
 Source document - Well-being Objectives 2017-18

The table below provides a summary progress against target for the Actions and Measures contained within the selected document

		Total	On target	Off target	Not reported	Not available	Annual / Not started	% on target	Overall % on target
1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences	Actions	13	13	0	0	N/A	0	100%	74%
	Measures	14	7	1	0	2	4	50%	
2. Help children live healthy lifestyles (Childhood Obesity)	Actions	16	16	0	0	N/A	0	100%	84%
	Measures	3	0	0	0	0	3	0%	
3. Continue to improve learner attainment for all	Actions	18	18	0	0	N/A	0	100%	53%
	Measures	16	0	0	0	0	16	0%	
4. Reduce the number of young adults that are Not in Education, Employment or Training	Actions	7	7	0	0	N/A	0	100%	64%
	Measures	4	0	0	0	0	4	0%	
5. Tackle poverty by doing all we can to prevent it, help people into work and improve the lives of	Actions	1	1	0	0	N/A	0	100%	50%
	Measures	1	0	0	0	0	1	0%	
9. Support good connections with friends, family and safer communities	Actions	1	1	0	0	N/A	0	100%	100%
11. A Council wide approach to support Ageing Well in Carmarthenshire	Actions	2	2	0	0	N/A	0	100%	100%
Overall Performance	Actions and Measures	96	65	1	0	2	28	68%	



OFF TARGET



Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Education and Children scrutiny - Quarter 1 2017/18



Theme: 1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences
Sub-theme: B. Special Educational Needs

Measure Description	2016/17 Comparative Data			2017/18 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
Percentage of final statements of special education need issued within 26 weeks: b) excluding exceptions EDU/015b	100.0	100.0	Q1: 75.0 End Of Year: 71.4	Target: 90.0 Result: 66.7 Calculation: (4÷6) × 100	Target: 90.0	Target: 90.0	Target: 90.0
Comment	Quarter 1 sees 2 missed targets which is a third of the total amount. These are as a result of late Education and Child Psychologist (ECP) advice – both cases were challenging to manage, one parent continues to be unsure as to which setting (mainstream or Heol Goffa) will best meet their child's needs.						
Remedial Action	We hope this situation will be improved. The principle Education and Child Psychologist (ECP) has been notified of the 2 missed deadlines.						
Service Head: Gareth Morgans			Performance status: Off target				

ON TARGET ETC.



Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Education and Children scrutiny - Quarter 1 2017/18



Theme: 1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences Sub-theme: A. Supporting Families							
Measure Description	2016/17 Comparative Data			2017/18 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The % of child attendance at an allocated Flying Start free childcare placement for eligible 2-3 year olds to prepare for school readiness. 9.1.8.1	Not applicable		Result: Not available End Of Year: 78.9	Target: 80.0 Result: Not available	Target: 80.0	Target: 80.0	Target: 80.0
Comment Quarter 1 not collected as we report termly, April to August 2017 will be reported in quarter 2.							
Remedial Action As per comment above.							
Service Head: Stefan Smith				Performance status: Result not available			
The % of unauthorised absence at an allocated Flying Start free childcare placement for eligible 2-3 year olds to prepare for school readiness 9.1.8.8	Not applicable		Result: Not available End Of Year: 4.07	Target: 4.00 Result: Not available	Target: 4.00	Target: 4.00	Target: 4.00
Comment Quarter 1 not collected as we report termly, April to August 2017 will be reported in quarter 2.							
Remedial Action As above.							
Service Head: Stefan Smith				Performance status: Result not available			
Percentage of child assessments completed in time PAM/028	Not applicable		Q1: 94.3 End Of Year: 82.9	Target: 84.0 Result: 89.8 Calculation: (351 ÷ 391) × 100	Target: 84.0	Target: 84.0	Target: 84.0
Service Head: Stefan Smith				Performance status: On target			
Percentage of children in care who had to move 3 or more times PAM/029	Not applicable		Q1: 1.89 End Of Year: 11.17	Target: 10.68 Result: 2.01 Calculation: (4 ÷ 199) × 100	Target: 10.68	Target: 10.68	Target: 10.68
Service Head: Stefan Smith				Performance status: On target			
The percentage of re-registrations of children on local authority Child Protection Registers (CPR) SCC/27	Not applicable		Q1: 0.0 End Of Year: 10.4	Target: 9.4 Result: 0.0 Calculation: (0 ÷ 36) × 100	Target: 9.4	Target: 9.4	Target: 9.4
Service Head: Stefan Smith				Performance status: On target			
The average length of time for all children who were on the Child Protection Register during the year	Not applicable		Q1: 279	Target: 273	Target: 273	Target: 273	Target: 273

SCC/28		End Of Year: 275	Result: 218				
			Calculation: 2831 ÷ 13				
Service Head: Stefan Smith			Performance status: On target				
Measure Description	2016/17 Comparative Data			2017/18 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
The percentage 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	Not applicable		Q1: 0.0 End Of Year: 3.4	Target: 5.0 Result: 2.1 Calculation: (3 ÷ 141) × 100	Target: 5.0	Target: 5.0	Target: 5.0
SCC/32							
Service Head: Stefan Smith			Performance status: On target				



Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Education and Children scrutiny - Quarter 1 2017/18



ACTIONS - Theme: 1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences		
Sub-theme: A. Supporting Families		
Action	12477	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	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 spectrum of need by developing clear pathways with internal and external partners.	
Comment	<p>We have progressed to tender to source a new childcare provider for the new Penrhos Flying Start Childcare facility, which we hope will house up to 40 children. A live tender began in June and closed on Sell2Wales on 6th July.</p> <p>Plans are significantly progressing to open a new Flying Start Early Years Centre in Trimsaran from September 2017, with an advert being placed to appoint a new Centre Manager.</p> <p>Significant work is underway to develop an activity service programme, offering a range of Flying Start services to local families, with children aged 0-4 years.</p> <p>Initial discussions have been had with CSSIW to move the existing Childcare venue, Ffrindiau Bach, to the new Flying Start centre, also set to take place from September 17.</p>	
Service Head: Stefan Smith		Performance status: On target
Action	12479	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will review, in light of new guidance, the role of schools, councillors, and partners in view of their corporate parenting role.	
Comment	Councillor and School Governor training has been arranged. The corporate parenting team are contributing to a range of in-service training events for schools.	
Service Head: Stefan Smith		Performance status: On target
Action	12480	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will work towards delivering the enhanced childcare offer for working parents of three and four year olds in line with Government guidelines and financial / resource support, as well as increasing the number of welsh speaking childminders in targeted areas of the County.	
Comment	<p>The Welsh Government has committed to 30 hours free early education and childcare for working parents of 3 and 4 year olds for 48 weeks of the year (parents must be working min. 16 hours at National Minimum /Living wage and earn up to 100k). 7 Local Authorities have been selected by WG to pilot the first phase of this offer from September 2017: Rhondda Cynon Taf, Blaenau Gwent, Swansea, Flintshire, Gwynedd and Anglesey, Caerphilly. A wide range of practical issues are likely to arise i.e. a need for more physical space from which to deliver the provision, more suitably qualified bi-lingual childcare staff. The capacity of local authority school settings along with that of the private and voluntary sector to support is likely to be key to how it will be developed in the future. A rate of £4.50 per hour has recently been agreed by WG for childcare providers during year 1 roll out, subject to review. Providing this entitlement during School holiday periods is likely to be problematic; there are still many questions and lessons to be learnt from the pilot. It is anticipated that all 3 and 4 year olds will be able to access their entitlement by 2020. Lead Officers from Carmarthenshire County Council with responsibility for Childcare and Foundation Phase education are members of the WG Childcare Offer Advisory group and will be closely involved in the roll out of the first phase and subsequent phases of this Offer.</p> <p>Targeted outreach work has been undertaken since April to try and attract prospective Welsh Speaking child minders in areas of high demand/low supply. Briefing sessions have been held with 10 prospective child minders (3 able to offer a Welsh medium service). The CSSIW / Registration process can take between 9 and 18 months to complete. 4 registration completions are imminent (2 Welsh). We currently have 111 registered child minders offering 705 places (292 Welsh).</p>	
Service Head: Stefan Smith		Performance status: On target
Action	12481	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will continue to provide attachment awareness training in schools to ensure they are able to meet the emotional needs of vulnerable children.	
Comment	A training programme and action plan has been established and has commenced with some schools. Additional staff have been recruited to the central team in line with the pdg LAC grant. (pupil deprivation grant for looked after children).	
Service Head: Stefan Smith		Performance status: On target
Action	12482	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will continue to transform children's social work practice by rolling out the Child and Family Unit (CFU) systemic model of working (within Pod's) and combine cohesively with Signs of Safety	
Comment	<p>This month all 4 childcare teams will have implemented the systemic model of delivering social work services. Each of the teams is organized into 3 "pods" consisting of an assistant team manager/senior practitioner who acts as pod leader, 2-3 social workers, a family support worker and a unit coordinator that undertakes admin tasks. Educational psychologists/systemic family therapist provide consultation to the weekly meetings where cases are discussed.</p> <p>Discussions are taking place to finalise the training programme for staff in the pods during 2017-18.</p> <p>There are regular pod leader's meetings that focus on developing practice. This includes looking at how best to develop the roles of the unit coordinator and the family support worker.</p> <p>In consultation with staff the format of assessments, reviews, case discussions and parenting assessments have been adapted to reflect systemic practice and the Signs of Safety approaches.</p>	
Service Head: Stefan Smith		Performance status: On target
Action	12483	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will plan and re-commission the Families First (FF) programme (0-25yrs) implementing changes in response to new Welsh Government Guidance, delivering early intervention support services for disadvantaged children, young people and families across the county.	
Comment	<p>The new Families First programme guidance has been received (April 2017). The programme will be working towards two new outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children, young people and families are healthy and enjoy well-being 2. Families are confident, nurturing, Resilient and have healthy relationships <p>The transitional arrangements from the existing to the new programme have been extended to 31st March 2018, with the new programme operational from 1st April 2018. During this time we shall be refining Local Authority projects and writing new specifications for procurement: 1) Parenting Support 2)Volunteering and Community Support 3) Domestic Abuse support for children and young people.</p>	

Comment	<p>We have been reviewing the Disability element of the service. It was also agreed that the Giant Steps project element will be merged with Tim Camau Bach. This will provide greater consistency for families, referrers and professionals.</p> <p>Opportunities have been identified for collaborative working with Supporting People and Flying Start. Supporting People are investing in the Families First programme to enable selected projects to support families and young people who are presenting with housing needs. The investment will also lead to a new TAF Coordinator post who will be responsible for taking forward the TAF approach across Supporting People projects. Families First and Flying Start will be jointly contracting with Plant Dewi (Family Centres) from 1st October 2017.</p> <p>The Welsh Government has provided an additional £19k to local authorities in order for them to develop their Parenting Workforce across Families First and Flying Start programmes. Training will include; Level 3 & 4 in Work with Parents, Parental Conflict training, Incarcerated Parents – awareness training. The grant also requires local authorities to target 'hard to reach' families.</p>		
Service Head:	Stefan Smith	Performance status: On target	
Action	12484	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	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 'MACSE' (Multi-agency Child Sexual Exploitation) model.		
Comment	Child Sexual Exploitation remains a priority issue both locally and regionally. Carmarthenshire actively engage in all regional CSE events and ensure that CSE is on the agenda for the Local Operational Group so that there is a quarterly multi agency discussion. MACSE meetings have started but are very much in their infancy and the agenda is still being developed in order for the meetings to best work for us.		
Service Head:	Stefan Smith	Performance status: On target	
Action	12485	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	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.		
Comment	<p>The Eligibility Document regarding thresholds and access to TAF services, was completed in early May and sent for final consultation on 15th May. This has now been completed and the document has been sent for approval.</p> <p>TAF records of families began to be stored electronically, via our Care First database from January 2017. This is now complete and includes back records of old cases still open. The result of this was that in Quarter 1 we were able to complete our returns to Welsh Government via this system for the first time. This meant our records were completed electronically which reduced the staff workload, and guaranteed accuracy of data used. All TAF records are now stored electronically enabling improved sharing of information with other childcare teams, including out of hours social workers.</p>		
Service Head:	Stefan Smith	Performance status: On target	



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Theme: 1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences
Sub-theme: B. Special Educational Needs

Measure Description	2016/17 Comparative Data			2017/18 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
Percentage of statutory psychological advice submitted within a 6 week time scale 4.1.2.1	Not applicable		Q1: 78 End Of Year: 83	Target: 85 Result: 95 Calculation: (19÷20) × 100	Target: 85	Target: 85	Target: 85
Comment	Q1 last year had a number of missed timescales out of Educational and Child Psychologist's (ECP) control. This quarter there has only been one where the child was absent and then the family were not available as they were on holiday.						
Remedial Action	None at this time.						
Service Head: Stefán Smith			Performance status: On target				
Measure Description	2016/17 Comparative Data			2017/18 Target and Results			
	Best Quartile	Welsh Median	Our Actual	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	End of Year
Percentage of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks: a) including exceptions EDU/015a	99.1	84.5	Q1: 66.7 End Of Year: 43.9	Target: 45.0 Result: 50.0 Calculation: (4÷8) × 100	Target: 45.0	Target: 45.0	Target: 45.0
Comment	Quarter 1 sees 4 missed targets which is half of the total amount. 2 are as a result of late Educational and Child Psychologist (ECP) advice – both cases were challenging to manage, one parent continues to be unsure as to which setting (mainstream or Heol Goffa) will best meet their child's needs. 1 is as a result of late Speech Language and Therapy advice, the speech and language therapy department have had a number of staff off on either maternity leave or long term illness which has resulted in the advice being late. 1 case is as a result of parental objection. Parents have been unwilling to communicate with the department. They have instructed a legal firm to represent them. We are currently awaiting a date for the case to be heard at SENTW to resolve the disagreement between the LA and the family.						
Remedial Action	We hope this situation will be improved. The principle Educational Child Psychologist (ECP) has been notified of the 2 missed ECP advice, and discussions have been had with the Lead Speech and Language Therapist within Hywel Dda Health Board with regards to improving the process in terms of information sharing in a timely manner.						
Service Head: Gareth Morgans			Performance status: On target				



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ACTIONS - Theme: 1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences		
Sub-theme: B. Special Educational Needs		
Action	12487	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will continue to delegate Additional Learning Needs (ALN) funding to schools and support them to map provision and meet all needs at a local level. We will consider future moves to develop a national needs-based school funding formula for ALN	
Comment	All schools receive delegated ALN Funding and Inclusion Officers support and challenge them to map provision, track progress and meet the needs of all at local level. School funding formula for ALN reviewed termly at Schools Budget Forum	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target
Action	12488	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will continue to support schools to develop their person centred planning approaches to identify need, deliver personalised additional learning provision and provide holistic integrated responses through multi-agency working.	
Comment	Schools invited to PCP approaches conferences and continue to be supported by LA trained facilitators and coaches.	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target
Action	12489	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will continue to develop Individual Development Plans for those that require Special Educational Needs.	
Comment	All school within Carmarthenshire are aware of IDP`s and their purpose. All schools have accessed training both county wide and bespoke in order to prepare for ALN transformation. A high percentage of schools have IDP`s in place for a number of their children. Schools continue to require support to develop IDP`s through PCP practices and tools. Schools require extensive support to develop robust/meaningful outcomes and action plans.	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target
Action	12490	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will monitor, evaluate and celebrate achievements at key milestones of Additional Learning Needs (ALN) reform, especially the assessment and evaluation framework to provide schools with the confidence to innovate.	
Comment	All schools have been offered: PCP training x3 IDP training and support PCP Champion training ALNCO Forum sharing good practice and support sessions. Innovation grant has allowed us to second 4 ALNCO`s to develop case studies of good practice and develop models of practice and provision.	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target
Action	12491	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will review workforce data in relation to a range of support services, e.g. Educational and Child Psychology, Sensory Impairment support and Advisory Teachers, to ensure support for low incidence high-complexity needs and high incidence low complexity needs.	
Comment	WG review of workforce data in relation to support services completed and work force planning to ensure support for all pupil groups is underway.	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target



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ACTIONS - Theme: 11. A Council wide approach to support Ageing Well in Carmarthenshire
Sub-theme: A. Age Friendly Communities

Action	12629	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	We will launch a website to signpost learners to the learning opportunities available from all providers in the county		
Comment	It is intended that the Welsh Government's DEWIS site will be used to host this information. Discussions are on-going with WG and CCC staff regarding this initiative.		
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target	



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ACTIONS - Theme: 11. A Council wide approach to support Ageing Well in Carmarthenshire
Sub-theme: D. Opportunities for employment & new skills

Action	12641	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	We will retain and promote Carmarthen Community Education Centre as a flagship hub venue for Basic Skills and English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) provision, private classes, community clubs and societies.		
Comment	A full programme of CCC classes, private classes and clubs/societies is on offer at this venue. An Open Evening is being held on 5th July 2017 to promote the site further.		
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target	



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ACTIONS - Theme: 2. Help children live healthy lifestyles (Childhood Obesity)		
Sub-theme: A. Increase physical activities for children		
Action	12492	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will explore the potential of utilising school grounds, outside of teaching hours to enable children to have greater access to play opportunities.	
Comment	<p>The Play Sufficiency Offer is continuing to encourage Primary and Secondary schools throughout the County to consider making their school grounds available outside of teaching hours to further develop children's play opportunities. Ysgol Beca, Efailwen have already implemented it. Toolkits (developed by Play Wales) have been distributed to all schools within the County designed to support those who may be less confident about offering this kind of provision. A letter will be re-circulated to all Head teachers in September 2017 to ascertain further interest. Health & Safety Department are available to support any schools with advice and guidance.</p> <p>Ysgol Brynteg has recently received Section 106 funding to purchase a playpod and resources. This playpod will be accessible to the children outside of teaching hours when attending Llwynhendy Integrated Children's Centre for play sessions. A launch is planned for September/October. The Play Sufficiency Officer continues to work closely with Colleagues in Planning to develop similar initiatives in other localities where section 106 funding is available, and play opportunities are limited.</p>	
Service Head: Stefan Smith		Performance status: On target
Action	12495	Target date 31/03/2020
Action promised	We will continue to develop the Carmarthenshire Outdoor Schools Project through the Healthy Schools Scheme. The aim of the scheme is to increase learning through Physical Development. We will attempt to increase the number of schools participating in the Project by 10 on an annual basis.	
Comment	A total of 10 new schools have now enrolled on the Carmarthenshire Outdoor Schools initiative. Steering group for the initiative has been established in order to lead the new schools forward.	
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target
Action	12496	Target date 30/06/2017
Action promised	We shall continue to hold our annual Carmarthenshire Schools' Pedometer Challenge and provide schools with pedometers, recording sheets and guide. We shall reward the winning schools with Physical Activity equipment.	
Comment	A total of 23 schools have completed the Pedometer challenge with a total of 92 pupils and 92 staff taking part in the challenge. This has resulted in a total of 184 people increasing their physical activity levels over the duration of 1 month.	
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target
Action	12497	Target date 30/06/2020
Action promised	We shall continue to ensure that all schools are embedding the Food and Fitness Health topic, ensuring that schools are delivering 2 hours of quality PE lessons per week, during visits and Healthy School Assessments	
Comment	During every initial visit, progress visit and assessments within the schools, we remind schools of the Statutory Healthy Eating Regulations (2013). We question the School Council with regards to the food that is provided to them during break and lunch-times and how many hours of PE they receive each week. We also ask to see the PE timetable to ensure that this is the case. The statutory Healthy Eating Regulations (2013) are also placed on our Healthy Schools Network on Hwb.	
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target



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ACTIONS - Theme: 2. Help children live healthy lifestyles (Childhood Obesity)		
Sub-theme: B. Address mental health		
Action	12498	Target date 31/03/2020
Action promised	We will continue to support schools in their implementation of the Mental and Emotional Health and Well-being health topic as part of the Healthy Schools Scheme and ensure that schools have the most up-to-date policies such as the Anti-Bullying Policy, through cluster meetings, visits and assessments.	
Comment	We have placed exemplar Guidance regarding Bullying for schools/teachers, parents and pupils on the Healthy Schools Network on Hwb, including an exemplar Anti-Bullying Policy. We also signpost schools to the Healthy Schools Network in order to access the Guidance material during school visits and cluster meetings.	
Service Head:	Aeron Rees	Performance status: On target
Action	12499	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	The Healthy Schools Scheme will continue to co-ordinate the Carmarthenshire Personal and Social Education (PSE) - Professional Learning Community (PLC) meeting twice a year for Secondary PSE leaders, where current Mental Health issues will be addressed.	
Comment	No progress has been made as of yet, due to priority being placed on other areas of service delivery. A date during November 2017 and a venue needs to be selected for the PSE-PLC. Contact with the INSET team will be made in order to arrange this.	
Service Head:	Aeron Rees	Performance status: On target
Action	12500	Target date 31/12/2017
Action promised	We will co-ordinate and deliver a 'Well-being Conference' to teaching practitioners on Mindfulness and pupil Well-being and a 'Well-being Day' for school pupils with 5 practical workshops focussing on Mental and Emotional Health and Well-being issues.	
Comment	Meetings have taken place with key partners to discuss possible dates and venue for the 'Well-being Conference' for staff and 'Well-being day' for pupils. Possible workshops, deliverers and resources have also been discussed	
Service Head:	Aeron Rees	Performance status: On target
Action	12501	Target date 31/12/2017
Action promised	We will attempt to increase the number of Secondary schools who are actively on board the School Health Research Network	
Comment	All Secondary Schools are now on board the School Health Research Network and attended the SHRN event at the National Botanical Gardens for Wales on the 13th of June, 2017.	
Service Head:	Aeron Rees	Performance status: On target
Action	12502	Target date 31/12/2017
Action promised	We will re-establish the Carmarthenshire Anti-Bullying Steering Group	
Comment	Continued progress is currently being made with regards to re-establishing the Anti-Bullying Steering Group. It has been decided that this will occur during the Autumn term. New members have also been selected and invited to attend the group. The decision was made to select additional members to the group. Due to the workload of current and new members, it was agreed that the group would re-establish during the Autumn Term.	
Service Head:	Aeron Rees	Performance status: On target



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ACTIONS - Theme: 2. Help children live healthy lifestyles (Childhood Obesity)

Sub-theme: C. Promote healthy eating

Action	12503	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	We will seek to further develop healthy eating in Primary schools, beyond statutory Welsh Government regulations, working with dieticians from the health service.		
Comment	Meeting end of July with Dietician on how to improve the new Winter menu in Primaries, nutritionally over and above the guidelines whilst still maintaining uptake.		
Service Head:	David Astins	Performance status:	On target
Action	12504	Target date	31/03/2020
Action promised	We will seek to increase take-up of school meals (including free school meals).		
Comment	We are marketing school meals via newsroom, theme days, and by working with schools by asking them to promote on their school websites. Working on the menu by trying to keep a balance of what the pupils like and nutritional standards. We are attending as many seminars as possible to also promote school meals, asking pupils to feedback on the menu and what would they like to see on the menu. Dylan the Dragon (our mascot) loves to visit schools and meet Primary pupils. Have developed a welcoming leaflet for all new starters / parents in order to have a better understanding of school meals, how to pay or apply for Free school Meals.		
Service Head:	David Astins	Performance status:	On target
Action	12506	Target date	31/03/2020
Action promised	We shall continue to ensure that schools are abiding by the Healthy Eating in Schools (Wales) Measure 2009 and the Healthy Eating in Schools (Nutritional Standards & Requirements) (Wales) Regulations 2013, during cluster meetings, schools visits and assessments.		
Comment	Schools were reminded of the Healthy Eating in Schools Measure and Nutritional Standards during the cluster meetings held in the Summer term, school visits and assessments. The School Council are also reminded and questioned regarding the regulations.		
Service Head:	Aeron Rees	Performance status:	On target



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ACTIONS - Theme: 2. Help children live healthy lifestyles (Childhood Obesity)

Sub-theme: D. Increase awareness

Action	12507	Target date	31/03/2020
Action promised	We shall continue to work in partnership with the Sustainable Pre-School Healthy Schools Scheme in promoting the '10 steps to a Healthy Weight'		
Comment	Nerys Burton the Lead on the Pre-School Healthy Schools Scheme, delivered a presentation at our Healthy Schools Award Ceremony on the 4.7.17 regarding the '10 Steps to a Healthy Weight' Campaign, in order to raise awareness to primary schools. Focus was placed on 'Screen Time' and 'Outdoor Provision'		
Service Head:	Aeron Rees	Performance status:	On target
Action	12508	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	We will ensure that Educational resources for practitioners regarding the 7 Healthy schools topics will be placed on the Healthy Schools Network on Hwb.		
Comment	We continue to place up to date resources on the Network for teachers. It is still work in progress. We next are aiming to: * place resources for certain health topics such as Safety and the Environment on the Network * invite and encourage schools to place resources and to share good practice on the Network.		
Service Head:	Aeron Rees	Performance status:	On target
Action	12509	Target date	31/03/2020
Action promised	We will continue to promote and raise awareness to campaigns on healthy eating, physical activity and mental health such as 'Walk to school Week', the 'Daily Mile', National Obesity Awareness Week and Mental Health Awareness Week via Twitter, Hwb etc.		
Comment	We have been regularly 'tweeting' campaigns such as the 'Daily Mile' and 'Walk to School Week' during the Summer term. In addition we have been sharing 'tweets' from schools who are sharing their progress with regards to these campaigns - particularly the Daily Mile in order to encourage other schools to register with the campaigns.		
Service Head:	Aeron Rees	Performance status:	On target
Action	12510	Target date	31/03/2020
Action promised	We shall continue to promote and raise awareness on the benefits of healthy eating, regular physical activity and mental health strategies during our annual Healthy Schools Award ceremony by inviting key partners to deliver workshops regarding these health areas.		
Comment	The Healthy Schools Award Ceremony was held on the 4th of July, 2017 at Parc y Scarlets Llanelli. We had 2 workshops for the pupils who attended. The first workshops educated pupils on healthy eating recipes, where they had the opportunity to make their own healthy snacks such as sushi. The second workshop was a physical activity workshop based on skill development. We had several key partners present at the ceremony with stands promoting healthy eating and physical activity including a Registered Public Health Dietician, School Nurses from Public Health, Active Young People Officers, Carmarthenshire's School Meals Service, Lisa Fearn- Director of the Pumpkin Patch & Garden as-well as Aled Owen - Ynni Da. Healthy Eating displays as well as physical activity challenges were also provided for both pupils and teachers at the event. A total of 22 schools attended, with 45 pupils and 21 teachers attended the event.		
Service Head:	Aeron Rees	Performance status:	On target



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ACTIONS - Theme: 3. Continue to improve learner attainment for all		
Sub-theme: A. Teacher Assessments and Examinations		
Action	12511	Target date
Action promised	We will enhance outcomes for More Able and Talented pupils.	
Comment	<p>Continuously improving provision across our schools is impacting positively on the outcomes that our more able and talented pupils are achieving. For example, early analysis of provisional teacher assessment data in key stage 2 highlights that the number of pupils achieving the expected level plus 1 (Level 5+) has improved across all core subjects. English has improved by 2.1% points in comparison to 2015 / 2016; maths by 3.4% points and Welsh by 3.2% points. The additional action research project focussing on pupils' science skills has ensured that outcomes at Level 5+ have improved by 3.5% points in 2016 / 2017.</p> <p>Within the foundation phase outcomes in personal and social development have increased by 2% points. Provisional data reflects that further progress is required across all other indicators in the foundation phase.</p> <p>Analysis of progress at Key stage 3 and 4 will be undertaken early in the autumn term.</p> <p>To ensure that all learners continue to access challenging and inspiring learning opportunities some of our schools are actively involved in the ERW MAT project. These professional learning schools are exploring and developing a range of strategies which will support all of our schools in identifying, supporting, challenging, monitoring and engaging more able learners. Best practice will be actively shared between schools to ensure further progress during the 2017 / 2018 academic year. To date, where best practice has been identified the following strategies are in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAT pupils have a mentor and are supported and challenged through meaningful differentiation within lessons. • Pupils access an enhanced curriculum e.g. critical thinking / philosophical reasoning lessons. • Pupils benefit from extra-curricular activities and links with industry and universities e.g. focussing on science, technology, engineering and maths with Swansea and Oxbridge universities. • National public speaking competitions have raised aspiration • Teaching emphasises the value of developing thinking and learning skills and attitudes through the 'Building Learning Power' programme. • Sixth formers engage in the Seren Hwb programme. 	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target
Action	12512	Target date
Action promised	We will increase the percentage of schools designated with a 'Green or Yellow' support category within the National School Categorisation System	
Comment	<p>Support undertaken since 2014 has ensured that the number of primary schools entitled to a 'Green' category of support has increased from 17 schools to 18; the number requiring an amber support category has fallen from 28 schools in 2014 to 21 schools in 2016; in turn this has resulted in the number of schools requiring a 'yellow' package of support to increase from 50 to 58.</p> <p>Amongst our secondary schools the number entitled to a green package of support has increased from 2 in 2014 to 5 in 2016, evidencing the impact of support received from the ERW / LA team over the last 2 years. 5 secondary schools now require the yellow package of support as opposed to 7 in 2014; 2 require the 'amber' package of support in comparison to the 3 in 2014.</p> <p>The school improvement team continues to focus on the impact of leadership within our schools ensuring that support and training packages upskill school leaders enabling them to develop further as 'self-improving' schools. In addition the nature and amount of support provided is closely monitored through the 'ERW Log' by the school improvement and inclusion teams ensuring that the support accessed targets the key priority areas in need of development. A summary of the impact of this support is contained within individual school reports, in relation to the second core visit.</p> <p>The team focusses well on supporting schools to ensure that their 'capacity to improve' continues to develop. Analysis of the changing contexts of schools when reviewing categorisation trends over time effectively informs the nature of ongoing support required by the school. The categorisation process will be undertaken during the autumn term 2017, with outcomes published in January 2018.</p>	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target
Action	12513	Target date
Action promised	We will support schools, in tandem with ERW (Education through Regional Learning), to further improve outcomes for all pupils outcomes at the end of the Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2, Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 but with a particular emphasis on raising the achievements of pupils entitled to free school meals and looked after children.	
Comment	<p>Core visits undertaken twice a year by challenge advisers effectively review the progress being achieved by schools in relation to their self-evaluation and development plans. Monitoring visits ensure that the support being provided through ERW regional working and by the Carmarthenshire Department of Education and Children's services is relevant and that it is impacting positively on the outcomes that pupils achieve. Our schools continue to be challenged rigorously and are supported and guided well in order that they continue to achieve further progress.</p> <p>In line with the new Estyn inspection arrangements, greater emphasis is being placed on the progress achieved by individual pupils in line with their own skills and abilities. This is increasingly ensuring that schools adopt a focussed 'pupil centred' approach to learning, differentiating the learning effectively in line with pupils' needs.</p> <p>Challenge advisers work collaboratively with senior leadership teams within schools reviewing progress achieved through the Pupil Deprivation Grant. Best practice is shared between schools ensuring that pupils eligible for free school meals and 'looked after' children access the very best opportunities to minimise any barriers to learning. This very specific focus on narrowing the deprivation gap is impacting positively on the wellbeing of pupils as well as on their academic and skills based achievements. In addition, the curriculum accessed by all pupils continues to expand, addressing local employment needs and inspiring future educational pathways.</p> <p>The impact of the menu of support offered to schools will be rigorously reviewed through the analysis of pupil data in the autumn term.</p>	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target
Action	12514	Target date
Action promised	We will continue to hold all schools and ERW (Education through Regional Learning) to account for further improving standards and outcomes for learners, intervening in schools where performance is not satisfactory.	
Comment	<p>Activities to support this action during the first quarter have included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implementation and completion of all the ERW Core Visit 2 agendas (monitoring and evaluation of provision and leadership). This has provided us with a comprehensive overview of the key strengths and areas for improvement across all our schools, in particular 'Schools Causing Concern.' 2. Ongoing monitoring and detailed scrutiny of our 'Schools Causing Concern' through Carmarthenshire and ERW Team meetings. <p>This work has continued to be challenged and supported by -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the intervention work of individual School Improvement Panels b. undertaking specific elements of training and focused provision / support in specific school settings (focused on leadership and curriculum provision) c. additional focused scrutiny through 'Western Hub QA Meetings' (held twice per term). 	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target



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ACTIONS - Theme: 3. Continue to improve learner attainment for all		
Sub-theme: B. Improving School Attendance		
Action	12515	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will continue to promote regular school attendance to maximise educational opportunities and child welfare, robustly challenging poor attendance and persistent absenteeism.	
Comment	The Education Welfare Service continues to support families and pupils who have school attendance below 85%. The service has sent feedback forms to families, professionals and schools and will provide an end of academic year summary in September of the impact they have made on school attendance to date.	
Service Head: Andi Morgan	Performance status: On target	
Action	12516	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will consult with Headteachers to consider how to improve the % of absence due to authorised family holiday and absence due to illness.	
Comment	End of academic year data is being produced and arrangements are in place for consultation with Headteachers in September 2017.	
Service Head: Andi Morgan	Performance status: On target	



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ACTIONS - Theme: 3. Continue to improve learner attainment for all		
Sub-theme: C. Best possible learning environments		
Action	12517	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will deliver the Council's 21st Century Schools Programme, incorporating all elements of the MEP (Modernising Education Programme).	
Comment	Carmarthenshire are just over half way through delivering Band A of the 21st Century Schools Programme. Band B of the programme to be submitted in 2017/18.	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target
Action	12518	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will manage school estate affairs including building maintenance, asset verification, governor property initiatives and responsibilities under disability access (DDA) legislation.	
Comment	Building Maintenance - urgent projects have been prioritised for implementation over the summer school holidays. Asset Verification - Additions/removals of buildings and use are received and verified on an ad hoc basis. Asset registers and capacity calculations updated as required. Estate management - requests for school development proposals and support for risk management bids considered and approved as required. DDA - Requests received, developed and implemented on an ad hoc basis.	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target
Action	12519	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will undertake statutory procedures associated with federation, school organisation and/or improvement projects.	
Comment	A number of School Organisation/Federation proposals have been discussed by Officers. Informal consultation will commence in earnest in Autumn Term 2017.	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target
Action	12520	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will invest around £19 million in major school construction and modernisation projects at Coedcae, Pen Rhos, Trimsaran, St John Lloyd and Parc Y Tywyn.	
Comment	Quarter 1 grant claim submitted to WG. Coedcae - construction progressing well and nearing completion according to plan Seaside (Pen Rhos) - Construction progressing well Trimsaran - construction progressing well. St John Lloyd - construction progressing well, phase 1 nearing completion. Parc y Tywyn - construction progressing well.	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target
Action	12521	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will develop and submit business cases for MEP school reorganisation and investment projects to the national 21st Century Schools Programme.	
Comment	Pontyberem and Llangadog Business Justification Cases (BJC) submitted and approved by WG. Dewi Sant Outline Business Case (OBC) submitted and approved by WG.	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target
Action	12522	Target date 31/03/2018
Action promised	We will decommission premises following the closure or amalgamation of schools.	
Comment	Llanwrda, Llansadwrn former Schools and Pwll and Llwynhendy former Teaching and Learning Centre sites have been decommissioned and transferred to Property Division.	
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target



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ACTIONS - Theme: 3. Continue to improve learner attainment for all			
Sub-theme: D. Development of effective leadership & high quality learning provision			
Action		Target date	
	12525		31/03/2018
Action promised	We will continue to support, challenge and improve the quality of leadership and its impact on improving provision and outcomes in collaboration with senior school leaders e.g. provision of Leadership Seminars and Networks.		
Comment	<p>Our first quarter activities in support of this action have focused on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implementation and evaluation of ERW Core Visit 2 (focusing on Teaching and Learning provision). Work has included progress reviews and evaluations based on each school's recommendations (ability to lead, embed and secure improvement within specific areas). 2. Commencement of Leadership Seminars (senior leaders/governors) focused on revised Estyn arrangements and implications for strategic documentation such as Self Evaluation Reports / School Development Plans, impact of Middle Leaders etc. 3. Commissioning of a number of the Senior Leaders to support ERW CV2 work as 'Commissioned Challenge Advisers' continues to contribute effectively to the sharing of 'good leadership practice' across many of our schools (commissioned colleagues receive professional development training in partnership with our Core Team). 4. We have provided ongoing opportunities for Middle and Aspiring Leader development through participation in the ERW leadership development programme. 5. We have continued to provide informative and developmental 'Leadership Seminars and Briefings for Senior Leaders and Governors'. These ensure a tight focus on specific areas of strategic leadership and improvement in support of improving outcomes within our schools. 		
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target	
	12526		31/03/2018
Action promised	We will support Governors in their strategic leadership role through focused training and briefing activities, including the mandatory governor training programme.		
Comment	Staffing vacancies has meant this project has been extended into 2017-18. New grant funded staff in post from September will ensure completion during this year.		
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target	
	12527		31/03/2018
Action promised	We will further develop systems to support school improvement, including ongoing Professional Development and Performance Management provision for school staff.		
Comment	Data being cross matched to other databases to ensure accuracy of information held.		
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target	
	12528		31/03/2020
Action promised	We will continue with the design of the Carmarthenshire Curriculum in partnership with ERW, schools and other partners, in line with national priorities, requirements and guidance.		
Comment	The regionalisation of this agenda needs to be considered, so that ways forward can be agreed with ERW. A period of reflection over the summer will result in more concrete proposals to move this agenda forward. In the meantime, the secondary timetablers' group continues to meet and is thriving.		
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target	
	12529		31/03/2020
Action promised	We will implement the content of the 'WESP' Welsh in Education Strategic Plan in partnership with school leaders for the benefit of all Carmarthenshire learners.		
Comment	We have received very positive praise and feedback from Welsh Government regarding our WESP strategy. We await approval with minor amendments. Pending approval, detailed plans have been made to implement and fund the WESP and take the strategy forward with a number of schools from September 2017 onwards.		
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target	
	12530		31/03/2020
Action promised	We will continue to support partnership working with other providers of adult community learning through the Carmarthenshire Adult Community Learning Group		
Comment	Adult Community Learning staff continue to support the work of the Carmarthenshire ACL partnership in overseeing and supporting courses for adult learners in the county. This work is on-going throughout the financial year.		
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target	



Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Education and Children scrutiny - Quarter 1 2017/18



ACTIONS - Theme: 4. Reduce the number of young adults that are Not in Education, Employment or Training		
Sub-theme: A. Youth Engagement & Progression Framework Actions		
Action	12531	Target date
Action promised	We will implement the six Youth Engagement and Progression Framework Actions.	
Comment	<p>The Local Authority`s responsibilities within the Welsh Government`s Youth Engagement and Progression Framework comprises of 6 component elements, proven to be effective at increasing youth engagement and progression. They aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •identify young people most at risk of disengagement •provide better brokerage and co-ordination of support •provide stronger tracking and transition of young people through the system •ensure provision meets the needs of young people •strengthen employability skills and opportunities for employment •provide greater accountability for better outcomes for young people. <p>The Local authority has the key leadership role in the framework`s implementation. The department for Education and Children is working closely with Careers Wales, voluntary youth services, schools, colleges, work based learning providers and other partners to ensure those most at risk of becoming NEET or who are already NEET are identified and provided with the support they need to get them back on track.</p> <p>This work is on-going throughout the year via the work of staff in the Youth Support Services and Learning Transformation divisions.</p>	
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target
Action	12532	Target date
Action promised	We will carry out a self-assessment of the Youth Support Services against the National Participation Standards.	
Comment	Meetings have taken place to discuss progression of the audit. Currently the service is awaiting the final draft of the national guidance before the audit commences. This is likely to be in the early Autumn. The Youth Support Service will be including Participation Standards within its development day on 12/7/17 in order that staff are aware of this piece of work.	
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target



Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Education and Children scrutiny - Quarter 1 2017/18



ACTIONS - Theme: 4. Reduce the number of young adults that are Not in Education, Employment or Training		
Sub-theme: B. European Social Fund projects		
Action	12533	Target date
Action promised	We will deliver the local elements of the Cam Nesa and Cynnydd projects.	
Comment	The delivery of the Carmarthenshire CC elements of the Cynnydd ESF project to reduce the number of 11-19's at risk of becoming NEET is on-going. The regional Cam Nesa project to reduce the number of 16-25's who are NEET is still being considered by the Wales European Funding Office. A decision regarding the approval of this project is expected in late July 2017.	
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target
Action	12534	Target date
Action promised	We will work together with secondary schools to develop a framework to commission support for vulnerable young people and alternative curriculum provision from January 2019 to replace the services offered through the Cynnydd European Social Fund (ESF) Project which is due to end in Autumn 2018.	
Comment	Preliminary work to scope out the nature of future alternative curriculum provision is on-going. This work is informed by a current (Summer 2017) Welsh Government consultation on the future of Education for Pupils Other than at School (EOTAS). A discussion paper on this topic will be presented to Secondary School Head teachers early in the Autumn Term of 2017. Following discussions with Head teachers, a proposal for this provision will be developed in preparation for the Autumn Term of 2018.	
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target



Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Education and Children scrutiny - Quarter 1 2017/18



ACTIONS - Theme: 4. Reduce the number of young adults that are Not in Education, Employment or Training			
Sub-theme: C. Carmarthenshire 11-19 Education Strategic Review			
Action	12536	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	We will implement the 20 recommendations of the Carmarthenshire 11-19 Education Strategic Review.		
Comment	The recommendations of the Carmarthenshire 11-19 Review are currently being delivered. The action plan attached below provides updates on each of the actions.		
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target	
Action	12537	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	We will deliver literacy, numeracy, digital literacy and English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) courses for Carmarthenshire residents and in-comers to the County.		
Comment	Delivery of these classes in on-going as part of the termly delivery by the ACL Service.		
Service Head: Aeron Rees		Performance status: On target	



Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Education and Children scrutiny - Quarter 1 2017/18



ACTIONS - Theme: 4. Reduce the number of young adults that are Not in Education, Employment or Training		
Sub-theme: D. Carmarthenshire Successful Futures Review – Paving the Way		
Action	12539	Target date
		31/03/2018
Action promised	We will ensure that young people are afforded opportunities to be “well qualified and well educated” and plan to develop young peoples’ employability so that they can thrive in the local, regional, and international jobs market.	
Comment	This action is also subject to the successful implementation of the 11-19 review. Productive discussions have taken place with colleagues working on The Swansea Bay City Deal and employability in the local and regional economy has been discussed in the Carmarthenshire 14-19 Cluster governance group. A task and finish group will be convened to take this further forward, so that links between education and employment can be further developed.	
Service Head: Aeron Rees	Performance status: On target	



Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Education and Children scrutiny - Quarter 1 2017/18



ACTIONS - Theme: 5. Tackle poverty by doing all we can to prevent it, help people into work and improve the lives of
Sub-theme: D. Improving the lives of those living in poverty

Action	12505	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	We shall implement the School Holiday Enrichment (Holiday Hunger) Programme (SHEP), supporting families and children during school vacations to cook healthy meals, particularly aimed at pupils eligible for Free School Meals.		
Comment	Funding has been confirmed for Llandeilo Primary and Coedcae Secondary School to implement a Holiday Hunger Programme. Both schools have identified staff and have a summer programme in place to deliver in July and August.		
Service Head: Andi Morgan		Performance status: On target	



Scrutiny measures & actions full monitoring report Education and Children scrutiny - Quarter 1 2017/18



ACTIONS - Theme: 9. Support good connections with friends, family and safer communities
Sub-theme: B. Social Care information, advice & assistance

Action	12558	Target date	31/03/2018
Action promised	We will continue to develop and implement how Children`s Services provide information, advice and assistance (IAA) to support families, ensuring information is available and easily accessible, and linking with the Dewis system		
Comment	<p>The Family Information Service (FIS) continue to meet with the Eastgate team responsible for uploading information onto Dewis and have met with Assistant Director of Dewis, to look at the way forward for uploading information on the Children and Family Section of Dewis. Adding all the Family Support Services is a significant piece of work, and not as easy as initially anticipated since it is not possible to directly migrate data from the FIS website onto Dewis. Rather than a bulk upload it was decided that services upload their specific information and become editors of the information, this will ensure accurate and thorough information. An easy user guide was created to assist services. Communities First, Families First, Flying Start and Supporting People have started the process. Another Task and Finish meeting will be arranged to look at extending this further.</p> <p>A new FIS website is being developed to incorporate the changes with the Dewis (directory of services website) and trends with regards to social media, creating a mobile friendly website etc. On-line and face-to-face consultation with parents and carers (including 3 focus groups) is taking place to gather feedback and ideas, including how they prefer to access information, what information they require, have struggled to find and their general opinion about the current site.</p> <p>FIS Champions continue to review the FIS and Council website on a termly basis and send through any changes/updates.</p> <p>FIS officer attends the Team Around the Family (TAF) allocation meetings to ensure families and professionals are provided with up to date information with regards to support services or resources.</p>		
Service Head:	Stefan Smith	Performance status:	On target

**EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE
28th SEPTEMBER 2017**

**Revenue & Capital Budget
Monitoring Report 2017/18**

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- That the Scrutiny Committee receives the budget monitoring report for the Education & Children Service and considers the budgetary position.

Reasons:

- To provide Scrutiny with an update on the latest budgetary position as at 30th June 2017, in respect of 2017-18.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: NO

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holders:

- Cllr. David Jenkins (Resources)
- Cllr. Glynog Davies (Education & Children)

<p>Directorate: Corporate Services</p> <p>Name of Service 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 224120 CMoore@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

28th SEPTEMBER 2017

Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2017/18

The Financial Monitoring Report is presented as follows :

Revenue Budgets

Appendix A

Summary position for the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee. Services within the Education & Children Scrutiny remit are forecasting a £1,389k overspend.

Appendix B

Report on Main Variances on agreed budgets.

Appendix C

Detail variances for information purposes only.

Capital Budgets

Appendix D

Details the main variances, which shows a forecasted net spend of £17,379k compared with a working net budget of £17,555k giving a **£-176k** variance. The variance will be slipped into future years, as the funding will be required to ensure that the schemes are completed.

Appendix E

Detail variances on all schemes for information purposes only.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES – A list of the main variances is attached to this report

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	NONE

3. Finance

Revenue – The Education & Children Service is projecting that it will be over its approved budget by £1,389k.

Capital – The capital programme shows a net variance of -£176k against the 2017/18 approved budget.

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 – N/A
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
2017/18 Budget	Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen

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Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Report
Budget Monitoring as at 30th June 2017 - Summary

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Jun 2017 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	
Director & Strategic Management	788	0	-148	640	734	0	-148	586	-54
Education Services Division	117,623	-1,755	18,908	134,775	118,316	-1,706	18,908	135,518	742
Strategic Development	9,200	-7,395	879	2,684	9,212	-7,444	879	2,648	-37
School Improvement	3,809	-1,285	441	2,964	4,525	-2,000	441	2,965	1
Learner Programmes	3,811	-2,776	448	1,483	5,091	-3,907	448	1,632	149
Children's Services	18,357	-1,990	2,129	18,496	22,677	-5,722	2,129	19,083	588
GRAND TOTAL	153,588	-15,201	22,656	161,043	160,554	-20,779	22,656	162,431	1,389

Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Report

Budget Monitoring as at 30th June 2017 - Main Variances

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Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Jun 2017 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000		
Director & Strategic Management						
Director & Management Team	788	0	734	0	-54	Vacant post and officers not at top of scale
Education Services Division						
School Redundancy & EVR	1,838	0	2,055	0	217	Budget utilised on existing commitments. A cross-departmental team is drawing together different strands of work with the aim of reducing costs
School Modernisation	337	-5	656	-10	314	Premises costs relating to a number of closed schools of which £256k relates to NNDR
Early Years Non-Maintained Provision	469	0	417	0	-52	Reduced take-up of 10 hours per week free entitlement for 3 year olds in non-maintained settings.
Special Educational Needs	2,813	-1,484	2,997	-1,400	268	Additional statementing costs £318k, increased staffing costs in attached units to alleviate waiting list pressures £25k offset by fewer pupils placed in out of county schools -£75k
Learner Programmes						
Music Services for Schools	95	0	1,265	-967	203	Reduced take-up of school Service Level Agreements (SLA), due to school budgetary pressures. Plans for staff reductions are currently being developed. Draft paper on the sustainability of the Music Service is available.
Behaviour Management	141	0	88	0	-53	Part year vacant post for Behaviour and Wellbeing manager.
Children's Services						
Commissioning and Social Work	6,465	-20	6,681	-132	104	Increase in Legal costs due to a high number of cases £298k, one of which is awaiting a high court hearing. This is offset by secondment and part year vacancy savings - £194k.
Fostering Services & Support	3,653	0	3,864	0	211	The taxi's budget faces ongoing pressure £43k due to the high number of placement moves, some away from school areas. The Fostering Support Team have increased transport costs, boarding out payments and residence orders (even though CCC current rates are set at the minimum allowed by Welsh Government) £220k. This is offset by part year vacancies in the Fostering Team -£52k

Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Report

Budget Monitoring as at 30th June 2017 - Main Variances

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Jun 2017 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000		
Out of County Placements (CS)	739	-54	943	-54	203	More use of independent fostering agencies that are more expensive to use due to a lack of in house foster placements including two young people being accommodated out of county due to their complex needs requiring 24 hour support.
Family Aide Services	224	0	172	0	-53	Vacant post and employees not being on the top of their grade.
Other Variances					81	
Grand Total					1,389	

Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Report

Budget Monitoring as at 30th June 2017 - Detail Variances

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Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Jun 2017 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Director & Strategic Management										
Director & Management Team	788	0	-148	640	734	0	-148	586	-54	Vacant post and officers not at top of scale
Director & Strategic Management Total	788	0	-148	640	734	0	-148	586	-54	
Education Services Division										
Schools Delegated Budget	108,746	0	0	108,746	108,746	-0	0	108,746	0	
School Expenditure not currently delegated	161	0	18,827	18,989	174	0	18,827	19,001	12	Transfer of deficit reserve balance of two schools which closed in April 2017
School Redundancy & EVR	1,838	0	6	1,843	2,055	0	6	2,060	217	Budget utilised on existing commitments. A cross-departmental team is drawing together different strands of work with the aim of reducing costs
School Modernisation	337	-5	-195	137	656	-10	-195	451	314	Premises costs relating to a number of closed schools of which £256k relates to NNDR
Early Years Non-Maintained Provision	469	0	21	490	417	0	21	437	-52	Reduced take-up of 10 hours per week free entitlement for 3 year olds in non-maintained settings.
Special Educational Needs	2,813	-1,484	135	1,464	2,997	-1,400	135	1,732	268	Additional statementing costs £318k, increased staffing costs in attached units to alleviate waiting list pressures £25k offset by fewer pupils placed in out of county schools -£75k
Education Other Than At School (EOTAS)	2,028	-266	61	1,824	2,051	-296	61	1,817	-7	
Sensory Impairment	363	0	9	372	348	0	9	357	-15	In year efficiencies within service
Educational Psychology	868	0	43	911	873	0	43	916	5	
Education Services Division Total	117,623	-1,755	18,908	134,775	118,316	-1,706	18,908	135,518	742	
Strategic Development										
School Milk & Uniform Grants	245	-244	11	12	245	-244	11	12	0	
Information & Improvement	422	0	114	536	493	-83	114	525	-12	Employees not on top of scale
Business Support	477	0	144	620	458	0	144	602	-18	Business Support Assistant seconded to another department
Participation	89	0	0	89	82	0	0	82	-7	
School Meals & Primary Free Breakfast Services	7,968	-7,151	611	1,427	7,934	-7,117	611	1,427	-0	
Strategic Development Total	9,200	-7,395	879	2,684	9,212	-7,444	879	2,648	-37	

Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Report

Budget Monitoring as at 30th June 2017 - Detail Variances

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Jun 2017 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
School Improvement										
School Effectiveness Support Services	501	-53	308	756	491	-43	308	756	0	
National Model for School Improvement	1,157	-56	0	1,101	1,580	-479	0	1,101	0	
Welsh Language Support	302	-16	0	286	462	-176	0	286	0	
Education Improvement Grant	1,730	-1,042	0	688	1,851	-1,162	0	689	0	
Other School Grants incl PDG	118	-118	133	133	140	-140	133	133	-0	
School Improvement Total	3,809	-1,285	441	2,964	4,525	-2,000	441	2,965	1	
Learner Programmes										
Post 16 Funding	148	-148	0	0	151	-151	0	0	-0	
Music Services for Schools	95	0	10	105	1,265	-967	10	307	203	Reduced take-up of school Service Level Agreements (SLA), due to school budgetary pressures. Plans for staff reductions are currently being developed. Draft paper on the sustainability of the Music Service is available.
Families First Grant (Youth)	702	-654	33	81	702	-654	33	81	-0	
Behaviour Management	141			141	88	0	0	88	-53	Part year vacant post for Behaviour and Wellbeing manager.
Youth Offending & Prevention Service	1,423	-678	195	940	1,434	-688	195	940	0	
Adult & Community Learning	420	-416	210	214	428	-425	210	213	-0	
Cynnydd	881	-880	0	2	1,024	-1,022	0	2	-0	
Learner Programmes Total	3,811	-2,776	448	1,483	5,091	-3,907	448	1,632	149	
Children's Services										
Commissioning and Social Work	6,465	-20	500	6,946	6,681	-132	500	7,049	104	Increase in Legal costs due to a high number of cases £298k, one of which is awaiting a high court hearing. This is offset by secondment and part year vacancy savings -£194k.
Corporate Parenting & Leaving Care	845	0	50	895	845	0	50	895	0	
Fostering Services & Support	3,653	0	91	3,744	3,864	0	91	3,955	211	The taxi's budget faces ongoing pressure £43k due to the high number of placement moves, some away from school areas. The Fostering Support Team have increased transport costs, boarding out payments and residence orders (even though CCC current rates are set at the minimum allowed by Welsh Government) £220k. This is offset by part year vacancies in the Fostering Team -£52k
Adoption Services	509	-56	31	483	604	-140	31	495	12	Additional staff resource to reduce the number of placements needing to be purchased at greater cost which reduces budget pressure in other areas.

Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Report

Budget Monitoring as at 30th June 2017 - Detail Variances

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Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Jun 2017 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Out of County Placements (CS)	739	-54	3	689	943	-54	3	892	204	More use of independent fostering agencies that are more expensive to use due to a lack of in house foster placements including two young people being accommodated out of county due to their complex needs requiring 24 hour support.
Residential and Respite Units	939	-55	55	940	887	0	55	943	3	
Garreglwyd Residential Unit	541	-159	22	403	575	-159	22	438	35	Additional staffing costs to cover periods of sickness and a young person being moved in which reduces the out of county placement costs.
Childcare	383	-101	36	319	382	-100	36	319	0	
Short Breaks and Direct Payments	568	-79	9	498	528	0	9	537	39	Discontinuation of the Giant Steps service means possible redundancy and associated costs; although attempts are being made to redeploy the staff concerned.
Children's/Family Centres and Playgroups	254	-17	74	311	254	-17	74	311	-0	
Flying Start Grant	0	0	63	63	3,824	-3,812	63	75	12	Ineligible costs such as audit fees.
Families First Grant	1,342	-1,219	25	148	1,342	-1,219	25	148	0	
Aids & Adaptions	13	0	1	13	16	0	1	17	3	
Family Aide Services	224	0	26	250	172	0	26	198	-53	Vacant post and employees not being on the top of their grade.
Other Family Services incl Young Carers and ASD	284	-91	7	201	298	-87	7	218	17	Additional sessional workers costs £14k and forecasted decrease in contribution from Hywel Dda £3k
Out of Hours Service	265	-64	7	208	43	158	7	208	-0	Service currently being reviewed and restructured.
Children's Services Mgt & Support (incl Care First)	946	-76	1,087	1,957	999	-160	1,087	1,926	-31	Support savings on supplies & services -£21k and savings identified on staff related costs -£10k
Education Welfare	386		40	427	419		40	459	33	Staffing levels are currently being reviewed with a view to reduce costs.
Children's Services Total	18,357	-1,990	2,129	18,496	22,677	-5,722	2,129	19,083	588	
TOTAL FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES	153,588	-15,201	22,656	161,043	160,554	-20,779	22,656	162,431	1,389	

Capital Programme 2017/18								
Capital Budget Monitoring - Report for June 2017 - Main Variances								
	Working Budget			Forecasted			Variance for Year £'000	Comment
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000		
DEPARTMENT/SCHEMES								
EDUCATION & CHILDREN	27,347	-9,792	17,555	28,055	-10,676	17,379	-176	
MEP Income	0	-9,130	-9,130	0	-10,014	-10,014	-884	Re-Profile of MEP funding required due to profile of Band A Schemes Works.
Burry Port Schools Development	191	0	191	110	0	110	-81	No overall scheme variance. Retention 2018-19
Ysgol Trimsaran - New School Building	1,812	0	1,812	3,000	0	3,000	1,188	Scheme progressed well in 17-18. No overall overspend.
Llanelli Vocational Village	132	0	132	32	0	32	-100	No overall scheme variance.
Ysgol Dewi Sant - Band A	2,779	0	2,779	1,000	0	1,000	-1,779	Scheme delayed due to land issues.
Pontyberem CP - Refurbishment/Re-configuration	1,088	0	1,088	3,000	0	3,000	1,912	Early scheme start. No overall overspend.
Ysgol Coedcae - Phase 1	1,583	0	1,583	1,500	0	1,500	-83	No overall scheme variance.
St John Lloyd	2,458	0	2,458	2,000	0	2,000	-458	Initial delay but scheme will be completed as planned
Ysgol Y Castell - Band B	0	0	0	50	0	50	50	Fees only to accelerate scheme
Other Projects with Minor Variances	17,304	-662	16,642	17,363	-662	16,701	59	

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Education & Children Services
Capital Budget Monitoring - Scrutiny Report for June 2017 - Detailed Variances

Scheme	Target Date for Completion	Working Budget			Forecasted			Variance for Year £'000	Comment
		Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000		
Education DDA Act Works	Ongoing	301	0	301	301	0	301	0	
MEP External Funding Income	Ongoing	0	-9,130	-9,130	0	-10,014	-10,014	-884	Re-Profile of MEP funding required due to profile of Band A Schemes Works.
MEP - Tranche 2 & 3		738	0	738	749	0	749	11	
Ffwrnes - New Two Form Entry School	Completed	0	0	0	11	0	11	11	
Dinefwr Project - Dyffryn Aman	Completed	131	0	131	131	0	131	0	
Dinefwr Project - Maes Y Gwendraeth	Completed	133	0	133	133	0	133	0	
Dinefwr Project - Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	Completed	474	0	474	474	0	474	0	
MEP - Band A Projects		24,883	-570	24,313	25,478	-570	24,908	595	
Ysgol Pen Rhos CP School - New Two Form Entry (Formerly Seaside)	Sep-19	4,299	0	4,299	4,299	0	4,299	0	
Ysgol Carreg Hirfaen - Mobile & New School	Completed	75	0	75	100	0	100	25	
Llangadog - Major Redevelopment	Sep-19	1,955	0	1,955	1,955	0	1,955	0	
Burry Port Schools Development	Completed	191	0	191	110	0	110	-81	No overall scheme variance. Retention 2018-19
Ysgol Trimsaran - New School Building	Oct-17	1,812	0	1,812	3,000	0	3,000	1,188	Scheme progressed well in 17-18. No overall overspend.
Ysgol Y Strade - Phase 1	Completed	29	0	29	0	0	0	-29	
Parc Y Tywyn Band A	Sep-18	6,051	0	6,051	6,051	0	6,051	0	
Llanelli Vocational Village	Completed	132	0	132	32	0	32	-100	No overall scheme variance.
Ysgol Dewi Sant - Band A	Ongoing	2,779	0	2,779	1,000	0	1,000	-1,779	Scheme delayed due to land issues.
Gorslas - New School - Band 1	Ongoing	505	0	505	505	0	505	0	
Rhydygors - Refurbishment/Re-configuration	Ongoing	568	0	568	568	0	568	0	
Laugharne VCP Works	Ongoing	283	0	283	283	0	283	0	
Pontyberem CP - Refurbishment/Re-configuration	Jan-19	1,088	0	1,088	3,000	0	3,000	1,912	Early scheme start. No overall overspend.
Carmarthen West New School - Phase 1	Ongoing	570	-570	0	570	-570	0	0	
Rhys Prichard Relocation	Ongoing	505	0	505	505	0	505	0	
Ysgol Coedcae - Phase 1	Sep-17	1,583	0	1,583	1,500	0	1,500	-83	No overall scheme variance.
St John Lloyd	Sep-18	2,458	0	2,458	2,000	0	2,000	-458	Initial delay but scheme will be completed as planned

Education and Children Scrutiny Committee 28th September 2017

Adoption Service Annual Report

Purpose: For information

To consider and comment on the following issues:

The NAS annual report includes information about the Mid and West Wales Adoption Service

Reasons:

For the committee's information

To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: NO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr. Jane Tremlett

Directorate:

Communities

Name of Head of Service:

Stefan Smith

Report Author:

Stefan Smith

Designation:

Head of Children's Services

Tel Nos. 01267 246530

E Mail Addresses:

SJSmith@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Education & Children Scrutiny Committee
28th September 2017

Adoption Service Annual Report

NAS compiles this report annually on the work and performance of the 5 regional adoption services that comprise the National Adoption Service. Carmarthenshire is the lead authority for one of those regional services, the Mid and West Wales Adoption Service. This report covers 2016-7.

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: Stefan Smith

Head of Children's Services

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Gwasanaeth
Mabwysiadu
Cenedlaethol

National
Adoption
Service

Achieving More Together /
Cyflawni Mwy Gyda'n Gilydd



Western Bay
ADOPTION SERVICE
GWASANAETH MABWYSIADU
Bae'r Gorrlewin

adoptionuk
ar gyfer pob teulu sy'n mabwysiadu
for every adoptive family



AFA CYMRU
association for fostering and adoption
cymdeithas ar gyfer maethu a mabwysiadu



Vale, Valleys
and Cardiff
Adoption | **Mabwysiadu**
yn y Ffiro, y Cymoedd
a Chaerdydd



Mabwysiadu
Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru
Adoption
Mid & West Wales



after
adoption



Credwch
mewn plant
Believe in
children
Barnardo's
Cymru



South East Wales Adoption Service
Achieving More Together
Gwasanaeth Mabwysiadu Deddfyrain Cymru
Cyflawni Mwy Gyda'n Gilydd!

Page 115



Gwasanaeth
Mabwysiadu
Gogledd Cymru | **North Wales**
Adoption
Service



Cymdeithas Plant Dewi Sant | **St David's Children Society**

Independent Chair Foreword

The Annual Report provides a welcome opportunity to reflect on another successful year and review our achievements as well as looking forward to future challenges. The progress made by the National Adoption Service continues to deliver a positive response to the needs of children, young people and adopters. The report reflects well on all those involved in adoption across Wales whilst acknowledging there is more to be done.

Understanding the adoption business in Wales is supported by a system of performance monitoring and management. This remains a crucial priority and provides a context of what is being completed well and where further focus is required.

The combination of legislative requirements, local government and voluntary adoption agencies working collaboratively and collectively continues to be a force for change. Collaboration is undoubtedly complex and requires commitment to change by everyone who has responsibility to deliver relevant and dynamic adoption services. Achieving consistent high performing delivery can be challenging and rewarding.

Engagement and listening to adopters, adopted children and young people has reinforced key messages from research. Dynamic support through universal, targeted and specialist intervention remains an important priority. This year has delivered The Adoption Support Framework which provides an opportunity to make a real difference to the lives of children and parents. The task in 2017–18 is to secure resources and intervention across services that is dynamic and responds positively and proactively to the needs of adopters, children and young people.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff across all agencies involved in their respective roles and responsibilities to improve the adoption experience whilst acknowledging the significant and important contribution adopters and children have made in providing clarity about their experiences and how services could and should continue the journey of change.

Philip T. Hodgson

Phil Hodgson

Independent Chair, National Adoption Service
Advisory Group



Director of Operations

Introduction

I'm very pleased to provide this report which outlines the further progress and successes for the National Adoption Service (NAS) in 2016–17. We can rightly be proud of having achieved an enormous amount and doing many things well.

I am particularly proud of the work we have done with adopted children, young people and their parents to ensure the changes we make are what they want and need. Additionally we have made significant improvements to performance albeit that these are beginning to prove challenging to extend.

There is, however, still some way to travel to meet the aspirations of those involved in the early design of NAS and the duties set out in legislation. The significant development agenda that we have, reflecting the original National Assembly for Wales's Inquiry and research findings, is going to take a number of years to achieve; it is just 2.5 years since NAS was established.

The National Assembly for Wales Fourth Assembly Legacy report 2016 notes that the Children, Young People and Education Committee follow-up inquiry into adoption report outlined that.

"whilst much progress had been made by the National Adoption Service, especially in respect of the earlier stages of the adoption process, there was still much work to be done to make sure that families got the help they needed once the adoption had taken place".

This is a fair analysis.

We have made good impact on the strategic and policy agenda which has been essential to put NAS in a position to meet the aims and aspirations. Making changes to how services are provided is a major task with many strands to it; staff and agencies across Wales are working hard to do this.

We have identified a number of challenges linked to collaborative working, the changing context within which we work and the inability to direct resources. Alongside being realistic about timeframes and the challenging context, these need to be tackled as we continue to focus on improving services which is, of course, the most important thing.



Suzanne Griffiths
Director of Operations



Background

This is the 3rd annual report of the National Adoption Service for Wales.

The National Adoption Service was launched in November 2014. It is an umbrella that brings together local, regional and national organisations and activities:

Locally, each local authority:

- continues to provide services to all looked after children.
- identifies and works with children for whom adoption is an appropriate plan.

Local authorities still provide post-adoption support themselves in two regions.

Regionally, local authorities work together in five collaboratives. Every region:

- places children for adoption.
- recruits and assesses adopters.
- offers counselling to birth parents.
- offers advice to adopted adults.
- Links with voluntary adoption agencies, health and education.
- has a Regional Board to oversee its work.

All five regions provide some post adoption support services. Three regions undertake the assessments for requests for support.

Nationally, we have:

- the Central Team led by a Director of Operations. The team is hosted by the City of Cardiff Council on behalf of all local authorities. The central team provides national direction, development and co-ordination.
- the Wales Adoption Register (managed by the Central Team).
- the Strategic Voluntary Adoption Partnership set up by:
 - Barnardo's Cymru
 - St David's Children's Society
 - Association for Fostering and Adoption in Wales
 - Adoption UK
 - After Adoption
- a Governance Board and an Advisory Group to oversee the work of the National Adoption Service.

Together, our role is to work towards the National Adoption Service vision:

- Increase the range of adoptive homes available to meet the needs of children for whom adoption is the plan.
- Make sure placements are made in a timely way, including placements for children with additional needs and siblings who are being placed together.



- Make sure prospective and approved adopters receive good quality, timely assessment and support.
- Implement our Framework for Adoption Support which aims to provide:
 - better access to advice, information and some services to all
 - better access to more targeted and specialist support for children and families who need ongoing support
- Improve adoption services overall across Wales.

Key Facts 2016–17

Total adoptions in Wales

About 4,500: adopted children are living in Wales (under the age of 18)

About 3,000: adoptive families

Adoption Activity this Year

Over 900: worked with children who had a plan for adoption or where a plan was being considered

Over 300: children joined adoptive families

86% matches arranged through Regional Services

Over 230: adopters approved

Support this Year

Over 500: children and families getting adoption support services

Over 3,100: letterbox contact arrangements

Over 989: birth parents offered counselling

Over 380: birth parents accepting counselling



The Wales Adoption Register

The Wales Adoption Register was launched in 2014. It became part of the National Adoption Service during 2015.

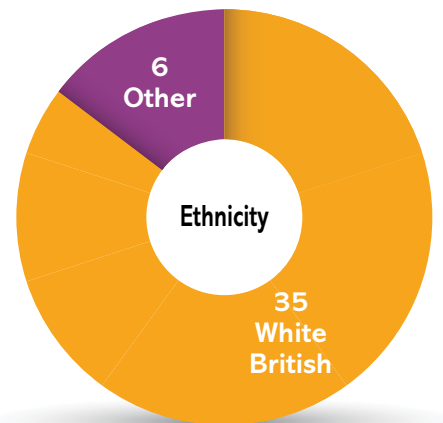
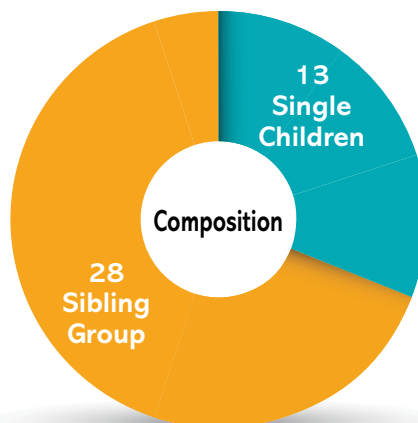
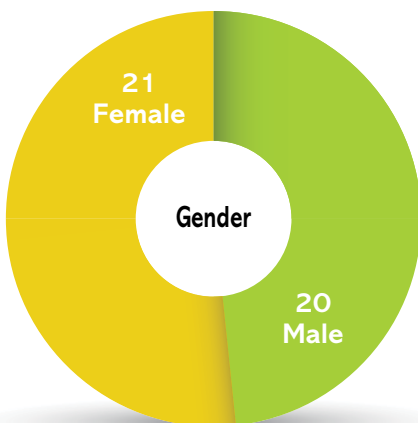
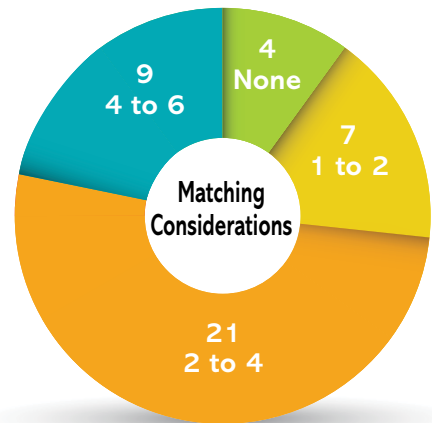
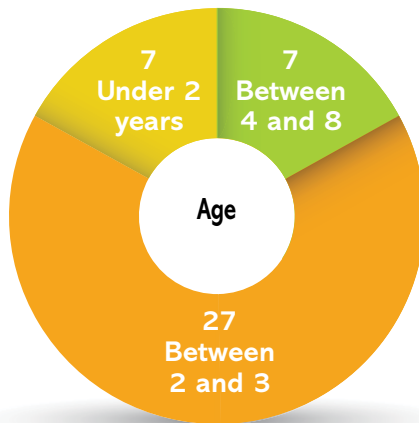
Key facts:

- The Register helps match children with adopters throughout Wales.
- All Regions and Voluntary Adoption Agencies use the Register.
- If a child or adopter has not been matched within three months, they must be referred to the Register.

We also use the Register to:

- bring professionals together to make matches between children and adopters.
- hold days for adopters to find out about children on the Register. In November, 50 adopters attended an exchange day, and eight children were matched because of the event.
- hold Adoption Activity Days where adopters and children waiting for adoption can meet each other in a supported, safe, fun environment. The first day was in March 2017, supported by colleagues from Coram BAAF.

In 2016–17, the Wales Adoption Register was involved in 41 (14%) of adoption matches.



Have we achieved what we put in our 2016-17 plan?

Our 2016-17 plan had two main priorities:

- **Priority 1.** Improve adoption support
- **Priority 2.** Develop a new database to keep in touch with adopters and be the new Wales Adoption Register

We also gave ourselves three challenges:

- **Challenge 1.** Place children more effectively.
- **Challenge 2.** Increase the range of adoptive homes available to meet the needs of children for whom adoption is the plan
- **Challenge 3.** Make sure the National Adoption Service is well run



PRIORITY 1

Improve adoption support

What we said	What we did
Draw up a plan with children, young people and adopters to develop adoption support services across Wales.	<p>The Adoption Support Framework has been agreed by the National Adoption Service's Advisory Group and Governance Board. It has gone to all the Regional Management Boards.</p> <p>In October 2016, the Welsh Government gave us a grant to agree a business plan for the Framework. We asked the Institute of Public Care to develop the plan for us. Since January 2017, members of the advisory group, our voluntary adoption agency partners and adopters have all been involved in this project.</p> <p>We have started collecting data about adoption support. Now we have a baseline, so next year we can know if adoption support has improved.</p>

What we said	What we did
<p>Make it easier for adopters to get the support and services they need by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> making sure each local authority Information Advice and Assistance, Service gives useful information about adoption support, and directs people to the right service if they need specialist adoption advice or an assessment for support. developing a plan for the Regions to do adoption support assessments. making other services 'adoption aware'. 	<p>We have put more advice and more about support and training on our website. Some Regions have done this on their websites too.</p> <p>DEWIS is an all-Wales online source of information about social care. We have added our own information to DEWIS. Our central team advised DEWIS about online information for children.</p> <p>South East Wales Region is piloting doing adoption support assessments rather than each local authority doing their own. We want all regions to do this in the future.</p> <p>We are working with the Welsh Local Government Association to get Education more involved.</p> <p>We have made links with the Welsh Government 'Positive Parenting' strategy. Regions and Voluntary Adoption Agencies will be able to use 'Positive Parenting' resources to support adopters.</p> <p>All Regions and the Voluntary Adoption Agencies are working to improve adoption support, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mid and West Wales and Western Bay worked together to offer adoptive parents 'Parenting Our Children' training. Adoption UK used their grant to run the training. South East Wales is doing even more with the Health Board's psychology service. All staff get four days training and are part of a reflective practice group. The new TalkAdoption group for Western Bay has been very successful. The monthly meetings have helped young people to speak about their adoption stories and be heard by us and others. North Wales has a new support group, and continues its contract with After Adoption for some services and training.
<p>Lobby to make sure Wales has the right laws and policies for developing adoption support.</p>	<p>Section 8 and 9 of the Adoption and Children Bill in England are going to be extended to Wales. This means courts will have to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> think about the lifelong needs of adopted children. consider adoptive parents as their children's primary attachment figure in contested adoption hearings. <p>We are represented on the Welsh Government Ministerial Advisory Group for Improving Outcomes for Children. Adoption support is now a priority in its plan.</p> <p>We have talked with the Welsh Government about its Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Bill. We have helped adopters and adopted children and young people to take part in the consultation.</p> <p>We have advised the Welsh Government about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> making the Adoption Support regulations fit with the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. changes to regulations so the process for approving adopters can be streamlined.

What we said	What we did
<p>Use feedback from children, young people and adopters to help make education services more 'adoption aware'.</p> <p>Develop a detailed plan to go alongside the Welsh Government strategy 'Raising the ambitions and educational attainment of children who are looked after in Wales'.</p>	<p>The Welsh Government has a group looking at the education for looked after children and adopted children. We are part of this group, and have written an adoption plan to go alongside their 'Raising the ambitions' strategy.</p> <p>Adoption UK take the lead on working with education services for us.</p> <p>We regularly meet with Welsh Government Looked After Children Education staff.</p> <p>We publicise 'Getting it right for every child: a schools' guide to working with adopted children and their families'. The guide was written for Welsh Government by Adoption UK.</p> <p>Each local authority area has a Looked After Children Education co-ordinator. Regions have good links with them.</p> <p>North Wales Region and Mid & West Wales education consortia developed attachment training in schools. This training is increasingly used across Wales.</p> <p>The North Wales Region training officer has run training for head teachers.</p> <p>A member of Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Region has delivered similar training to schools.</p> <p>Adoption UK have delivered INSET training to more than 400 education participants across Wales this year.</p>
<p>Use feedback from children, young people and adopters to influence how CAMHS improve access to services for adopted children and their families, including neuro-developmental services.</p>	<p>The Regions and CAMHS have talked about formalising links. The aim is to make advice and access to services clearer for adoptive families.</p> <p>We had hoped to develop a joint leaflet, but CAMHS is already developing a leaflet. We will promote the leaflet when it is completed.</p> <p>In the future, adoptive parents, children and young people will be able to take part in CAMHS service user consultations.</p>
<p>Implement a common policy for the payment of financial support.</p>	<p>We are still working on this. It should happen from 1 April 2018.</p>

What we said	What we did
<p>Work with children, young people and adopters to develop a strategy to improve life story work for adopted children in Wales.</p>	<p>This work is funded by our Welsh Government grant. It is progressing well.</p> <p>The group running the project includes adopters, regional adoption staff, voluntary agencies and childcare social workers. The group gets advice from children and young people via 'TalkAdoption'.</p> <p>We have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • held a workshop of adopted children and young people led by 'TalkAdoption'. • finalised a framework for life journey work and a toolkit. • identified children with whom to try out the new toolkit. • collected good practice examples. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in Mid & West Wales Region, life journey materials are required before a child goes to the matching panel. Adoption staff are working with childcare teams across the region to help this to happen well. Western Bay is working towards this too. - in North Wales Region, a pilot group is ready to test the framework. Their Training Officer is developing a local training framework for it.

Other work to improve adoption support

Adopter's guide to adoption:

This is something adopters wanted. We developed the guide with the AFA Cymru lawyer and Cardiff University Law School.

Knowledge Transfer Partnership:

St David's Children Society and Cardiff University secured funding to take research knowledge and try to put it into practice. This could help transform how services are delivered.

Stats on adoption support

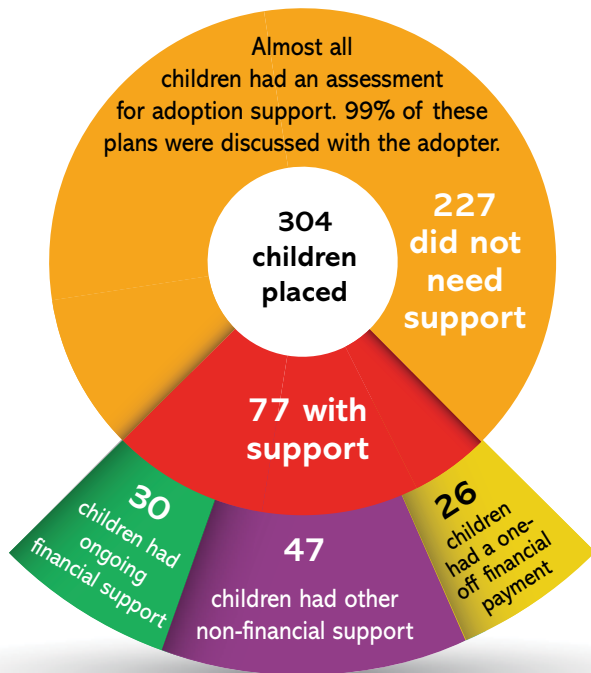
Adoption support for children placed during 2016–17

More than 500 children received adoption support services this year and there were more than 3,100 letterbox contact arrangements in place. We know support can mean many things, including financial support, practical or therapeutic services; some children will need support to help them understand why they have been adopted, and some parents need help to manage some difficult emotions and behaviours. Our data now tells us the level of support being made available to children who were newly placed this year, as well as other new requests for help that were received.



This is the picture for children placed this year

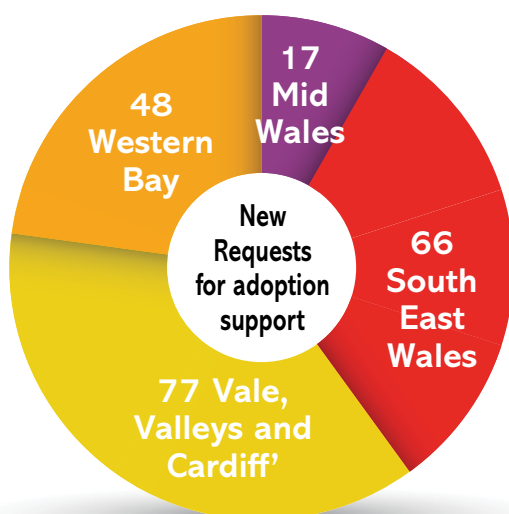
Percentage of children getting support ranged from 10% to 38% across the Regions.



This adds up to more than 77 because some children received more than one type of support.

208 new requests for adoption support for children placed before April 2016

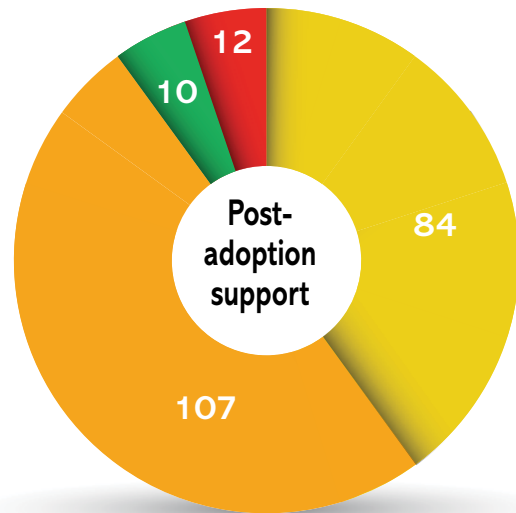
As well as the above, this is new demand this year.



We do not have information about North Wales.

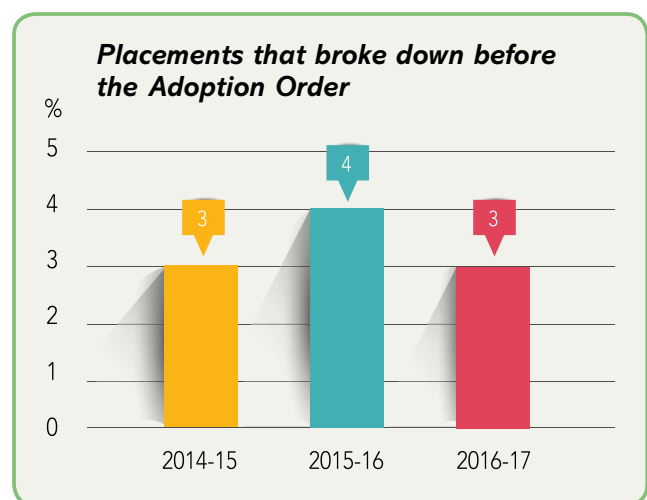
All 208 children had an assessment for post-adoption support.

84 of the requests are still in progress, as only 124 have been completed. The outcomes of the 124 totals 129 as some children will have more than one service.



- 84 assessment in progress at end of year.
- 107 had non-financial support (eg access to therapy and practical help)
- 10 had one-off financial support
- 12 had ongoing financial support

Placement breakdowns



Timely support is critical for keeping this low.

Timely support also makes sure the adoption works well for the child and the whole family.

Our voluntary adoption agency partners provide valuable support.

Cymdeithas Plant Dewi Sant



St David's Children Society

Credwch
mewn plant
Believe in
children



Barnardo's
Cymru

Support
for adoptive
families

Helplines and Training

adoptionuk

ar gyfer pob teulu sy'n mabwysiadu
for every adoptive family

after
adoption

AFA CYMRU
association for fostering and adoption
cymdeithas ar gyfer maethu a mabwysiadu

357
enquiries by phone
and email, from
professionals and
members of the
public

450+
professionals and
adoptive parents given
training, including in
non-violent resistance

Other Support

adoptionuk

ar gyfer pob teulu sy'n mabwysiadu
for every adoptive family

after
adoption

TalkAdoption
groups – 90 adopted
children and young
people in SE and SW
Wales meeting in four
groups

Adoption
support groups –
243 attendances in
31 meetings

1:1 support
from a non-violent
resistance
practitioner for 55
adoptive parents of
70 children

1:1 support
for 200 adults
who had been
adopted, birth
parents or other
birth relatives
supported

Research about adoption support

The Wales Adoption Study aims to understand more about the support needs of adoptive families in the first three years of an adoptive placement. The research will provide the evidence we need to improve adoption support.

The research team is led by Dr Katherine Shelton, School of Psychology, Cardiff University. Links to publications are on her university webpage and include:

- Doughty, J., Meakings, S. and Shelton, K.H. (in press, 2017). The legal and administrative processes in adoption: Views and experiences of newly formed adoptive families. *Journal of Social Welfare and Family Law*.
- Anthony, R., Meakings, S., Doughty, J., Ottaway, H., Holland, S., & Shelton, K.H. (2016). Factors affecting adoption in Wales: Predictors of variation in time between entry to care and adoptive placement. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 67, 184-190.
- Meakings, S., Coffey, A. J. and Shelton, K.H. (2016). A study examining the concerns, support needs and experiences of newly formed adoptive families. *Journal of Health Visiting*, 4(11), 2-9.
- Meakings, S., Coffey, A. and Shelton, K.H. (in review, 2017). The influence of adoption on sibling relationships: experiences and support needs of newly formed adoptive families. *British Journal of Social Work*.

We will use the evidence already available from the study to plan and improve adoption support. For example, the evidence tells us:

- Nearly half (47%) of the children in the Wales Adoption Study had experienced four or more Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) before they were placed for adoption. We know these early experiences have serious implications for later life.
- Adoption support should become the norm, whatever the age of the child or background of the adopters.
- Adoptive parents need to know they are entitled to extra help in the first few months.
- Adoptive parents need to know they are welcome to ask for help later.
- Everyone needs support to manage the changing relationships when a child joins a family, including:
 - siblings who are placed together
 - siblings placed apart
 - children joining the family
 - children already part of the family
 - previous foster carers
- Some children have adjustment problems. They and their families may need specialised support.
- Everyone needs to understand the legal processes involved in adoption, and many will need support for this.

PRIORITY 2

Develop a new database for the Wales Adoption Register

This database will have two functions:

- to keep in touch with adopters
- to become the Wales Adoption Register

What we said	What we did
Look at the review of the Wales Adoption Register and database project. Do what the review recommended.	<p>We have worked with the Welsh Government to make sure any new system will meet our needs.</p> <p>We will continue to work with the Welsh Government to procure this system during 2017-2018.</p>

CHALLENGE 1

Place children more effectively

What we said	What we did
Pilot 'Foster to Adopt'.	<p>We worked with AFA Cymru to develop practice guidance for local authorities.</p> <p>Use of the scheme was too low for a pilot. We were told this was due to legal difficulties. The Welsh Government is looking at changing the laws and guidance to make it easier.</p>
Make sure our best practice guide for family finding is being used.	<p>We ran workshops in all five Regions. Staff from Regions and local authorities came to the workshops.</p> <p>Some Regions focused on improving systems for tracking and monitoring family finding.</p> <p>Vale, Valleys and Cardiff now produce a monthly report of placements made and children still waiting. This helps family finding work for children still waiting.</p> <p>This year we used an Adoption Activity day to support matching for the first time. This has been very successful. The event identified many potential links that are being explored.</p>
Find opportunities to participate in discussions with the courts/ judiciary about the role of adoption within the family courts.	<p>The Central team keeps the Lead Judges informed about developments in Wales. At the request of the Lead Welsh Language Judge, we promoted the use of bilingual applications.</p>

Other work to place children more effectively

Western Bay developed a Transition/Moving on programme. The programme aims to improve how practitioners and foster carers work with children who are being placed for adoption. The Region has 'transition champions'. Their approach is being rolled out across the local authorities, in that area. We are encouraging other regions to take a similar approach.

Western Bay re-looked at how they make adoption order applications. The aim is to have a process that does not allow adoption decisions to drift.

Stats on placing children more effectively

Fewer children (304) were placed for adoption in Wales during 2016–17.

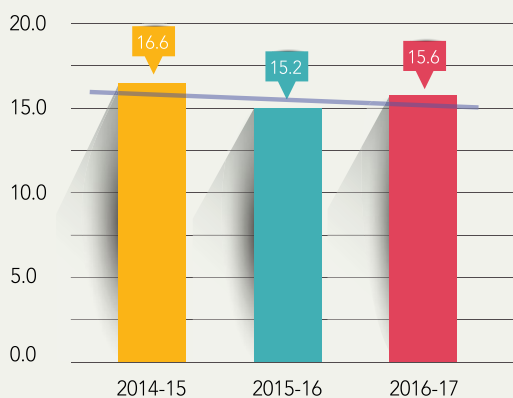
This is because the number of placement orders dropped by 38% between 2013 and 2015.

The number of placement orders has started to rise (up by 15% in 2016–17) so we expect more children will be placed for adoption next year.

Children are facing fewer delays now than they were before the National Adoption Service was formed. However, we still have not achieved the timescales we want:

- Average time for a child from going into the care system to being placed for adoption is now 15.6 months (still above the 13 months we want to achieve).
- Average time from a placement order to being placed for adoption is 8.2 months.

Average in months it has taken from the date of most recently looked after to date of placement for adoption



Our Regions are doing better at placing sibling groups and children with complex needs. It still takes longer than average for these children to be placed for adoption. Reasons for this include:

- complexity of the child's needs.
- difficulty of finding adopters to take siblings.
- links that do not proceed.
- legal challenges, sometimes after the placement order has been granted.

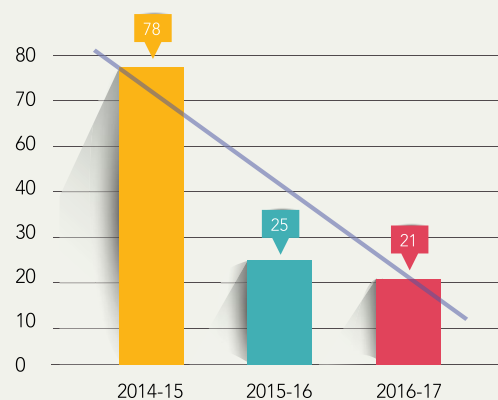
Fewer children have their plan changed from adoption to an alternative way to provide them with a permanent home. This has dropped from 78 children in 2014–15 to only 21 in 2016–17. This means we have met the target we set ourselves.

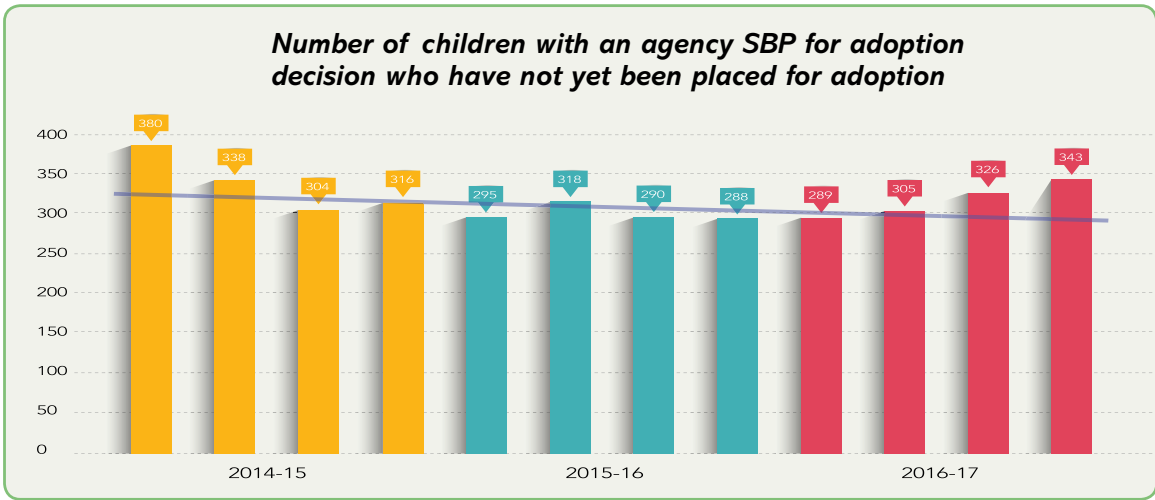
However, at the end of the year:

- the number of children where the plan is for adoption had risen.
- 80% of these have a placement order.
- there are more children on the Wales Adoption register unlikely to be matched with the adopters who are currently available.

This is still better than the position before the National Adoption Service was created, but we hoped to see the numbers reducing further.

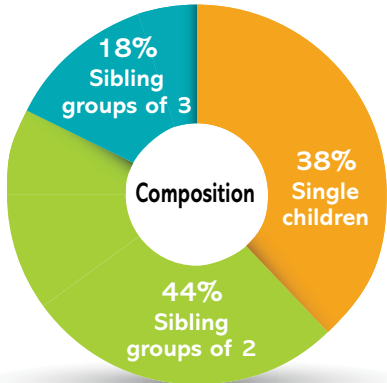
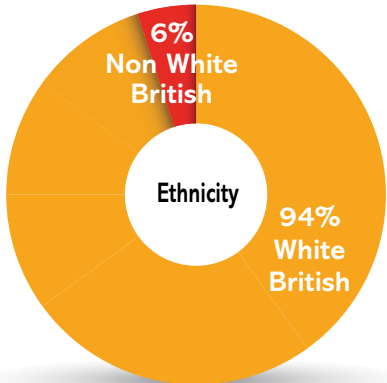
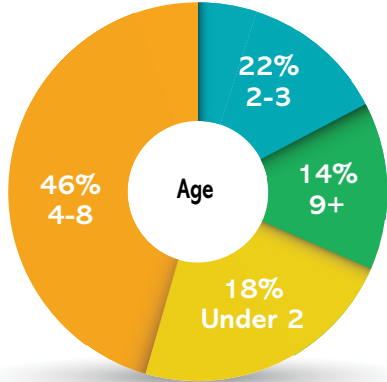
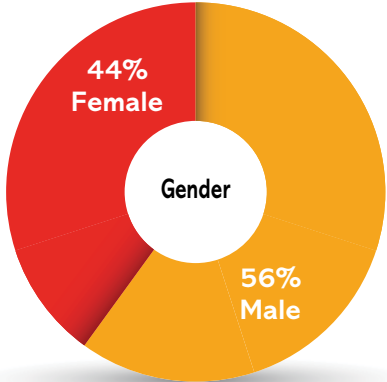
Number of children with a placement order who have a permanence plan changed from adoption at a LAC review





Children waiting on the Wales Adoption Register at 31 March 2017

This has been accompanied by a rise in the number of children on the Wales Adoption Register at the end of the year.



- About half of the children could not be matched with what adopters could offer.
- There were more sibling groups of three.
- There were fewer sibling groups of two.
- More children with additional needs were waiting, whatever their age, except for children aged between two and four.

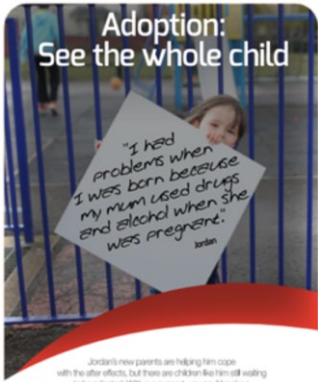
There were 68 adopters available, but unable to be matched with these children.

The needs of these children will continue to drive our recruitment strategy.

We are piloting Link-maker for children who cannot be matched in their region or through the Wales Adoption Register.

CHALLENGE 2

Recruit the adopters who can meet the needs of the children available

What we said	What we did
<p>Roll out the revised strategy for targeted recruitment.</p>  <p>Adoption: See the whole child</p> <p>"I had problems when I was born because my mum used drugs and alcohol when she was pregnant." Jordan</p> <p>Jordan's new parents are helping him cope with the after effects, but there are others like him still waiting to be adopted. With our support, you could make a difference to a child like Jordan. Contact us.</p> <p>Welsh Adoption Service www.adoptcymru.com #SeeTheWholeChild</p>	<p>We used information about children waiting to be matched to target recruitment towards suitable adopters.</p> <p>We launched a campaign with a suite of marketing materials, '#SeeTheWholeChild', in July 2016.</p> <p>There is an all Wales 'script', so prospective adopters get a realistic picture of the needs of children waiting for adoption from the start.</p> <p>Enquiries from prospective adopters for harder to place children are dealt with first.</p> <p>Two Regions said prospective adopters are better informed.</p> <p>We reviewed the campaign and planned more recruitment activities for 2017–18.</p> <p>Our Voluntary Adoption Agency partners worked on a specialist recruitment scheme. This is being developed further after discussions with the Regions.</p>
<p>Finalise and use a two-stage recruitment model for prospective adopters in Wales.</p>	<p>The Welsh Government has advised our proposals will require a change of law.</p>
<p>Consider how we support and work with adopters who are waiting placements.</p>	<p>Fewer adopters are waiting for placements.</p> <p>There is still a mismatch between adopters who are waiting and children who need to be adopted.</p> <p>The Regions and Voluntary Adoption Agencies actively supported waiting adopters to understand the needs of children who need or are likely to need to be adopted.</p>

Stats on recruiting the right adopters

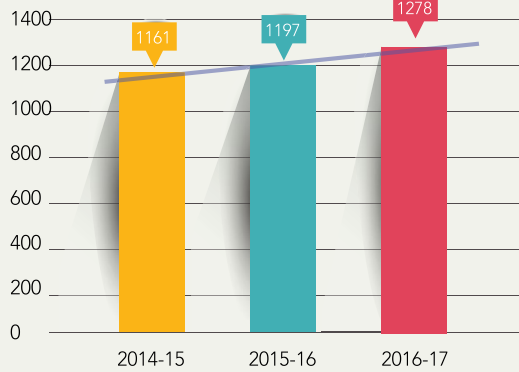
Initial enquiries

The number of initial enquiries is still going up. This year there were 1,278 initial enquiries.

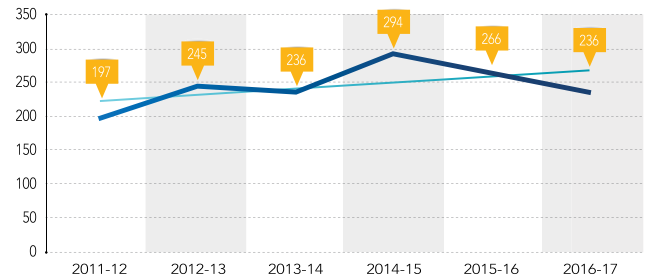
99% of initial enquiries get a response within five working days.

A high proportion of enquiries are from people wanting to adopt very young children and/or single children but these children are a lower proportion of those waiting for placements.

Number of initial enquiries

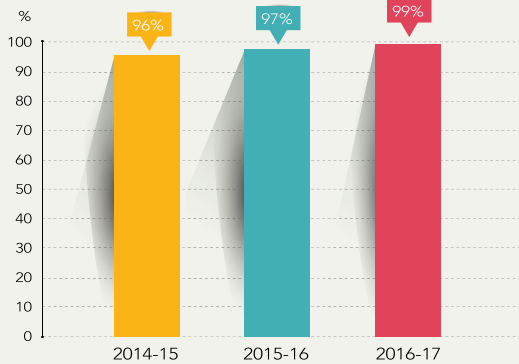


Adopters approved



Adjusted from the number previously published

% of initial enquiries which received a response within five working days

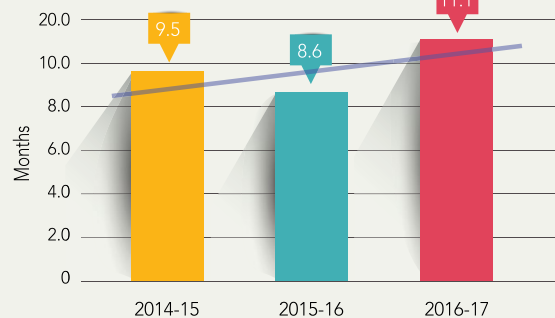


Time frame

The time from initial enquiry to approval has lengthened to 11.1 months (was 8.6 months in 2015-16). This was more about adopters' preferences than the process itself.

On average, adopters took five months from their initial enquiry before making a formal application to adopt.

Average time for adopters to progress from initial enquiry to agency decision to approve



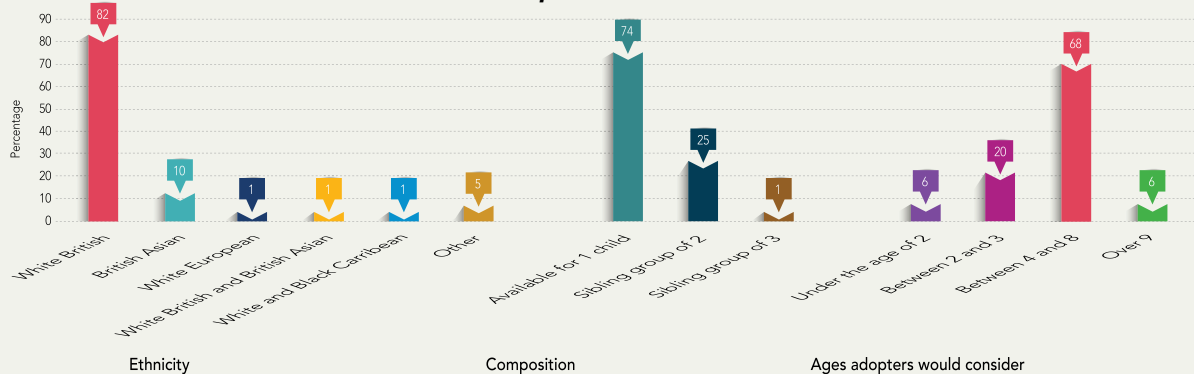
Approvals

Fewer adopters were approved in 2016-17. This was because we were targeting recruitment to children's needs and aiming to reduce the number of adopters waiting.

At the end of the year:

- 68 adopters were available on the Wales Adoption Register
- only 26% of adopters would consider sibling groups
- more adopters were willing to consider older children. However most older children are part of a sibling group.


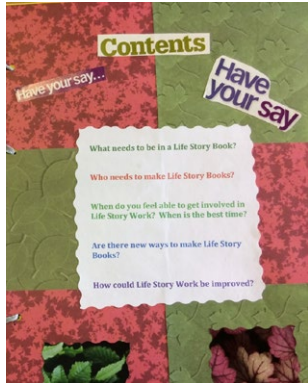
Available adopters 31/03/17 in %




CHALLENGE 3

Make sure the National Adoption Service is well run

What we said	What we did
<p>Continue to collect data about adoption and the work of the National Adoption Service.</p> <p>Work towards targets we have set ourselves.</p>	<p>We produced a booklet explaining how to collect the data we need, to make sure it is collected the same way across Wales.</p> <p>Every three months, we produced a Wales report from the data.</p> <p>Twice a year, we produced Regional reports.</p> <p>The reports were used nationally and regionally to check how we are doing.</p> <p>We asked people to start collecting data about adoption support services. This annual report is the first to have data about adoption support.</p> <p>Regions are improving their own systems to collect data. Some regions could not give us all the data we ask for.</p> <p>We worked with Voluntary Adoption Agencies on ways to collect data about their adoption support work.</p>
<p>Develop a National Adoption Services workforce strategy for 2017–18 onwards. We will do this with the Regions and training managers.</p>	<p>We consulted with the Regions, and have written an initial paper.</p> <p>This makes it clear what training and development is needed for all staff involved in adoption-related work, whatever organisation they work for.</p> <p>We held a really successful conference in March, 'Improving Outcomes in Adoption – Moving on and managing relationships'. There were over 120 delegates. It was funded from our Welsh Government grant aid. We talked with professionals and adopters about supporting children during transitions, especially from foster care to adoption.</p> <p>Presentations included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an adoptive father speaking of his experiences • Lynne Cudmore on 'keeping the child in mind' during transitions • Dr Ruth Sellers on the influence of family relationships <p>A birth parent was involved in a workshop. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive.</p> <p>The Mid & West Wales Region held a very successful and well attended conference in January 2017, 'Permanency planning – Achieving the best outcomes for adopted children and their families'. It was aimed at adopters and professionals. The conference included perspectives from an adopter, children and young people as well as workshops on topics such as positive play, life story work, attachment and adoption support.</p>

What we said	What we did
<p>Continue to work with Welsh Government and Social Care Wales to influence the development of a workforce that are 'permanence/adoption aware'.</p>	<p>We established links with the Chief Executive of Social Care Wales and their Director of Workforce and Improvement.</p> <p>We are part of the Ministerial 'Improving Outcomes' group.</p> <p>These give us a chance to influence workforce development and engage with the review of social work training.</p>
<p>Work with Welsh Government to develop a positive response to the recent National Assembly for Wales 'Follow-up Inquiry into Adoption Services in Wales'.</p>	<p>Our Governance Board agreed our response in September.</p> <p>With the Welsh Government we will work through the recommendations.</p>
<p>Secure a suitable Central Team budget.</p>	<p>This was secured for 2017–18 onwards. Our core costs will be met.</p> <p>'Budgets in all Regions' are under pressure. Some have been frozen or reduced. This will have implications for the National Adoption Service's work.</p>
<p>Update and use the strategy for engaging with adopters, children and young people and other adults who use adoption services.</p> 	<p>We developed an engagement strategy to fit with our workplan for 2016–17.</p> <p>North Wales Region and South East Wales Region set up family fun days with opportunities during the day to consult adopters on national and regional issues.</p> <p>Over 100 families attended, and both we and adopters found the days useful and fun.</p> <p>This was the first time the North Wales Region has organised an event like this, and they plan to hold a similar event in 2017–18.</p> <p>The family fun days gave positive feedback:</p> <p><i>'our social worker 'excellent'- we know we can pick up the phone any time. Training preparation sessions were excellent.</i></p> <p><i>Training and preparation was excellent</i></p> <p><i>Adoption support group – excellent friendship and advice forum for both parents and children'.</i></p> 

What we said	What we did
	<p>The family fun days also gave us challenges to focus on for 2017–18:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>'The quality of life story work</i> <i>Talking to adopted children about their siblings</i> <i>More support at court stages</i> <i>Better post adoption support</i> <i>Need to sort out Fostering for Adoption so subsequent children can be placed more quickly</i> <i>Education – raising awareness of needs of adopted children'.</i> <p>We began to work with children, young people and adopters using 'co-production'. We used this for the life journey work and in developing a response to the Additional Learning Needs Bill.</p> <p>This approach was well supported. The views of children and young people have been fed in via TalkAdoption.</p> <p>We used some of our grant funding to develop young people's web pages and a young person's app. We aim to 'go live' in 2017–18.</p> <p>We are encouraged that engagement is becoming the norm in the Regions. Western Bay and Mid & West Wales started focus groups to develop services.</p> 

Compliments and Complaints

Compliments

Four Regions told us about compliments. They reported 77 compliments from:

- professionals.
- birth relatives.
- adopters.

Compliments included:

- the quality of support through the application process.
- good experiences with the adoption panel.
- courts praising the quality of work.

The South East Wales Region report compliments about their new arrangements for assessing post adoption support.

Complaints

People applying to adopt are given information about how to complain. Other people who use adoption services also have information about how to complain.

In 2016–17, ten complaints were reported to Regions. The Central team helped respond to a few of these. Nine complaints were dealt with at the informal or stage one level. One complaint went to the Independent Review Mechanism.

Issues included:

- decisions about whether an application could continue.
- disagreeing with decisions.
- delays.
- adoption support services.

Finance

Budgets for the Regions and the Central team

This is the first year we have information about the Regional and Central team budgets.

Regional and central team budgets for 2016–17

Mid Wales	North Wales	South East Wales	Vale, Valleys and Cardiff	Western Bay	Central Team	Totals
£915,495	£1,494,042	£1,345,940	£1,270,330	£2,847,800	£272,000	£8,145,607

Some of the difference between Regions can be explained by:

- Not all Regions provide the same functions. For example:
 - Western Bay's budget is higher because they manage the staffing, adoption support and interagency fee budgets for the local authorities.

- Vale, Valleys and Cardiff, South East Wales and Western Bay assess adoption support needs and provide more services directly.

- Not all Regions have the same workload. The workload is higher in Vale Valleys and Cardiff, Western Bay and South East Wales.

Across Wales, budgets are under pressure. Some Regions are having their services reviewed and all may have less budget in the future.

Voluntary Adoption Agency budgets

Three of the Voluntary Adoption Agencies shared two Welsh Government Third Sector grants, totalling £350,000.

AFA Cymru (Association for Fostering and Adoption) has funding to support the whole sector.

Most of the adoption grant aid is for:

- recruiting and assessing adopters.
- matching and placing children.
- adoption support.

We work with the Voluntary Adoption Agencies to make sure grants they get help achieve the National Adoption Service priorities.

Welsh Government development grant

We explained to Welsh Government why we needed extra money for the Framework for Adoption Support. The Welsh Government gave a grant of £90,000.

The following pieces of work were supported from that £90,000 grant. Without the grant, none of this work would have been possible.

Development grant spending



Our priorities for 2017-18

Our core work is to:

- Increase the range of adoptive homes available to meet the needs of children for whom adoption is the plan.
- support both children and adults who are affected by the lifelong implications of adoption.

We will continue with our core work.

We will continue to do most of our work through the National Adoption Service regions and Voluntary Adoption Agencies.

Our vision for the future is outlined in the introduction.

It will take time and commitment from everyone to achieve this vision.

We have two priorities for 2017-18.

Priority 1: Keep improving adoption support

We will:

- make the case for extra money to fund improvements to adoption support.
- use the new framework for life journey work.
- keep working with health and education so adopted children and their families get the right support.

Priority 2: Place children well

We will:

- concentrate on recruiting adopters for the children who are likely to need to be adopted.
- aim to improve all the processes.

Making this happen

To make this happen, we will need to:

- work to change laws and policies, where that is needed.
- continue to use coproduction as one of our ways for working with service users, and develop how their views inform our governance arrangements.
- make sure we have the right arrangements in place to oversee the National Adoption Service.
- encourage everyone whose work affects adoptive families, potential adopters and looked after children to know more and have more skills about permanence and adoption.
- aim for ongoing improvement overall.



EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 28th SEPTEMBER 2017

Draft - Carmarthenshire County Council's Annual Report for 2016/17

- 2nd Year's progress report on the Corporate Strategy 2015-20
(Including our Summary Annual Report 2016/17)
- Full Annual Report 2016/17

To consider and comment on the following issues:

To approve the contents of the draft reports :-

- 2nd Year's progress report on the Corporate Strategy 2015-20
(Including our Summary Annual Report 2016/17)
- **Extracts of the Full Annual Report 2016/17 relevant to Education & Children's Services Scrutiny**:-
 - Introduction
 - Goal C1 – Ensuring each child has the best start in life
 - Outcome – People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
 - Goal E5 Safeguarding Children
 - Appendices

Reasons:

- Under the Local Government (Wales) Measure we must:
"Publish an Annual Report on past performance by the end of October each year."

Exec Board Decision Required: **YES - 23rd October, 2017**
Council Decision Required: **NO**

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder: Cllr. Glynog Davies (Education & Children)

Directorate:	Designations:	Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:
Education & Children		
Name of Head of Service: Aeron Rees	Head of Curriculum and Well-being	01267 246532 JARees@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Andi Morgan	Head of Education Services	01267 246645 AndiMorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Stefan Smith	Head of Children's Services	01267 246530 SJSmith@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Report Author: Dave Astins	Strategic Development Manager	01267 246426 DAstins@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

28th SEPTEMBER 2017

Draft - Carmarthenshire County Council's Annual Report for 2016/17

- 2nd Year's progress report on the Corporate Strategy 2015-20 (Including our Summary Annual Report 2016/17)
- Full Annual Report 2016/17

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT

2nd Year's progress report on the Corporate Strategy 2015-20 (Including our Summary Annual Report 2016/17)

- When we published the Corporate Strategy 2015-20 we promised to conduct an annual progress report and we set out a set 24 Outcome measures to judge our progress against

(The Corporate Strategy will be reviewed for 2018/19 as the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 states that we must incorporate our Well-being Objectives within the Corporate Strategy)
- By law we also have to publish a summary and full Annual Report
- It makes sense to combine the Corporate Strategy progress and summary report into one document to avoid duplication and align plans and reports
- In the recent WAO Annual Improvement Report they found that our combination of a short summary and a full version – gave all the information needed.

Full Annual Report 2016/17

- In previous years we combined Annual Reporting and Improvement Planning (ARIP) into a single document. This year we separated them because the new Well-being of Future Generations Act required the publication of our Well-being Objectives by the 31st March, and it made sense to incorporate our Improvement Plan within that. We could not have produced an Annual Report before the years end.
- In the future we will continue to integrate our Improvement Plan and Well-being Objectives in a single plan – looking forward. We will also aim to integrate the Annual reporting of both the Improvement Plan and Well-being Objectives in a single report.
- By law we have to publish a full Annual Report
- 2016/17 end of year progress on our Key Improvement Objective Priorities are incorporated into this document
- Progress on the WAO Corporate Assessment Proposals for Improvement are incorporated into the document.

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: Aeron Rees - Head of Learner Programmes
 Andi Morgan - Head of School Effectiveness
 Stefan Smith - Head of Children's Services

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Annual Report is aligned to our Integrated Community Strategy Outcomes & Goals. 						
2. Legal						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We had to publish our Well-being Objectives by the 31st March and we incorporated our Improvement Plan for the year ahead in that publication. In previous years we combined Annual Reporting and Improvement Planning into a single document to meet the Local Government Measure requirements. This year we have had to separate them. 						
3 Finance						
See the Making Better use of Resources theme						

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Aeron Rees - Head of Learner Programmes
 Andi Morgan - Head of School Effectiveness
 Stefan Smith - Head of Children's Services

- 1. Local Member(s) – N/A**
- 2. Community / Town Councils – N/A**
- 3. Relevant Partners – N/A**
- 4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** - All Departments have been consulted and have had the opportunity to provide comments on their performance and progress.

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	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
The Local Government Measure (Wales) 2009	Welsh Government\Final part 1 guidance
Corporate Strategy 2015 -2020	Corporate Strategy 2015-2020

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Carmarthenshire County Council

Second year progress report

on the Corporate Strategy

for 2015-2020

Including our Summary Annual Report 2016/17

OCTOBER 2017



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People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer.....	14
Carmarthenshire’s communities and environment are sustainable.....	16
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**If you require this document in large print, audio tape or Braille,
please contact 01267 224486**

Introduction

When we signed up with our partners to the Integrated Community Strategy for Carmarthenshire, the Council aligned its internal plans to maximize its contribution to the agreement. The vision is for a Carmarthenshire that enables people to live healthy and fulfilled lives by working together to build strong, bilingual and sustainable communities.

In September 2015, we renewed our Corporate Strategy which set out the Council's strategic priorities and aspirations in support of the vision for Carmarthenshire. This Strategy identified key areas of focus and set out the key outcome measures by which the Council would judge its success. This document provides the second annual report on the progress made.

For the last five years the Council has published an Annual Report that details our progress against all of the outcomes and goals set out in the Integrated Community Strategy. The full Annual Report is a detailed and lengthy document, however this document provides a summary.



Carmarthenshire County Council's Corporate Strategy 2015 - 2020


















More Information - Annual Report 2016/17

Page 145

YOUR COUNCIL do it online
www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales

Progress at a Glance

When we published the Corporate Strategy 2015-20 we set out the following outcome measures to judge our progress:-

Outcome	Outcome Measures	Progress
<p>Making Better Use of Resources</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £ Improved public satisfaction levels with the services provided by the Council £ Reduction in organisational 'running costs' £ Increased on line activity to address public queries and transactions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">   
<p>Building a Better Council</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 😊 Increasing public communication, consultation and engagement 😊 Improved staff satisfaction levels (IIP March '17 Survey) 😊 Reduced staff sickness absence levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Baseline 85% 
<p>Healthier</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Reduction in referrals to adult and children's social services ♥ Increased availability of rented and affordable homes ♥ Increased use of leisure facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">   
<p>Learning</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📖 Improved educational attainment 📖 Improved school attendance rates (primary schools) 📖 Improved school attendance rates (secondary schools) 📖 Reduced number of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training 📖 Improved condition of schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">     





Outcome

Outcome Measures

Progress

Safe







-  Appropriate support provided to children, young people and families as required
-  Reduction in road casualties
-  Reduction in total recorded crime
-  Reduction in anti-social behaviour



Environment






-  Increased rates of recycling
-  Improved digital access
-  Improved transport links
-  Increased use of renewable energy



Economy



-  Increased employment
-  Reduction in working age population in receipt of out of work benefits
-  Increased economic activity and productivity



To let the public know how well we are performing this report also includes the National Survey for Wales results that are available by local authority area breakdown and the Councils results compared to the national set of measures used by all Councils in Wales. See Appendix A+B

The results, explanations and comparisons are dealt with in detail in the full version of this plan.

Outcome A: Making Better Use of Resources...

The Council is facing a period of significant and continued budget cuts and it is more important than ever to ensure that we are making the best use of resources. We will ensure that the organisation is working as efficiently as possible in order to protect and maintain front line services where possible.

However, it may not be possible for us to continue doing some of the things we have done in the past and we will work with our communities and stakeholders to find new ways of addressing need where appropriate.

Our aim is to 'Deliver Transformational Technology to Improve Council Service Delivery' and we have ensured an online transactional service was implemented as part of the Green Garden Waste Service launched in March 2017.



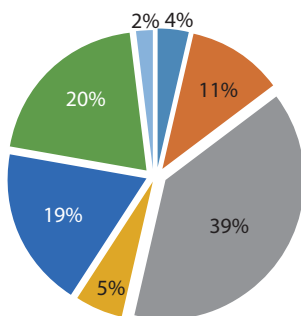
With more of our services being accessed online we have launched a new garden waste collection service and this can be easily applied for directly on line at www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/Garden-waste. Those who sign up to the scheme will be provided with a 240 litre wheeled bin which will be emptied fortnightly between April and November.

If you pay in full when you sign up you will receive a 15% discount and pay £40.80 or you can pay in instalments by Direct Debit, this will cost a total of £48. Compost bins are also available to buy for only £12, including delivery and can be ordered **directly online**.



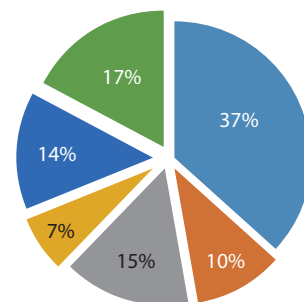
Services Provided

- Adult Social - £109m / 20%
- Levies - £9m / 2%
- Central - £20m / 4%
- Cultural, Environmental & Planning - £62m / 11%
- Education & Children - £208m / 39%
- Highways, Roads & Transport - £32m / 6%
- Housing - £101m / 19%



Sources of Funding

- Specific Grants - £94m / 17%
- Revenue Support Grant - £192m / 36%
- Non-Domestic Rates - £60m / 11%
- Council Tax - £82m / 15%
- Housing Rents - £38m / 7%
- Fees, Charges and Other Income - £75m / 14%



Progress During 2016/17

We made **£12.9 Million savings** in 2016/17 whilst directing more resources to front line services, despite the pressures on Council Budgets as a whole. In the Annual Audit Letter dated 19th December 2016, the Wales Audit office stated that:

'The Council, in collaboration with partners and despite increasing pressure on budgets, is continuing to improve performance across its priority areas and has complied with the Local Government Measure 2009'



WALES AUDIT OFFICE
SWYDDFA ARCHWILIO CYMRU



We have established a 'Transform, Innovate and Change' programme which was established in response to the severest of financial challenges, set against a backdrop of rising public expectations, increasing Service demands and 'getting better at what we do for less'. The TIC team helped support 17 projects and reviews over the course of the last year, some of which were new projects while others were on-going projects from previous years. The programme aims to support the delivery of the Council's Corporate Strategy by 'Improving its use and management of resources to deliver more efficient and effective Services.'

Expected Outcomes (as identified in Corporate Strategy)

16%
increase of
on-line
payments



1.3 million
Visitors to our Website



We have continued to reduce the organisational 'running costs'

16/17 £12.9M savings

And

65% of our national measures improved

Public satisfaction

51% of residents feel that the Council provides high quality services

National Survey of Wales



8th highest in Wales

There has been an overall fall throughout Wales over the last two years, and our result has fallen from 58% in 2014/15 and 6th place. However, above the Wales average.

Outcome B: Building a Better Council...

The Council has always worked towards building a better Carmarthenshire and has a proven track record of delivery. The introduction of the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 will build on this. The Act seeks to ensure that we take the needs of future generations into account in everything we do and is designed to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of Wales.

Twenty Carmarthenshire County Councillors have stepped down after almost 300 years of service between them

Twenty former county councillors retired at the election in June 2017 and they were recognised for their work at an event held in Ffwrnes Theatre the week before polling day.



One was a leader, two were deputy leaders, five were former executive board members and five were the chairs of the council.

Progress during 2016/17

- 😊 Wales Audit in their Annual Improvement Report for 2016/17 found that we are 'meeting our statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement'
- 😊 During 16/17 we adapted to the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act
 - We published the Council's Well-being Objectives by the 31st March 2017
 - We established a Public Service Board (PSB) that brings together public service's Carmarthenshire
 - On behalf of the PSB we conducted a Well-being Assessment which consulted with 2,500+ residents
- 😊 As part of our Key Improvement Objective Priority for 2016/17 the Council's Constitutional Review Working Group (CRWG) reviewed the content on the Council's website in respect of public questions, to improve the information provided to the public. The CRWG felt it was clear, that when a matter of public interest was included on a Scrutiny agenda, the public were fully aware of how to participate and submit questions for inclusion on the agenda
- 😊 The Council's Welsh Language Strategy was approved
- 😊 Electoral Services conducted a General Election and the EU referendum
- 😊 The Department of Communities surveyed their staff, 622 responded (37% of total staff) and 88% indicated overall job satisfaction

Expected Outcomes (as identified in Corporate Strategy)

Increased public communication, consultation and engagement

Consultation has doubled

Over 26,000 completed survey returns received by the Council on various consultations undertaken



Staff sickness has increased from 10.1 days to 10.8 days per year

Main cause of sickness is stress, mental health and fatigue



Improved Staff Satisfaction Levels

85% staff said their job was interesting and uses my skills and capabilities

- March 17- liP survey 403 responses



Outcome C: People in Carmarthenshire are healthier

Our way of life is changing. People are living longer with a higher quality of life but our care needs are becoming more complex. The challenge now facing us is to prevent ill-health in the first place.



Helen (not her real name) and her family have recently moved in to one of the first homes bought by Carmarthenshire County Council under the Affordable Homes Commitment.

She, her partner and her three children, moved to a three-bedroom mid-terraced family home in Carmarthen Town, a home that she describes as 'perfect' for her family's needs.

"We came from a two-bedroom home in West Carmarthen which wasn't ideal as our daughter had to share our bedroom. Now, she has a room of her own next door to her brothers."

"We were shown this home and we loved it – it was perfect for us. We had the keys a week later, we couldn't believe how quick it happened."

"We're settling in well. The house is lovely, and we haven't had to decorate anything. We're really pleased."

Increasing the availability of rented and affordable homes to support the needs of local people by implementing our affordable homes delivery plan was a Key Improvement Objective Priority of the Council in 2016/17

Over the last year we have been preparing for the implementation of the Social Services and Well-being Act, raising awareness amongst staff and partners and realigning our services to respond to the new requirements. The Act has provided us with the opportunity to develop services which promote wellbeing and independence and build on people's strengths and abilities which can significantly improve outcomes for those who use our services.

Progress during 2016/17

Our service transformation over the last year has demonstrated improved performance in key local and national target areas.

- ♥ Improved unscheduled care performance in relation to Delayed Transfer of Care
- ♥ Reduced commissioning of domiciliary care and support from 1110 to 1020
- ♥ Reduced admissions to long term residential care from 1000 to 992
- ♥ Number of adult Assessments completed = 3906 Number of carers Assessments completed = 384
- ♥ We have developed a new Information Advice & Assistance service
- ♥ There is also a strong relationship between the quality of housing and ill health. We have invested over £200m in improving and modernising our tenants homes through the Carmarthenshire Homes Standard
- ♥ We have also focused on improving the numbers of affordable homes for rent and to buy across the county as well as increasing the number of empty properties that have been brought back into use. We have developed an Affordable Housing Delivery Plan 2016-21 after extensive consultation with the public
- ♥ CBA Associates were commissioned in October 2016 to carry out the rural housing needs surveys over the next few years. The commission was the result of a formal tendering process

Outcomes (as identified in Corporate Strategy)



*Both Adult and Children's Social Services have seen an increase in referrals this year, this is due to an increase in awareness raising across agencies including training in schools, together with the publicity following implementation of Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act

Outcome: People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential...

We all want our children and young people to have the best possible start in life by supporting them to gain the skills and knowledge they need to lead happy, healthy, fulfilling lives. We want to improve outcomes for all ages through lifelong learning.







PUPILS CELEBRATE THE COUNTY'S BEST EVER GCSE RESULTS

The overall performance of students achieving the headline Level 2 Inclusive indicator, which requires at least five GCSE passes at grade A* to C, including mathematics and either English or Welsh First Language, passed the 65% mark for the very first time (65.1%). When we consider that performance against this indicator in 2012 was 51% it is obvious that outcomes for learners have been transformed. This is Carmarthenshire's best ever result and the fifth year in succession that results have improved whilst it is also the third consecutive year in which Carmarthenshire's learners have achieved their best ever results at GCSE. We also closed the gap in attainment for pupils entitled to free school meals from 31.6% to 41.5%.

At 'A' Level our traditionally strong performance has been sustained. It has been particularly pleasing to see the number and proportion of students gaining the highest grades of A* and A to E increase significantly this year to 99.5% from 98.1% the previous year, which is the **best result in Wales**.

Progress During 2016/17

-  During 2015/16 academic year **89%** of **Key Stage 2** pupils and **86.3%** of **Key Stage 3** pupils achieved the Core subject indicator which represents the Local Authority's best result to date and continues our ongoing upward trend
-  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
-  A **Vulnerability Assessment Profile**, which ensures early identification of all young people who may become NEET, is now being used in all secondary school settings to identify young people who can benefit from targeted support via the Cynnydd European Social Fund project and approximately 100 young people have received support.
-  The Regional Learning & Skills Partnership (RLSP) have launched the **Regional Employment & Skills Plan** where we aim to transform future economic success through the delivery of key transformational projects, including the City Deal - through improving educational attainment and increasing skills in line with the projects

Expected Outcomes (as identified in Corporate Strategy)



65.1%

of pupils

achieved 5 GCSE at grade A* to C
including Welsh first language or English and
Mathematics

Improved from 61.1% previous year



94.8%

Attendance at **Primary Schools**
(**declined** from 95.2% previously)

94.5%

Attendance at **Secondary Schools**
(**improved** from 94.2% previously)

2.1% year 11 pupils &

2.0% year 13 pupils

**Not in Education, Employment
or Training (NEET)**

(Previous year Yr 11 – 3.5% Yr 13 – 2.8%)



57%

of schools building condition is
graded **'good'** or
'satisfactory'

Improved from 56% previous
year



More Information - Annual Report 2017/18

Outcome: People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer...

Carmarthenshire remains one of the safest areas in the UK. However, we must not become complacent and we need to continue to work together with partners to address problems identified by local communities.

Llanelli Scarlets backing the Council-led campaign to tackle drink driving over Christmas!






Hooker Ken Owens and outside half Rhys Patchell joined Council Leader Cllr Emlyn Dole to launch the seasonal campaign at Parc y Scarlets



The road safety unit is focusing on raising awareness of the consequences of drink-driving using sporting analogies such as 'Give Drink-Driving the Red Card', 'Kick Drink-Driving into Touch', 'Blow the Whistle on Drink-Driving.'

Partnership working continues to be one of the most effective ways of addressing key areas of community safety, including substance misuse, counter-terrorism, anti-social behaviour and crime.

Progress during 2016/17

-  "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"
-  Anti-social behaviour (ASB) has **increased slightly over the year**. Because of the complexities and large number of variables in society that contribute to ASB, it is difficult to give a reason as to why this might be. However, anti-social behaviour in Carmarthenshire, as the rest of Dyfed-Powys, very much follows a seasonal pattern. The Council, Police and other partners work very closely in dealing with reported ASB in order to tackle concerns effectively
-  The number **killed and seriously injured on roads** in Carmarthenshire during 2016/17 was 102, this is the same number as in 2015/16. We along with the Welsh Government are committed to improving road safety and reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads. We are working to improve road safety to deliver the targets set out in the Wales Government Road Safety Framework
-  The 'Signs of Safety' practice has been implemented since June 2016, and **we have seen a significant decline in the number of children on the child protection register** (still living with their family with a safeguarding plan in place). The approach has simplified and enhanced the direct work undertaken, so that families are clearer on what is happening. Feedback has been positive as families find it more engaging and participative and focus is on the family plans and involvement of the child at the centre of the concern
-  There were **629 alcohol related violence incidents in Carmarthenshire last year** (just one less incident than the previous year). Partnership working continues to tackle the problem

Expected Outcomes (as identified in Corporate Strategy)



Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board's new website was launched 14th November 2016

Road casualties per annum

 **102**

killed and seriously injured during 2016/17

The same number as in 2015/16

5.7%
increase in
recorded crime



2015/16 = 8,160 2016/17 = 8,624



Incidents
up
15.2%

Outcome: Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable

Carmarthenshire is known for its diverse communities and wonderful natural environment and we want to ensure that we develop sustainably so that everyone in the county is able to enjoy a better quality of life now and for generations to come.

Cycle Path Network

Ambitious plans to provide a cycle path between Carmarthen and Llandeilo have stepped up a gear thanks to a £581k grant.











The grant will go towards the early design stages of the scheme, which will help to make Carmarthenshire the cycling capital of Wales.

The project – which will cost in the region of £5 to £7million - is predicted to generate between £860,000 and £2million in the local economy every year.

It will also give people a sustainable and healthy travel option, linking with villages between the two main towns.

Progress during 2016/17

-  The Capital investment in highways has delivered **38 highway schemes**
-  In 2016/17 all planned cycleway schemes have been successfully completed, seeing the completion of the Llangennech to Dafen cycle paths, with additional funding allocated by the Welsh Government allowing an extension along Llethri Road towards Swiss Valley. Towy Valley Path has seen completion of a 1km section in Abergwili in 2016/17
-  We have continued to surpass our target of 79% for concessionary travel pass to achieve 81.4%
-  The percentage of principal (A) roads, non-principal (B) roads and non-principal (C) roads that are in overall poor condition have improved from 10.7% in 2015/16 to 9.2% in 2016/17
-  Minor C class roads in poor condition have improved from 13.7% the previous year to 11.6% this year
-  We have supported 213 residents by giving them digital inclusion skills which is allowing them to return to, or enter into employment or training and as recently published in the National Survey for Wales, in the last 2 years household Internet access in Carmarthenshire has improved from 76% to 83% - (placed 15th in Wales)
-  The Council continues to invest in solar photovoltaic (PV) systems on its non-domestic buildings, and has more than **doubled capacity** through adding a further 633 Kilowatt Peak (kWp) in 2016/17
-  Built **5.5Km of cycle ways** in 2016/17

Expected Outcomes (as identified in Corporate Strategy)



Increased rates of recycling

66.26%

(63.52% the previous year)

Improved digital access

7% increase in household internet access and we have supported

213+

residents with digital skills



Improved transport links

Resurfaced
11 kilometres
of highway

Use of renewable energy has more than doubled

from 280,700 kWh to 670,400 kWh



Outcome: Carmarthenshire has a stronger and more prosperous economy..

Providing secure well paid jobs and training opportunities for local people is central to everything we are seeking to achieve. In the past, too many young people have been forced to leave Carmarthenshire to get jobs. Working across all sectors – public, voluntary and private – we want to increase prosperity for everyone in the county.

Swansea Bay City Deal

One of the most significant events in the modern history of our Council occurred in March for the signing of a City Deal for the Swansea Bay City Region.



It is a deal that gives our citizens a reason to believe in a brighter, more prosperous future, our youngsters a reason to come home from their studies knowing there will be opportunities and quality jobs and our businesses the confidence to invest in a region that is regenerating inwardly and looking out to a global market with new ideas and innovation across so many sectors.

There are three specific projects for Carmarthenshire – a Wellness and Life Science Village in Llanelli; a creative industry project at Yr Egin in Carmarthen; and a skills and talent initiative which will support skills development for all 11 projects.



Prime Minister Theresa May, Wales' First Minister Carwyn Jones, the Secretary of State for Wales Alan Cairns and the Leaders of Carmarthenshire, Swansea, Neath Port Talbot and Pembrokeshire County Councils met at the Liberty Stadium for the signing of the City Deal

WHAT THE CITY DEAL MEANS...



£1.3bn
over 15 years
Total value

£241m
Welsh and UK
Government

£360m
Local authority
borrowings



£673m
Private Sector
Support

**Nearly
10,000**
New jobs created

£1.8bn
Gross Value Added
boost

Progress during 2016/17

- Through support from our Business Account Management function together with funding options, we were able to create 253.5 jobs, safeguard 192.5 jobs, accommodate 28 jobs, place 1,598 into volunteering, 344 into jobs and 3,127 into training
- Supported the creation of **33 new enterprises** and secured **over £23.5M** in investment/funding
- We launched two development fund schemes during the summer –
 - 1) the £2M Carmarthenshire Rural Enterprise Fund Scheme had several formal offers of grant totalling over £475k and construction commenced on a number of those projects, with full commitment on a further 23.
 - 2) the £3M Transformation Commercial Property Development Fund Scheme had six applicants invited to proceed to detailed application stage
- We have developed a Tackling Poverty Policy statement and Advisory Panel to oversee the Tackling Poverty Action Plan, which outlines our overarching approach to tackling poverty through key tackling poverty programmes and initiatives
- We have been working with rural communities through our LEADER programme to identify innovative ways to address rural poverty and a number of projects have been approved

Expected Outcomes (as identified in Corporate Strategy)

Employment Up by nearly 5%

(increased from 69.1% to 74%)



Out of work benefits have reduced to 11.4%

of working age population (down from 11.8% in 2015)

Gross weekly pay up by 6.2% (from £464.8 to £495.5)

9% increase on people achieving NVQ level 4+

(increased from 34,200 to 37,600 people)



You Said, We Did...

We have provided some examples of the positive changes we have made after hearing from citizen feedback in our 'You Said.....We Did....' Campaign



You said...

We did...

Building a Better Council



You wanted us to provide more Welsh speaking registered childminders within the County.

We have increased the number of Welsh speaking registered childminders from 29 to 55 and increased the number of Welsh medium childcare places available within the county from 160 places to 295 places. We will continue to recruit, support and train new Welsh speaking childminders in targeted areas of current unmet need.

Learning



You wanted us to raise the performance of more disadvantaged learners (e-FSM) (FSM – Free School Meals)

We have worked in close partnership with our schools to achieve the highest outcomes for eFSM learners at the Level 2+ (41.5%)

Economy



You wanted more employment support, relevant training and jobs.

We have successfully attracted funding from the Welsh European Funding Office to re-establish the Workways+ Project. The project will engage with 766 participants up until November 2018, with the aim of supporting 22% into employment.

Appendices

DRAFT

APPENDIX A

The following are results of the 2016/17 National Survey for Wales available at local authority level, but not all of these are attributable to the Councils performance.

Where the same question was asked in the previous survey (2014/15), the table below shows whether we have improved our performance and our rank position.

Questions asked in the 2016/17 National Survey for Wales and available at Local Authority level	Has our result improved from 2014/15 to 2016/17			22 nd	21 st	20 th	19 th	18 th	17 th	16 th	15 th	14 th	13 th	12 th	11 th	10 th	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2 nd	1 st		
	2014/15 survey result	2016/17 survey result	Improved ↑ Standstill ↔ Declined ↓	Worst results												Best Results											
				Arrows start from our 2014/15 position												to our 2016/17 position											
1 Whether agree council provides high quality services	58	51	↓	21																						61	
2 Whether agree council lets people know how it is performing	42	35	↓	16																						48	
3 Whether agree council does all it can to improve the area	37	36	↓	19																						53	
4 Whether feel can influence decisions affecting the area	21	17	↓	9																						24	
5 Whether contacted councillor in the last year	15	16	↑	10																						24	
6 Of those that had contacted their councillor - Whether understand what councillor does	63	48	↓	40																						77	
7 Of those that had contacted their councillor - Whether councillor works closely with local community	59	44	↓	37																						72	
8 Satisfaction with child's primary school	not available	93	Not applicable	81																						99	
9 Satisfaction with education system (All aspects of the education system) (Score 1-10 worst - best)	6.6	6.0	↓	5.7																						6.5	
10 People feeling safe (at home, walking in the local area, and travelling)	not available	79	Not applicable	57																						91	
11 Have a sense of community	not available	48	Not applicable	37																						67	
12 Belonging to local area	84	70	↓	63																						82	
13 People in area from different backgrounds get on	87	68	↓	62																						87	

APPENDIX A

Questions asked in the 2016/17 National Survey for Wales and available at Local Authority level	Has our result improved from 2014/15 to 2016/17			22 nd	21 st	20 th	19 th	18 th	17 th	16 th	15 th	14 th	13 th	12 th	11 th	10 th	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2 nd	1 st		
	2014/15 survey result	2016/17 survey result	Improved ↑ Standstill ↔ Declined ↓	Worst results												Best Results											
				Arrows start from our 2014/15 position												to our 2016/17 position											
14	People in area treat each other with respect	83	72	↓	56																					87	
15	Household in material deprivation	17	15	↑	21																					11	
16	Keeping up with all bills and commitments without any difficulties (non pensioner)	not available	51	Not applicable	47																					76	
17	Keeping up with all bills and commitments without any difficulties (pensioner)	not available	75	Not applicable	75																					91	
18	Whether household has internet access	76	83	↑	77																					89	
19	Participating in any activity excluding walking	not available	55	Not applicable	39																					60	
20	Participating in any indoor game or activity	not available	38	Not applicable	25																					47	
21	Participating in any outdoor game or activity	not available	30	Not applicable	19																					33	
22	Participating in any outdoor pursuit	not available	54	Not applicable	25																					54	
23	Participating in any sport	not available	66	Not applicable	45																					70	
24	Agree there's a good Social Care Service available in the area (elderly, children, disabled and carers)	53	56	↑	44																					68	
25	Yes can speak Welsh	not available	40	Not applicable	9																					75	

APPENDIX B

The measures published by all councils in Wales	Has our result improved from 2015/16 to 2016/17		How good is our 2016/17 result?	22 nd	21 st	20 th	19 th	18 th	17 th	16 th	15 th	14 th	13 th	12 th	11 th	10 th	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2 nd	1 st		
	Our 2016/17 result	Improved ↑ Standstill ↔ Declined ↓	★ = Bottom (Worst) ★★ = Bottom to Middle ★★★ = Middle to top ★★★★ = Top (Best)	Worst results										Best Results													
	Arrows start from our 2015/16 position to our 2016/17 position																										
13	% Pupils leaving with no qualification (EDU/002i)	0.2	↓	★★																							
14	% Pupils in care leaving with no qualification (EDU/002ii)	0.0	↔	★★★★																						same joint	
15	% Pupil attendance in primary schools (EDU/016a)	94.8	↓	★★																							
16	% Pupil attendance in secondary schools (EDU/016b)	94.5	↑	★★★																							
17	% Of statements submitted < 26 weeks incl exceptions (EDU/015a)	43.9	↑	★																							
18	% Of statements submitted < 26 weeks excl exceptions (EDU/015b)	71.4	↓	★																							
19	% achieving Welsh (first language) Key Stage 3 (EDU/006ii)	42.2	↓	★★★★																						same	
People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer																											
20	% Looked-after children changing school (SCC/002)	3.4	↑	To follow																							
21	% Children in care with 3 or more placements in the year (SCC/004)	11.17	not comparable with previous year	To follow																							
Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable																											
22	% Change in average Display Energy Certificate score (CAM/037)	-0.3	↓	★★																							
23	% Highways inspected for high/acceptable standard (STS/005b)	98.6	↓	★★★																							
24	% Municipal wastes sent to landfill (WMT/004b)	4.73	↑	★★																							
25	% Municipal waste reused, recycled or composted (WMT/009b)	66.23	↑	★★★★																							
26	% Reported fly tipping cleared in 5 working days (STS/006)	85.92	↓	★																							
27	% Adults aged 60+ with a concessionary travel pass (THS/007)	81.4	↑	★★																							
28	% (A) (B) & (C) roads that are in poor condition (THS/012)	9.2	↑	★																							

Measures 10 & 11 - Our results are the same as the Welsh Government publication which is based on school Year 11 cohort and includes children educated other than at school (EOTAS) which is not truly comparable with the previous year. This differs to the Local Government Data Unit publication of data on 13th September 2017 based on the 'pupils aged 15 at the start of the school year' cohort and excludes children educated other than at school (EOTAS) or Independent schools which can be compared with the previous year but still shows an improved results for Carmarthenshire with 590.6 and 64.5% respectively.

APPENDIX C

Performance measures that are measured by all Councils in Wales for 2016/17

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	How well have we done?	How well are we doing?							
		See explanation of performance				All Wales Comparative Info.			
Definition / Measure Reference	2015/16	2016/17							Improvement Plan Theme
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****	
<p>CHR/002 The number of working days/ shifts per full time equivalent (FTE) local authority employee lost due to sickness absence.</p>	10.1 days	9.6 days	10.8 days	☹	▼	9.7 days	10.4 days	**	Building a Better Council
<p>The number of sickness days lost during 2016/17 of 10.8 days is off target and has increase by 0.7 days on last year. There continues to be an increase in sickness due to stress, mental health and fatigue which equates to over a quarter of the total sick days (26%). The second highest cause of sickness is Musculo-skeletal problems which has also increased from 15% to 18%. Human Resources are working with the Heads of Service to develop plans for improvement, this includes on-going attendance management briefing sessions at Departmental Management Team meetings. We also attend the Primary and Secondary Head Teacher meetings to discuss sickness performance and the support available. The in-house support for stress is being highlighted and managers are encouraged to undertake individual assessments if there's a cause for concern, this covers bereavement, anxiety depressions and other mental health conditions and includes home and work related stress absence. A new framework for attendance management has been developed with a the new Attendance Forum chaired by the People Management Executive Board Member, using the data to select the Head of Service to attend. It is also hoped that departmental targets will be introduced. Due to various departmental structural changes it is difficult to compare these year on year but the three highest average number of sickness days within service areas during 2016/17 are Environment Department - Waste & Environment services at 20.6 days, Communities Department - Regional Complex Needs and Transition Service at 18.8 days and Chief Executives – Information Technology at 17.5 days. Some of these figures include long term sickness cases of which are being managed through the process.</p>									
<p>LCS/002 The number of visits to local authority sport and leisure centres during the year where the visitor will be participating in physical activity, per 1,000 population</p>	6,905	7,251	8,289	☺	▲	9,056	8,374	**	People in Carmarthenshire are Healthier
<p>A significant and pleasing improvement on previous year and target have occurred this year. This is attributable to a net increase of circa 55,000 attendances we directly 'manage', plus an additional 220,000 attendances now collected due to enhanced data collection methods. Given the disruption periods at Llanelli, Carmarthen and Ammanford (due to gym refurbishments) this is an excellent result.</p>									
<p>PPN/009 The percentage of food establishments which are 'broadly compliant' with food hygiene standards</p>	94.98%	93.00%	97.50%	☺	▲	96.52%	95.04%	****	People in Carmarthenshire are Healthier

APPENDIX C

Definition / Measure Reference	2015/16	2016/17							Improvement Plan Theme
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****	
4 PSR/002 The average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant	232 days	220 days	167 days	☺	▲	190 days	235 days	****	People in Carmarthenshire are Healthier
5 SCA/001 The rate of delayed transfers of care for social care reasons per 1,000 population aged 75 or over	New measure	2.40	2.30	☺	New measure	to follow	to follow		People in Carmarthenshire are Healthier
	This result is different to the old Delayed Transfer of Care measure for 2015/16 (SCA/001) as the new Social Care Act guidance states that the numerator should only include adults aged 75+ (now mirrors the Denominator - population aged 75+). The rate of 2.30 equates to 45 patients (aged 75+) were kept in hospital while waiting for social care during 2016/17.								
6 PLA/006b The number of additional affordable housing units provided during the year as a percentage of all additional housing units provided during the year.	8%	30%	34%	☺	▲	50%	38%	**	People in Carmarthenshire are Healthier
	The numerator is data from the affordable Housing data collection return for the year ending 31 March 2016. The denominator is data from the Newbuild data collection return for the year ending 31 March 2016 which does not only cover data from Local Authority Building Control (LABC) but also National House-Building Council (NHBC) and other Authorised Inspectors. There has been a large increase in the number of affordable housing units provided during 15/16 and a reduction in the total number of units provided during that year and therefore shows a substantial percentage increase on the previous year. This result does differ from the Councils other Affordable Housing return as this result does not include the affordable homes provided through social lettings.								
7 PSR/004 % of private sector dwellings that had been vacant for more than 6 months at 1 April that were returned to occupation during the year through direct action by the local authority.	5.73%	6.00%	6.53%	☺	▲	11.77%	6.41%	***	People in Carmarthenshire are Healthier
8 EDU/003 % of pupils assessed at the end of Key Stage 2, in schools maintained by the local authority, achieving the Core Subject Indicator, as determined by Teacher Assessment	88.2%	88.7%	89.0%	☺	▲	89.9%	88.9%	***	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
	The result continues to improve year on year and it the Authority's best result to date.The School Improvement Team will continue to support and challenge all schools with regard to increased outcomes at the end of the Key Stage 2. National arrangements to support accuracy of Teacher Assessment have been implemented and will continue to support work in our schools.								
9 EDU/004 % of pupils assessed at the end of Key Stage 3, in schools maintained by the local authority, achieving the Core Subject Indicator, as determined by Teacher Assessment	85.1%	85.6%	86.3%	☺	▲	88.2%	86.5%	**	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
	The result continues to improve year on year and it the Authority's best result to date.The School Improvement Team will continue to support and challenge all schools with regard to increased outcomes at the end of the Key Stage 3. National arrangements to support accuracy of Teacher Assessment have been implemented and will continue to support work in our schools.								

APPENDIX C

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Definition / Measure Reference	2015/16	2016/17							Improvement Plan Theme
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****	
<p>EDU/011 The average point score for pupils aged 15 at the preceding 31 August, in schools maintained by the local authority</p>	580.3	581.0	596.0	☺	▲	555.6	534.5	****	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
<p>This result continues to improve and it the best ever result for the Authority and the best in Wales. This is due to an increase in rigour of tracking and challenge from the Local Authority and ERW Consortium (Education through Regional Working). The School Improvement team will continue to challenge and support schools' and monitor performance throughout the academic year in order to meet pupil, school and Local Authority targets.</p>									
<p>EDU/017 % of pupils aged 15 achieving 5 GCSEs at grades A*-C, or equivalent, including English or Welsh first language and Maths</p>	61.1%	61.6%	65.1%	☺	▲	65.0%	60.1%	****	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
<p>This result continues to improved year on year with strong improvement during 2015/16 academic year. Challenge, support and intervention strategies implemented by the School Improvement Team working in partnership with senior leaders in schools (including targeting specific departmental performance) have contributed greatly to this success. The School Improvement team will continue to challenge and support schools' and monitor performance throughout the academic year in order to meet pupil, school and Local Authority targets.</p>									
<p>LCL/001b The number of people using Public Library Services during the year per 1,000 population</p>	7,203	7,274	7,646	☺	▲	5,828	4,835	****	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
<p>Due to increased school and young person engagement steady improvements have been made in the use of online digital resources provided by the library service. Constant promotion and marketing of the corporate website and a continued investment in digital online services aims to improve these figures further in future years.</p>									
<p>EDU/002i % of All pupils (including those 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.</p>	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	☹	▼	0.0%	0.1%	**	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
<p>This measure is off target and has declined compared to the previous year. Three Carmarthenshire pupils left compulsory education without a qualification. All pupils were targeted for additional interventions via the Vulnerability Assessment Profile and received additional support from their School, Educational Welfare and Childcare teams. However, due to case sensitive situations, the three pupils did not achieve a pass in an externally recognised qualification. All three young people are currently being supported by the Youth Support Service. The aim is to always ensure that pupils leave full time education with appropriate qualifications. This is achieved by targeting those pupils at risk and providing targeted appropriate intervention.</p>									
<p>EDU/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.</p>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	☺	At maximum result	0.0%	0.0%	****	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential

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APPENDIX C

Definition / Measure Reference	2015/16	2016/17							Improvement Plan Theme
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****	
15 EDU/016a % of pupil attendance in primary schools	95.2%	95.4%	94.8%	☹	▼	95.3%	94.9%	**	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
Despite continued improvement in previous years there has been a slight decline in pupil attendance in primary schools during 2015/16 academic year. The All Wales comparative data shows that we have moved down from 5th place to 13th place. Analysis shows that we had a 0.1% increase in absence was due to pupil illness and a 0.3% increase in agreed family holiday. Continued improvements will be sought through increased support and challenge of schools. We will particularly consult with Headteachers to consider how to improve the two highlighted area's.									
16 EDU/016b % of pupil attendance in secondary schools	94.2%	94.4%	94.5%	☺	▲	94.5%	94.3%	***	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
The pupil attendance at secondary schools continued to improve during 2015/16 academic year and the comparative ranking shows us in 8th place which is an improvement on last year (9th) and above the Welsh average of 94.2%. Our expected ranking, based on the % of Eligible Free School Meal pupils per Local Authority is 11th, which we have exceed by 3 places with this result. Restructuring of the Education Welfare Service has improved engagement from Headteachers coupled with more accurate and regular data monitoring and sharing which has assisted in improving attendance. We aim to maintain this high level of attendance through continued challenge and support for schools.									
17 EDU/015a % of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks including exceptions	34.8%	40.0%	43.9%	☺	▲	99.1%	84.5%	*	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
Results again reflect the difficulties experienced by Health. The Hywel Dda Health Board have had continuing problems with retaining paediatricians and administrative staff, leading to delays in receiving medical assessments and further delays in typing of reports after medicals are completed. Health report having other priorities on their resources. Following a restructuring within the Local Health Board it is our intention to meet with the new managers in order to address our concerns. Internally we will continue with a range of measures to address this matter.									
18 EDU/015b % of final statements of special education need issued within 26 weeks excluding exceptions	80.0%	90.0%	71.4%	☹	▼	100.0%	100.0%	*	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
All cases that missed the target were cases that presented with complex social and economic dynamics/issues. They were also predominantly cases where there were challenges in resolving the appropriate provision for the child. The Education and Child Psychologist Service kept the Additional Learning Needs Service informed of the challenges of some of these cases and it was agreed that the quality of the process was more important than reaching the target so that the best outcome for the child was achieved. We are also receiving an influx of requests for statutory assessments from parents, which is resulting in increased work in terms of statutory and dispute resolution processes.									

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Definition / Measure Reference	2015/16	2016/17							Improvement Plan Theme
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****	
EDU/006ii % of pupils assessed, in schools maintained by the local authority, receiving a Teacher Assessment in Welsh (first language) at the end of Key Stage 3	43.2%	43.7%	42.2%	☹	▼	19.4%	12.9%	****	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
Despite a continued improvement over the last few years there has been a slight decline during 2015/16 academic year. The Local Authority and School Improvement Team continue to work proactively with schools, governors and parents to enhance progression along the Welsh continuum. Our ongoing Modernising Education Programme (MEP) activity supports this measure effectively.									
SCC/002 % 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	3.9%	5.0%	3.4%	☺	▲	to follow	to follow		People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
SCC/004 % of children looked after on 31 March who have had three or more placements during the year.	New measure	13.5%	0.11	☺	New measure	to follow	to follow		People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
The definition for this measure has changed from 2016/17 to include any episodes of respite care for a continuous period of more than 24 hours and therefore cannot be compared to previous years.									
CAM/037 The percentage change in the average Display Energy Certificate (DEC) score within local authority public buildings over 1,000 square metres.	7.2%	1.1%	-0.3%	☹	▼	4.1%	3.1%	**	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable
This result is reported retrospectively by all authorities in Wales due to delay in availability of energy consumption data from utility companies. Therefore this is the % change in the DEC score between 2014/15 and 2015/16. Whilst there is a small negative % change (increase) in the DEC scoring between 14/15 and 15/16, the 2014/15 % change result was classified as 'outstanding' at 7.2%; consequently, a difference in the year on year result was inevitable. The result is attributable to individual buildings not performing as well as in the preceding year – principally 3 Spilman Street, Carmarthen and the Municipal Offices, Llandeilo.									
STS/005b The percentage of highways and relevant land inspected of a high or acceptable standard of cleanliness	98.9%	92.0%	98.6%	☺	▼	98.6%	96.0%	***	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable

APPENDIX C

Definition / Measure Reference	2015/16	2016/17							Improvement Plan Theme
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****	
24 WMT/004b % of municipal wastes sent to landfill	5.25%	10.00%	4.73%	☺	▲	2.37%	4.54%	**	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable
25 WMT/009b % of municipal waste collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycled, including source segregated biowastes that are composted or treated biologically in another way	63.52%	62.00%	66.23%	☺	▲	65.72%	64.89%	****	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable
26 STS/006 The percentage of reported fly tipping incidents cleared within 5 working days	87.24%	98.63%	85.92%	☹	▼	98.22%	96.85%	*	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable
Difficulties have been experienced with this particular aspect of our cleansing service due to the temporary need to reallocate staff across to cover vacant posts in the refuse and grass collection services. The reallocation allows refuse collection to continue effectively, to meet prioritised demands. However, the impact of this situation has been a delay in responding to some fly-tipping incidents within the specified timescale during this period. The service is currently undertaking a cleansing review to improve operational efficiency and service provision. This measure therefore continues to be in the bottom quartile for 2016/17.									
27 THS/007 The percentage of adults aged 60+ who hold a concessionary travel pass	80.6%	79.0%	81.4%	☺	▲	92.4%	85.5%	**	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable
28 THS/012 The percentage of principal (A) roads, non-principal (B) roads and non-principal (C) roads that are in overall poor condition	10.7%	9.5%	9.2%	☺	▲	5.3%	6.7%	*	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable
The Local Government Borrowing Initiative (LGBI) funding (2012-2015) and the targeted investment of Capital funding in recent years can be seen to make a direct impact on improving the combined overall condition of our A, B, and C classes of road network. The figure of 9.2% shows an improvement from 10.7% last year and is significantly below the peak in 2012/13 at 17.2%, showing a reversal of the general trend i.e. a decrease in the overall proportion of the network that is classed as being in poor condition. Following the cessation of LGBI, reductions in revenue and low levels of Capital highway infrastructure investment, Carmarthenshire is likely to remain in the bottom quartile without significant additional financial investment in the highway Asset.									

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Visit the Council's website

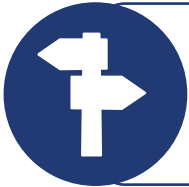
<http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/consultation-performance/performance-management/>



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Follow this plan and add your Tweets on our [Twitter page](#) - #CarmsReport



Carmarthenshire County Council's Corporate Strategy 2015 - 2020
[Our Annual Report 2016/17](#)

Annual Report 2016/17



For a 'Quick start' short summary to this document see our [Summary](#)

To monitor the delivery of this plan - www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Welcome from the Leader of the Council

In May of this year, Carmarthenshire's voters went to the polls and elected a new council to serve for the next five years. The outcome of the election gave my own group, Plaid Cymru a stronger representation on the council and, in turn, a greater number of places on the Executive Board. However, we continue to work in coalition with the Independent Group. The two groups have similar values and aspirations and collectively we recognise how important it is to self-assess and evaluate our performance and governance as a Council.

The Annual Report is directly aligned to the *Integrated Community Strategy* that we have agreed with our partners. It's very important, therefore that we deliver our side of the agreement for the five *outcomes* and 30 *goals* that we signed up to. This report outlines the Council's progress over the last 12 months.

The Wales Audit Office has consistently recognised that we are "*fair and balanced*" in the way that we report on our performance. The good news is reported side by side with the inconvenient news, although I'd like to think that there is not much of it. *We remain committed to making this Council the most open and transparent Council in Wales thus enabling us to make continuous improvement.* The Constitutional Review Working Group's action plan to develop and improve the Council's governance and accountability arrangements will continue to be delivered.

From the outset my priority as a Leader has been the regenerating the local economy. I want us to create jobs that will keep young people in the county so that they can fulfil their potential. We have strengthened the *Outcome - Carmarthenshire has a stronger and more prosperous economy.*

Despite severe budget reductions we have achieved much and plan to achieve more. We will continue to consult widely on budget reduction proposals and make sure we listen to the people of Carmarthenshire, the people that we serve. We will strive to make better use of resources, build a better council and make sure that the Council's core values are firmly embedded in everything we do.

The financial challenge of living in uncertain times seems never ending, but with that uncertainty, opportunities present themselves and we will face the challenges and deliver the best outcomes for social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the people of Carmarthenshire.

We welcome constructive comments on our strategies and services. Feedback from customers and service users is essential in identifying opportunities for improvement and we hope that if you have any comments or suggestions that you believe would help that you will share them with us. Please contact us at:

Listening to You, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall,
Carmarthen SA31 1JP or email at ListeningToYou@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

CIlr Emlyn Dole
Leader



Mark James CBE
Chief Executive



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This report will look at all the promises made above, in turn, and, try to judge where we are, look at the available evidence in customer satisfaction, regulatory findings or performance data, outline progress made in the past year and identify if anyone is better off.

Introduction

Purpose:

This Annual Report is produced by the Council because we believe we should provide comprehensive and balanced information to the public about our services, so that they can see how we are performing and the challenges we are facing. The Council has set an ambition to be recognised as the most open and transparent Council in Wales.

In addition, by law under the [Local Government \(Wales\) Measure 2009](#) we must publish an Annual Report on past performance by the end of October each year and we have a legal duty to improve where we can. Local Government, throughout the UK, is currently experiencing severe budgetary constraints. There is increasing demand and expectation, yet less resources are available. Under these conditions, we need to work even more efficiently and effectively, to maintain services and improve where we can, delivering 'more (or even the same) for less'.

Working with Partners:

As a Council we are not alone in working to improve the lives of Carmarthenshire's citizens. We agreed a single [Integrated Community Strategy \(ICS\)](#) with our partners in Carmarthenshire in July 2011. This annual report shows our progress as an individual public body against the partnership plan we agreed. It shows how we are delivering our side of the bargain. It uses the same structure of Outcomes and Goals set out in the partnership plan.

Corporate Strategy

Our [Corporate Strategy 2015 - 2020](#) sets out the Council's strategic priorities and aspirations and how we will support the delivery of the Integrated Community Strategy outcomes and goals for the next five years.

Equality and Diversity

[Strategic Equality Plans](#) (SEPs) are important documents that set out how public bodies will consider the needs of groups with protected characteristics, as outlined in the Equality Act 2010. This is intended to ensure that all individuals receive just and equitable treatment in respect of service delivery and strategy/policy formulation. Carmarthenshire County Council's SEP includes three key themes which look at role as an employer, a service provider and a community leader. Under those three themes are six strategic objectives. A detailed [Action Plan](#) has been prepared to demonstrate how we will meet those Objectives.

During the year, our work with external protected groups has continued to grow and our partnership with other public sector bodies and community groups has strengthened through Equality Carmarthenshire. Our Regional Community Cohesion Coordinator has continued to support key areas of work such as the Syria Sir Gâr resettlement programme and has promoted training opportunities in partnership with Victim Support National Hate Crime Service.

Welsh Language

During 2016/17 the focus of the work has been on introducing the [Welsh Language Standards](#) within the Council. A detailed action plan has been prepared in order to ensure implementation and this will form the basis of our Annual Report for 2016/17, to be submitted to the Welsh Language Commissioner.

Communication and promotion has been a key element in raising awareness of the Standards amongst staff. A suite of guidance notes have been prepared for staff and we have taken part in a series of roadshows for staff. The implementation of the Standards has provided a good opportunity for us to look at our current situation with regard to compliance and in setting priorities for the future.

During the year, we have published a Policy on the Internal Use of the Welsh Language, which details the opportunities for staff to use the Welsh language in the workplace alongside the Welsh learning and improvement provision. We have also prepared and published a [Strategy to promote the Welsh language](#) in partnership with the County's Strategic Welsh Language Forum.

Self-Assessment and Prioritising Improvement

To assess performance and to identify improvement priorities, we draw on evidence from a reasonable, balanced and rounded range of sources.

Through bringing together this broad range of information and viewpoints, we are able to examine evidence to decide what matters most and where our effort needs to be concentrated.

We identified the following Key Improvement Objective Priorities (KIOP) for 2016/17:-



Outcome	KIOP for 2016/17
Making Better Use of Resources	<i>Deliver value for money in providing council services and directing our resources to the top priority front-line services on which many local people depend - taking account of central government budget cuts and their impact</i>
Building a Better Council	<i>Continue to improve Governance, decision making, openness and transparency and keep under review by the Constitutional Review Working Group</i>
Health	<i>Promoting Independence and Well Being for Older People</i> <i>Increase the availability of rented and affordable homes to support the needs of local people by implementing our affordable homes delivery plan</i>
Learning	<i>Improve Learner Attainment</i> <i>To further reduce young people Not in Education, Employment or Training</i>
Environment	<i>Improving the highway infrastructure network to support further economic development and connectivity</i>
Economy	<i>Tackle Poverty</i> <i>Creating jobs and growth throughout the County</i>

Key overall performance news

Citizens' Verdict

National Survey for Wales

Carmarthenshire was the first Council in Wales to include the results of this survey when it first started and has continued to do so ever since. The Council has been identified for having notable practice in its willingness to publish a wide range of evidence when assessing its performance.

From 2016/17 onwards, the National Survey replaced the 2012-15 National Survey, the Welsh Health Survey, Active Adults Survey, Arts in Wales Survey and the Welsh Outdoor Recreation Survey. The results published are based on over 10,000 interviews carried out across Wales between April 2016 and March 2017. Over 600 were interviewed in Carmarthenshire.

The first release of results was on the 29th June and more results will become available throughout the year. As at 30th June, there were 27 results that are broken down by local authority area (see Appendix A) and some of these are reported where relevant to a goal. There are two question topic areas that are directly attributable to the Council. The Local Authority Question Segment and the Local Democracy Questions. See table below.

There are 22 Councils in Wales and the ranking table below shows:-

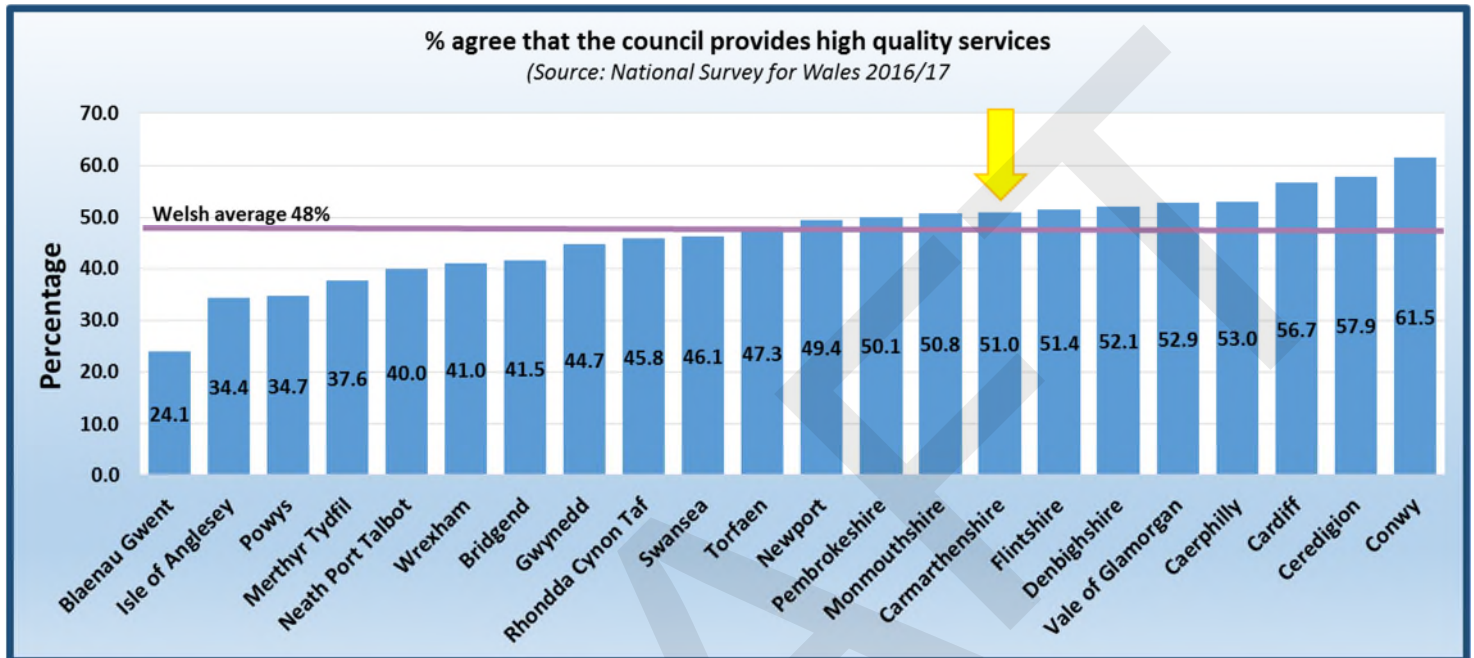
- Carmarthenshire's results relative to other Councils results and if available our previous position and result.
- it also shows the best and worse results in the range

Table to show how Carmarthenshire's National Survey for Wales results compare:-

Questions asked in the 2016/17 National Survey for Wales and available at Local Authority level	Has our result improved from 2014/15 to 2016/17		Ranking (22 nd to 1 st)																								
	2014/15 survey result	2016/17 survey result	Improved ↑ Standstill ↔ Declined ↓	22 nd	21 st	20 th	19 th	18 th	17 th	16 th	15 th	14 th	13 th	12 th	11 th	10 th	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2 nd	1 st		
Whether agree council provides high quality services	58	51	↓	24																						61	
Whether agree council lets people know how it is performing	42	35	↓	21																							48
Whether agree council does all it can to improve the area	37	36	↓	24																							53
Whether feel can influence decisions affecting the area	21	19	↓	12																							28
Whether contacted councillor in the last year	15	16	↑	10																							24
Of those that had contacted their councillor - Whether understand what councillor does	63	48	↓	40																							77
Of those that had contacted their councillor - Whether councillor works closely with local community	59	44	↓	37																							72

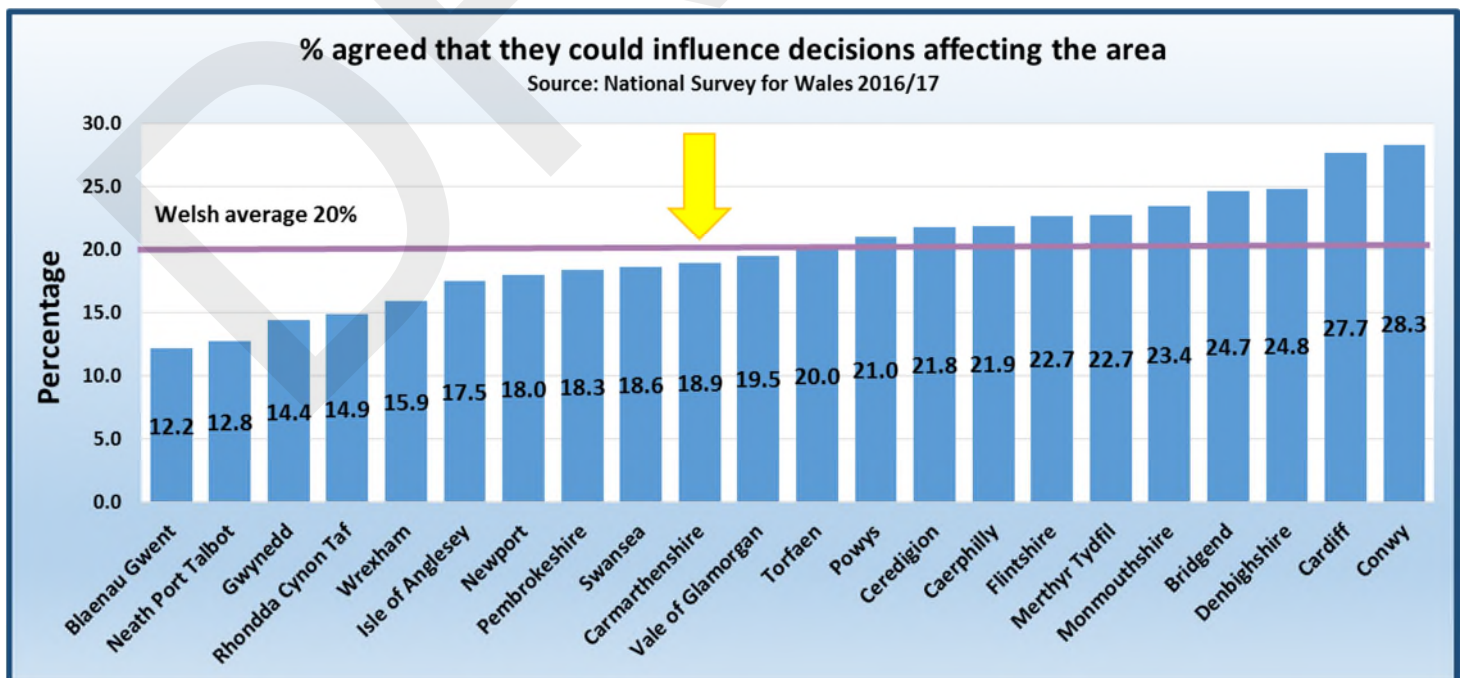
Does the authority provide high quality services?

When this question was last asked in 2014/15 the result was 58% (better than the Welsh Average of 53%) and for 2016/17 it has fallen to 51% (still better than the Welsh Average of 48%). In an era of cutbacks on public spending the Welsh average result over the last two years has fallen by 5% and Carmarthenshire's by 7%. This question is one of the new measures in the all Wales Public Accountability Measures set for local government in 2017/18. The Council improved 63% of these National Measures two years ago and 67% last year.



Can you influence local decisions affecting the area?

This is identified in the Welsh Government as a Wellbeing of Future Generations indicator. It also featured in the WLGA Peer report on Governance. The best result in Wales was 28.3% and the Welsh Average 20%, Carmarthenshire's result was 19%. Two years ago the result was 21%.



Regulators Verdict

Regulators provide an important independent assessment of Councils and their stewardship of public funds



The Wales Audit Office report on the Council for 2016/17 concluded that :-

‘the Council is meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement ‘

[Wales Audit Office - Annual Improvement Report: 2016-17 – Published June 2017](#)

Positive conclusions found:-

- ✓ *A generally effective approach for determining and delivering significant service changes...*
- ✓ *Sound savings planning arrangements, which support financial resilience*
- ✓ *We have taken steps to address the proposals for improvement on corporate governance matters*
- ✓ *Made progress on all the improvement proposals for People Management*
- ✓ *Improved links between Corporate and Service Asset Management*
- ✓ *Significant progress in the ICT service*
- ✓ *Positive changes to improvement planning*

Most of these ✓ conclusions had some ‘but’s’ however these were minor matters.

How we Measure up

When we published the [Corporate Strategy 2015 - 2020](#) we set out the following outcome measures to judge our progress. For year two (2016/17) we have achieved the following:-

Theme	Outcome Measures	Progress
Making Better Use of Resources	Improved public satisfaction levels with the services provided by the Council	✗
	Reduction in organisational 'running costs'	✓
	Increased on line activity to address public queries and transactions	✓
Building a Better Council	Increasing public communication, consultation and engagement	✓
	Improved staff satisfaction levels (liP March '17 Survey)	Baseline 85%
	Reduced staff sickness absence levels	✗
Healthier	Reduction in adult and children's social services referrals	✗
	Increased availability of rented and affordable homes	✓
	Increased use of leisure facilities	✓
Learning	Improved educational attainment	✓
	Improved school attendance rates (primary schools)	✗
	Improved school attendance rates (secondary schools)	✓
	Reduced number of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training	✓
	Improved condition of schools	✓
Safe	Appropriate support provided to children, young people and families	✓
	Reduction in road casualties	✗
	Reduction in total recorded crime	✗
	Reduction in anti-social behaviour	✗
Environment	Increased rates of recycling	✓
	Improved digital access	✓
	Improved transport links	✓
	Increased use of renewable energy	✓
Economy	Increased employment	✓
	Reduction in working age population in receipt of out of work benefits	✓
	Increased economic activity and productivity	✓

There is also a **National suite of measures** that all councils in Wales have to collect.

There are two main ways of measuring improvement:-

- Year on year improvement
- How we compare with other Authorities in Wales

Year on year improvement

During 2016/17, **65%** of our measures improved while **31%** have declined and **4%** remained the same; this builds on the improvement achieved in 2015/16 and still remains encouraging in the current climate of reduced budgets. The table below shows year on year results:

Year	Improved	Constant	Declined	Net Improvement (Improved - Declined)
2016/17	65% (17 measures) [#]	4% (1 measure) [#]	31% (8 measures) [#]	34% [#]
2015/16	57.5% (23 measures)	17.5% (7 measures)	25% (10 measures)	32.5%
2014/15	56% (24 measures)	14% (6 measures)	30% (13 measures)	26%
2013/14	59% (26 measures)	11% (5 measures)	30% (13 measures)	29%

[#] The % Improvement for Carmarthenshire in the above table differs slightly to the figures in the [Local Government Data Unit](#) bulletin published on 13th September 2017. This is due to the inclusion of social care results in the above table, which have not been included by the Data Unit as they will be officially published by Welsh Government during October.

How we compare with other Authorities in Wales

An established way of comparing results is to look at the proportion of indicators that an authority has in the upper quarter of results, the lower quarter and above and below the median result.

The table below shows how our results compare with other Councils in Wales in 2016/17 but this is currently without the three social services measures and therefore does not add to 100%, this will be updated when the results and quartiles are officially published by Welsh Government during October, 2017

****	Upper quartile results	7 Results 25%			43%
***	Upper middle results	5 Results 18%			
**	Lower middle results	9 Results 32%			
*	Lower quartile results	4 Results 14%			
			25%	50%	

Currently for 2016/17, **43%** of our measures are in the upper two quartiles, this is down on the 62.5% in the upper two quartiles for 2015/16.

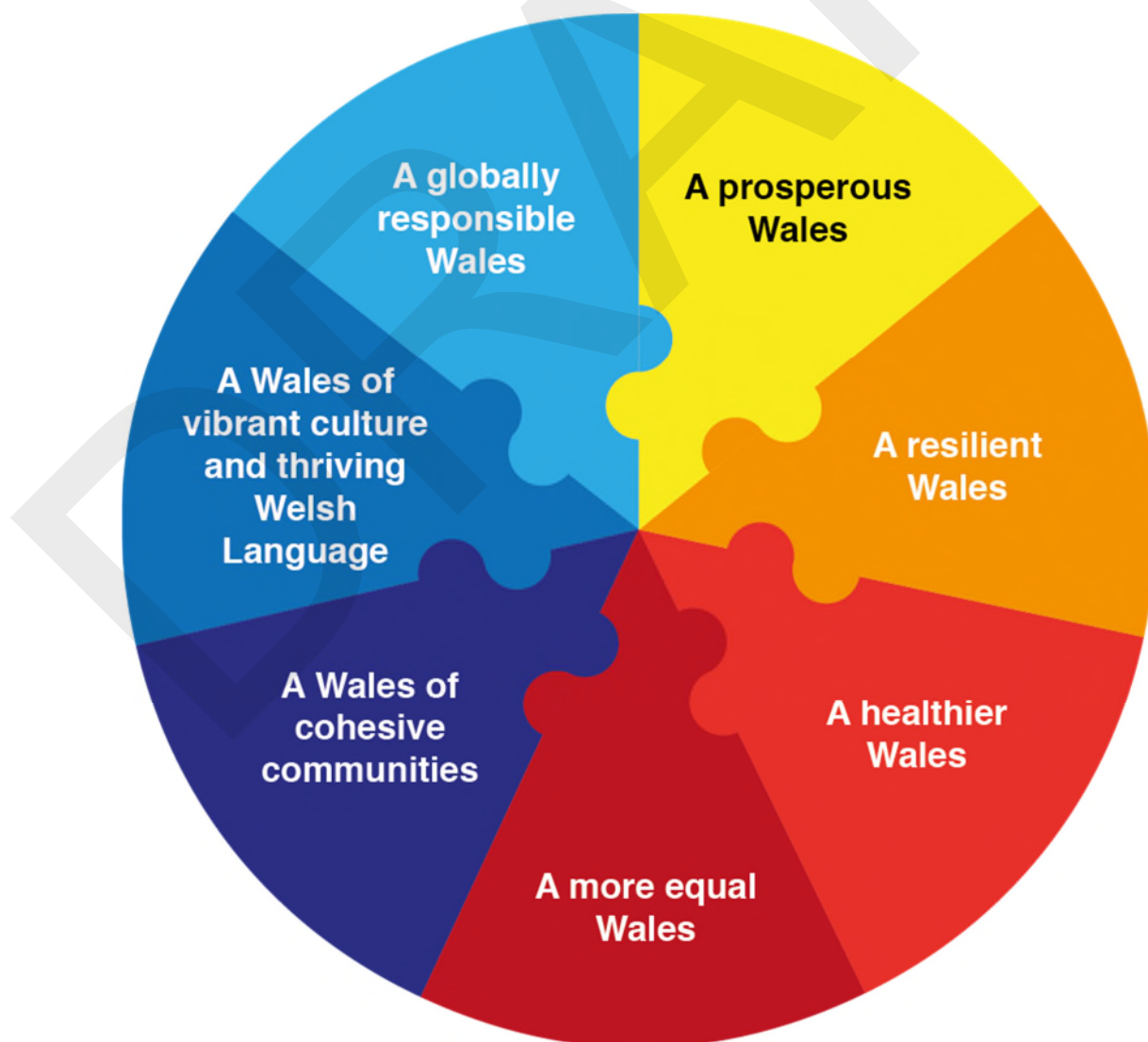
A **list of all the measures** in the above tables showing the results and how they have improved, declined or whether they have remained the same is included in **Appendix B**. This also shows how we compare with other Authorities in Wales.

Appendix C gives detailed information on each measure with an explanation of performance.

Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 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 new law states that:-

- a) We must carry out sustainable development, improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The sustainable development principle is '**... 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.**'
- b) We must demonstrate **5 ways of working:**
1. Long term,
 2. integrated,
 3. involving,
 4. collaborative
 5. preventative
- c) We must work towards achieving all of the 7 national well-being goals in the Act. Together they provide a shared vision for public bodies to work towards.



Outcome C: People in Carmarthenshire are healthier ...

Our way of life is changing. People are living longer with a higher quality of life but our care needs are becoming more complex. The challenge now facing us is to prevent ill-health in the first place.



Goals: (as agreed in the Integrated Community Strategy with partners)

Any text crossed out is not relevant to this Scrutiny

C1 - Ensuring each child has the best start in life

~~C2 - Preventing ill health and encourage healthy and active living~~

~~C3 - Improving the Emotional, Mental Health and Well-being of all people in the County~~

~~C4 - Reducing inequities in health~~

~~C5 - Improving housing conditions and reduce homelessness~~

~~C6 - Increasing access to health and social care for all people including vulnerable groups~~

~~C7 - Reducing drug and alcohol misuse~~

Our 2016/17 Key Improvement Objective Priorities (KIOPs):

- Promoting Independence and Well Being for Older People
- We shall increase the availability of rented and affordable homes to support the needs of local people by implementing our affordable homes delivery plan

We will promote Information Advice and Assistance service to the provide information to those who need it.

Progress at a glance:

Outcome Measures (as set out in Corporate Strategy)	Progress
Reduction in referrals to adult and children's social services	✘
Increased availability of rented and affordable homes	✓
Increased use of leisure facilities	✓

Social Service and Well-being (Wales) Act

In a nutshell the Act:-

- Puts people at the centre of their care and empowers them to maximise their own well-being
- Shifts the focus to prevention by encouraging people to use their own, family and community resources
- Encourages partnership working and collaboration between organisations that provide care and support

The Act identifies six standards for promoting and improving the well-being:

Standards 1 - Helping people achieve the well-being outcomes they want.

Standards 2 - Working with people and partners to protect and promote physical, mental and emotional wellbeing.

Standards 3 - Safeguarding people from abuse, neglect or harm.

Standards 4 - Helping people to learn, develop and participate in society.

Standards 5 - Helping people maintain healthy domestic, family and personal relationships.

Standards 6 - Helping people achieve greater economic well-being, have a social life and live in suitable accommodation that meets their needs

Over the last year we have been preparing for the implementation of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act, raising awareness amongst staff and partners and realigning our services to respond to the new requirements. This has been challenging for us with a demand for services increasing in some areas against a climate of financial austerity. However the Act has provided us with the opportunity to develop services which promote wellbeing and independence and build on people's strengths and abilities which can significantly improve outcomes for those who use our services. In our evaluation by the CSSIW for the last year they note that we have made.

“ *Good progress on the implementation of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act (SSWBA), and has placed significant importance and investment on ensuring new ways of working are understood by staff and partner agencies and embedded into practice. A project board is in place with a clear action plan aligned to the SSWBA, and key milestones have been and continue to be achieved.* **”**

A Population Assessment was undertaken to provide a high level strategic analysis of care and support needs of citizens and support needs of carers across West Wales. It assesses the extent to which those needs are currently being met and identifies where further improvement and development is required to ensure that individuals get the right support and are able to live fulfilled lives.

The Assessment has been undertaken to meet new requirements under Part 2 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014. Section 14A of the Act requires that local authorities (LAs) and Local Health Boards (LHBs) jointly carry out an assessment of the needs for care and support, and the support needs of carers, in the LA's area. These assessments must then be combined into a single report for the LHB footprint before being signed off by each of the LAs and the LHB.

Our Performance & Results for 2016/17:

Goal: C1 Ensuring each child has the best start in life:

Our Review and Evaluation for 2016/17

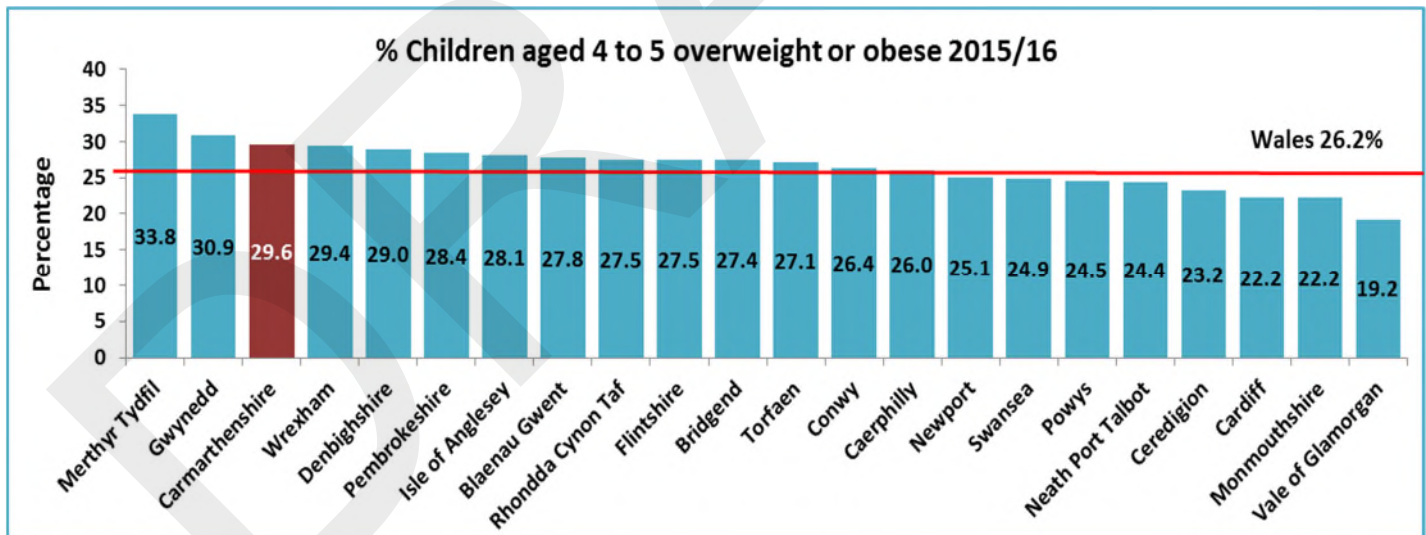
Giving every child the best start in life is crucial to reducing health inequalities across the life course. The foundations for virtually every aspect of human development – physical, intellectual and emotional – are laid in early childhood. What happens during these early years (starting in the womb) has lifelong effects on many aspects of health and well-being– from obesity, heart disease and mental health, to educational achievement and economic status. To have an impact on health inequalities we need to address the social gradient in children’s access to positive early experiences. Later interventions, although important, are considerably less effective where good early foundations are lacking.

[Public Health Wales](#) (PHW) NHS Trust published its data on the 2015/16 Child Measurement Programme (CMP) for Wales which contains findings of the programme of child measurements carried out with children attending reception class in schools in Wales.

- 92.9% of eligible children participated in the programme in Carmarthenshire with 93.3% in Wales.
- The % **overweight or obese** in Carmarthenshire has reduced slight from **30.7%** in 2014/15 to **29.6%** in 2015/16 and continue to be the **3rd highest in Wales** and well above the Welsh average of 26.2%.
- The proportion of children who are **obese** has also reduced slightly from **13.6%** in 2014/15 to **12.9%** in 2015/16
- Obesity in childhood often persists into adult life, leading to related health problems like type 2 diabetes, liver disease, higher rates of heart disease, and some cancers



The Child Measurement Programme for Wales 2015/16



The **Flying Start** early years programme is a key component of the Welsh Government’s *Tackling Poverty* agenda which aims to support families with children aged 0-3 who live in some of the most disadvantaged areas in the county, providing a range of intensive prevention services to improve children’s language, cognitive, social, emotional, and physical health and development which we are able to provide through:

- An enhanced health visiting service
- Free part-time high quality childcare for 2-3 year olds
- Parenting support (including parenting programmes and basic skills)
- Support for Speech, Language and communication

In Carmarthenshire there are 24 Flying Start Settings in 17 areas (Betws, Richmond Park, Lakefield, Bigyn, Llwynhendy, Felinfoel, Carway, Morfa, Trimsaran, Pwll, Pembrey, Carmarthen Town, Glyn, Glynammann, Garnant, Bury Port, Pantyffynnon and Dafen).

Childcare provision in Carmarthenshire is delivered in partnership with private, voluntary and statutory sectors, and has continued to develop. During 2016/17 we have continued to support and maintain a total of **242** registered providers of child care provision (with a total of **4,165** registered places). This is slightly lower than in 2015/16 of 246 registered providers and 4,365 places and is largely due to a decrease in registered sessional care settings operating under 4 hours.

The new Child and Family Unit (CFU) **systemic model** of practice within Pod's has been introduced progressively, with all four childcare teams now using the model but at different stages of development which has enabled a gradual shift in practice rather than sudden change. Two educational psychologists provide clinical consultation to the childcare teams as part of the model, and Family Support workers and Unit Co-ordinators are now in post in all teams. A programme of developmental sessions has been put in place to support implementation of the approach. Staff across the four teams have attended training (March 2017) about the principles of systemic practice provided by morning Lane Associates from whom the model originates.

How did we perform during 2016/17?

❗ Also see goal **G5 Tackling poverty and its impact on the local economy**

Flying Start Key Measures		2015/16 Result	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Result	Comment
✓	% attendance at the free Flying Start Child Care placement (9.1.8.1)	78.9%	77%	78.9%	On Target
✗	number of children living outside of the Flying Start area who are able to access the Flying Start service through referral for outreach (9.1.8.2)	17	23	15	Off Target & Declined
The target of 23 for Outreach services is set by Welsh Government and is a wider part of the service and not statutory. Priorities were set by reviewing the risks within the service and as a result were only able to take in a limited amount of new referrals for outreach					
✓	% of high need families living in a Flying Start area receiving at least a monthly contact from the Flying Start Health Visiting Service (9.1.8.3)	96%	93%	96%	On Target
✗	% of families with additional social welfare needs linked to poverty, living in a Flying Start area receiving time specified interventions from the wider Flying Start Team (9.1.8.6)	96%	95%	90%	Off Target & Declined
Disappointed not to have reached the target but it does reflect the staffing issues we have had across the programme, due to sickness, losing a post and maternity.					
✓	% of unauthorised absence at the free Flying Start Child Care settings (9.1.8.8)	New for 16/17	6.00%	4.07%	On Target
✗	% of children in Flying Start areas reaching, exceeding or within one age band of their development milestone at age 2 years, (assessed within 23-25 month) (9.1.8.9)	New for 16/17	85.00%	84.90%	Off Target
This is slightly off target, and would have required one additional child to have reached their development milestone to have reached the required target. Assessments of children to date have received support from Flying Start together with children within the new Flying Start areas during 2016/17. Further analysis of these assessments needs to be done to ascertain if there is a difference between the children					
✗	% of children in Flying Start areas reaching, exceeding or within one age band of their development milestone at age 3 years, (assessed within 35-37 month) (9.1.9.0)	New for 16/17	90.00	87.13%	Off Target
A disappointing result and would have required an additional 9 children to have reached their development milestone to have met the required target. Further analysis of these assessments needs to be done to ascertain if there is a difference between the children receiving support from Flying Start in the long term and the children who are newly eligible.					

- ✓ We have provided [free swimming](#) for almost 19,000 children (u16) at our swimming pools during weekends and in school holidays during 2016/17, this is an increase on the 16,000 in the previous year. This programme is linked to the Welsh Learn to swim pathway, [Aqua passport](#). (3.4.2.2)
- ✓ We have increased the % of children who can swim 25m aged 11 from 63.6% to 66.4% Provision of school swim lessons has grown by 4% engaging over 3,700 children with non-school lessons increasing by 10% engaging over 2,200 people. (3.4.2.1)
- ✓ Delivering sector-leading initiatives for the early years, such as the 'Actif Storytime' programme which is delivered across more than 100 settings in the community including Meithrins', libraries and family centres. This has resulted in 1,642 sessions being run, engaging 21,460 attendances!
- ✓ Distributed over £83k of Sport Wales' Community Chest fund to over 71 community clubs in the county to help [develop grass roots sport](#).
- ✓ Provision of school swim lessons grown by 4% engaging over 3700 children and by 10% for non-school lessons engaging over 2,200 people.
- ✓ Junior Parkrun set up in Carmarthen by our Active Young People Officers, sustained by community volunteers and attended by an average of 40 people per week.
- ✓ '[Young Ambassadors](#)' for sport are in place in all secondary schools (a total of 36 Silver YA's) and 79% of primary schools (a total of 233 Bronze YA's), becoming leaders of the future by inspiring their fellow pupils to get active. Carmarthenshire has engaged in a sector-leading development of this by introducing 'Bronze Plus' Ambassadors at Yr 7 (a total of 40 B+ YA's) to retain Bronze YA's and develop their leadership skills as they move from primary to secondary schools. There is also a team of 1 Platinum and 6 Gold YA's to co-ordinate the county network.
- ✓ The Moneywise Educational Scheme is an incentive aiming at improving financial literacy skills in young people.

How do we know we made a difference? / Is anyone better off?



You wanted us to provide more welsh speaking registered childminders within the County.

We have increased the number of welsh speaking registered childminders from 29 to 55 and increased the number of welsh medium childcare places available within the county from 160 places to 295 places. We will continue to recruit, support and train new welsh speaking childminders in targeted areas of current unmet need.

- ❖ **1832** children are able to benefit from Flying Start early intervention programme across 17 geographical areas in the county, delivering an integrated multi-agency approach.
- ❖ Splash Programme introduced to the Aquatics pathway engaging children from 4 months as a pre-requisite to the Learn to Swim scheme. Over 240 children are now attending the scheme.

- ❖ The roll out and approach of initiatives for the early years is seen as sector leading across Wales, including the recent expansion of the approach to meithrins, libraries, etc. (111 facilities) which is currently unprecedented elsewhere in Wales.



The Young Ambassador programme aims to empower and inspire young people to become leaders through sport. The programme builds young people's confidence and leadership skills as they develop into young leaders becoming role models to their fellow pupils by promoting the values of sport and healthy lifestyles within the school and community setting. They do this by organising lunchtime or afterschool sport sessions and they also

help run sport sessions within the community.

The young ambassador pathway starts with Bronze Young ambassadors who are primary school age through to Platinum young ambassadors who are years 11 and 12 in Secondary school. Emily Janas, who is year 6 pupil at Ysgol Pum Heol has been a Bronze Young Ambassador for 1 years. When she became a bronze ambassador her mentor Hayley Lewis, Actif Young People officer said, *'she was quite quiet when I met her during the initial Bronze Young Ambassador training, but since becoming a YA I have seen such a difference especially in her confidence and she is now very vocal when delivering sessions and has become an outstanding young leader and role mode in Ysgol Pum Heol'*

Outcome D - People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential...

We all want our children and young people to have the best possible start in life by supporting them to gain the skills and knowledge they need to lead happy, healthy, fulfilling lives. We want to improve outcomes for all ages through lifelong learning.



The Director, Gareth Morgans, set a challenge for pupils in Years 7-9 from our secondary settings asking them to create works of art on the theme '**Your local area and/or Carmarthenshire**' to enhance our offices. Department staff and primary schools voted on their favourite picture and the **THREE GARETHS** judging panel (Cllr. Gareth Jones, Gareth Morgans and Gareth H. Davies, artist) assisted.

The picture to the left, from Canolfan Y Gors, was one of the winning entries.

Goals: (as agreed in the Integrated Community Strategy with partners)

- D1 - Providing the best opportunities for lifelong learning & development for all**
- D2 - Improving skills and training to increase employment opportunities for all**
- D3 - Supporting parents & families to develop their children's learning**
- D4 - Developing an Inclusive Society**
- D5 - Increasing the provision of childcare, education and training through the medium of Welsh**

Our 2016/17 Key Improvement Objective Priorities (KIOPs):

- Improving Learner Attainment
- To further reduce young people Not in Education, Employment or Training

Progress at a glance:

Outcome Measures (as set out in Corporate Strategy)	Progress
Improved educational attainment	✓
Improved school attendance rates	Primary ✗ Secondary ✓
Reduced number of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training	✓
Improved building condition of schools	✓

Our Performance for 16/17:

Goal: D1 Providing the best opportunities for lifelong learning & development for all

Our Review and Evaluation 2016/17

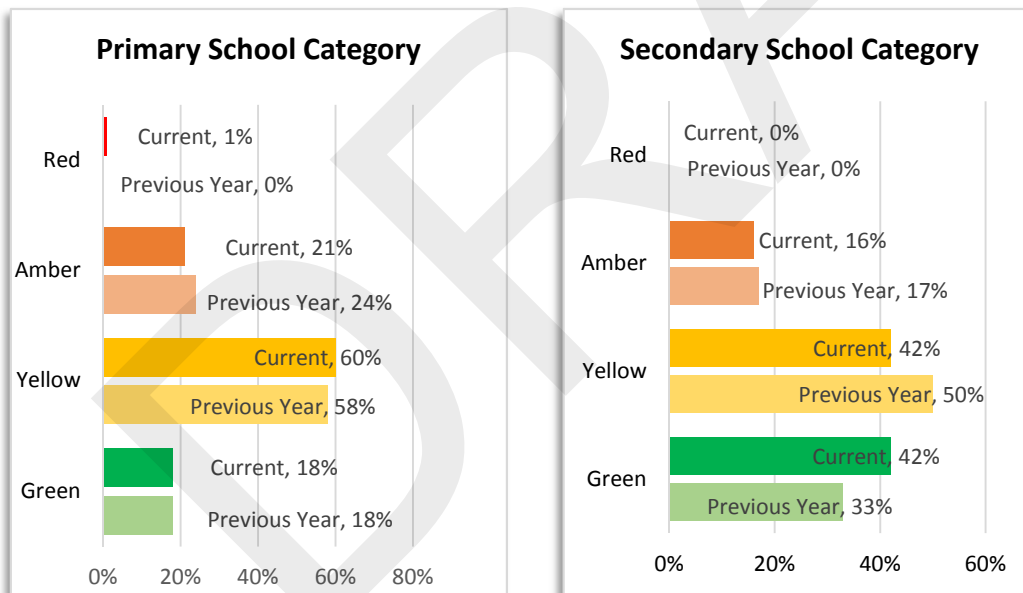
For the third year in succession our school pupils achieved their best ever examination results at GCSE, achieving 65.1% against the key Level 2 Inclusive indicator (at least 5 number GCSE passes at grade A* to C including mathematics and language) with the outcomes of national literacy and numeracy 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 are now 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.

Welsh Government School Categorisation:

The system's main purpose is to identify which schools are in most need of support. The system is a co-constructed system between regional education consortia and Welsh Government and uses 4 colour category's to denote levels of support required, from **Green** – highly effective schools; to **Red** – schools in need of greatest support.



- ✓ At 79%, well over three quarters of our schools (Primary + Secondary) are now in a **Green or Yellow category**, 2% points higher than 2015-16.
- ✓ The proportion of Secondary **Green schools** in Carmarthenshire has increased by 9% points as compared to 2015-2016.
- ✗ One Primary school, Ysgol y Fro, has slipped into the red category for 2016. (12074)

During academic year 2015/16 **Estyn** inspected **15 Carmarthenshire Schools** (12 primary, 2 secondary and 1 Pupil Referral Unit). Of the 15 schools inspected; 2 schools were judged as having sector leading practice; 3 schools were judged as being good schools; 2 schools were placed in follow up category– LA Monitoring; 6 schools have been placed in follow up category Estyn Monitoring and 2 schools placed in follow up category Significant Improvement. Noted area's for improvement were that around half of the schools inspected need to focus on; further improve attainment to support higher judgements of 'standards' and further improve Leadership and Improving Quality.

The Council saw improving learner attainment as a KIOIP for 2016/17, as it is crucial to the development of education within the county. At a Members seminar in April 2016, Members identified this as a top priority closely linked to regeneration. Members wanted to ensure that investment continued to further develop our educational needs.



KEY IMPROVEMENT OBJECTIVE PRIORITY (KIOIP) We will improve Learner Attainment

Authority achieves best ever learner attainment for 3rd year in a row

Education continues to be one of the highest priorities for the Council, equipping our young people with the skills and qualifications which will enable them to secure well paid jobs for their future. We want Carmarthenshire to be a community where children are safe and nurtured and learners are able to achieve their full educational potential. We continue to achieve improvement in the measures below.

Key Measure of Success	Academic Year 2013/14	Academic Year 2014/15	Academic Year 2015/16		
	Results	Result	Target	Result	Progress
% of pupils age 15 achieving Level 2 threshold including GCSE A*-C in English or Welsh and mathematics (L2i) (EDU/017)	58.7%	61.1%	61.6%	65.1%	Improved

PLEASE NOTE: Our 2015/16 Academic Year result is the same as the Welsh Government publication which is based on school Year 11 cohort and includes children educated other than at school (EOTAS) which is not truly comparable with the previous year. This differs to the Local Government Data Unit publication of data on 13th September 2017 based on the 'pupils aged 15 at the start of the school year' cohort and excludes children educated other than at school (EOTAS) or Independent schools which can be compared with the previous year. Carmarthenshire's result based on the Local Government Data Unit publication is 64.5% and still shows an improved.

- ✓ Our result for 2015/16 (academic year) is a 4 percentage point improvement on the previous year's result and demonstrates our greatest success to date with this key indicator.
- ✓ This result is above the Welsh average of 60.3% and was the 6th highest in Wales.

Why this is important

% of year 11 pupils (age 15/16) achieving Level 2 threshold including GCSE A*-C in English or Welsh and Mathematics is regarded as the key measure of achievement at the end of compulsory education. The result has continued to improve year on year for the last 5 years

In addition to this key measure we also judge ourselves by the following...

Performance Measures	Academic Year 12/13	Academic Year 13/14	Academic Year 14/15	Academic Year 15/16	2015/16 Welsh Average	Comments
Year 2 (end of Foundation Phase / Infants) - % of pupils achieving the Foundation Phase Indicator (achieving language, maths and personal development) (5.0.2.9)	81.6	84.1	86.8	85.9	87.0	Declined result compared to previous academic year, result below the Welsh average. Results have been analysed and additional support provided for AY 2016/17.
Year 6 (End of Key Stage 2 / Junior) - % KS2 pupils achieving Core Subject Indicator (Year 6 pupils expected performance in English or Welsh first language, maths and science) (EDU/003)	85.4	87.4	88.2	89.0	89.0	Improved result compared to the previous academic year. The core subject indicator at KS2 continues to improve and is at its highest ever level, now above the Welsh average.
Year 9 (End of Key Stage 3 / 3rd Year Secondary) - % achieving Core Subject Indicator (expected performance in English or Welsh first language, maths and science) (EDU/004)	77.1	84.5	85.1	86.3	86.1	Improved result compared to the previous academic year. Results at KS3 continues to improve, above Welsh average and are at their highest point.

Year 11 (End of Key Stage 4 / Secondary) - % of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE's grade A*-C or vocational equivalent (L2) (5.0.2.2)	78.0	84.7	87.0	89.2	84.0	Improved result compared to previous academic year, and above the Welsh average and is our best ever result.
Year 13 (A-level) - % 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) (5.0.2.3)	97.3	98.6	98.1	99.5	98.0	Improved result compared to previous academic year and the best result in Wales
Eligible for Free School Meals						
Year 11 (End of Key Stage 4 / Secondary) % 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 (5.0.3.1)	29.3	28.9	33.7	41.5	35.6	Improved result compared to previous academic year, and above the Welsh Average.

- ✓ Successfully improved the performance of pupils **eligible for Free School Meals (eFSM)** across all Key Stages, with attainment in Key Stage 4 for the 'L2i' continuing to improve significantly and outperform the Wales average. This success reflects the impact of work undertaken in partnership focusing directly on higher achievement for this vulnerable group. (12078)

How do we compare with others

Whilst we have improved our results significantly over the last four years it is important not to be complacent. There are 22 Councils in Wales and Carmarthenshire's progress can be compared as follows:-

The table below compares results of key measures across Wales.

Measures	Our 2015/16 AY result and change	How our results rank compared to 21 authorities in Wales and our change in position																						
		22 nd	21 st	20 th	19 th	18 th	17 th	16 th	15 th	14 th	13 th	12 th	11 th	10 th	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2 nd	1 st	
		Worst results											Best Results											
		Arrows start from our Academic Year 2014/15 position to our 2015/16 position																						
% Achieved the Level 2 inclusive threshold (EDU/017)	65.1 ↑ 4.0																							
% of pupils achieving the Foundation Phase Indicator (Year 2 achieving language, maths and personal development) (5.0.2.9)	85.9 ↓ 0.9																							
% Pupils achieving Key Stage2 Teacher Assessment (EDU/003)	89.0 ↑ 0.8																							
% Pupils achieving Key Stage3 Teacher Assessment (EDU/004)	86.3 ↑ 1.2																							
% of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE's grade A*-C or vocational equivalent (5.0.2.2)	89.2 ↑ 2.2																							

Our relative Welsh ranking has improved for the Secondary indicators, Level 2 (5.0.2.2) and Level 2 inclusive.

Despite continuing our upward trend in results for the Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 Indicators, our relevant Welsh ranking has declined. The upward 'jump' for each of these indicators was not as pronounced as in previous years.

Our result and Welsh ranking has declined for the Foundation Phase Indicator. The School Improvement Team have analysed performance data to highlight the specific areas in need of additional support. This has provided a defined agenda for development.

During 2016/17 we delivered 19 out of our 23 KIOP commitments

Last Year's Commitments	✓ ✗	Progress Comment
Continue to deliver our Modernising Education Programme / 21st Century Schools Plan		
We will conclude the Dinefwr Secondary Schools Transformation Strategy by completing school modernisation investment at Ysgol Maes y Gwendraeth, to complement the significant investments at Ysgol Bro Dinefwr and Ysgol Dyffryn Aman which were completed in 2015, bringing to a conclusion the major reorganisation of secondary school provision in the region and an investment totalling £69 million in value. (12069)	✓	All construction schemes have been completed and all buildings are occupied with a total grant of £57.3 million claimed in full in 2015/16. The official opening of Ysgol Dyffryn Aman took place in December 2015 with Ysgol Bro Dinefwr officially opening in October 2016 and Ysgol Maes Y Gwendraeth in November 2016.
We will invest around £19 million in major school construction and modernisation projects at Coedcae, Seaside, Trimsaran, Llangadog and Parc y Tywyn. (12070)	✓	During 2016/17 a total of £19 million (including a £10.2m Welsh Government grant) was spent on major school construction and modernisation projects at Coedcae, Seaside, Trimsaran, Llangadog and Parc y Tywyn.
We will increase the number of surplus places removed as the result of Carmarthenshire's Modernising Education Programme (4.3.1.7) 2015/16 Result – 394 / 2016/17 Target 141	✓	A total of 141 surplus places were removed during 2016/17 based on 2 school closures and 1 new build with slightly reduced capacity.
We will increase the % of schools graded as “Good” (Category A) or “Satisfactory” (Category B) for school building condition.(4.3.1.8) 2015/16 Result – 55% / 2016/17 Target 56%	✓	57% of schools are currently graded as “Good” or “Satisfactory” for school building condition with three Secondary school building's grades having improved; Dyffryn Aman and Bro Dinefwr due to construction projects being completed and Strade due to completion of a refurbishment project.
Improving School Attendance - Making every day count		
We will increase the % of pupil attendance in primary schools (EDU/016a) Academic Year 2014/15 – 95.2% / 2015/16 AY Target 95.4%	✗	Primary school attendance declined during 2015/16 academic year at 94.8% moving us from 5 th to 13 th position in Wales. Analysis shows that 0.1% increase in absence was due to pupil illness and a 0.3% increase in agreed family holiday.
We will reduce the % of authorised absence in primary schools (4.1.2.3) Academic Year 2014/15 – 4.0 / 2015/16 AY Target – 3.9%	✗	Authorised absence in primary schools increased during 2015/16 academic year to 4.4% with 0.1% due to pupil illness and a 0.3% increase in agreed family holiday.
We will increase the % of pupil attendance in secondary schools (EDU/016b) Academic Year 2014/15 – 94.2% / 2015/16 AY Target – 94.4%	✓	Attendance at secondary schools continues to improve at 94.5% during 2015/16 academic year moving us from 9 th to 8 th position in Wales.
We will reduce the % of authorised absence in secondary schools (4.1.2.2) Academic Year 2014/15 – 5.1% / 2015/15 AY Target – 5.0%	✓	Authorised absence in secondary schools has reduced further to 4.9% during 2015/16 academic year.
Teacher Assessments and Examinations		
We will increase the % of pupils age 15 achieving Level 2 threshold including GCSE A*-C in English or Welsh and mathematics (EDU/017) Academic Year 2014/15 – 61.1% / 2015/16 AY Target 61.6%	✓	We have exceeded our target with 65.1% of pupils achieving the Level 2 threshold during 2015/16 academic year. This is a strong improvement of 4 percentage points on the previous year.
We will increase the % of pupils achieving the Foundation Phase Indicator (Year 2 achieving language, maths and personal development) (5.0.2.9) Academic Year 2014/15 – 86.8% / 2015/16 AY Target 87.3%	✗	The % of pupils achieving the Foundation Phase indicator during 2015/16 academic year is off target at 85.9% and has declined by 0.9 percentage points compared to the previous year. The School Improvement Team have analysed performance data to highlight the specific areas in need of additional support. This has provided a defined agenda for development.
We will take forward the recommendations of the Foundation Phase report (12071)	✓	Priority areas for development continue to be supported well through focussed training, research and bespoke support designed to meet the individual needs of the school.

We will increase the % KS2 pupils achieving Core Subject Indicator (Year 6 pupils expected performance in English or Welsh first language, maths and science) (EDU/003) Academic Year 2014/15 – 88.2% / 2015/16 AY Target 88.7%	✓ During 2015/16 academic year 89% of KS2 pupils achieved Core subject indicator which represents the Local Authority's best result to date and continues our ongoing upward trend. Unfortunately we have moved from 10 th to 11 th position in Wales
We will increase the % KS3 pupils achieving Core Subject Indicator (Year 9 pupils expected performance in English or Welsh first language, maths and science) (EDU/004) Academic Year 2014/15 – 85.1% / 2015/16 AY Target 85.6%	✓ During 2015/16 academic year 86.3% of KS3 pupils achieved Core subject indicator which again represents the Local Authority's best result to date and continues our ongoing upward trend. Unfortunately others have improved by more and we have moved from 8 th to 14 th position in Wales.
We will increase the % of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE's grade A*-C or vocational equivalent (5.0.2.2) Academic Year 2014/15 – 87.0% / 2015/16 AY Target – 87.5%	✓ 89.2% of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE's grade A*-C or vocational equivalent during 2015/16 academic year. Increased challenge and monitoring of performance in schools resulted in the best results ever for the Local Authority.
% 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 (5.0.3.1) Academic Year 2014/15 – 33.7% / 2015/16 AY Target 34.2%	✓ % 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 has exceeded our target during 2015/16 academic year at 41.5% and shows a good improvement.
We will enhance outcomes for More Able and Talented (MAT) pupils.(12072)	✓ An on-going focus on securing and raising achievement for MAT learners has been undertaken throughout the year. Outcomes for Key Stage 4 key performance indicators showed their highest results to date.
We will increase the % of pupils achieving the Level 3 threshold (2 A Levels grade A-E) (5.0.2.3) Academic Year 2014/15 – 98.1% / 2015/16 AY Target – 98.6%	✓ The number of pupils achieving the Level 3 threshold (2 A Levels grade A-E) had improved further during 2015/16 academic year at 99.5% and is the best result in Wales.
Implementing a consistent regional support, challenge and intervention framework	
We will work to improve the quality of leadership and its impact on improving outcomes across the consortium (12073)	✓ We have undertaken a review of each school's 'quality and impact of leadership' through annual ERW Core Visits. School leaders (including governors) across the workforce continue to receive support, guidance and development opportunities in support of enhanced practice and outcomes.
We will improve the proportion of schools with a Green or Yellow categorisation in the National School Categorisation System (12074)	✓ At 79%, well over three quarters of our schools (Primary + Secondary) are now in a Green or Yellow category, 2% points higher than 2015-16.
Improving outcomes of Estyn School Inspections	
We will increase the % of Good or Better Outcomes in Estyn Judgments (12075)	✓ The % of Overall Outcomes in Estyn Judgements has increased to 91% from 50%. The total number of schools inspected with published reports in 2016-17 = 11 (10 primary / 1 secondary).
Reducing fixed term exclusions	
We will minimise the % of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions in Primary Schools (EDU/010a) Academic Year 2014/15 – 0.015% / 2015/16 AY Target 0.013%	✓ 0.013% of school days were lost in Primary Schools due to fixed-term exclusions during 2015/16 academic year. This is an improvement on the previous year and equates to 284 days compared to 334 days the previous year.
We will minimise the % of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions in Secondary Schools (EDU/010b) Academic Year 2014/15 – 0.039% / 2015/16 AY Target 0.037%	* 0.046% (837.5 days) of school days were lost in Secondary Schools due to fixed-term exclusions during 2015/16 academic year. This is an increase of 115.5 days from the previous year. The pattern varies from school to school with four schools reducing their number of exclusion days while the others increased a little, but one school had increased by 60%.
Developing values and skills for lifelong learning	
We will deliver literacy, numeracy and English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) courses for Carmarthenshire residents and in-comers to the County (12076)	✓ Delivery of these courses for the 2015-2016 year have been completed. A full and continuing programme of literacy, numeracy and ESOL classes were offered at centres in Llanelli, Ammanford and Carmarthen for 2016-17 and enrolments in these classes has been good

How did we perform during 2016/17?

Last Year's Commitments:

- ✓ We increased the % of 15/16 year olds achieving the **Core Subject Indicator** at **KS4** (those pupils achieving at least grade C in GCSE English or Welsh, Mathematics and Science in combination) to **62.34%**, above the target of 58.7% and improving on the previous year's result of 58.22% (5.0.2.6)
- ✓ We increased the **average point score** for pupils aged 15 at the preceding 31 August to **596.0%**, above the target of 581.0% and improving on the previous year's result of 580.3%. This was the Authority's best ever result and the best in Wales. (EDU/011)
- ✓ We have increased the number of people using **Public Library Services** during the year per 1,000 population from 7,203 to **7,646**. This is mainly due to increased school and young person engagement and steady improvements in the use of online digital resources provided by the library service. (LCL/001b) 98,104 Carmarthenshire residents are library member. Of the 22 Authorities, we have the second highest number of library users in Wales with Cardiff having the highest.
- ✓ 'Every Child a Library Member' (ECALM) initiative (Library services and schools working in partnership) to provide a 'Library experience' for young children in Year 4. (Participation from 1268 children from 30 schools).
- ✓ [Bookstart](#) (Dechrau Da) – a free bilingual book pack is given to every child in order to encourage a lifelong love of reading when they enrol at any of the three of the Carmarthenshire Regional Libraries. The Reading Agency which supports the [Summer Reading Challenge](#) that encourages children to read six library books, collecting stickers and other rewards with over 379 children from Carmarthenshire Libraries involved during the summer of 2016.
- ✓ Oriel Myrddin is operating a Young Artists Club (YACS) for 8-11 year olds and a fortnightly 'ArtLab Club' for young people aged 12-15 (with concessions for low income families).
- ✓ 1300 School pupils visited Carmarthenshire Museums, with schools loan boxes made available to a further 2500 pupils.
- ✓ The Reading Agency which supports the [Summer Reading Challenge](#) that encourages children to read six library books, collecting stickers and other rewards with over 379 children from Carmarthenshire Libraries involved during the summer of 2016.
- ✓ We continued to hold all schools and **ERW** to account for further improving standards and outcomes for learners, intervening in schools where performance is not satisfactory. We undertook Core Visits for evaluation of school performance outcomes and undertaking of National Categorisation and review Teaching and Learning provision. The LA Scrutiny Panel has continued its valuable work through inviting a range of schools across all phases to present an overview of their progress, success and areas of concern to the Panel. The ongoing monitoring and scrutiny of our 'Schools Causing Concern' has continued to be challenged and supported. (12077)
- ✓ We completed and published the **Carmarthenshire 11-19 Curriculum** in partnership with schools and other providers, incorporating national policy developments, in line with the development strategy Palmantu'r Ffordd/Paving the Way. (12079)
- ✓ We completed all the actions as detailed in the **Modernising Education Programme** for 2016/17 in relation to Construction Projects, School Organisation Proposals, Business Cases, Data returns, School Capacity, Catchment areas and Estate management (12080)



The official opening of Ysgol Dyffryn Amman took place in December 2015 with Ysgol Bro Dinefwr (pictured) officially opening in October 2016 and Ysgol Maes Y Gwendraeth in November 2016

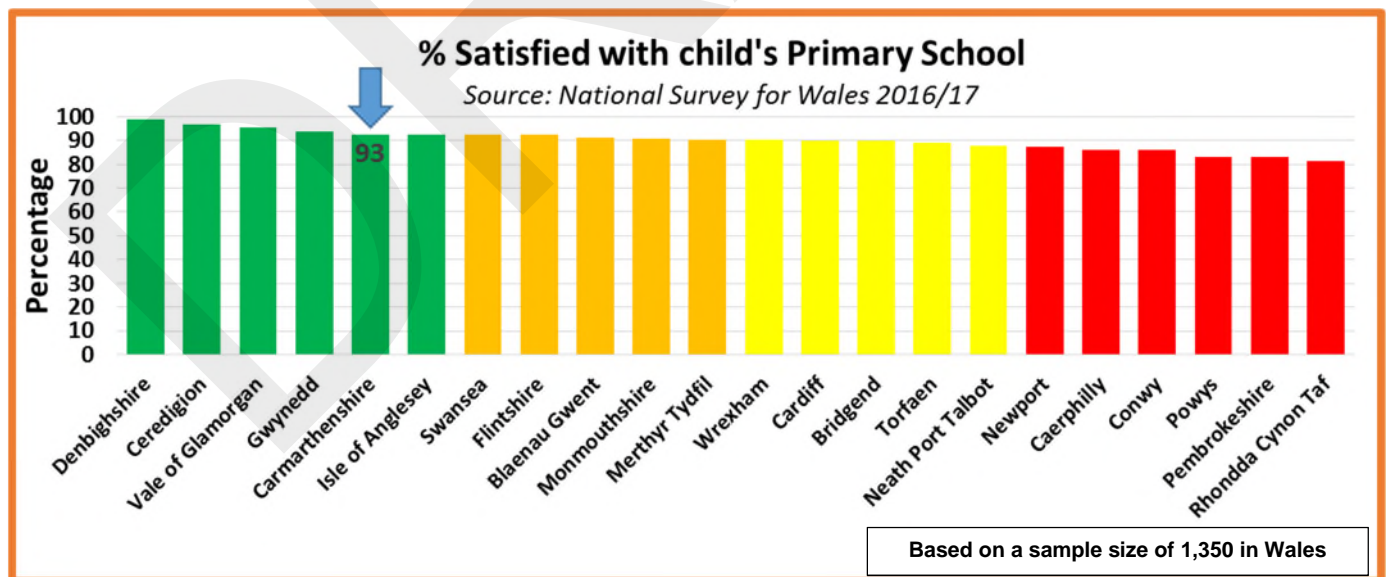
Please see 'Continue to deliver our Modernising Education Programme / 21st Century Schools Plan' section of KIOP Commitments above for additional details.

How do we know we made a difference? / Is anyone better off?

Statistics from [Stats Wales](#) shows that 37.4% of working age adults in Carmarthenshire have qualifications at NQF level 4+ in 2016 (33.6% in 2015). This shows a steady improvement on our 2005 figure of 22.8% and we are now equal the Welsh average.

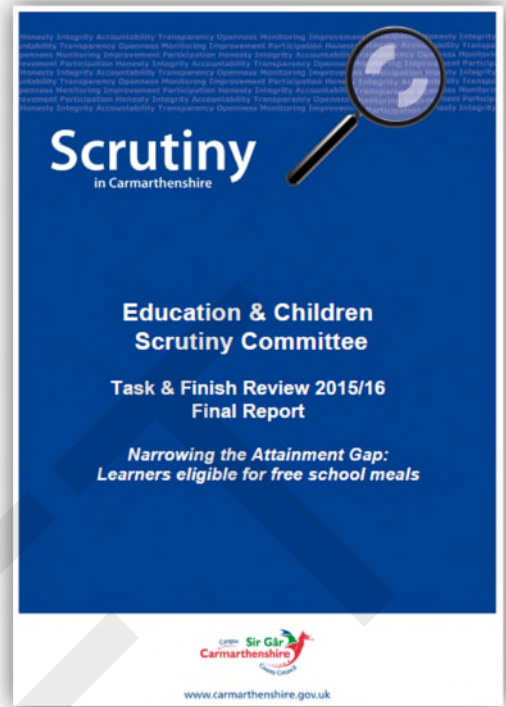
The percentage of working age adults with no qualifications in Carmarthenshire has reduced again to 9.7% in 2016 from 11.1% in 2015. This continues the trend for improvement on the 2008 figure of 16.1%

Recently published results from the [2016/17 National Survey for Wales](#) shows that **93%** of residents in Carmarthenshire were satisfied with their child's **Primary School**. This is the **5th best** result in Wales.



The Authority has worked collaboratively through a Task and Finish Review in support of ‘Narrowing the Attainment Gap for Learners **eligible for free school meals**.’ This extensive piece of work produced an informative and practical document for use as a valuable resource across our schools. Its key messages include:

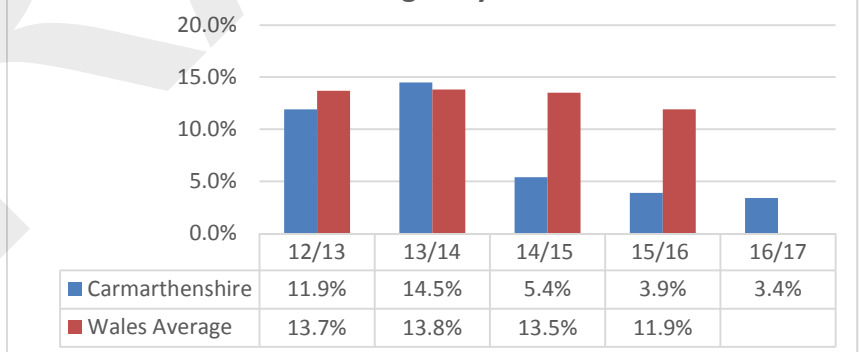
- Carmarthenshire schools place much emphasis on raising standards and achievement for eFSM learners through a range of early interventions and enhanced curriculum opportunities. This work has secured enriched experiences and improved outcomes.
- Our schools are able to evidence numerous elements of ‘good practice initiatives’ (as presented to the Task and Finish Group) which are effective in reducing the impact of poverty on eFSM learners’ engagement and potential.
- Analyses of performance data over time demonstrates that standards continue to rise at the end of all key stages for e-FSM learners.
- Effective school leadership and working in partnership are central to tackling this issue in a sustainable manner.



Improved Results for Looked After Children

We have continued to perform well in maintaining looked after children within the same school (2nd in Wales during 2015/16) which has enabled good education outcomes. Corporate Parenting Services continues to support schools and utilise the Pupil Deprivation Grant for looked after children to provide additional resources and training.

% of Looked After Children at 31 March 2017 who have experienced 1 or more changes of school during the year



- ✓ 56.6% of children in receipt of ‘care and support’ achieved the core subject indicator at Key Stage 2 (SCC/29a)
- ✓ 18.0% of children in receipt of care and support achieved the core subject indicator at Key Stage 4 (SCC29b)
- ✓ **All Pupils in local authority care**, (who were aged 15 as at the preceding 31 August) left compulsory education, training or work based learning with an approved external qualification.

School Attendance and exclusions: See Goal D3 - Supporting parents and families to develop their children’s learning

Goal: D2 Improving skills and training to increase employment opportunities for all

In December 2013 the Council adopted the Swansea Bay City Region [Economic Development Strategy 2013–2030](#). In the strategy, **improving skills and training to increase employment opportunities for all** is seen as essential to develop a thriving and sustainable knowledge economy with high value-added employment will necessitate substantial improvements in our skills levels, such that local people can offer the skills and expertise that knowledge-intensive businesses require.

Our Review and Evaluation 2016/17

Curriculum Enrichment

We have continued to provide a range of Curriculum enrichment experiences which have included the following examples:

Participation in **reading and writing competitions** such as; the Welsh Book Council Quiz 2015-16, where Ysgol Llannon won in the National Round for years 3 and 4; a new KS3 Book Quiz, with Ysgol y Strade winning; Bookslam 2015-16, a Welsh Books Council reading competition, with Ysgol Glanyferri and Johnstown CP teams qualifying for the National Round; and Twenty 'More Able and Talented' KS3 pupils participating in our termly Sgwad Sgwennu Cymraeg' (Welsh Writing Squad).

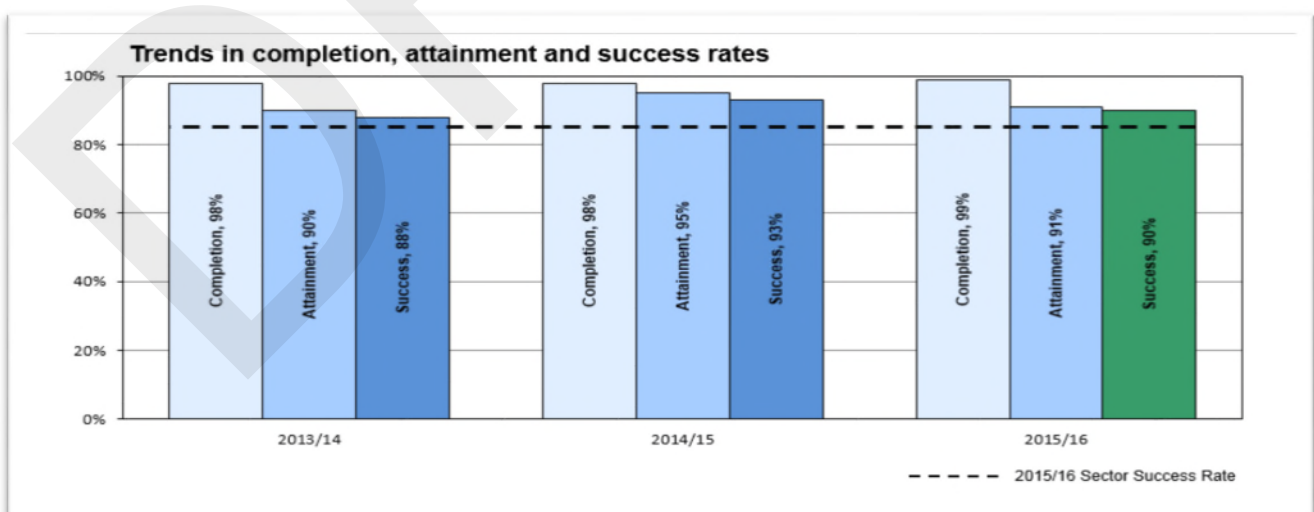
The **Welsh Heritage Schools** Initiative invites schools across Wales to undertake heritage projects and to submit them for this nationwide heritage competition and this year was another successful year for schools in Carmarthenshire with six winning submissions.

This year the **Scarlets partnership** focused on e-books and the five Carmarthenshire **Digital Pioneer schools** looked at a different aspect of the Scarlets experience such as match day and the environmental impact of the stadium.

Carmarthenshire has been a **Fair Trade** county for nearly seven years. Ninety schools are registered on the Fair Trade scheme with 20 schools having worked their way through the full programme and gained the Fair Trade flag.

Adult Community Learning (ACL)

There was a slight decrease in the overall Success rates in our ACL results. There was as a 1% point rise in the number completing courses while the Attainment rate decreased by 4% points. This follows 5 continuous years of continuous improvement.



Completion: of all the learning activities which started, how many were completed (the learner was still there at the end of the course)?

Attainment: of the learning activities which were completed, how many resulted in the learner achieving the qualification they were aiming for?

Success: this combines completion and attainment into a single overall measure: of all learning activities that were started, how many were successfully completed and achieved?

How did we perform during 2016/17?

Last Year's Commitments:

- ✓ The identified elements of the **Youth Engagement and Progression Framework** have been delivered in-county. Vulnerability Assessment Profile (VAP) meetings are now taking place on a termly basis in all Carmarthenshire Secondary Schools. These meetings identify young people at risk of becoming NEET and enable extra support to be provided for them, in some cases via the Cynnydd European Social Fund bid. (12086)
- ✓ The work of the Carmarthenshire **Adult Community Learning** Group continued during the 2016-2017 year, informed by the recently published strategic guidance from Welsh Government and Estyn as to the role of these bodies in the work of the ACL sector in the future. (12087)
- ✓ The **Carmarthenshire Curriculum 11-19 review** has been completed and approved by the Council. The review identified a unique shared vision for the 11-19 Curriculum in-county that has been developed in close partnership with schools and Coleg Sir Gar. The action plan linked to this review identifies how the local curriculum will evolve to meet the needs of learners, employers and communities. (12088)
- ✓ In collaboration with Pembrokeshire CC, Pembrokeshire College and Coleg Sir Gar, a varied programme of activities has been delivered to support **able and talented** young people in Year 12 wishing to progress to the most competitive universities. (12089)

Other Key Successes:

- ✓ Music Services – Successful school proms season, culminating in success for the Senior Girls' Choir in the Music for Youth Festival, meriting a performance in the Royal Albert Hall in London, and winning the Cor Cymru choral competition, thus representing Wales in The Eurovision Choir competition in Latvia.
- ✓ Welsh for Adults – Have secured a 2 year contract to deliver Community Education Welsh and have recently tendered successfully to get on the Welsh in the Workplace national framework.
- ✓ The Duke of Edinburgh Award in Carmarthenshire continued to be the highest performing in Wales for the period:
 - Award Completions: Bronze – 450; Silver – 85; Gold – 67 - Total: 602
 - New starts: Bronze – 763; Silver – 133; Gold – 87 - Total: 983.

It's very important to improve skills and training in order to increase the employment opportunities for young people. This was identified as a KIOP for 2016/17.



KEY IMPROVEMENT OBJECTIVE PRIORITY (KIOP)

**We will further reduce young people
Not in Education, Employment or Training**

40% reduction in Year 11 leavers becoming NEET

There was an imperative for the County to renew efforts to reduce the number of young people who become NEET. This work was supported by curriculum review initiatives being developed by the Department for Education and Children and a range of work-related education programmes being delivered by the Regeneration Team. Additionally, activities delivered via the regional Cynnydd European Social Fund project assisted young people in progressing to further education, training and employment during the Post 16 education phase.

Key Measure of Success	Academic Year 2013/14	Academic Year 2014/15	Academic Year 2015/16		
	Result	Result	Target	Result	Progress
% of Year 11 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET's) (5.1.0.1)	3.4% (69 / 2016)	3.5% (69 / 1962)	3.0%	2.1% (40/1892)	Improved
% of Year 13 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET's) (5.1.0.2)	6.0% (46 / 767)	2.8% (21 / 761)	2.6%	2.0% (14/702)	Improved

Partnership work by schools, youth support service staff and external agencies including Careers Wales to deliver the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework in Carmarthenshire has resulted in the reduction in the number and percentage of young people becoming NEET. While this is a positive outcome overall, the reduced capacity within Careers Wales to follow up the destinations of young people has resulted in an increase in the number of young people whose status is unknown, 1.59% (30 pupils) compared to 0.05% (10 pupils) the previous year. It is likely that some of this cohort are NEET and further shared working via the Supporting Engagement into Education Employment and Training (SEET) group is taking place to follow up young people not taking part in education, training or employment.

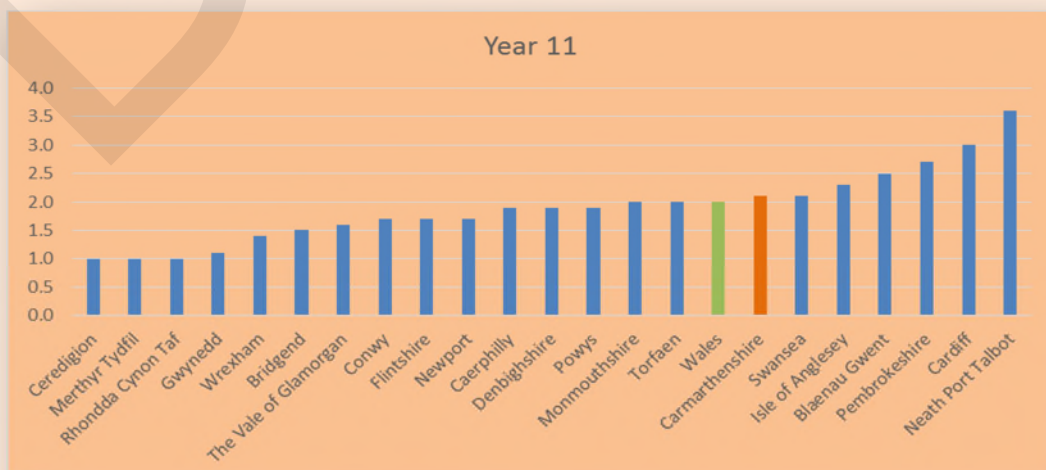
Why this is important?

The Welsh Government's Youth Engagement and Progression Framework focuses on reducing the number of young people aged 11 to 25 who are not engaged in education, employment or training (NEET) in Wales.

Reducing the number of young people becoming NEET on leaving year 11 is thus essential to maximise the life opportunities for this cohort. Ensuring that as many young people as possible are able to progress to school 6th forms, FE Colleges, training provision or work helps ensure that learners at statutory school leaving age do not experience the effects of poverty and can contribute to their communities and the wider economy. Ensuring participation in employment, education and training post 16 also reduces the wider costs to society caused by reliance on benefits and the personal and public costs of offending.

How do we compare with others?

- **Year 11** - Carmarthenshire now ranks 16/22 LA's in Wales but only 0.1% above the All-Wales average of 2.0%. While there are a range of local circumstances that have contributed to our own performance, we will need to look into why many of the other LA's are showing very significant decreases in the numbers for this KPI and ask WG colleagues for assistance.



- **Year 13** - On completion of Year 13, our performance ranks 3rd equal of 22 LA's, was better than the Wales average of 3.1% and an improvement on our 2016 performance of 2.8%.

During 2016/17 we delivered 9 out of our 9 KIOP commitments

Last Year's Commitments	✓ x	Progress Comment
We will reduce the % of Year 11 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) (5.1.0.1) 2014/15 Academic Year – 3.5% / 2015/16 AY Target 3.0%	✓	There were 2.1% (40 pupils out of 1892) of Year 11 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) for 2015/16 academic year. This is an improvement on the previous year of 3.5% (69 out of 1962)
We will reduce the % of Year 13 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) (5.1.0.2) 2014/15 Academic Year – 2.8% / 2015/16 AY Target 2.6%	✓	There were 2.0% (14 pupils out of 702) of Year 13 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) for 2015/16 academic year. This is an improvement on the previous year of 2.8% (21 out of 761).
We will fully implement the Vulnerability Assessment Profile in all Secondary Schools for Years 7-11 to ensure early identification of all young people who may become NEET. (12081)	✓	The Vulnerability Assessment Profile is now being used in all secondary school settings. Data from the profile is being used to identify young people who can benefit from targeted support via the Cynnydd European Social Fund project
We will update and expand the Carmarthenshire Provision map and hosting of a web-based resource highlighting this information via the Un Sir Gar hub. (12082)	✓	The Carmarthenshire Provision map was successfully updated and circulated to relevant providers via the Un Sir Gar hub.
We will implement the Carmarthenshire Cynnydd European Social Fund (ESF) Project elements to reduce the number of young people who become NEET. (12083)	✓	The Cynnydd Project is now fully operational, with delivery elements being undertaken by Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) project staff, procured projects and at Coleg Sir Gar. To date the CCC elements of the project have worked with approximately 100 young people
We will support the development of the regional Cam Nesa European Social Fund (ESF) project to deliver employability skills for 16-25's who are currently NEET. (12084)	✓	All Carmarthenshire project related paperwork has been completed and submitted by Pembrokeshire as part of the regional bid to the fund. The bid is now awaiting a decision from the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO) which has been put on hold due to the restrictions on public bodies due to the 'pre-election period'.
We shall support care leavers where possible to ensure that they are in education, training or employment at 12 months after leaving care (SCC/34a) New measure – baseline to be established during 16/17	✓	We supported 56.3% of all care leavers to ensure that they were in education, training or employment 12 months after leaving care. <i>We will use this result as our baseline to establish targets for improvement going forward.</i>
We shall support care leavers where possible to ensure that they are in education, training or employment at 24 months after leaving care (SCC/34b) New measure – baseline to be established during 16/17	✓	We supported 50.0% of all care leavers to ensure that they were in education, training or employment 24 months after leaving care. <i>We will use this result as our baseline to establish targets for improvement going forward.</i>
We will ensure a new Vulnerable Young Peoples panel be put in place to co-ordinate support for vulnerable young people in Key Stage 4. (12085)	✓	A new Vulnerable Young Peoples panel has now been established and is meeting bi-monthly.

Is anyone better off?

The **Next Step** team are increasingly providing a range of training and support for care leavers helping to reduce the number of NEET. We currently have 40 care leavers in further education, 13 in full-time employment, 13 on training schemes and 4 in Higher Education.

- ✓ 56.3% of those who became care leavers during 2015/16 remain in education, training or employment 12 months after leaving care (i.e. 9 out of 16 young people).

- ✓ Half (50%) of those who became care leavers during 2014/15 remain in education, training or employment at 24 months after leaving care (i.e. 10 out of 20 young people).
- ✓ 30+ young people are now accessing 'When I am ready' arrangements and remaining with their foster carers post 18 if appropriate.



COLEG SIR GAR TASTER EVENT INSPIRES YOUNG PEOPLE TO APPLY FOR COURSES

Youth Support Service (YSS) staff involved in the delivery of the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework worked with colleagues at Coleg Sir Gar by targeting and referring on Year 11 pupils, who were undecided about what they wanted to do in terms of options at 16, leaving school.

11 young people attended a Taster Week in the February Half Term. All of the 11 young people went on to apply for courses, and also added to their applications after engaging with the week's taster event.

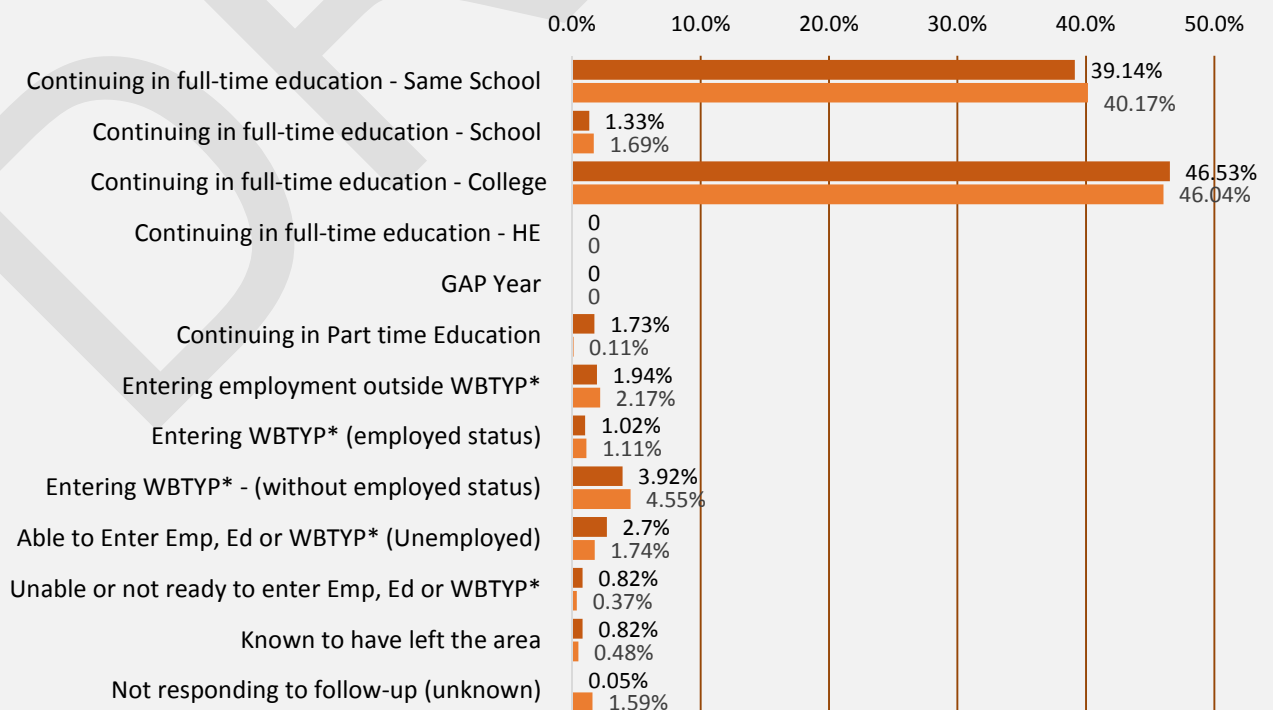
How do we know we made a difference? / Is anyone better off?

- ✓ We have increased the number of logins to the Hwb platform suite, including Office 365, by 57% (770,132 logins compared to 490,761 the previous year)

What happened to school leavers from 2015/16?

96% of year 11 pupils (from Academic Year 2015-16) went on to further education, employment or work based training. There was a slight 1% point increase, compared to the previous year, in the number continuing in full-time education and a 1% point increase in the number entering employment or work based training.

Destination data for Carmarthenshire Y11 pupils (2015-16)



*WBTP - Work Based Training for Young People

■ 2015 ■ 2016

LAUNCH OF NEW CONSTRUCTION CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

The wraps have come off the next phase of Llanelli's new Vocational Village.

A construction skills centre of excellence, built on the site of Bryngwyn School, is the latest element of the scheme to be officially launched.

Development will soon begin to create a specialist catering training facility at St John Lloyd Catholic School, a music technology facility at Coedcae School; a performing arts and media facility at Ysgol Y Strade and a caring and child care facility at Glan Y Môr School.

The vocational village is being delivered through

Carmarthenshire County Council's Modernising Education Programme, with part funding through the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools initiative.

Pupils will be able to attend any of the five elements that make up the village, regardless of which school they attend, creating a person-centred approach to vocational learning.

The first tranche of pupils have already had some lessons at the £900,000 construction centre at Bryngwyn, which will be the hub of the village.



STUDENTS' 'BIG BANG' IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Students from QE High School are making a 'big bang' in the world of science and engineering.

Staff from the council's Property Design team have been working with Year 12 pupils on their Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) projects.

It is part of the Engineering Education Scheme Wales (EESW) which encourages sixth form students to study engineering courses in further or higher education.

The students work with local companies and organisations and are given research and development briefs related to real industrial problems.

QE High students were asked 'to create an educational environment fit for the 21st century in Wales, where it will meet the needs of the community and provide the best learning provision for the area'.

The brief was developed by the Property Design team to reflect the objectives of the 21st Century Schools and Education Programme.

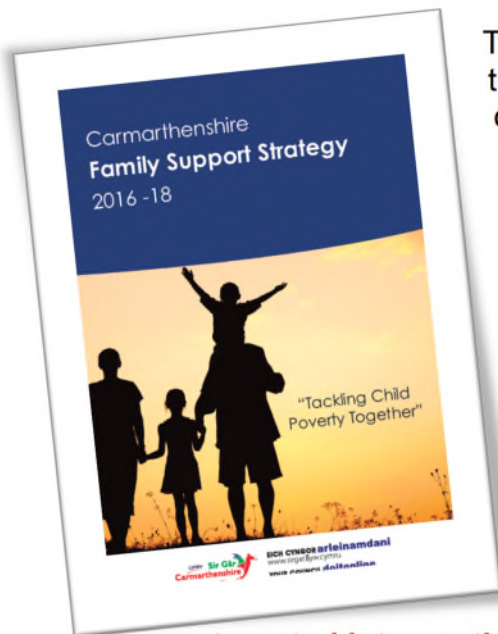
Officers worked closely with the students on two projects – one to investigate methods of chlorine removal for pools and the other was to design a new sustainable science classroom.

The project investigating methods of chlorine removal for pools won the Best Chemical Solution category and was shortlisted for Best Water Solution category in The Big Bang Fair (South Wales) 2016.



Goal: D3 Supporting parents & families to develop their children's learning

The Authority remains committed to **supporting family life** where children and young people continue to reside within their own families and communities whenever it is safe to do so, through providing a range of early intervention and preventative services, thus minimising the need for statutory intervention.

Our Review and Evaluation 2016/17

The **Family Support Strategy** highlights our commitment to tackling the impact of child poverty and addressing its effect on opportunities and educational outcomes. It sets out our approach to the delivery and development of services for children, families and young people.

We are responsible for delivering a major programme of change to all the services we provide and commission for children, young people and families. This change is designed to ensure that we identify the most vulnerable families and intervene early providing preventative support.

This strategy is closely aligned with the Carmarthenshire Family Support and Prevention Strategy 2016 which describes the services available to families who have complex needs and need statutory intervention.

Once again we have supported families through a range of **targeted interventions** through the Flying Start, Families First, Integrated Family Support Services and other programmes, sustaining families and reducing the potential impact of disadvantage on public services.

Please see Goal: C1 Ensuring each child has the best start in life & Health Theme

Childcare provision in Carmarthenshire is delivered in partnership with private, voluntary and statutory sectors, and has continued to develop. As at March 2017 we have:

- 113 registered child minders (with 735 places)
- 35 registered full day nurseries (with 1,314 places)
- 42 registered out of school clubs (with 1,161 places)
- 52 registered sessional care placements (with 955 places) includes Flying Start settings
- 242 Total providers, with 4,165 registered places

How did we perform during 2016/17?**Last Year's Commitments:**

- ✓ **Secondary school attendance** has continued to improve: increasing from 94.2 to 94.5 this year; placing Carmarthenshire 8th in Wales. Primary Attendance has dropped a little from 95.0 to 94.8 placing us 13th in Wales. The main cause being authorised absences and illness. There is an action plan in place to address this. (12090)

Please also see KIOP: - We will improve learner attainment commitments, under Improving School Attendance - Making every day count, above.

- ✗ We were unable to secure funding from Welsh Government in order to run a pilot for the 'Holiday Hunger' programme due to the available funding being fully allocated within two weeks of receiving notification. We have already secured funding for the forthcoming year to implement the School Holiday Enrichment (Holiday Hunger) Programme (SHEP), supporting families and children during school vacations to cook healthy meals, particularly aimed at eFSM. (12091)

- ✓ The **Education Welfare Service** continued to deliver a range of programmes for families particularly engaging with more hard to reach, vulnerable families. The Family Learning Signature (FLS) continues to be supported through some schools in Llanelli, with families engaging in their child's learning. There was positive feedback from families reporting that they feel more able to support their child's attendance. (12092)

How do we know we made a difference? / Is anyone better off?

FAMILY LEARNING STORY WORKSHOP AT YSGOL BRYN TEG

A collection of parents and grand-parents with their children from the Foundation phase classes took part in the Gruffalo storiesack course-where they made a Gruffalo Story sack, had a free book and made literacy games, puppets etc. They were fun and interactive sessions linked to the book. It even included fruit tasting and tasks to carry on at home. Julie Thomas from CCC basic skills organized and ran the course.

'We had a great response from the families and they even came back in to present their story in an assembly which the foundation phase pupils enjoyed', stated Mrs Austin, nursery teacher and community link.

'We aim to build on this excellent partnership working, and will be running courses every term to welcome families into the school as it fosters the very best for the pupils learning through working together as a team. We see the positive effects on the relationships created and the impact this has on the education of the pupils is significant', Mr Geraint Jones, Headteacher.

Adult quotes from the course include:

'I loved it! Spending time with my children doing activities and recording the story to take home was fab. Would recommend it to everyone,' Said Sarah B.

"Really enjoyed, nice that it was practical and meeting parents and other families. The social side was the best." (A grandmother of a year 1 pupil)

"I could only make a few but the lady taking it was lovely, I had loads of ideas to help my child", stated Katie a mum of a child in year 1.



Goal: D4 Developing an Inclusive Society

The Authority ensures that all children of compulsory school age receive education that is appropriate to their age, abilities and any additional educational needs, and promotes high standards in the provision of education and the welfare of children.

Our Review and Evaluation for 2016/17

Carmarthenshire School-based Counselling Service (SBCS)

Carmarthenshire has commissioned 'Area 43' to manage and provide a professionally accredited school-based counselling service to its young people from year 6 to age 18. Pupil use of the service has continued to be good and almost all the children and young people report that their confidence has improved as a result of the counselling sessions that, they were less worried, felt more supported and were more able to cope with issues they were facing.

Carmarthenshire Minority Ethnic Achievement Service (MEAS)

This year we have seen only a small rise in our English/Welsh as an Additional Language (EAL/WAL) population. We currently have in excess of 1200 EAL learners on our register and

support 400+ A-C Stage learners in 40 schools throughout Carmarthenshire. This year we have been able to increase our support in Welsh medium schools.

The MEAS team currently consists of 4 EAL Specialist Teachers, 2 Polish Bilingual TAs and 3 Arabic Bilingual TAs who work with refugee children and their families.

Carmarthenshire Traveller Achievement Service

This year the service has been able to support 6 secondary schools and 7 primary schools. We currently have 171 children on our register, not all of whom are currently receiving support.

There has been an overall improvement with attendance from Traveller children over the past year. This has impacted slightly on improving their attainment levels in primary schools.

Supporting Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

Supporting schools with ALN Reform

Person-centred coaches have supported schools to familiarise themselves and use person-centred tools. Useful resources for schools such as One Page Profiles and Individual Development Plan pro forma have been developed.

Behaviour Support Services

Work on remodelling of the Behaviour Support Services continued this year following on from last year's consultative and evaluative work around looking at what works, what needs development and what needs to change.

Canolfan Cothi and Garreglwyd

Canolfan Cothi opened as the new Secondary specialist ALN autism provision as part of the newly built Ysgol Bro Dinefwr. During the past year, pupils previously located at Garreglwyd successfully transferred to the Canolfan Cothi Centre which has facilities to support up to 30 secondary aged pupils on the autism spectrum.

Garreglwyd Residential Autism Provision remains in its current location in the Gwendraeth Valley. Two secondary aged pupils with autism who were previously in out-of-county specialist residential provision have returned to Garreglwyd during the year, considerably reducing out of county costs. Planning discussions for further expansion of this provision are in place.

Youth Support Service

The Youth Support Service has been involved in the delivery of the Enhanced Case Management (ECM) Test over the last 2 years; it is an approach to the supervision of young people who have offended, supported by the Youth Justice Board and Welsh Government. The approach based on the 'Trauma Recovery Model' has been evaluated by Cordis Bright. In Carmarthenshire (being one of 3 Youth Offending Teams involved across Wales) we have worked with the largest number of young people (11 young people) during the test.

How did we perform during 2016/17?

Last Year's Commitments:

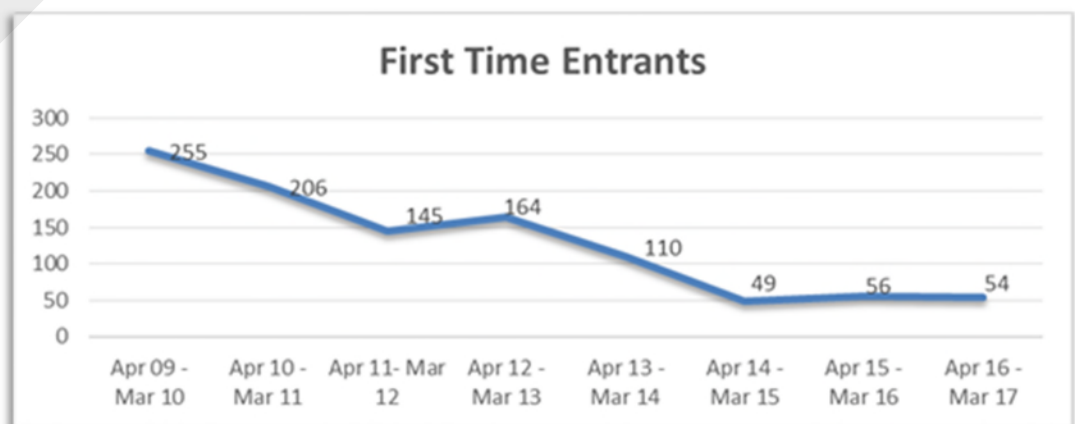
- ✘ **Three Carmarthenshire pupils left compulsory education without a qualification last year (LENQ).** This is the first time any pupil has left without a qualification for four years. All three pupils were targeted for additional interventions via the Vulnerability Assessment Profile and received additional support from their School, Educational Welfare and Childcare teams. However, due to case sensitive situations, the three pupils did not achieve a pass in an externally recognised qualification. All three young people are currently being supported by the Youth Support Service. We have moved from joint top to 14th in Wales for this measure for 2016/17. (EDU/002i)
- ✓ All **Looked After Children**, educated by the Local Authority who left compulsory education achieved an approved external qualification. Corporate Parenting Team support and the role of the Looked After Children Education Co-ordinator continues to support schools in ensuring children leave with an approved qualification. (EDU/002ii)

- ✓ There was one permanent exclusion from a Secondary school maintained by the local Authority in Academic Year 2015/16. An **offer of full time appropriate education** provision was made to the pupil on the day of exclusion. (EDU/009a)
- ✓ We increased the % of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks including exceptions from to 43.9%, above the target of 34.8 to 40.0% and an increase on the previous year's result of 34.8%. Despite an improvement, we remain in the bottom quartile and have moved from 20th to 21st position in Wales. (EDU/015a)
- ✗ The % of final statements of special educational need issued within statutory 26 weeks (excluding designated exceptions) fell from 80.0% to 71.4%. There were 10 delays in issuing final statements due to non-attendance at Education Psychology appointments. All were cases that presented with complex social and economic dynamics/issues. The Education and Child Psychologist kept the Additional Learning Needs Service informed of the challenges of some of these cases and it was agreed that the quality of the process was more important than reaching the target so that the best outcome for the child was achieved. For 2016/17 we have the worst result in Wales. (EDU/015b)
- ✓ 56.7% of children receiving care and support achieved the core subject indicator at Key Stage 2 (SCC/29a)
- ✓ 18.0% of children receiving care and support achieved the core subject indicator at Key Stage 4 (SCC/29b)
- ✓ Steady progress is being made on the safeguarding school health checks. As part of the checks both recruitment and the **Prevent** duty is considered. A recent school survey had an 80% return from e Primary school and provided good evidence to show there was a good take up of the Prevent learning module. Arrangements have been made to offer WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness about PREVENT) training to all head teachers and designated staff, this will ensure that all schools have undertaken the mandatory training. (12094)
- ✓ A review of behaviour management services was completed with outcomes including:
 - Staff remodelling at Canolfan y Gors/Day Centre in readiness for September 2017;
 - Behaviour and Wellbeing Manager's post agreed and out for recruitment in readiness for September;
 - Running a development session with school representatives in regard to how the service needs to develop/ respond to emerging needs and trends in behaviour. (12095)
- ✓ Officially launched the **Children's Rights Promise**, with Participation Officers promoting the Promise during relevant meetings and training days. (12185)

How do we know we made a difference? / Is anyone better off?

- ✓ Re-offending rates have declined by 2.5 percentage points, 37.1% compared to 39.6% the previous year, below the Welsh average of 43.6%. This is very positive progress given the nature the more complex needs of the small group of young people who go on to re-offend."

- ✓ Youth Support Service have continued to maintain the downward trend in young people entering the criminal justice system (first time entrants)"





At the inaugural **Welsh Professional Teaching Awards** held in City Hall Cardiff recently, **Susan Treacy of Ysgol Dyffryn Taf**, Whitland, won the award for supporting teachers and learners and **Susan Quirk of Ysgol Glan-y-Môr**, Burry Port was the runner up for promoting collaboration in order to improve learning opportunities award.



STAR PUPILS RECOGNISED FOR THEIR DEDICATION

Two star Carmarthen pupils have been thrust into the limelight for their commitment and dedication both in and out of school.

Luke Richards and Britany Day of Rhydygors School are celebrating after winning top awards at Radio Carmarthenshire's Young Achiever Awards 2016.

Luke took the Outstanding Secondary Progress Award for turning his life around despite being diagnosed with Autism.

Britany, aged 15 and suffers with symptomatic residual dysplasia of her right hip, walked away with the Young Carers Award for caring for her family and younger siblings.

In 2014 Luke was refusing to go to school, engage in any school work and was generally not engaging in life at home or in school. Two years on and after a lot of hard work and catching up the 16-year-old rarely misses a day, engages in school discussion, and takes a real interest in his future. Prior to Britany becoming a residential pupil in September she would leave school each day to go home and cook a meal for the whole family, wash their clothes and get her younger brother ready for school each morning. She still continues her caring role from a Friday to a Monday.



Goal: D5 Increasing the provision of childcare, education and training through the medium of Welsh

Our Review and Evaluation for 2016/17

We continue to increase the provision of:

- **Childcare** we continue to improve year on year on the number of Welsh speaking childminders, full day care, sessional care and out of school care that is provided within the County.
- **Education** we have increased the number of **Welsh Medium** places in primary schools by 238 and secondary schools by 923.
- **Training** following the national restructuring of Welsh for Adults courses in Wales, we have secured a 2 year contract to deliver Community Education Welsh and have recently tendered successfully to get on the Welsh in the Workplace national framework, to deliver training in workplaces throughout the County.

The **Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020** has been reviewed during the last 12 months in line with the most recent Welsh Government guidance, issued in September 2016. This will allow us to further promote and increase bilingual education in the County.

How did we perform during 2016/17?

Childcare

We have increased the number of **Welsh** childcare services which are provided within the County (last year's figures shown in brackets):-

- ✓ 113 registered childminders with **55** (53) of these registered as Welsh speaking childminders with **295** (283) Welsh medium child care places out of a total of 735
- ✓ 35 registered full day care with **17** (16) of these registered as Welsh speaking full day care with 630 (524) Welsh medium child care places out of a total of 1,314
- ✓ **98%** (83%) (51 Welsh / 52 in total) of **sessional care** is registered as Welsh speaking with **935** (981) Welsh medium child care places out of a total of 955
- ✓ **57%** (53%) (24 Welsh / 42 in total) of **out of school care** is registered as Welsh speaking with **653** (636) Welsh medium places out of a total of 1,161

Education

Welsh is taught as a subject to every pupil up to the end of Year 11 in accordance with the requirements of the National Curriculum.

- ✗ The % of pupils to receive a **teacher assessment in Welsh** (first language) at the end of **Key Stage 2** fell from 51.9% to 50.5% (EDU/006i)
- ✗ The % of pupils to receive a **teacher assessment in Welsh** (first language) at the end of **Key Stage 3** fell from 43.2% to 42.2%, we continue to have the 4th highest result in Wales. (EDU/006ii)

Further support and challenge for Teacher Assessment in Welsh has been carried out locally in partnership with national arrangements via the Regional Consortia. The LA continues to support schools in these processes through workshops and leadership seminars.

- ✓ The **Welsh 2nd Language Charter** has been published and is being implemented in schools. The Welsh Government are now leading on the **Welsh Medium Secondary school Charter**, in collaboration with Carmarthenshire LA and will be published in due course. (12096)
- ✓ We continued to advance all objectives of the **Welsh in Education Strategic Plan** (WESP) which are on target. (12098)
- ✓ The County Council determined on 13th July 2016 to implement a statutory procedure to **change the language category of Ysgol Bro Myrddin** from bilingual (2A) to Welsh medium (WM) which was implemented on 1st September 2016 for the 2016-17 Academic Year. (12097)

Ysgol Bro Myrddin is the first Welsh Medium category Secondary school in Carmarthenshire. The table below provides an overview of the language categories within both primary and secondary schools within the County.

School Language Category	Number of Primary schools	Number of Secondary schools
Welsh Medium	57	1
Bilingual (2A)	-	2
Bilingual (2B)	-	2
Dual Stream (DS)	11	-
Transitional School (TR)	2	-
English medium with significant use of Welsh (EW)	4	3
Welsh Medium (EM)	24	4

SEN Provision

Further work has been undertaken by the LA and ERW to ensure that all schools have access to high quality SEN resources and documentation through the medium of Welsh.

- ✓ Welsh version of ChATT Sir Gar (Speech, Language & Communication Assessment and Intervention Tool) fully established in all Primary Schools. Secondary Welsh medium provision has been strengthened by the extension of facilities and provision at Canolfan yr Eithin. Nantgaredig Welsh medium Primary Language Bases are well established.
- ✓ Newly appointed Advisory Teacher for Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) is a fluent Welsh speaker ensuring that SLCN Observations and assessments can continue to be delivered effectively through the medium of Welsh. The language outreach team continue to offer support to Primary schools and preschool settings through the medium of Welsh.

Training

- ✓ We recruited 400 learners on **Welsh for Adults** courses, doubling the target set us by the National Centre for Learning Welsh and improving on last year's figure of 292. Courses will continue till July 2017.

How do we know we made a difference? / Is anyone better off?

FIRST IN COUNTY TO WIN NEW LANGUAGE CHARTER AWARD

A Welsh medium primary school in Llanelli has become the first in the county to win a new language charter award. Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel in Llwynhendy has been given a Codi Caerau Sir Gâr Bronze Award for the progress the school and its pupils have made in promoting the use of incidental Welsh. The Language Charter aims to help bring about an increase in the social use of Welsh by children by inspiring them to use the language in all aspects of their lives. The Charter asks for all members of the school community – the school council, pupils, the workforce, parents, governors and the wider community – to contribute. Each school sets its own challenging but achievable vision.



Outcome E: People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer...

Carmarthenshire remains one of the safest areas in the UK. However, we must not become complacent and we need to continue to work together with partners to address problems identified by local communities.



Please note: The quality of this picture is due to be improved before the document is published.
Any text crossed out is not relevant to this Scrutiny.

To help improve road safety the Llanelli Scarlets backed the Carmarthenshire County Council-led campaign to tackle drink driving at Christmas.

Hooker Ken Owens and outside half Rhys Patchell joined Carmarthenshire County Council Leader Cllr Emlyn Dole to launch the seasonal campaign at Parc y Scarlets.

Goals: (as agreed in the Integrated Community Strategy with partners)

- ~~E1 - Maintaining and striving to reduce further the levels of crime that are amongst the lowest in England and Wales~~
- ~~E2 - Improving the confidence of local communities that we are tackling the issues that matter most to them and impacting on crime levels~~
- ~~E3 - Reducing anti-social behaviour by working in partnership to tackle local problems~~
- ~~E4 - Reduce the incidences of alcohol-related violence~~
- ~~E5 - Safeguarding all people from abuse, victimisation, neglect & exploitation~~
- ~~E6 - Reducing speeding and the number of road traffic accidents~~

Progress at a glance:

Outcome Measures (as set out in Corporate Strategy)	Progress
Appropriate support provided to children, young people and families as required	✓
Reduction in road casualties	✗
Reduction in total recorded crime	✗
Reduction in anti-social behaviour	✗

Goal: E5 Safeguarding all people from abuse, victimisation, neglect & exploitation

Safeguarding people from harm, abuse and neglect is our highest priority as a Council



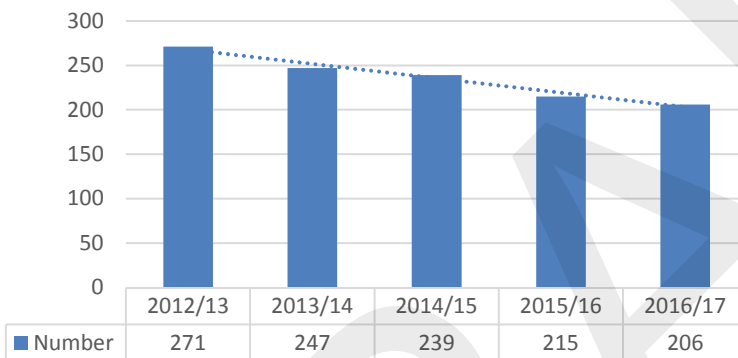
Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board’s new website, launched 14th November 2016, developed by the regional safeguarding boards for children and adults, Child & Youth Safeguarding; Unifying the Region (CYSUR) and Collaborative Working & Maintaining Partnership for Adult Safeguarding (CWMPAS).

www.cysur.wales and www.cwmpas.wales

Safeguarding Children

Our Review and Evaluation for 2016/17

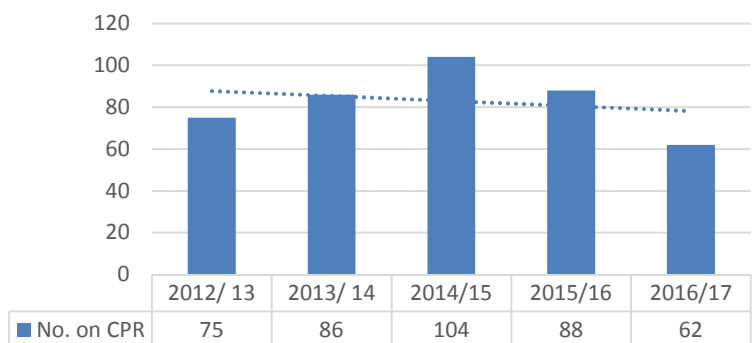
Children Looked After as at 31st March



We have continued to see reductions in the number of looked after children over the last five years from 271 during 2012/13 to **206 at the end of March 2017** (13% decrease; 10% since 2015/16).

Refocusing the work of front-line social work teams, and an increased emphasis upon preventative work has helped achieve this. The accommodation panel has had a big impact in preventing young people coming into care by providing additional support and alternative plans put into place. The ‘**Signs of Safety**’ model of practice has been implemented since June 2016, and we have seen a significant decline in the number of children on the child protection register (still living with their Family with a safeguarding plan in place).

Children on the Child Protection Register as at 31st March



During 2016/17 our key focus has been on:

- Reviewing our assessments and improving the quality of care plans; and ensuring Sexual exploitation Risk Assessments (SERAF’s) and Missing Persons Risk Assessments are completed as required.
- Implementing the Signs of Safety model, and new arrangements in respect of our leaving care services in accordance with Social Services Well-being Act (SSWBA) and ‘when I am ready’ arrangements;
- Improving placement stability
- Consolidating the Mid & West Wales regional Adoption service

We developed a new assessment form structured around the 5 elements of assessment within the SSWBA incorporating a plan for Care & Support which is person-centred, promotes well-being and is outcome-focused. Additional training has been provided to social workers on the completion of assessments, and developmental sessions held to enable workers to build on their ability to write outcome focused care plans.

The Independent Reviewing Service (IRO) has also re-developed consultation documents and processes that ensure the service is more child and outcome focused.

Mid & West Wales Adoption Service (MWAS) continues to play an active role in the National Adoption Service (NAS) contributing to both national and regional service developments. Staffing changes in one of the local authorities provided an opportunity this year to adjust the structure of MWAS. We have begun to see an increase in the number of children requiring adoptive placements, which reflects the national trend, and means MWAS will be prioritising the recruitment, assessment and approval of adopters, alongside adoption support.

During 2016/17:

- 50 'should be placed' for adoption decisions made
- 31 Placement Orders Granted
- 23 children were Placed for Adoption
- 24 Adoption Orders granted

How did we perform during 2016/17?

	Safeguarding Children Key Measures	15/16 result	16/17 result	Comment
✓	% of looked after children 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 (SCC/32)	3.9%	3.4%	Improvement
	% of looked after children with three or more placement moves (SCC/33)		11.17%	New Measure from 2016/17
	% assessments completed for children within statutory timescales (SCC/24)		82.9%	New Measure from 2016/17
	% of children supported to remain living within their family (SCC/25)		79.7%	New Measure from 2016/17
	% of looked after children returned home from care during the year (SCC/26)		24.6%	New Measure from 2016/17
	% of re-registrations of children on the Child Protection Register (CPR) (SCC/27)		10.4%	New Measure from 2016/17
	The average length of time for all children who were on the Child Protection Register during the year (SCC/28)		275 days	New Measure from 2016/17
	% of children seen by a registered dentist within 3 months of becoming looked after (SCC/30)		71.4%	New Measure from 2016/17
	% of children looked after at 31 March who were registered with a GP within 10 working days of the start of their placement (SCC/31)		94.0%	New Measure from 2016/17

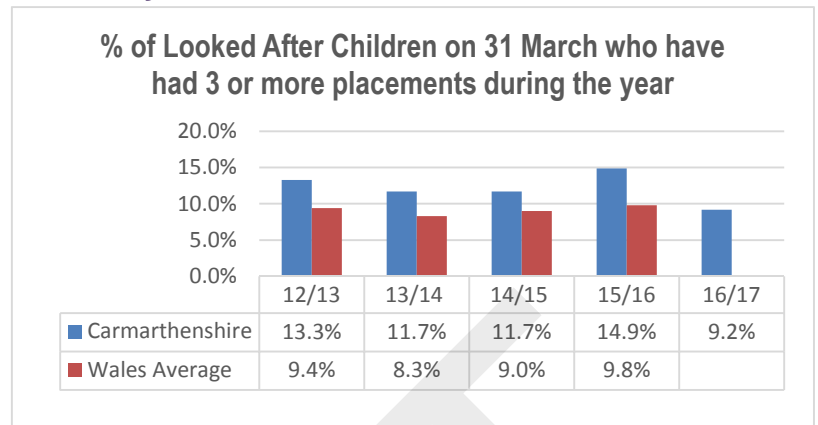
CSSIW inspection (July 2016) recognised our commitment to supporting children to remain living within their family:

"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".

[CSSIW Inspection of Carmarthenshire Children's Services - September 2016](#)

How do we know we made a difference? / Is anyone better off?

- ✓ 2016/17 has seen an improvement in the stability of looked after children with a reduction in children who have had 3 or more placement moves during the year.



- ✓ The **Signs of Safety** approach has simplified and enhanced the direct work undertaken with families. Families are clearer on what is happening and feedback has been positive as families find it more engaging and participative and focuses on the family plans and involvement of the child at the centre of the concern.

The **Next Step** (leaving care) team are increasingly providing a range of training and support for care leavers helping to reduce the number of NEET (not in Education, Employment or Training). Currently we have –

- 40 care leavers in further education,
 - 13 in full-time employment,
 - 13 on training schemes, and
 - 4 in Higher Education.
 - 30+ young people are now accessing ‘When I am ready’ arrangements and remaining with their foster carers post 18 if appropriate.
- ✓ None of our looked after children or ‘care leavers’ ended up in Bed and Breakfast during 2016/17. We are continuing to work with partners to improve accommodation options, and housing support for all vulnerable young people (aged 16-25).

The Corporate Parenting Strategy – *“If this were my child”* – emphasises the need for everyone across the council to work collaboratively in order to meet the needs of looked after children and care leavers. The Corporate Parenting Panel oversees the targets set to ensure we are doing all that a responsible parent would do.

- ✓ We are ensuring councillors are equipped in their corporate parenting role. Training has been delivered, and a commitment to undertaking training on an annual basis.
- ✓ As workers are becoming more familiar with the new Social Care Well-being Act, and following training and development, audits of assessments have shown an improvement in quality with a better focus on outcomes and engagement of children and families.
- ✓ We have reviewed the protocols in place to ensure relevant **Sexual exploitation Risk Assessments** (SERAF) and missing person Risk assessments are completed within Carmarthenshire, and regionally by CYSUR. In Carmarthenshire we decided that additional assessments will take place before the SERAF and Missing Persons Risk Assessment is completed in order to better inform the decision making.
- ✗ 88% of current foster carers have received a review during 2016/17. Although we have continued to progress in ensuring reviews are undertaken in a timely manner unfortunately we were unable to meet our target of 100% reviews being completed within timescales. We aim to improve upon this next year.

The following are results of the 2016/17 National Survey for Wales available at local authority level, but not all of these are attributable to the Councils performance.

Page 2 of 8

Where the same question was asked in the previous survey (2014/15), the table below shows whether we have improved our performance and our rank position.

Questions asked in the 2016/17 National Survey for Wales and available at Local Authority level	Has our result improved from 2014/15 to 2016/17			22 nd	21 st	20 th	19 th	18 th	17 th	16 th	15 th	14 th	13 th	12 th	11 th	10 th	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2 nd	1 st		
	2014/15 survey result	2016/17 survey result	Improved ↑ Standstill ↔ Declined ↓	Worst results											Best Results												
				Arrows start from our 2014/15 position											to our 2016/17 position												
1 Whether agree council provides high quality services	58	51	↓	24																						61	
2 Whether agree council lets people know how it is performing	42	35	↓	21																							48
3 Whether agree council does all it can to improve the area	37	36	↓	24																							53
4 Whether feel can influence decisions affecting the area	21	19	↓	12																							28
5 Whether contacted councillor in the last year	15	16	↑	10																							24
6 Of those that had contacted their councillor - Whether understand what councillor does	63	48	↓	40																							77
7 Of those that had contacted their councillor - Whether councillor works closely with local community	59	44	↓	37																							72
8 Satisfaction with child's primary school	not available	93	Not applicable	81																							99
9 Satisfaction with education system (All aspects of the education system) (Score 1-10 worst - best)	6.6	6.0	↓	5.7																							6.5
10 People feeling safe (at home, walking in the local area, and travelling)	not available	79	Not applicable	57																							91
11 Have a sense of community	not available	48	Not applicable	37																							67
12 Belonging to local area	84	70	↓	63																							82
13 People in area from different backgrounds get on	87	68	↓	62																							87

APPENDIX A

Questions asked in the 2016/17 National Survey for Wales and available at Local Authority level	Has our result improved from 2014/15 to 2016/17			22 nd	21 st	20 th	19 th	18 th	17 th	16 th	15 th	14 th	13 th	12 th	11 th	10 th	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2 nd	1 st		
	2014/15 survey result	2016/17 survey result	Improved ↑ Standstill ↔ Declined ↓	Worst results												Best Results											
				Arrows start from our 2014/15 position												to our 2016/17 position											
14	People in area treat each other with respect	83	72	↓	56																					87	
15	Household in material deprivation	17	15	↑	21																					11	
16	Keeping up with all bills and commitments without any difficulties (<i>non pensioner</i>)	not available	51	Not applicable	47																					76	
17	Keeping up with all bills and commitments without any difficulties (<i>pensioner</i>)	not available	75	Not applicable	75																					91	
18	Whether household has internet access	76	83	↑	77																					89	
19	Participating in any activity excluding walking	not available	55	Not applicable	39																					60	
20	Participating in any indoor game or activity	not available	38	Not applicable	25																					47	
21	Participating in any outdoor game or activity	not available	30	Not applicable	19																					33	
22	Participating in any outdoor pursuit	not available	54	Not applicable	25																					54	
23	Participating in any sport	not available	66	Not applicable	45																					70	
24	Agree there's a good Social Care Service available in the area (<i>elderly, children, disabled and carers</i>)	53	56	↑	44																					68	
25	Yes can speak Welsh	not available	40	Not applicable	9																					75	

APPENDIX B

The measures published by all councils in Wales	Has our result improved from 2015/16 to 2016/17		How good is our 2016/17 result?	22 nd	21 st	20 th	19 th	18 th	17 th	16 th	15 th	14 th	13 th	12 th	11 th	10 th	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2 nd	1 st	
	Our 2016/17 result	Improved ↑ Standstill ↔ Declined ↓	★ = Bottom (Worst) ★★ = Bottom to Middle ★★★ = Middle to top ★★★★ = Top (Best)	Worst results										Best Results												
	Arrows start from our 2015/16 position to our 2016/17 position																									
13	% Pupils leaving with no qualification (EDU/002i)	0.2	↓	★★																						
14	% Pupils in care leaving with no qualification (EDU/002ii)	0.0	↔	★★★★																						same joint
15	% Pupil attendance in primary schools (EDU/016a)	94.8	↓	★★																						
16	% Pupil attendance in secondary schools (EDU/016b)	94.5	↑	★★★																						
17	% Of statements submitted < 26 weeks incl exceptions (EDU/015a)	43.9	↑	★																						
18	% Of statements submitted < 26 weeks excl exceptions (EDU/015b)	71.4	↓	★																						
19	% achieving Welsh (first language) Key Stage 3 (EDU/006ii)	42.2	↓	★★★★																						same
People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer																										
20	% Looked-after children changing school (SCC/002)	3.4	↑	To follow																						
21	% Children in care with 3 or more placements in the year (SCC/004)	11.17	not comparable with previous year	To follow																						
Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable																										
22	% Change in average Display Energy Certificate score (CAM/037)	-0.3	↓	★★																						
23	% Highways inspected for high/acceptable standard (STS/005b)	98.6	↓	★★★																						
24	% Municipal wastes sent to landfill (WMT/004b)	4.73	↑	★★																						
25	% Municipal waste reused, recycled or composted (WMT/009b)	66.23	↑	★★★★																						
26	% Reported fly tipping cleared in 5 working days (STS/006)	85.92	↓	★																						
27	% Adults aged 60+ with a concessionary travel pass (THS/007)	81.4	↑	★★																						
28	% (A) (B) & (C) roads that are in poor condition (THS/012)	9.2	↑	★																						

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Measures 10 & 11 - Our results are the same as the Welsh Government publication which is based on school Year 11 cohort and includes children educated other than at school (EOTAS) which is not truly comparable with the previous year. This differs to the Local Government Data Unit publication of data on 13th September 2017 based on the 'pupils aged 15 at the start of the school year' cohort and excludes children educated other than at school (EOTAS) or Independent schools which can be compared with the previous year but still shows an improved results for Carmarthenshire with 590.6 and 64.5% respectively.

APPENDIX C

The following tables provide detailed measure by measure profiles for performance measures that are measured by all Councils in Wales

Our Key Measures of success – 2016/17 results								
Definition / Measure Reference	How well have we done?	How well are we doing?						
		See explanation of performance				All Wales Comparative Info.		
	2015/16	2016/17						
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****
Key measure(s)								
LCL/001b The number of people using Public Library Services during the year per 1,000 population	7,203	7,274	7,646	☺	▲	5,828	4,835	****
An explanation of performance is provided here when off target, poor comparative performance								

Definition: What we are measuring?
A brief description of the performance measure

Our target set for 2016/17

Did we meet our 2016/17 Target?
☺ (Yes) or ☹ (No)

The minimum performance level required to be amongst the top 5 Welsh councils

The mid-range performance within Wales

How did we perform during 2015/16?

Our final result for 2016/17

A comparison between our 2015/16 result, and our 2016/17 performance. Did we improve?
▲ (Yes) or ▼ (No)

How does our result compare with other Local Authorities?
* Worst Quartile to
**** Best Quartile

APPENDIX C

Performance measures that are measured by all Councils in Wales for 2016/17

	How well have we done?	How well are we doing?							Improvement Plan Theme
		See explanation of performance				All Wales Comparative Info.			
Definition / Measure Reference	2015/16	2016/17							
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****	
1 CHR/002 The number of working days/ shifts per full time equivalent (FTE) local authority employee lost due to sickness absence.	10.1 days	9.6 days	10.8 days	☹	▼	9.7 days	10.4 days	**	Building a Better Council
	The number of sickness days lost during 2016/17 of 10.8 days is off target and has increase by 0.7 days on last year. There continues to be an increase in sickness due to stress, mental health and fatigue which equates to over a quarter of the total sick days (26%). The second highest cause of sickness is Musculo-skeletal problems which has also increased from 15% to 18%. Human Resources are working with the Heads of Service to develop plans for improvement, this includes on-going attendance management briefing sessions at Departmental Management Team meetings. We also attend the Primary and Secondary Head Teacher meetings to discuss sickness performance and the support available. The in-house support for stress is being highlighted and managers are encouraged to undertake individual assessments if there's a cause for concern, this covers bereavement, anxiety depressions and other mental health conditions and includes home and work related stress absence. A new framework for attendance management has been developed with a the new Attendance Forum chaired by the People Management Executive Board Member, using the data to select the Head of Service to attend. It is also hoped that departmental targets will be introduced. Due to various departmental structural changes it is difficult to compare these year on year but the three highest average number of sickness days within service areas during 2016/17 are Environment Department - Waste & Environment services at 20.6 days, Communities Department - Regional Complex Needs and Transition Service at 18.8 days and Chief Executives – Information Technology at 17.5 days. Some of these figures include long term sickness cases of which are being managed through the process.								
2 LCS/002 The number of visits to local authority sport and leisure centres during the year where the visitor will be participating in physical activity, per 1,000 population	6,905	7,251	8,289	☺	▲	9,056	8,374	**	People in Carmarthenshire are Healthier
	A significant and pleasing improvement on previous year and target have occurred this year. This is attributable to a net increase of circa 55,000 attendances we directly 'manage', plus an additional 220,000 attendances now collected due to enhanced data collection methods. Given the disruption periods at Llanelli, Carmarthen and Ammanford (due to gym refurbishments) this is an excellent result.								
3 PPN/009 The percentage of food establishments which are 'broadly compliant' with food hygiene standards	94.98%	93.00%	97.50%	☺	▲	96.52%	95.04%	****	People in Carmarthenshire are Healthier

APPENDIX C

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Definition / Measure Reference	2015/16	2016/17							Improvement Plan Theme
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****	
4 PSR/002 The average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant	232 days	220 days	167 days	☺	▲	190 days	235 days	****	People in Carmarthenshire are Healthier
5 SCA/001 The rate of delayed transfers of care for social care reasons per 1,000 population aged 75 or over	New measure	2.40	2.30	☺	New measure	to follow	to follow		People in Carmarthenshire are Healthier
	This result is different to the old Delayed Transfer of Care measure for 2015/16 (SCA/001) as the new Social Care Act guidance states that the numerator should only include adults aged 75+ (now mirrors the Denominator - population aged 75+). The rate of 2.30 equates to 45 patients (aged 75+) were kept in hospital while waiting for social care during 2016/17.								
6 PLA/006b The number of additional affordable housing units provided during the year as a percentage of all additional housing units provided during the year.	8%	30%	34%	☺	▲	50%	38%	**	People in Carmarthenshire are Healthier
	The numerator is data from the affordable Housing data collection return for the year ending 31 March 2016. The denominator is data from the Newbuild data collection return for the year ending 31 March 2016 which does not only cover data from Local Authority Building Control (LABC) but also National House-Building Council (NHBC) and other Authorised Inspectors. There has been a large increase in the number of affordable housing units provided during 15/16 and a reduction in the total number of units provided during that year and therefore shows a substantial percentage increase on the previous year. This result does differ from the Councils other Affordable Housing return as this result does not include the affordable homes provided through social lettings.								
7 PSR/004 % of private sector dwellings that had been vacant for more than 6 months at 1 April that were returned to occupation during the year through direct action by the local authority.	5.73%	6.00%	6.53%	☺	▲	11.77%	6.41%	***	People in Carmarthenshire are Healthier
8 EDU/003 % of pupils assessed at the end of Key Stage 2, in schools maintained by the local authority, achieving the Core Subject Indicator, as determined by Teacher Assessment	88.2%	88.7%	89.0%	☺	▲	89.9%	88.9%	***	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
	The result continues to improve year on year and it the Authority's best result to date. The School Improvement Team will continue to support and challenge all schools with regard to increased outcomes at the end of the Key Stage 2. National arrangements to support accuracy of Teacher Assessment have been implemented and will continue to support work in our schools.								
9 EDU/004 % of pupils assessed at the end of Key Stage 3, in schools maintained by the local authority, achieving the Core Subject Indicator, as determined by Teacher Assessment	85.1%	85.6%	86.3%	☺	▲	88.2%	86.5%	**	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
	The result continues to improve year on year and it the Authority's best result to date. The School Improvement Team will continue to support and challenge all schools with regard to increased outcomes at the end of the Key Stage 3. National arrangements to support accuracy of Teacher Assessment have been implemented and will continue to support work in our schools.								

APPENDIX C

Definition / Measure Reference	2015/16	2016/17							Improvement Plan Theme
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****	
10 EDU/011 The average point score for pupils aged 15 at the preceding 31 August, in schools maintained by the local authority	580.3	581.0	596.0	☺	▲	555.6	534.5	****	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
This result continues to improve and it the best ever result for the Authority and the best in Wales. This is due to an increase in rigour of tracking and challenge from the Local Authority and ERW Consortium (Education through Regional Working). The School Improvement team will continue to challenge and support schools' and monitor performance throughout the academic year in order to meet pupil, school and Local Authority targets.									
11 EDU/017 % of pupils aged 15 achieving 5 GCSEs at grades A*-C, or equivalent, including English or Welsh first language and Maths	61.1%	61.6%	65.1%	☺	▲	65.0%	60.1%	****	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
This result continues to improved year on year with strong improvement during 2015/16 academic year. Challenge, support and intervention strategies implemented by the School Improvement Team working in partnership with senior leaders in schools (including targeting specific departmental performance) have contributed greatly to this success. The School Improvement team will continue to challenge and support schools' and monitor performance throughout the academic year in order to meet pupil, school and Local Authority targets.									
12 LCL/001b The number of people using Public Library Services during the year per 1,000 population	7,203	7,274	7,646	☺	▲	5,828	4,835	****	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
Due to increased school and young person engagement steady improvements have been made in the use of online digital resources provided by the library service. Constant promotion and marketing of the corporate website and a continued investment in digital online services aims to improve these figures further in future years.									
13 EDU/002i % of All pupils (including those 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%	0.2%	☹	▼	0.0%	0.1%	**	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
This measure is off target and has declined compared to the previous year. Three Carmarthenshire pupils left compulsory education without a qualification. All pupils were targeted for additional interventions via the Vulnerability Assessment Profile and received additional support from their School, Educational Welfare and Childcare teams. However, due to case sensitive situations, the three pupils did not achieve a pass in an externally recognised qualification. All three young people are currently being supported by the Youth Support Service. The aim is to always ensure that pupils leave full time education with appropriate qualifications. This is achieved by targeting those pupils at risk and providing targeted appropriate intervention.									
14 EDU/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%	☺	At maximum result	0.0%	0.0%	****	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential

APPENDIX C

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Definition / Measure Reference	2015/16	2016/17							Improvement Plan Theme
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****	
15 EDU/016a % of pupil attendance in primary schools	95.2%	95.4%	94.8%	☹	▼	95.3%	94.9%	**	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
Despite continued improvement in previous years there has been a slight decline in pupil attendance in primary schools during 2015/16 academic year. The All Wales comparative data shows that we have moved down from 5th place to 13th place. Analysis shows that we had a 0.1% increase in absence was due to pupil illness and a 0.3% increase in agreed family holiday. Continued improvements will be sought through increased support and challenge of schools. We will particularly consult with Headteachers to consider how to improve the two highlighted area's.									
16 EDU/016b % of pupil attendance in secondary schools	94.2%	94.4%	94.5%	☺	▲	94.5%	94.3%	***	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
The pupil attendance at secondary schools continued to improve during 2015/16 academic year and the comparative ranking shows us in 8th place which is an improvement on last year (9th) and above the Welsh average of 94.2%. Our expected ranking, based on the % of Eligible Free School Meal pupils per Local Authority is 11th, which we have exceed by 3 places with this result. Restructuring of the Education Welfare Service has improved engagement from Headteachers coupled with more accurate and regular data monitoring and sharing which has assisted in improving attendance. We aim to maintain this high level of attendance through continued challenge and support for schools.									
17 EDU/015a % of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks including exceptions	34.8%	40.0%	43.9%	☺	▲	99.1%	84.5%	*	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
Results again reflect the difficulties experienced by Health. The Hywel Dda Health Board have had continuing problems with retaining paediatricians and administrative staff, leading to delays in receiving medical assessments and further delays in typing of reports after medicals are completed. Health report having other priorities on their resources. Following a restructuring within the Local Health Board it is our intention to meet with the new managers in order to address our concerns. Internally we will continue with a range of measures to address this matter.									
18 EDU/015b % of final statements of special education need issued within 26 weeks excluding exceptions	80.0%	90.0%	71.4%	☹	▼	100.0%	100.0%	*	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
All cases that missed the target were cases that presented with complex social and economic dynamics/issues. They were also predominantly cases where there were challenges in resolving the appropriate provision for the child. The Education and Child Psychologist Service kept the Additional Learning Needs Service informed of the challenges of some of these cases and it was agreed that the quality of the process was more important than reaching the target so that the best outcome for the child was achieved. We are also receiving an influx of requests for statutory assessments from parents, which is resulting in increased work in terms of statutory and dispute resolution processes.									

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Definition / Measure Reference	2015/16	2016/17							Improvement Plan Theme
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****	
19 EDU/006ii % of pupils assessed, in schools maintained by the local authority, receiving a Teacher Assessment in Welsh (first language) at the end of Key Stage 3	43.2%	43.7%	42.2%	☹	▼	19.4%	12.9%	****	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
Despite a continued improvement over the last few years there has been a slight decline during 2015/16 academic year. The Local Authority and School Improvement Team continue to work proactively with schools, governors and parents to enhance progression along the Welsh continuum. Our ongoing Modernising Education Programme (MEP) activity supports this measure effectively.									
20 SCC/002 % 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	3.9%	5.0%	3.4%	☺	▲	to follow	to follow		People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
21 SCC/004 % of children looked after on 31 March who have had three or more placements during the year.	New measure	13.5%	0.11	☺	New measure	to follow	to follow		People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
The definition for this measure has changed from 2016/17 to include any episodes of respite care for a continuous period of more than 24 hours and therefore cannot be compared to previous years.									
22 CAM/037 The percentage change in the average Display Energy Certificate (DEC) score within local authority public buildings over 1,000 square metres.	7.2%	1.1%	-0.3%	☹	▼	4.1%	3.1%	**	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable
This result is reported retrospectively by all authorities in Wales due to delay in availability of energy consumption data from utility companies. Therefore this is the % change in the DEC score between 2014/15 and 2015/16. Whilst there is a small negative % change (increase) in the DEC scoring between 14/15 and 15/16, the 2014/15 % change result was classified as 'outstanding' at 7.2%; consequently, a difference in the year on year result was inevitable. The result is attributable to individual buildings not performing as well as in the preceding year – principally 3 Spilman Street, Carmarthen and the Municipal Offices, Llandeilo.									
23 STS/005b The percentage of highways and relevant land inspected of a high or acceptable standard of cleanliness	98.9%	92.0%	98.6%	☺	▼	98.6%	96.0%	***	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable

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Definition / Measure Reference	2015/16	2016/17							Improvement Plan Theme
	Our Result	Target	Final Result	Target Met ☺ or ☹	Did we improve ▲ or ▼	Welsh Best Quartile	Welsh Median	How we compare in Wales * to ****	
WMT/004b % of municipal wastes sent to landfill	5.25%	10.00%	4.73%	☺	▲	2.37%	4.54%	**	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable
WMT/009b % of municipal waste collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycled, including source segregated biowastes that are composted or treated biologically in another way	63.52%	62.00%	66.23%	☺	▲	65.72%	64.89%	****	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable
STS/006 The percentage of reported fly tipping incidents cleared within 5 working days	87.24%	98.63%	85.92%	☹	▼	98.22%	96.85%	*	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable
Difficulties have been experienced with this particular aspect of our cleansing service due to the temporary need to reallocate staff across to cover vacant posts in the refuse and grass collection services. The reallocation allows refuse collection to continue effectively, to meet prioritised demands. However, the impact of this situation has been a delay in responding to some fly-tipping incidents within the specified timescale during this period. The service is currently undertaking a cleansing review to improve operational efficiency and service provision. This measure therefore continues to be in the bottom quartile for 2016/17.									
THS/007 The percentage of adults aged 60+ who hold a concessionary travel pass	80.6%	79.0%	81.4%	☺	▲	92.4%	85.5%	**	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable
THS/012 The percentage of principal (A) roads, non-principal (B) roads and non-principal (C) roads that are in overall poor condition	10.7%	9.5%	9.2%	☺	▲	5.3%	6.7%	*	Carmarthenshire's communities and environment are sustainable
The Local Government Borrowing Initiative (LGBI) funding (2012-2015) and the targeted investment of Capital funding in recent years can be seen to make a direct impact on improving the combined overall condition of our A, B, and C classes of road network. The figure of 9.2% shows an improvement from 10.7% last year and is significantly below the peak in 2012/13 at 17.2%, showing a reversal of the general trend i.e. a decrease in the overall proportion of the network that is classed as being in poor condition. Following the cessation of LGBI, reductions in revenue and low levels of Capital highway infrastructure investment, Carmarthenshire is likely to remain in the bottom quartile without significant additional financial investment in the highway Asset.									



For further information contact:



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[Our Annual Report 2016/17](#)

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EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 28th SEPTEMBER 2017

Education & Children Scrutiny Committee – Annual Report 2016/17

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- That members consider and approve the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee’s annual report for the 2016/17 municipal year.

Reasons:

- The Council’s Constitution requires scrutiny committees to report annually on their work.

To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: NO

Chair of the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee – Councillor Darren Price

<p>Directorate: Chief Executive’s</p> <p>Name of Head of Service: Linda Rees-Jones</p> <p>Report Author: Michelle Evans-Thomas</p>	<p>Designations:</p> <p>Head of Administration & Law</p> <p>Democratic Services Officer</p>	<p>Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:</p> <p>01267 224010 lrjones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 224470 meevanstomas@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 28th SEPTEMBER 2016

Education & Children Scrutiny Committee – Annual Report 2016/17

The attached report has been prepared in order to comply with Article 6.2 of the County Council's Constitution which states that a scrutiny committee must:

“Prepare an annual report giving an account of the Committee's activities over the previous year.”

The report provides an overview of the workings of the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee during the 2015/16 municipal year and includes information on the following topics:

- Overview of the forward work programme
- Key issues considered
- Issues referred to or from Executive Board / Other Scrutiny Committees
- Task & Finish Review
- Development Sessions
- Member attendance at meetings

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: Linda Rees-Jones Head of Administration & Law

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

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities – In line with requirements of the County Council’s Constitution.

2. Legal – In line with requirements of the County Council’s Constitution.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Linda Rees-Jones Head of Administration & Law

1. Local Member(s) – N/A
2. Community / Town Council – N/A
3. Relevant Partners – N/A
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
Education & Children Scrutiny Committee Reports and Minutes	Meetings from September 2015 onwards: http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=153

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Education & Children Scrutiny Committee

ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

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Chair's Foreword

As the new Chair of the Committee I am pleased to present this Annual Report for the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee for the 2016/17 municipal year. The report provides a comprehensive summary of the work undertaken by the Committee during the period May 2016 to April 2017.

I would like to thank the previous Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee for their valuable input and dedication over the last year. I would also like to thank the co-opted members of the Committee, who have continued to provide a constructive input and external point of view that provide added independence to the scrutiny process. The Local Government Elections resulted in significant changes to the membership of this Committee and I am sure that the new Members are looking forward to further developing the excellent work of this Committee.

The Committee continued to play its part in terms of scrutinising performance and contributing to key Council policies and decisions within the remit of Education and Children Services. It was also pleasing to see public participation at two meetings regarding the Modernising Education Programme proposals, with parents and community representatives from Llangennech addressing the Committee with a series of questions during the consultation processes.

As part of their school visits programme Members of the Committee visited a number of different schools during the year. All the schools across the County have now received a visit since the commencement of the programme in 2009. The visits have been an invaluable experience to those members involved and have helped to inform discussions at the main committee meetings. Members have had the opportunity to see a cross-section of the county's schools and to speak with head teachers, staff, school governors and pupils. With the completion of the visits and the recent changes to the membership of the Committee the opportunity will be taken to consider the future format and focus of the visits.

I am looking forward to chairing this Committee and working with all the Members and Co-opted Members during 2017/18. I have no doubt that it will be a challenging year with some complex and difficult issues to scrutinise.

Cllr. Darren Price
Chair, Education & Children Scrutiny Committee



1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of Annual Report

The following report has been prepared in order to comply with Article 6.2 of the County Council's Constitution which states that a scrutiny committee must:

"Prepare an annual report giving an account of the Committee's activities over the previous year."

This report provides an overview of the work of the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee during the 2016/17 municipal year. The report allows Members to reflect on the achievements during the year and to identify what worked well and where improvements could be made. This analysis is instrumental in developing the work of scrutiny and the Forward Work Programme for the upcoming year.

1.2 Number of Meetings

In all, the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee met on 12 occasions between May 2016 and April 2017. Of these, 3 were joint meetings, two with the Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee in May 2016 and January 2017 and one with Social Care & Health, Environment & Public Protection, Communities and Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committees in February 2017.

1.3 The Work Programme

In the main, meeting agendas were consistent with those outlined by the Forward Work Programme for 2016/17, which was confirmed by the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on the 23rd May 2016.

The Forward Work Programme (FWP) was mainly based on key areas identified as objectives within the Integrated Community Strategy and Improvement Plan together with standard items such as performance and budget monitoring reports, action plan monitoring reports, and specific requests from the scrutiny committee itself. Additional reports were also requested by the scrutiny committee during the year and the Forward Work Programme was amended accordingly.

The development of the concept of the Forward Work Programme and the process for its agreement, has allowed each scrutiny committee to determine their own work agendas. The benefits of such an approach has led to an improved level of debate and input during scrutiny committee meetings.

1.4 Committee Remit

The Education & Children Scrutiny Committee's key responsibilities are for:

- Educational Standards & School Performance
- Inclusion & Additional Learning Needs
- Welsh Medium Education
- School Modernisation
- Adult Community Learning
- Youth Services
- Youth Offending
- School meals
- Children's Services including Social Services & Family Support Services

2. Key issues considered during 2016/17

2.1 Standard Scrutiny Monitoring Reports / Items

Half-Yearly Performance Management Reports - One of the principal roles of scrutiny committees is to monitor the performance of services and functions within its remit. They undertake this work mainly through the consideration of half-yearly performance monitoring reports and various action plan monitoring reports. The performance monitoring report provides a balanced picture of performance across the relevant service areas. The Committee considered the half-yearly performance reports for its remit at its meetings in September 2016 and March 2017.

Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Reports - The Committee received quarterly reports on the departmental and corporate revenue and capital budgets. These reports enabled members to monitor the level of spend in each area and the progress made in any capital works. As part of the scrutiny of these reports Members highlighted the delays in progressing the new primary school for Ammanford, and they were informed that it was being addressed by the Modernising Education Programme (MEP) team.

Actions & Referrals Updates - During the course of the municipal year several requests for additional items were made by Members of the Committee to assist them in discharging their scrutiny role. Quarterly reports were produced to give an update on progress and information was also circulated to members outside the formal committee meetings.

2.2 Strategic Issues / Progress Monitoring

Annual Report of the Statutory Director of Social Services on the effectiveness of Social Care Services in Carmarthenshire 2015/16 - In May 2016, during a joint meeting with Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee, Members received the Annual Report on the Effectiveness of Social Care Services in Carmarthenshire for 2015/16. Members noted that there was a statutory requirement for the Director of Social Services to report annually to Council on the delivery, performance and risks, as well as plans for the improvement of the whole range of Social Services. It was noted that the presentation of this report to scrutiny members was an important element within the development of the final document.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committees unanimously resolved to recommend the report to the Executive Board for its consideration.

OUTCOME: At its meeting on the 13th July 2016, County Council resolved to endorse the Executive Board's recommendation that the Annual Report be approved.

Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan 2016 – The Committee considered a summary of the Play Sufficiency Assessment and accompanying Action Plan. Members were reminded that Section 11 of the Children & Families (Wales) Measure 2010 placed a duty on local authorities to assess, secure and publish information on sufficient play opportunities for children in their area. Members comments included supporting local clubs in overcoming increased fees for utilising playing fields and other facilities for the County's children. It was suggested that new schools and their facilities were an ideal place for enabling play and activities outside of school hours. It was also clarified that the Service did have plans and priority areas identified in the event of any future funding becoming available.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan be endorsed for consideration by the Executive Board.

OUTCOME: At its meeting on the 20th June 2017 the Executive Board endorsed the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan 2016 for submission to the Welsh Government.

11-19 Learning Network Update – The Committee considered a report outlining the findings of the Carmarthenshire 11-19 Curriculum Review. Members were informed that the Local Authority and Coleg Sir Gar had jointly commissioned the review as both organisations considered that a shared strategic approach was needed to deliver 11-19 education and training in Carmarthenshire in the future. The recommendations contained within the report set out the actions required to implement the new curriculum and ensure that young people were both well-educated and suitably prepared for the next phase of their lives. Members queried the timescales for the joint working and it was envisaged that the plans would be in place by 2021, tying in with the introduction of the new national curriculum. The Committee asked how these proposals could be met without creating competition between providers (e.g. schools and the College). It was explained that post 16 education was viewed as a mixed economy provision and no one college or secondary school would be able to offer every possible subject or combination of subjects and partnership working

was essential. Members highlighted the lack of focus on the Welsh language and reassurances were provided that the Welsh language was at the forefront of this work.

Members asked how schools were to keep track of all the different strategies and ensure they were meeting the different requirements placed on them. Officers acknowledged this point and highlighted the role the Local Authority had in assisting and supporting schools. New planning and funding systems for post-16 education were noted.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Carmarthenshire 11-19 Curriculum Review be endorsed for consideration by the Executive Board.

OUTCOME: At its meeting on 17th October 2016, the Executive Board approved the development of a shared curriculum for young people aged 11-19 in Carmarthenshire secondary schools, Coleg Sir Gâr and local training provision; approved the implementation of the recommendations contained within the Carmarthenshire 11-19 Curriculum Review; and endorsed the suggestion referred to above with regard to a schools conference on the subject of career opportunities in the care sector.

Carmarthenshire County Council's Annual Report 2015/16 and Improvement Plan 2016/17 - In June 2016, the Committee considered the relevant extracts for its service remit from the Council's draft Annual Report 2015/16 & Improvement Plan 2016/17. The Committee noted that annual reporting was one of the prime opportunities for review, monitoring and reflection and an opportunity for the authority to capture its on-going activity around meeting the general and specific duties. It also noted that the Council was held by law to publish an Improvement Plan as soon as it is reasonably practicable after the start of the financial year (i.e. April 1st) and also publish an Annual Report on past performance by the end of October each year.

RECOMMENDATION: Unanimously resolved that the extracts be endorsed for consideration by the Executive Board.

OUTCOME: At its meeting on the 13th July 2016, County Council resolved to endorse the Executive Board's recommendation that the Council's Draft Annual Report for 2015/16 and Improvement Plan 2016/17 be approved.

Youth Support Services Business Plan 2016/17 – The Committee considered the Carmarthenshire Youth Support Services Business Plan 2016/17, which was the first one following the merger of the Youth Service with the Youth Offending Service under a single management structure. The merger had resulted in a more holistic approach to the delivery of youth support services and a more robust range of support. Areas of discussion included youth clubs, the role of voluntary organisations, the impact of reductions in funding, access to mental health services and preventing the criminalisation of young people.

TIC Project Update – The Committee received an update on the TIC Programme and an overview of the projects relating to services in the Education & Children Department which had led to significant savings in both time and money. The projects included – food orders in school kitchens,

petty cash and free school meals service. Members welcomed the developments that had been made in improving services.

Partnership Arrangements Established in West Wales under Part 9 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and the West Wales Population Assessment — The Committee considered a report on the partnership arrangements and the West Wales Population Assessment, in a joint meeting with Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee, in January 2017. The report provided an overview of partnership arrangements established within the West Wales footprint to meet the requirements within Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014, which included the establishment of a statutory Regional Partnership Board (PRB). Members were advised of work that had been undertaken on behalf of the PRB to complete an initial Population Assessment that were required to be endorsed by the statutory partners prior to publication by 31st March 2017. Members noted the positive steps that had been made, such as working towards pooled budget. The Joint Committee were supportive of the report and in a meeting of Council held on 8th March 2017 the statutory requirements in place within West Wales under Part 9 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and the partnership arrangements to meet those requirement were noted and the contents of West Wales Population Assessment were endorsed.

Carmarthenshire County Council – Well-being Objectives 2017/18 — In February 2017, all Scrutiny Committees which included the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee, met together to form a Joint Scrutiny Committee (also known as a Super Scrutiny Committee). Together, all Scrutiny Committees considered a report on the Carmarthenshire County Council's Well-being Objectives for 2017/18. The Joint Committee were informed that the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 required the Council to set Key Improvement Objectives Priorities (KIOPs) each year and that the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 required all public bodies to:-

- Set and publish Well-being Objectives
- Take all reasonable steps to meet those objectives
- Publish a statement about Well-being Objectives
- Publish an annual report of progress
- Publish our response to a recommendation made by the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales



The new Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 placed a Duty on public bodies to consider and improve the well-being of Wales, by taking into account the needs of future generations when taking decisions.

Each of the Council's Well-being Objectives 2017/18 were developed to comply with the Act, which states that public bodies must carry out sustainable development, improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. This includes the adoption of the 5 new ways of working, demonstrating that the sustainable development principle has been applied. The 5 new ways of working aims to encourage collaboration, avoid duplication of effort between public bodies and tackle some long-term challenges. In addition, in order to ensure that those public

bodies listed within the Act were working towards the same vision, the Council's well-being objectives were linked to the 7 National well-being goals which the Act had in place.

The Council is required to publish an annual report showing progress made in meeting the objectives. The Joint Scrutiny Committee made additional comments and suggestions which finalised the Well-being objectives

RECOMMENDATION: the Joint Committee resolved that subject to the inclusion of its comments and additional suggestions, the report be received and referred to the Executive Board for its consideration.

OUTCOME: At its meeting on the 8th March 2017, County Council resolved to endorse the Executive Board's recommendation that the report be approved

2.3 Schools

Examination and Teacher Assessment Results and Provisional School Attendance Data – The Committee received the provisional examination and teacher assessment results together with the provisional attendance data in September 2016. The verified results were then presented to the Committee in January 2017.

It was noted that there had been disappointing results in relation to Foundation Phase and the performance of schools with high number of pupils in receipt of free school meals, which required more examination. It was noted that schools in other Local Authority areas had performed better in relation to Welsh Language and officers confirmed that work was being undertaken to improve this. Continuing to improve attendance levels remained a priority and there had been an increase in levels in secondary schools, which was welcomed by Members.

ERW Business Plan – The Committee received an update in relation to the work of ERW during 2015/16 and the Business Plan for the consortium for 2016-19. The results of the recent Estyn inspection of the ERW consortium was noted, with four out of five aspects being rated as good and one as adequate. It was highlighted that Estyn was developing a revised inspection model for local authorities and schools. Clarification was sought on arrangements for local authority officers that were seconded to ERW. It was suggested that the school categorisation process needed to be more clearly communicated to parents, as there appeared to be some confusion over it. Concerns over the categorisation of smaller schools was also discussed. It was recognised that there were issues with the categorisation process and these had been raised with Welsh Government. It was noted that the changes as a result of the Donaldson Report may address some of these issues.

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

Categorisation of Schools — The Committee received a summary report on the National Categorisation for Carmarthenshire Schools for the 2016/17 academic year. The report highlighted the current position as well as areas for improvement. Members queries regarding sufficient number of Challenge Advisors confirmed that there was a shortage in Carmarthenshire, this shortfall was being addressed by commissioning head teachers who acted as additional Challenge Advisors. It was noted that they received the same training to ensure consistency across the service. Some concerns were expressed about pupils being entered early for exams before they were ready and officers acknowledged these concerns and informed Members that they were addressing them.

2.4 Children's Services / Safeguarding

CSSIW Inspection of Children's Services in Carmarthenshire County Council— The Committee considered a report outlining the CSSIW's findings and recommendations for Children's Services following its inspection in July 2016. The inspection took place during a period of significant changes, as the Council was in the process of implementing the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014. The Authority was also bringing in revised social work operating models across Children's Services. The inspection was piloting a revised approach to Local Authority inspection, with greater emphasis on understanding how the delivery of social services improves outcomes for children and families in need of care and support. The report was considered to be balanced and fair and officers advised the Committee that they were already implementing the recommendations. It was still early days in terms of change following the new legislation, however, good progress was being made.

Corporate Parenting Update— The Committee considered the Corporate Parenting Annual Update Report, which provided information on Corporate Parenting, unaccompanied asylum seeking children and fostering services. The report outlined the successful outcomes that had been achieved, the challenges of retaining foster carers and having sufficient staff and resources to meet the increasing demands of care leavers. It was highlighted that Corporate Parenting included young people aged between 16 and 25 years old. The Committee heard from two care leavers about their experiences and the support they had received, which provided Members with a useful insight directly from the young people themselves. Concerns were raised regarding the number of placement moves for looked after children. Officers explained how they were addressing this issue and the difficulties in recruiting foster carers for teenagers, especially as they would often have complex and challenging needs. It was noted that further recruitment was also required for mother and baby placements. It was highlighted that there was a lot of competition with other areas and Independent Fostering Agencies, however, good support and training was provided by the Council to their foster carers.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Executive Board that the Council writes to the Welsh Government supporting the proposals to develop regulations to restrict Independent Fostering Agencies making a profit from placing looked after children.

2.5 Pre-Decision Scrutiny & Consultation

Modernising Education Programme (MEP) Biennial Review – The Committee considered the updated programme for school rationalisation and investment. Members were reminded that the Council had resolved that the Programme be reviewed and revised every two years, or otherwise as required, to ensure consistency with the timeframe of the national 21st Century Schools Programme. The Committee raised concerns about rural schools not receiving sufficient investment and it was noted that the Programme was based on school viability and sustainability. The criteria detailed in the report, was used to prioritise investment.

RECOMMENDATION: that the updated Modernising Education Programme and capital programme be endorsed for consideration by the Executive Board.

OUTCOME: At its meeting on the 20th June 2017 the Executive Board approved the updated Modernising Education Programme.

Modernising Education Programme (MEP) – Proposals to Discontinue Llangennech Infant School and Llangennech Junior School and Establish Llangennech Community Primary School – This item was presented to the Committee in May and November 2016, following the statutory consultations on the proposals. It created a lot of public interest and there were public questions at both meetings.

The Committee was informed that since the inception of the Modernising Education Programme, it had been the Authority's intention to replace Infant and Junior Schools with Community Primary Schools. The schools had been federated and now the Authority now wished to proceed with a proposal to create a Community school to replace Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools. Part of the proposals was to change the linguistic category from Dual Stream to Welsh-medium. There had been extensive correspondence on the proposals. As per Welsh Government requirements the statutory proposals had been consulted upon.

There were several areas of discussion, which included policy context, catchment areas, surplus places, housing developments, school categorisation, nursery provision, number of pupils in the different language streams, impact assessments and Special Educational Needs. In addition, reference was made to the significant research into full immersion in a Welsh-medium setting was more effective than dual stream. The Committee highlighted that the objectors concerns should not be ignored and all the information was available before progressing with the proposals.

RECOMMENDATION: that being satisfied that there were no other related proposals; that the statutory proposals had been consulted upon and published in accordance with the School Organisation Code and contained all the relevant information and, having considered the consultation document and consultation report, the objections and any responses to the notice supporting the proposals in the objection report, it be recommended to the Executive Board that the proposal, as laid out in the Statutory Notice, be implemented.

OUTCOME: At its meeting on the 22nd December 2016, the Executive Board agreed that that the submission received to the Statutory Notice and the Authority's responses be noted and the proposals implemented, as endorsed by the Committee.

Modernising Education Programme (MEP) – Proposal to Change the Language Category of Ysgol Bro Myrddin from Bilingual (2A) to Welsh-Medium (WM) – The Committee considered the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Bro Myrddin from Bilingual to Welsh medium following the publication of the Statutory Notice. There were discussions regarding the difficulties in the process for changing language category.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Executive Board that it proceeds with the proposals to change the language category of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin from Bilingual 2A to Welsh-medium and implement the proposals as detailed in the Statutory Notice, as from 1st September 2016.

OUTCOME: At its meeting on 20th June 2016, the Executive Board resolved to make this recommendation to County Council and at its meeting on 13th July 2016, County Council resolved that the recommendation of the Executive Board be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION: The Executive Board be asked to recommended to County Council that it lobby Welsh Government and request to simplify the process required for changing school language categories, thus making it easier for schools to move along the Welsh language continuum and to change their language categories to Welsh-medium.

OUTCOME: At its meeting on 13th July County Council unanimously resolved the recommendation agreed by the Executive Board to lobby the Welsh Government and requests it simplify the process required for changing school language categories.

Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation 2017/18 to 2019/20— The report provided the Committee with the current proposals for the Revenue Budget for 2017/18 together with the indicative figures for the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years. Concern was expressed over school reserves. Members requested for the Executive Board to reconsider increasing the costs of school meals in primary schools. Also, to reconsider the proposal to reduce the core Special Educational Needs budget to schools. In addition, the impact of early voluntary retirements in schools was highlighted and officers reassured Members that they were being proactive in seeking to address budgetary pressures in schools.

RECOMMENDATION that:

- The Charging Digest for the Education & Children Department be endorsed.
- The Executive Board be requested to reconsider the proposals to increase school meal charges in the primary sector, to reduce SEN funding and reduce the delegated school budgets.

OUTCOME: At its meeting on 6th February 2017, the Executive Board agreed that an additional £1.76m be added to the Delegated Schools Budget, thereby bringing it back to a cash neutral position.

Five Year Capital Programme—2017/18—2021/22— The Committee considered the consultation proposals for the Five Year Capital Programme. There was some discussion over which proposals had been selected to be included in the MEP.

2.6 Policy Development and Review

Reforming the Provision of Support for Learners with Additional Learning Needs —

The Committee received a presentation outlining the transformation of additional learning needs support in Wales and the current position in Carmarthenshire. The Committee was informed that the Welsh Government was introducing the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Bill to reform the support system for children and young people with Additional Learning Needs (ALN). Members were updated on the approach being taken by the Local Authority in readiness of having to implement the new legislation, namely through workforce development, implementation / transition support, awareness raising and supporting policy.

Members raised that there could be potential savings from streamlining the system and the reduction in the number of assessments and it was confirmed that any savings would be re-directed into other services. It was noted that the main saving would be in staff time. The Bill would help to raise aspirations and expectations of all pupils. Reassurance was given to the Committee that the training of school staff would be sufficient and the Inclusion Service operated a coaching model approach.

Carmarthenshire’s Welsh in Education Strategy – 2016/17 – In June 2016, The Committee considered the updated Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) as the WESP had to be reviewed on an annual basis. The revised plan had been subject to consultation and the responses were included in the report. Progress against the targets was discussed and it was acknowledged that the targets were challenging and often influenced by other factors. It was suggested that the WESP could be incorporated into local authorities’ existing corporate strategies rather than being standalone. The Committee agreed with this proposal. There was some discussion regarding the recommendations made by the Census Working Group and providing a linguistic continuum between Welsh-medium primary and secondary schools.

RECOMMENDATION: that Carmarthenshire’s Welsh in Education Strategic Plan be endorsed for consideration by the Executive Board.

RECOMMENDED: That the Executive Board Member (Education & Children) be requested to lobby the Welsh Government and request that WESPs be incorporated into local authorities’ existing corporate strategies, rather than being considered as stand alone documents.

OUTCOME: At its meeting on 19th September 2016, the Executive Board accepted the revised WESP. The Executive Board Member for Education & Children discussed the proposal with the Welsh Shadow Minister for Education, Children, Skills & Lifelong Learning.

Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) - The Committee also considered the draft WESP in December 2016, following the public consultation period. Members received an overview of the general themes and issues arising from the consultation responses. Reference was made to the need to promote the benefits of bilingualism in education. Concerns were raised about pupils not continuing on the Welsh language continuum in secondary education.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Committee endorsed the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan to the Executive Board for its consideration.

OUTCOME: at its meeting on 23rd January 2017 the Executive Board unanimously resolved that the final version of the WESP be received and endorsed and submitted to Welsh Government.

Draft Carmarthenshire Curriculum Declaration—The Committee received a presentation outlining the proposed components of local curriculum design and offered the draft high level principles in the form of the Carmarthenshire Curriculum Declaration. Subject to approval, this blueprint would be further developed in a rolling programme between 2017 and 2021, involving school practitioners at every stage of the process. The development of a new curriculum was welcomed but it was felt that this was not solely a matter for the Education Department and all Council's departments needed to contribute in some way or another as their initiatives and activities also impacted on the communities in which the County's schools operated.

3. Task & Finish Review

The Committee did not undertake a task and finish review during 2016/17 as its previous review of the attainment gap and learners eligible for free school meals, carried over into 2016/17. The Task & Finish Group published this particular report in January 2017. The Chairman of the Committee presented the findings of the Review to the Executive Board in April 2017 and the Executive Board endorsed the recommendations.

4. Site Visits

During the last municipal year, the Committee continued with its regular programme of school visits. In all, it visited 5 schools / Children's Services facilities between May 2016 and February 2017:

- Queen Elizabeth High School, Carmarthen
- Ffairfach CP School
- Ysgol Bro Dinefwr, Ffairfach
- Rhyd-y-Gors Special School (*Representatives from each political group and the Executive Board Member only*)
- Glan-y-Môr School, Burry Port

Following its visit to Cwrt Henri in October 2015, the Committee has now visited all the County's primary, secondary and special schools, along with the 3 integrated family centres, since the programme commenced in 2009/10. In 2016/17 it began re-visiting schools, linking in with

the School Improvement Panel's work programme and the Authority's Modernising Education Programme proposals. The Committee will be considering the future format and focus of the visits for 2017/18.



5. Other Activities during 2016/17

As noted earlier in the report, the Committee received several questions from members of the pupil in regards to the Modernising Education Programme (MEP) – Proposal to discontinue Llangennech Infant School and Llangennech Junior School and establish Llangennech Community Primary School at two meetings of the Committee. This was a contentious issue and all questions submitted within the agreed timescales were heard and responded to by the Committee. This was a good example of public engagement in scrutiny, as it provided a platform for members of the public to voice their views. Public engagement in the democratic process is encouraged by all Members of scrutiny.

5.1 Development Sessions

The following all-member development sessions were held during 2016/17, to which Committee members were invited:

- Changes to Community Services in Wales (May 2016)
- Changes to the Planning System (June 2016)
- Changes to Refuse and Recycling Collection Seminar (September 2016)
- Well-being Objectives (October 2016)
- Empty Houses in the Private Sector (November 2016)
- Launch of Roadworks Information Services (November 2016)
- Curriculum Developments (November 2016)
- Corporate Parenting (February 2017)

In addition, there were several departmental budget seminars held and two Members Induction Focus Groups to assist with the development of the new induction programme following the Local Government Elections in May 2017.

6. Support for the Scrutiny Function

Support for Carmarthenshire County Council's Scrutiny function is provided by the Democratic Services Unit, based in the Administration & Law Division of the Chief Executive's Department.

Support for the Scrutiny function includes:

- Providing support and constitutional advice to the Council's Scrutiny Committees and to members of those Committees as well as producing minutes of their meetings and ensuring items arising from those meetings are actioned
- Giving support and advice in relation to the functions of the Council's Scrutiny Committees to executive and non-executive members of the Council and its officers;
- Managing the strategic development of Scrutiny in Carmarthenshire through engaging in national and regional Scrutiny networks and initiatives, supporting the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Scrutiny Forum, and the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Executive Board Forum;
- Advising and supporting the implementation of the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 as guidance is published;

- Managing the co-ordination and development of the Scrutiny forward work programmes in conjunction with Scrutiny members;
- Managing and co-ordinating Scrutiny review work, including the operation of scrutiny task and finish groups, authoring reports in conjunction with the groups, and assisting in the implementation and monitoring of completed reviews;
- Managing the Scrutiny member development programme;
- Despatching agendas for Scrutiny Committee meetings a minimum of 4 working days prior to the meeting.

For more information on scrutiny in Carmarthenshire including work programmes, task and finish reports and annual reports, visit the County Council's website at:
www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/scrutiny

To contact the Democratic Services Unit, please call 01267 224028 or
e-mail scrutiny@carmarthenshire.gov.uk



7. Committee Member Attendance

Attendance by members of the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee during the 2016/17 year is shown in the table below. A total of 9 meetings were held between May 2016 and April 2017.

Member	No. of meetings attended	%
Cllr. Ryan Bartlett	8	89
Cllr. Cefin Campbell	7	78
Cllr. Mansel Charles	9	100
Cllr. Ieuan Davies	9	100
Cllr. Peter Hughes-Griffiths	9	100
Cllr. Gwyn Hopkins	9	100
Cllr. Andrew James (as of 12 th October 2016)	2	-
Cllr. John James	8	89
Cllr. Pat Jones	3	33
Cllr. Jean Lewis	9	100
Cllr. Hugh Richards	7	78
Cllr. Tom Theophilus (until July 2016)	2	-
Cllr. Eirwyn Williams	8	89
Cllr. Jan Williams	2	22
Parent Governor Representatives		
Emma Heyes	6	67
Kate Hill	8	89
Alex Pickles	7	78
Church Representatives		
Vera Kenny	8	89
Jean Voyle Williams (from 21 Nov 2016)	4	-
Rev. Canon B Witt (until 21 Nov 2016)	0	-

Substitute	No. of meetings attended
Cllr. Jeff Edmunds	1
Cllr. Tyssul Evans	1
Cllr. Ivor Jackson	2
Cllr. Eryl Morgan	1
Cllr. Gwyneth Thomas	1
Cllr. Elwyn Williams	1

EBM	No. of meetings attended
Cllr. Gareth Jones	8
Cllr. David Jenkins	1
Cllr. Mair Stephens	1

Joint Attendance

Attendance by members of the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee at joint meetings during the 2016/17 year, is shown in the table below. The Education & Children Scrutiny Committee held 3 joint meetings between May 2016 and April 2017.

Member	Joint SC&H (i)	Joint SC&H (ii)	Joint E&C, E&PP, Comm.& P&R
Cllr. Ryan Bartlett	1	1	1
Cllr. Cefin Campbell	1	1	1
Cllr. Mansel Charles	1	1	1
Cllr. Ieuan Davies	1	1	1
Cllr. Peter Hughes-Griffiths	1	1	
Cllr. Gwyn Hopkins	N/A	1	1
Cllr. Andrew James (as of 12 October 2016)		1	1
Cllr. John James	1	1	
Cllr. Pat Jones			1
Cllr. Jean Lewis	1	1	
Cllr. Hugh Richards	1	11	
Cllr. Tom Theophilus (until July 2016)	1	N/A	1
Cllr. Eirwyn Williams	1	1	N/A
Cllr. Jan Williams	0	1	1
Parent Governor Representatives			
Emma Heyes	1		
Kate Hill	1		
Alex Pickles	1		1
Church Representatives			
Vera Kenny	1	1	1
Jean Voyle Williams (from 21 Nov 2016)	N/A		
Rev. Canon B Witt (until 21 Nov 2016)			

Substitutes	Joint SC&H (i)	Joint SC&H (ii)	Joint E&C, E&PP, Comm.& P&R
Cllr. Jeff Edmunds	1		
Cllr. Eryl Morgan	1		

Executive Board Members	Joint SC&H (i)	Joint SC&H (ii)	Joint E&C, E&PP, Comm.& P&R
Cllr. Gareth Jones	1		1
Cllr. Jane Tremlett	1	1	1
Cllr. Pam Palmer			1
Cllr. David Jenkins			1
Cllr. Linda Evans			

8. Glossary of Terms

- ALN—Additional Learning Needs
- Bilingual 2A - At least 80% of subjects apart from English and Welsh are taught through the medium of Welsh to all pupils. One or two subjects are taught to some pupils in English or in both languages.
- CP School - Community Primary School
- CSSIW - Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales
- E&C - Education & Children
- E&PP - Environmental & Public Protection
- e-FSM - (Pupils) Eligible for Free School Meals
- ERW - Education through Regional Working Consortium
- ESTYN - The Office of Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales
- FWP - Forward Work Programme
- KIOPS—Key Improvement Objectives Priorities
- PDG - Pupil Deprivation Grant
- PRB—Regional Partnership Boards
- SC&H - Social Care & Health
- TIC—Transformation, Innovation & Change Programme
- VCP School - Voluntary Controlled Primary School
- WESP - Welsh in Education Plan
- WG - Welsh Government
- WM - Welsh-Medium
- Ysgol - School

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EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

28TH SEPTEMBER 2017

Education & Children Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme for 2017/18

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- That the Committee confirm its Forward Work Programme for 2017/18.

Reasons:

- The County Council's Constitution requires scrutiny committees to develop and publish annual forward work programmes that identify issues and reports to be considered during the course of the municipal year.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: NO

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder: NOT APPLICABLE

<p>Directorate: Chief Executive's</p> <p>Name of Head of Service: Linda Rees-Jones</p> <p>Report Author: Michelle Evans Thomas</p>	<p>Designations:</p> <p>Head of Administration & Law</p> <p>Principal Democratic Services Officer</p>	<p>Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:</p> <p>01267 224010 lrjones@cararthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 224027 MEEvansThomas@cararthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

26TH SEPTEMBER 2017

Education & Children Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme for 2017/18

Purpose of the Forward Work Programme

Article 6.2 of the County Council's Constitution states that: *"Each scrutiny committee is required to develop and publish an annual forward work programme, identifying issues and reports to be considered during the course of a municipal year"*.

The development of a work programme:

- Provides an opportunity for members to determine the priority issues to be considered by their scrutiny committee over the course of the next year.
- Provides a focus for both officers and members, and is a vehicle for communicating the work of the Committee to the public. The programme (see attached report) will be published on the council's website and will be updated on a quarterly basis – www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/scrutiny – and sent to key stakeholders for information. It will also be updated on a quarterly basis.
- Ensures agreement of provisional agendas for scheduled scrutiny meetings within the council diary. The Programme is a flexible document that can be amended to reflect additional meetings and agenda items during the course of the year.

Members will recall that the Committee held an informal planning session on the 26th July, 2017 to consider the draft briefing paper and begin the process of formulating the forward work programme for 2017/18. The outcome of this meeting is now presented to the Committee in the Forward Work Programme for confirmation

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

Forward Work Programme 2017/18

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: **Linda Rees-Jones** **Head of Administration & Law**

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

- 1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities** – In line with requirements of the County Council’s Constitution.
-
- 2. Legal** – In line with requirements of the County Council’s Constitution.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: **Linda Rees-Jones** **Head of Administration & Law**

- 1. Local Member(s)** – N/A
- 2. Community / Town Council** – N/A
- 3. Relevant Partners** – N/A
- 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
Education & Children Scrutiny Committee Reports and Minutes	<p>Meetings held up to July 2015: http://online.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/agendas/eng/EDUC.asp</p> <p>Meetings from September 2015 onwards: http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=153</p>

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Education & Children Scrutiny Committee – DRAFT Forward Work Programme 2017/18

23 June 2017 (Joint with SC&H)	28 Sept 17	27 Nov 17	21 Dec 17	25 Jan 18	14 March 18	23 April 18
Annual Report of Director of Social Services 2016/17	Unverified Results 2017 Teacher Assessments and External Examinations	School Budgets (including TIC work)	3-year Revenue Budget Consultation	School Performance and Achievement 2016/17 – (including discrepancies between WG Categorisation & Estyn Judgements)	Q3 Performance Monitoring Report 2017/18	Corporate Parenting & Safeguarding Panel Annual Report 2017
	Youth Support Service Business Plan 2017/18	Half-Year Compliments & Complaints Report 2017/18	5-year Capital Programme Consultation	School Leadership - Footprint/Federation of schools (including update on recent Stats Release including school sizes and leadership info.)	Budget Monitoring 2017/18	Task & Finish Review 2015/16 Action Plan Monitoring
	Q1 Performance Management Report for the Council's 2017/18 Well-being Objectives	ERW Business Plan 2017/18 & Review of 2016/17. (including update on curriculum changes).	Education and Children's Services Business Plan 2018/19	11 – 19 Learning Network Update (TBC)	WG Categorisation of Schools 2018	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) (including pupils transferring from Welsh medium primary to Welsh medium secondary schools)
	Budget Monitoring 2017/18	MEP Proposals – Llanedi / Bancffosfelen / Laugharne	Actions & Referrals Update			Actions & Referrals Update
	Adoption Annual Report	New Children's Zone				
	Carmarthenshire County Council's Annual Report 2016/17	Fostering Annual Reports				
	Education & Children Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2016/17	Behaviour Services Review				

Education & Children Scrutiny Committee – DRAFT Forward Work Programme 2017/18

23 June 2017 (Joint with SC&H)	28 Sept 17	27 Nov 17	21 Dec 17	25 Jan 18	14 March 18	23 April 18
	Education & Children Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2017/18					
	Modernising Education Programme – Increase in Capacity for Gorslas School					
	Modernising Education Programme – Increase in Age Range for Ysgol Parc y Tywyn					

ITEMS FOR JOINT MEETINGS IN 2017/18:

- Disability Review – Joint with SC&H – TBC
- CSSIW Inspection, Evaluation & Review of Local Authority Services – Joint with SC&H - TBC

ITEMS CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS WORK PROGRAMME:

- Music Service / Music in Donaldson Agenda

ANNUAL ITEMS (TBC)

- Regional Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report
- Modernising Education Programme (MEP) Biennial Report
- School Improvement Panel Annual Report School

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS:

- Elective Home Education (Committee Only)
- Safeguarding (All Members)
- Fostering & Looked After Children (All Members)
- ALN Reform – Including SEN (All Members)

SITE VISITS:

- Rota of 5/6 Members with Chair or Vice Chair to visit schools. Focus to be on school improvement. 5 Per Year.

- Schools Organisation Code
- Preventative Services / Team Around the Family
- Families First Recommissioning

TASK & FINISH REVIEW SUGGESTIONS:

- Task & Finish Review 2015/16 Action Plan Monitoring (April 2018)
- Fostering (Recruitment of Foster Carers)
- Placement Stability
- Performance at Foundation Phase

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EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 28th SEPTEMBER 2017

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF GORSLAS COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL FROM 110 TO 210

To consider and comment on the following issues:

1. the proposal as outlined in the attached Consultation Document;
2. officers to initiate a formal consultation on the proposal during the Autumn Term 2017;
3. that a report back to the Executive Board is submitted at the end of the statutory consultation period.

Reasons:

- To comply with statutory procedures and guidance in relation to school re-organisation.
- To formulate views for submission to Executive Board for consideration.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: YES – 23rd October

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder: Cllr. Glynog Davies (Education & Children)

<p>Directorate: Education & Children</p> <p>Name of Head of Service: Gareth Morgans</p> <p>Report Author: Simon Davies</p>	<p>Designations:</p> <p>Director of Education & Children's Services</p> <p>Modernisation Services Manager</p>	<p>Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:</p> <p>01267 246522 EDGMorgans@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 246471 SiDavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**EDUCATION & CHILDREN
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
28th SEPTEMBER 2017**

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

**PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF GORSLAS
COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL FROM 110 TO 210**

Background

Gorslas Primary School is a Welsh medium primary school located in the centre of the village of Gorslas, near Cross Hands. The school has a capacity for 110 pupils between the ages of 4-11 years old. The school was established in the 1920's and caters for pupils within the area of Gorslas and the surrounding areas. Over the last few years, the demand for Welsh medium education in Carmarthenshire has been increasing and this is also true for pupil numbers at the school, where the school is currently over capacity **(further details on the capacity issues are documented within the attached Consultation Document)**.

A review of the problems, difficulties and service gaps associated with the existing arrangements at Gorslas Primary school has clearly established that:

- There is a misalignment between the capacity of the school and the demand for Welsh medium education places.
- The existing school building does not meet Carmarthenshire's standards in terms of the facilities it offers and the area space required.
- The site and buildings are insufficient in meeting the needs of the wider community.
- Staff and pupils have to transfer between the mobile classrooms and the main school building.
- There is insufficient space, indoor and outdoor, to deliver and enhance the Foundation Phase curriculum and play opportunities for all learners.
- Access/car parking at the school is limited and causes disruption at school drop off/pick up times.

On 20th June 2016, the Executive Board approved a revised Modernising Education Programme and 21st Century Schools Band A Programme and within Carmarthenshire County Council's 21st Century Schools Band A funding envelope of £86.7m a scheme is being developed to provide Gorslas Primary School with a new school building which will address the issues noted above.

It is proposed that the capacity of the new school will be 210, which will allow the school to accommodate current and future demand for Welsh medium education places. The new school building will also provide space to accommodate a 30 place external nursery and facilities suitable for teaching and learning in the 21st Century. The scheme is currently in development and it is proposed that the new school building will be ready for occupation by 1st September 2019.

As it is proposed to increase the capacity of the school by more than 25% of its current capacity (110), a statutory process must be followed in accordance with the School Organisation Code 2013 to formalise this arrangement.

Proposal

Due to the increase in demand for Welsh medium education places, the Local Authority propose to increase the capacity of Gorslas Primary School from 110 to 210 from 1st September 2019 when occupation at the new school building is proposed.

Recommendation

That the ECS Scrutiny Committee endorses the proposal and recommends to the Executive Board that a formal consultation be initiated.

**DETAILED REPORT
ATTACHED?**

YES – Consultation Document

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: **G. Morgans** **Director of Education & Children's Services**
 S. Davies **Modernisation Services Manager**

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

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

Developments are consistent with the Authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2014-2017, Corporate Strategy, Children and Young People's Plan and the Modernising Education Strategic Outline Programme.

2. Legal

Appropriate consultation will need to be initiated in accordance with the relevant statutory procedures.

3. Finance

Revenue implications will be catered for within the Local Management of Schools Fair Funding Scheme.

4. ICT

None

5. Risk Management Issues

Continuing with the current capacity of the school would not reflect the present position and would not address the capacity issues experienced. The statutory consultation is required to formalise the arrangements. The proposal to increase the capacity of Gorslas Primary School from 110 to 210 may impact on the demand for school places within the area. The situation will be monitored as part of the Schools Admission Process and ongoing data forecasting and analysis through the Authority's Modernising Education Programme.

6. Physical Assets

As a result of the scheme to provide Gorslas Primary School with a new school building, the school will re-locate to a new building with a capacity of 210 school places.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: **G. Morgans** **Director of Education & Children's Services**
 S. Davies **Modernisation Services Manager**

1. Scrutiny Committee – The Scrutiny Committee will be fully consulted during the formal consultation period.

2. Local Member(s) – Local members have been fully informed during the progression of the scheme and will be consulted during the formal consultation period.

3. Community / Town Council – Gorslas Community Council have been consulted throughout the progression of the scheme and will be consulted during the formal consultation period.

4. Relevant Partners – All relevant partners will be consulted during the formal consultation period.

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – Staff side representatives and other organisations will be consulted during the formal consultation period.

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

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Strategic Outline Programme 21 st Century Schools	Strategic Outline Programme 21 st Century Schools
Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2014-2017	http://gov.wales/topics/educationandskills/publications/guidance/welshmededstrat/?lang=en
MEP Biennial Review	www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk Executive Board 20 th June 2016

Department for Education and Children

Our Vision.....Carmarthenshire is a community where children are safe and nurtured and learners of all ages are supported to achieve their full educational potential

Consultation on the proposal to increase the capacity of Ysgol Gynradd Gorslas from 110 to 210.

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Gareth Morgans

Director – Department for Education & Children



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

Modernisation Services Section

Simon Davies, Modernisation Services Manager

If you require this information in large print, Braille or on audiotape please contact the Department for Education & Children

Telephone: 01267 246618

E-mail: DECMEP@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Foreword

As part of its statutory obligation to keep the number and type of school places under review, the County Council has adopted a wide-ranging programme designed to improve school buildings and enhance opportunities for learning. The strategy reflects the vision and policies established by the County Council which embraces the requirement to deliver services, to clear standards – covering both cost and quality – by the most economic and effective means. In our drive to continually improve on the services made available to all learners, we must maximise the finite resources available to the Council, and continue to work in partnership with all those who have a contribution to make to the process of learning and the well-being of both children and their families. Schools of the future will need to serve as a focus for a wide range of services dedicated to serving the needs of the community through a joined up approach.

Carmarthenshire is blessed with many very able teachers but the continuing changes to the curriculum places a heavy demand on their skills to meet the wide ranging demands of all children. Although the processes of learning, and skills of teaching, are extremely important, deep subject knowledge on the part of the teacher is essential if learners with their various gifts in different areas are to discover and develop their talents to the full.

Schools designed to meet current demands are expected to provide a broad and balanced curriculum through high quality and inspirational teaching. In the planning of new provision it will be important to ensure that our schools are properly equipped to enhance opportunities for social inclusion, sustainable development, equal opportunities and bilingualism. In practical terms we need to ensure that provision reflects the changing patterns of population, with schools based in the right location with accommodation and facilities fit to serve the needs of all learners in the twenty first century.

Consultation will follow the guidelines established by the Welsh Government and will involve identified interested parties. The information set out in this document is intended to clarify the proposals for your school and support the consultation process.



Gareth Morgans

Director – Department for Education & Children

Glossary of Abbreviations

ALN	Additional Learning Needs
AN	Admission number
CCC	Carmarthenshire County Council
CP	Community Primary
DS	Dual Stream
EM	English medium
Estyn	Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
LA	Local Authority
MCSW	Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales
MEP	Modernising Education Programme
NOR	Number on Roll
PLASC	Pupil Level Annual School Census Data
PT	Part time
WESP	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan
WG	Welsh Government
WM	Welsh medium

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1. Introduction

The County Council has its legal responsibility to review the number and type of school it has in the area and whether or not it is making the best use of the resources and facilities to deliver the opportunities that children deserve.

As part of this process the Council has published its vision on how it sees the future for all of the primary schools in the County and this includes consulting on the future shape of education in the Gorslas area. The proposals for change included in this document are in line with that long term objective.

This document seeks to stimulate the process of consultation by explaining the Authority's preferred option for the future provision of primary education for the pupils of the Gorslas area. The document offers an opportunity for consultees to put forward any comments, observations or alternative proposals they wish to be considered.

Consultation on this proposal will follow the guidelines established by the Welsh Government as stated in the School Organisation Code (2013) and will involve identified interested parties, including school governors, school staff, parents and pupils.

It is intended that the formal changes be implemented from September 2019 when occupation is proposed at the new building.

The main purpose of this document is to provide information and to gather the views of identified interested parties. You may wish to make use of the attached response pro-forma included in **Appendix E** on the last page of this document or by e-mail to: DECMEP@carmarthenshire.gov.uk for any response.

2. Context – Present Arrangements (Status Quo)

2.1 Background

Gorslas Primary School is a Welsh medium primary school located in the centre of the village of Gorslas, near Cross Hands. The school has a capacity for 110 pupils between the ages of 4-11 years old. Gorslas Primary School was established in the 1920's and caters for pupils within the area of Gorslas and the surrounding areas. Over the last few years, the demand for Welsh medium education in Carmarthenshire has been increasing and this is also true for pupil numbers at the school, where the school is currently over capacity.

A review of the problems, difficulties and service gaps associated with the existing arrangements at Gorslas Primary school has clearly established that:

- There is a misalignment between the capacity of the school and the demand for Welsh medium education places.
- The existing school building does not meet Carmarthenshire's standards in terms of the facilities it offers and the area space required.
- The site and buildings are insufficient in meeting the needs of the wider community.
- Staff and pupils have to transfer between the mobile classrooms and the main school building.
- There is insufficient space, indoor and outdoor, to deliver and enhance the Foundation Phase curriculum and play opportunities for all learners.
- Access/car parking at the school is limited and causes disruption at school drop off/pick up times.

As a result, it is the Local Authority's intention to provide Gorslas Primary School with a new school building suitable for teaching and learning in the 21st Century with space to accommodate an external nursery. In relation to the new school building, the proposal is to increase the capacity of the school from 110 to 210 when the new school building is ready for occupation. The proposal at Gorslas is a key element of the Modernising Education Programme in that it will deliver a key element of the future strategic provision for future primary education in the Gorslas area.

2.2 Schools which may be affected by this proposal

The catchment area of Gorslas Primary School is surrounded by the following Community Primary Schools:

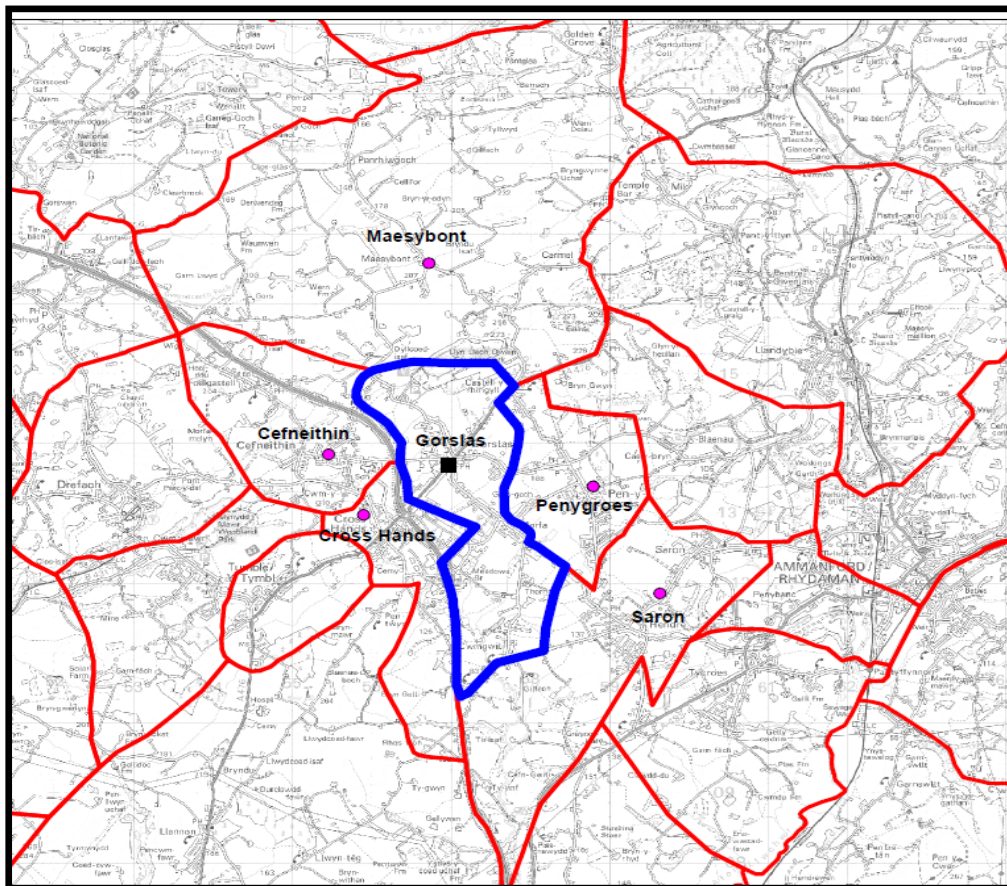
Maesybont Primary School, Maesybont, Llanelli, SA14 7SU
Cefneithin Primary School, Cefneithin, Llanelli. SA14 7DE
Cross Hands Primary School, Cross Hands, Llanelli, SA14 6SU
Saron Primary School, Saron, Ammanford, SA18 3LH
Penygroes Primary School, Penygroes, Llanelli, SA14 7NT

2.3 General School Information

Name of School	Type of School	Language Category	Admission Number	Capacity	NOR – January 2017 PLASC	Nursery age pupils – January 2017 PLASC	Total Head Count - January 2017 PLASC	Age Range
Gorslas	Community Primary	WM	13	110	107	15	122	4-11
Maesybont	Community Primary	WM	5	44	22	1	23	4-11
Cefneithin	Community Primary	WM	12	97	69	7	76	4-11
Cross Hands	Community Primary	WM	19	168	118	26	144	3-11
Saron	Community Primary	WM	30	240	208	21	229	4-11
Penygroes	Community Primary	WM	23	186	171	10	181	4-11

WM – Welsh Medium

The following diagram outlines the catchment areas of schools surrounding Gorslas Primary School's catchment area.



2.4 Pupil Numbers

The table below shows the pupil numbers for Gorslas Primary School for January 2017 and the previous four years:

Gorslas Primary School	3yrs (PT)	3yrs	4yrs (PT)	4yrs	5yrs	6yrs	7yrs	8yrs	9yrs	10yrs	NOR	Nursery Age Pupils	Total Head Count
Jan-17	0	15	0	15	14	16	14	23	13	12	107	15	122
Jan-16	0	3	0	14	16	12	21	13	14	18	108	3	111
Jan-15	0	6	0	15	10	22	13	14	19	13	106	6	112
Jan-14	0	6	0	10	22	13	14	20	13	13	105	6	111
Jan-13	0	5	0	23	15	14	20	13	13	12	110	5	115

2.5 Pupil Projections

The following table shows the actual pupil total and the pupil projections for the next five years for Gorslas Primary School.

	Actual (Total Head Count) Jan 2017	Projected Pupil Total (Total Head Count)				
		Jan 2018	Jan 2019	Jan 2020	Jan 2021	Jan 2022
Gorslas Primary School	122	127	129	122	124	124

2.6 Pupil Capacity Information

The methodology for the calculation of school capacities was changed in 2006 following the implementation of new Welsh Government guidelines "Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales" (MCSW) which was implemented by the Authority in 2008. Prior to 2008, the More Open Enrolment methodology was used. Spare places numbers for Gorslas Primary School are shown in the following table.

	MSCW Capacity				
	Jan-17	Jan-16	Jan-15	Jan-14	Jan-13
Gorslas Primary School Capacity	97	95	104	104	104
Pupil Numbers (NOR)	107	108	106	105	110
Surplus	+10	+13	+2	+1	+6
% Surplus	10.30% over capacity	13.68% over capacity	1.92% over capacity	0.96% over capacity	5.77% over capacity

As can be seen from the table, Gorslas Primary School has been over capacity for a number of years. This proposal will have a significant positive impact on the capacity issues at the school, as is clearly demonstrated by the table.

2.7 School Attendance Data

Improving attendance is a national priority, if children are not in school, they cannot learn.

The Authority analyses and shares data for every primary school on a half-termly basis to help schools to maintain a focus on attendance. The analysis uses data for pupils in years 1 to 6 and follows the same approach as the statutory attendance return each September. The most recent attendance data for the school is shown in the following table:

School	Attendance Data 13/14	Attendance Data 14/15	Attendance Data 15/16
Gorslas Primary School	94.6	94.9	94.4

2.8 Building Facilities

Gorslas Primary School was built around the 1920's and is located on a flat site in the centre of the village. The school is of a brick walled and slate roofed traditional construction with a flat roofed corridor extension at the front and an extension to the rear accommodating the toilet facilities.

The following information was taken from the most recent property building survey carried out at the school in 2010 by EC Harries as part of the National 21st Century School Programme assessment of all schools in Wales on behalf of the Authority.

The school was banded from A to D according to building condition and ranked in priority from 1 to 3 depending on when the work was recommended to be carried out

Condition	
A	Good (No Deterioration)
B	Satisfactory (Minor Deterioration)
C	Poor (Major Deterioration)
D	Bad (Life Expired)

Priority	
1	Urgent (Year 1)
2	Essential (Year 2)
3	Desirable (Years 3 to 5)

The suitability of the building as an education resource was also banded from A to D as shown in the following table:

Suitability	
A	Good – Suitable levels for teaching, learning and well-being in schools
B	Reasonable – Behaviour / morale and management adversely affected
C	Poor – Teaching methods inhibited
D	Bad – Severe situation and / or unable to teach the curriculum

The findings from the survey for Gorslas Primary School is as follows:

School	Condition Rating	Suitability Rating
Gorslas Primary School	B3	B

In October 2015, the Authority conducted a further desktop exercise to review the existing school buildings. It was determined that the condition of Gorslas Primary School had **deteriorated** during this period.

School	Condition Rating	Suitability Rating
Gorslas Primary School	C	B

2.9 National School Categorisation System

The Minister for Education and Skills announced the introduction of the national School Categorisation System in September 2014. The system is not purely data-driven but also takes into account the quality of leadership and teaching and learning in our schools. The system will not take the place of Estyn reports, Estyn will continue to inspect schools and provide an external check on the national school categorisation system when inspecting.

The new system evaluates and assesses schools and places them in a support category using the following information:

- A range of performance measures provided by the Welsh Government.
- Robust self-evaluation by the school on its capacity to improve in relation to leadership and teaching and learning.
- Assessment of the school's self evaluation by challenge advisers in the regional consortia, agreed with the local authority.

The new categorisation system will give a clear and fair picture of a school's progress. There is a three step process in generating a category for a school, firstly after the performance data and self-evaluation have been analysed a draft support category is generated for each school. This category is discussed with the school by regional consortia and then agreed with the local authority.

There are four support categories:

Green Support Category	A highly effective school which is well run, has strong leadership and is clear about its priorities for improvement. These schools have a track record in raising the standards that pupils achieve and have the capacity to support other schools to do better.
Yellow Support Category	An effective school which is already doing well and knows the areas it needs to improve. By identifying the right support and taking action, it has the potential to do even better.
Amber Support Category	A school in need of improvement which needs help to identify the steps to improve or to make change happen more quickly. Through discussions with the regional school improvement service and local authority, the school will receive a tailored package of support.
Red Support Category	A school in need of greatest improvement and will receive immediate, intensive support. Progress will be closely monitored to make sure that the necessary improvements take place as quickly as possible.

The table below summarises the data for Gorslas Primary School for 2016/2017;

School	Standards Group*	Improvement Capacity*	Support Category
Gorslas	1	B	Yellow

* Framework and criteria for self-evaluation and ability to self-improve in relation to leadership, teaching and learning (standards group 1–4, with 1 being the highest group and 4 the lowest), and the capacity to improve (A–D, schools with an improvement capacity of A showing the greatest capacity to improve and those with an improvement capacity of D showing the least capacity to improve).

As can be seen from the table above Gorslas Primary School has been categorised in the Yellow category reported as an effective school which is doing well and knows the areas it needs to improve.

2.10 Estyn Inspections

As part of a national programme of school inspections, Estyn commissions reviews of all schools. The most recent Estyn inspection for Gorslas Primary School took place in March 2014 and consultees may access the finding either via the Estyn website at www.estyn.gov.uk or you may request a copy from the Local Authority (for which a charge in respect of photocopying may be made).

During each inspection, inspectors aim to answer three key questions. Inspectors also provide an overall judgement on the school's current performance and its prospects for improvement. In these inspections, inspectors use a four point scale:

Judgement	What the judgement means
Excellent	Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice.
Good	Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement.
Adequate	Strengths outweigh areas for improvement.
Unsatisfactory	Important areas for improvement outweigh strengths.

The inspection judgements awarded for Gorslas Primary School are shown in the following table:

Summary	Inspection Judgement
The school's current performance	Adequate
The school's prospects for improvement	Good
Key Questions	Inspection Judgement
How good are the outcomes?	Adequate
How good is provision?	Good
How good are leadership and management?	Good

Following the inspection in March 2014, Estyn evaluated the school's progress during a monitoring visit in June 2015. It was judged that that the school had made good progress in respect of the key issues for action and therefore was subsequently removed from the list of schools requiring Estyn monitoring.

3. Evaluation of Present Arrangements

3.1 Quality and standards in education

3.1.1 Outcomes (standards and wellbeing)

As noted in section 2.10, Estyn inspected Gorslas School in March 2014, judging its Current Performance to be 'Adequate' and its Capacity to Improve to be 'Good.' The school's good progress against the recommendations then witnessed its removal from the 'Estyn Monitoring' category in June 2015. Since then, the school has continued to strengthen and improve outcomes for pupils, achieving Welsh Government Standards Group 1 status in January 2017. This reflects the Core Subject Indicator at the end of KS2 continuing to improve over the last four years in addition to other specific areas of improvement in end of Key Stage outcomes. In addition to such achievements, the school focuses strongly on developing all pupils' wellbeing. This is well-evidenced through pupils consistently demonstrating high levels of understanding, care, politeness and courtesy. The school prides itself on the standards of pupil behaviour and emotional well-being. This makes a significant contribution to an ethos that promotes and supports effective learning throughout the school.

3.1.2 Provision

The school continues to enhance and refine its provision for all pupils in a creative and sustainable manner. Staff interact well through collaborative planning systems which are effective in underpinning a strong school ethos of a joint community approach focused on high expectations. This work has resulted in progress and improvement on an annual basis across the school. Effective interventions are extended to all pupils who have specific individual needs. These are identified in an early and supportive manner, linking with parents and partners to ensure the highest levels of provision relevant to each child. The quality of teaching continues to flourish and benefit from specifically targeting areas such as AfL strategies, consistency in pupil feedback and marking etc. The school's provision also benefits greatly from an effective team of support staff working in close collaboration with teachers and pupils.

3.1.3 Leadership and Management

The Governing Body, Headteacher and staff share an enthusiastic and defined vision for their school. An effective model of distributed leadership has evolved across the school resulting in clear improvements in pupil provision and outcomes. An ongoing culture of high expectation exists throughout the school. As a result, teachers, staff and governors are industrious, passionate and wholly focused on developing every child to his/her full potential within a fully inclusive environment. The school benefits from a wide range of effective partnership working with parents, the community and networks of schools and various support agencies.

3.1.4 Impact of the proposal on Quality and Standards in Education

The proposed revised provision will provide all pupils currently educated at Gorslas School with access to an enhanced school environment. This will facilitate further improvement upon the existing good standards, provision and leadership.

3.2 Need for places and the impact on accessibility of schools

The Local Authority has considered the sufficiency of places and the likely demand for places in the future. Over the last few years, the demand for Welsh medium education in Carmarthenshire has been increasing and this is also true for demand at Gorslas Primary school, where the school is currently over capacity. As can be seen in section 2.6, the school has been over capacity for the last five years and as a result a mobile classroom was installed in September 2015, with a further additional mobile installed ready for academic year 2017/2018.

In addition, based on January 2017 PLASC data:

Number of pupils living within Gorslas Primary School catchment area attending Gorslas Primary School	78
Number of pupils living within Gorslas Primary School catchment area but attending other schools	140
Total number of pupils living within the Gorslas Primary School catchment area	218

Whilst not all pupils living within the Gorslas Primary School catchment area are currently attending the school, the Local Authority is proposing to increase the capacity of the school from 110 to 210 to manage current and future demand for Welsh medium education places.

3.3 Resourcing of education and other financial implications

3.3.1 Surplus Places / Capacity Issues

As documented in section 2.6, the school is currently over capacity and has been for the last few years. As a result, a mobile classroom was installed in September 2015 and a further additional mobile classroom was installed ready for the 2017/2018 academic year. As there is a clear misalignment between the capacity of the school and the demand for Welsh medium education places, this proposal will alleviate the current capacity issues at the school and will ensure that there is sufficient number of places available to accommodate future demand.

3.3.2 Transport Costs

Transport arrangements will be made in accordance with the County Council's home to school transport policy. There will be no change to transport costs.

3.3.3 Capital Costs / Capital Receipts

Within Carmarthenshire County Council's 21st Century Schools Band A funding envelope of £86.7m a scheme is being developed to provide Gorslas Primary School with a new school building. This will be funded by the Welsh Government and the Local Authority subject to business case approval by Welsh Government.

Any capital receipts received as a result of the scheme to provide Gorslas Primary School with a new school building will be re-invested into the Modernising Education Programme.

3.3.4 School Budgets

Based on 2017/18 data the budget cost per pupil is £3,354 at Gorslas Primary School which is lower than the county average of £3,649.

4. Objectives

Our vision in Carmarthenshire is to provide viable, sustainable and efficient schools which are fit for purpose for the 21st Century with the right school in the right place for current and future pupils ensuring access to high quality learning opportunities for all children. Our long term aim as part of our 21st Century Schools Programme is to create school learning environments that meet the needs of the communities and provide the best learning provision for the area.

The mission of our Modernising Education Programme is to:

“transform the network of nursery, primary and secondary schools serving the county into a strategically and operationally effective resource that meets current and future need for school based and associated community focused education, where appropriate investing in the development and improvement of buildings, infrastructure and spaces, so that schools are appropriately located, designed, constructed or adopted to foster the sustainable development of the people and communities of Carmarthenshire.”

The strategic aims of our Modernising Education Programme are to:

- Develop a schools network that is educationally sustainable and resource efficient for the long term.
- Develop a structure of provision so that every learning setting is capable of providing a high quality education to all of its registered learners, either as an individual institution or as part of a formal federation or collaboration with other settings or providers.
- Develop infrastructure at all schools that is equipped for learning in the 21st century and supports the achievement of core objectives for raising educational standards and maintaining them at high levels of performance.
- Deliver a strategic approach to capital investment, integrated with a programme for the rationalisation of provision across the schools network to effectively match supply with demand.
- Rebuild, remodel, refurbish or modernise all school settings that are to be retained for the long-term, so that they conform as closely as practicable with adopted design standards.
- Contribute to the achievement of wider policy objectives, for example, community regeneration and renewal, healthy lifestyles, etc, through the development of appropriate enabling infrastructure.

- Improve the efficiency and educational viability of the schools sector by reducing the number of empty places to a reasonable level, whilst facilitating wherever practicable the expression of parental preference, responding effectively to demographic change.
- Configure schools and invest in modern school premises so that the whole school system in Carmarthenshire is equipped to support the effective implementation of the Schools Effectiveness Framework and secure improving outcomes for children and young people.

The strategic objectives of the MEP align neatly with the national objectives;

- Improved learning environments for children with better educational outcomes.
- Greater economy through better use of resources to improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the education estate.
- A more sustainable education system reducing the recurrent cost and carbon footprint.

5. Options for Change

In developing a preferred option the Authority considered a range of alternative options. Each option was evaluated against key objectives and criteria to determine which options best suited the aspiration of Carmarthenshire to provide a viable and sustainable school which is suitable for teaching and learning in the 21st Century.

5.1 Main Options Considered

Option 1	Status Quo – Maintain the school in its present format with no investment.
Option 2	Increase the capacity of Gorslas Primary School by 30 places (by installing a mobile classroom).
Option 3	Increase the capacity of Gorslas Primary School to 180 places (by refurbishing the current school building and constructing a new block at the existing site).
Option 4	Increase the capacity of Gorslas Primary School to 210 places (by providing a replacement building).

5.2 Advantages / Disadvantages of Each Option

Option 1	
Status Quo - Maintain the school in its present format with no investment	
Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change for stakeholders. No statutory procedures necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This option does not address the current capacity issues at the school. This option does not allow opportunities to increase the number of pupils accessing Welsh medium education at the school. Does not allow the highest quality teaching and learning provision. There is insufficient space, indoor and outdoor, to deliver and enhance the Foundation Phase curriculum and play opportunities for all learners.

Option 2	
Increase the capacity of Gorslas Primary School by 30 places (by installing a mobile classroom)	
Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change for stakeholders. • No statutory procedures required. • Addresses short term capacity issues at the school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This option does not meet the long term demand for Welsh medium education within the area. • Two mobile classrooms are currently installed at the school site – there is insufficient space to accommodate a further additional mobile classroom. • Pupils and staff have to travel between the main school building and mobile classroom. • Does not allow the highest quality teaching and learning provision. • There is insufficient space, indoor and outdoor, to deliver and enhance the Foundation Phase curriculum and play opportunities for all learners.

Option 3	
Increase the capacity of Gorslas Primary School to 180 places (by refurbishing the current school building and constructing a new block at the existing site)	
Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change for stakeholders. • Addresses medium term demand for Welsh medium primary places. • Improved facilities for teaching and learning in the 21st Century. • Moving along the Welsh language continuum by providing greater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This option does not meet the long term demand for Welsh medium primary education within the area and does not meet the Local Authority's strategic objectives. • Statutory process required.

<p>opportunities to access Welsh medium within the area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is insufficient space available at the current site to accommodate a new block construction. • Transitional arrangements would need to be in place whilst construction works are undertaken. • Capital investment required.
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<p align="center">Option 4 (Preferred Option)</p> <p align="center">Increase the capacity of Gorslas Primary School to 210 places (by providing a replacement building)</p>	
<p>Advantages</p>	<p>Disadvantages</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This option meets the current and long term demand for Welsh medium primary places within the area. • Moving along the Welsh language continuum by providing greater opportunities to access Welsh medium within the area. • No transitional arrangements are required whilst construction works are undertaken. • Improved facilities for teaching and learning in the 21st Century. • Ensures that the highest quality teaching and learning provision for WM primary education is available. • Provides space to deliver and enhance the Foundation Phase curriculum and play opportunities for all learners. • An opportunity to share facilities with the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory process required. • Slight increase in travel distance and time for pupils. • Capital investment required.

6. The Proposal

6.1 Rationale for Change

As outlined previously, Carmarthenshire County Council has a legal responsibility to review the number and type of schools it has in the area and is required to make sure that they are located in the right place, have the right facilities for the future and have the right resources to deliver education and learning for pupils.

The school currently has a capacity for 110 pupils between the ages of 4-11. However as noted previously, over the last few years the demand for Welsh medium education in Carmarthenshire has been increasing and this is also true for pupil numbers at the school. The school is currently over capacity; and as documented in section 2.6; has been for the last few years. This has demonstrated that there is a clear misalignment between the capacity of the school and the demand for Welsh medium education within the area. As a result a mobile classroom was installed in September 2015, with a further additional mobile classroom installed ready for the 2017/2018 academic term.

As a result, the Local Authority are currently developing a scheme to provide Gorslas Primary School with a new school building suitable for teaching and learning in the 21st Century, which will accommodate current and future demand for Welsh medium education.

6.2 The Proposal

Due to the increasing demand for Welsh medium education places in the Gorslas area, it is the Local Authority's proposal to:

- increase the capacity of Gorslas Primary School from 110 to 210 from 1st September 2019 when occupation at the new building is proposed.

6.3 Additional Learning Needs Provision

There will be no change to the current provision offered for pupils with additional learning needs at the school. However when the new school building has been completed, the improved facilities will directly enhance teaching and learning for all learners including those from more vulnerable groups including ALN learners.

6.4 School Catchment Area

There will be no change to the current school catchment area.

The preferred location of the site for the new school building is Gorslas Park which remains within the existing catchment area of Gorslas Primary School, therefore the designated catchment area will be based on that of the existing school.

6.5 Secondary School Transfers

There will be no change to the current transfer arrangements for pupils in respect of Secondary education.

6.6 Transitional Arrangements

There will be no change for pupils whilst building works are undertaken, pupils will remain on their current school site until the building works are complete. Pupils would relocate to their new school in September 2019 when occupation is proposed.

6.7 Advantages and Disadvantages of the Proposal

Advantages

- Increased opportunities for access to Welsh medium education.
- Addresses current capacity issues at the school.
- Ensures that the school can accommodate future demand for Welsh medium school places.

Disadvantages

- Statutory process required to implement the proposal.

6.8 Risks and Counter Measures

	Risk	Counter Measure
1.	Failure to obtain statutory approval to implement the process.	- Follow guidelines as set out in the School Organisation Code 2013.
2.	Failure to gain approval of business cases.	- Follow guidelines as set out in the 21 st Century Schools and Education Funding Programme business case guidance.

6.9 Financial Implications - Revenue

Gorslas Primary School is funded in accordance with the County Council's Fair Funding policy and will receive resources on the same basis as any other school within the County Council, based on the new school's pupil numbers and facilities.

6.10 Admission Arrangements

The County Council is the Admissions Authority for Gorslas Primary School. The current admission number (AN) is 13. If the proposal is implemented the admission number (AN) will be increased to 30. If you have any queries in relation to admission to the school the contact details for Carmarthenshire LA are as follows:

The School Governance and Admissions Unit,
Carmarthenshire Local Authority,
Department for Education and Children,
Block 2,
Main Building,
St. David's Park,
Carmarthen. SA31 3HB

Tel No: 01267 246449

Fax : 01267 246746

E-mail: rjonesevans@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

6.11 Transport Impact Assessment

Based on January 2017 PLASC address data 78 (total NOR and nursery age) pupils attending Gorslas Primary school lived within the catchment area, whilst 44 pupils lived outside the catchment area. It must also be noted that again based on January 2017 PLASC address data, there were 140 pupils living within the Gorslas catchment area attending other schools.

Based on January 2017 PLASC address data, on average pupils travelled 2.8 miles to reach the current Gorslas Primary School site with an average travel time of 7.1 minutes. Using the same data, pupils on average would travel 2.9 miles to reach the new site with an average travel time of 7.2 minutes. Based on this assessment, there would be a very slight increase of 0.1 miles in travel distance and 0.1 minutes in travel time for pupils.

6.12 Community Impact Assessment

Please refer to Appendix A of this consultation document for full details of the Community Impact Assessment undertaken.

6.13 Welsh Language Impact Assessment

Please refer to Appendix B of this consultation document for full detail of the Welsh Language Impact Assessment undertaken.

6.14 Equality Impact Assessment

Please refer to Appendix C of this consultation document for full details of the Equality Impact Assessment undertaken.

7. The Statutory Process

The Consultation Process

The consultation on this proposal will follow guidelines established by the Welsh Government as stated in the School Organisation Code (2013).

Who will be consulted?

This document will be sent to the following interested parties:

Staff (Teaching and Ancillary) – Gorslas Primary School	Director of Education – All Neighbouring Authorities
Governors and Parents/Guardians – Gorslas Primary School	Diocesan Director of Education Church in Wales and RC
Local County Councillors	Estyn
Community Councillors – Gorslas Community Council	Regional Transport Consortium
Assembly Member (AM) / Regional Members / Members of Parliament (MP)	*Neighbouring Primary and Secondary schools in Carmarthenshire
Welsh Ministers	National Union of Teachers (NUT)
SEN Partners	Undeb Cenedlaethol Athrawon Cymru (UCAC)
LA Special Educational Needs Division	National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT)
ERW – Education through Regional Working	UNISON
Children and Young People’s Partnership	National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT)
Child Care / Early Years	Association of Teachers and Lecturers (ATL)
Communities First Partnership	GMB Union
Local Service Board	Transport and General Workers Union (T+G)
Local Police and Crime Commissioner	Cae’r Ffair Nursery
Welsh Language Commissioner	Cylch Meithrin Cefneithin Gorslas

* Consultation document sent to Headteacher and Chair of Governors (Maesybont CP, Cefneithin CP, Cross Hands CP, Saron CP and Penygroes CP) and Secondary Schools (Ysgol Maes y Gwendraeth, Ysgol Bro Dinefwr)

Consultation with Pupils

There will be an opportunity for the pupils of Gorslas Primary School to participate in the consultation process during a session which will be conducted at the school with the challenge adviser.

The information gathered from the consultation with pupils will form part of the consultation report which will be submitted to the Executive Board for consideration following the consultation period.

Consultation Period

The consultation period for this proposal starts on 6th November 2017 and ends on 17th December 2017. During this period you can ask questions and express your views by writing a letter or completing the attached response form in Appendix E. Letters and response forms should be sent to the following address by no later than noon on 17th December 2017.

Mr Gareth Morgans, Director of Education and Children's Services,
Building 2, St. David's Park, Jobs Well Road, Carmarthen, SA31 3HB
Or E-mail to: DECMEP@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Consultees can submit their views in favour of or against a proposal. Responses received during the consultation period will not be treated as statutory objections. If consultees wish to object, they will need to do so in writing during the statutory objection period outlined below.

Considering your Views

Within 13 weeks of 17th December 2017 a consultation report will be published on Carmarthenshire County Council's website. Hard copies of the report will also be available on request. The report will summarise the issues raised by consultees and provide Carmarthenshire County Council's response to these issues. The report will also contain Estyn's view of the proposal and details of consultation undertaken with the pupils.

The Executive Board of Carmarthenshire County Council will consider the consultation report and decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal.

If the Executive Board decides to continue with the proposal Carmarthenshire County Council must publish a statutory notice.

Statutory Notice

The statutory notice will be published on Carmarthenshire County Council's website and posted at Gorslas Primary School. Copies of the notice will be made available to

the school to distribute to pupils, parents, guardians, and staff members (the school may also distribute the notice by email).

The notice will set out the details of the proposal and invite anyone who wishes to object to do so in writing within a period of 28 days. If objections are received an objection report will be published on the Carmarthenshire County Council website. Hard copies of the report will also be available on request. The report will summarise the issues raised and provide Carmarthenshire County Council’s response to those objections.

Determination of Proposal

Carmarthenshire County Council will determine the proposal. The County Council may decide to approve, reject or approve the proposal with modifications. In doing so, the County Council will take into account any statutory objections that it received.

Decision Notification

Following determination of proposals all interested parties will be informed and advised of the availability of the decision which will be published electronically on Carmarthenshire County Council’s website.

The Statutory Process Time-Table

The statutory process and timetable will be as follows:

6 th November 2017	Issue of this consultation document to identified and other interested parties.
17 th December 2017	Closing date for views on the proposal to be received by the Department for Education and Children.
	<p>Within 13 weeks of 17th December 2017 a Consultation Report will be taken to the Executive Board and published on Carmarthenshire County Council’s website. Decision to proceed to publish statutory notice. OR alternatively proposal ends.</p> <p>If the decision is made to proceed then a statutory notice will be published. The notice will outline details of the proposal and be published on the Council’s web site and be displayed near the entrance of the school and schools which are subject to the proposals. Copies of the notice will be made available to the school to distribute to parents, guardians and staff members. Following publication there will be a 28 day period during which time formal written objections will be invited.</p>

	The statutory notice will give details on how you may record your objections to the proposal.
April 2018	End of formal 28 day notice period for objections. County Council will determine the proposal. The County Council may decide to approve, reject or approve the proposal with modifications, in doing so the County Council will take into account any statutory objections received.
July 2018	Deadline to notify parents of intention to implement proposal. Following determination of proposals all interested parties will be informed and advised of the availability of the decision which will be published electronically on Carmarthenshire County Council's website.

Appendix A – Community Impact Assessment

Catchment Area Analysis – January PLASC 2017 Data

Each school has an area that it serves, referred to as the catchment area. Each school is expected to accommodate pupils from within its catchment area and schools must have regard for this ongoing demand.

Most parents send their child to their local school but parents have a right to state a preference for other schools.

Pupils attending the school from inside / outside the catchment

Based on January PLASC 2017 data, the geographical data in relation to the pupil distribution for Gorslas Primary School catchment area indicated that of the 122 pupils on roll, 78 lived within the catchment area, whilst the remaining 44 were from outside the catchment area.

Pupils living in the catchment area attending other schools.

Based on January PLASC 2017 data, 140 pupils lived within the Gorslas Primary School catchment area attended other schools as follows.

Taking into consideration the 78 pupils living within the catchment area attending Gorslas Primary School, and the 140 pupils living within the catchment area but attending other schools, a total of 218 pupils are living within the catchment area of Gorslas Primary School.

Other facilities the school accommodates e.g youth club / play group

The school accommodates Gorslas Community Council meetings as and when required.

Other facilities or services the school provides e.g. after school clubs / community library

The school currently hold a breakfast club for pupils during the weekdays between 8-8.30am.

The pupils also benefit from several after school clubs, which are held on various nights of the week at the school. A local organisation, Menter Cwm Gwendraeth hold a “Clwb Joio” on Monday nights between 3.30-5pm. The “Clwb Joio” provides pupils with an hour and a half of specific activities, which expands the opportunities available for pupils between the ages of 4-11 to socialise through the medium of Welsh outside of school hours. School staff also hold a sports club on Tuesdays and an “Urdd” club on Wednesdays. On Thursdays, school staff hold an afterschool club, where the activities vary from week to week. In this club, pupils benefit from developing skills such as gardening, cooking, science and IT.

Community Impact

If approved, the proposal will allow increased opportunities for access to Welsh medium education within the Gorslas area, in line with national and local policies. The space for an external nursery provider will allow early years' pupils with access to nursery provision within a school environment which will strengthen relationships and links between the external provider and the school and will ensure a smooth transition between facilities.

As a result of the scheme itself, the new school building will significantly benefit the community of Gorslas through the use of facilities such as the car park, the sports pitch, MUGA and the main hall which could be used for a number of activities.

Appendix B - Welsh Language Impact Assessment

Carmarthenshire County Council's vision is to provide a service, which will ensure access to high quality learning opportunities for all children, young people and adults, this enabling the achievement of their full potential within the context of the unique bilingual nature of the county.

This proposal supports the Council's vision and aims for Welsh medium education as set out in Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2014 – 2017. The proposal will allow greater opportunities for access to Welsh medium education within the Gorslas area and will ensure linguistic continuity from the nursery sector along the key stages to the secondary sector so that every pupil becomes fluent and confident in both Welsh and English languages.

Language Category

Gorslas Primary School are categorised as a Welsh medium primary school. As noted in the Admission to School – Information to Parents booklet this means that in the Foundation Phase, pupils are taught through the medium of Welsh and that in KS2, at least 70% of teaching is through the medium of Welsh. Welsh is the language of communication with pupils and the language of the day to day business of the school.

Standards

In Foundation Phase, pupils are assessed in different areas of learning. Based on 2016 data, 83.3% of pupils achieved at least Outcome 5 in "Language, literacy and communication skills in Welsh, whilst 33.3% of pupils achieved at least Outcome 6. In Key Stage 2, pupils are assessed in each of the core subjects. Based on 2016 data, 70.6% of pupils achieved at least Level 4 in Welsh first language.

After school activities which provide additional opportunities to use the Welsh language

The pupils benefit from several after school clubs, which are held on various nights of the week at the school. A local organisation, Menter Cwm Gwendraeth hold a "Clwb Joio" on Monday nights between 3.30-5pm. The "Clwb Joio" provides pupils with an hour and a half of specific activities, which expands the opportunities available for pupils between the ages of 4-11 to socialise through the medium of Welsh outside of school hours. School staff also hold an "Urdd" club on Wednesdays.

Appendix C - Equalities Impact Assessment

Carmarthenshire County Council Assessing Impact

The Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) brings together and replaces the previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act. It simplifies and strengthens the law, removes inconsistencies and makes it easier for people to understand and comply with it. The majority of the Act came into force on 1 October 2010.

The Act includes a new public sector equality duty (the 'general duty'), replacing the separate duties on race, disability and gender equality. This came into force on 5 April 2011.

What is the general duty?

The aim of the general duty is to ensure that public authorities and those carrying out a public function consider how they can positively contribute to a fairer society through advancing equality and good relations in their day-to-day activities. The duty ensures that equality considerations are built into the design of policies and the delivery of services and that they are kept under review. This will achieve better outcomes for all.

The duties are legal obligations. Failure to meet the duties may result in authorities being exposed to legal challenge.

Under equality legislation, public authorities have legal duties to pay 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality with regard to race, disability and gender, including gender reassignment, as well as to promote good race relations. The Equality Act 2010 introduces a new public sector duty which extends this coverage to age, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and religion or belief. The law requires that this duty to pay 'due regard' be demonstrated in the decision making process. It is also important to note that public authorities subject to the equality duties are also likely to be subject to the obligations under the Human Rights Act and it is therefore wise also to consider the potential impact that decisions could have on human rights as part of the same process.

Carmarthenshire's approach to Equality Impact

In order to ensure that the council is considering the potential equality impact of its proposed policies and practices, and in order to evidence that we have done so, every proposal will be required to be supported by the attached Equality Impact Assessment. Where this assessment identifies a significant impact then more detail may be required.

Reporting on assessments

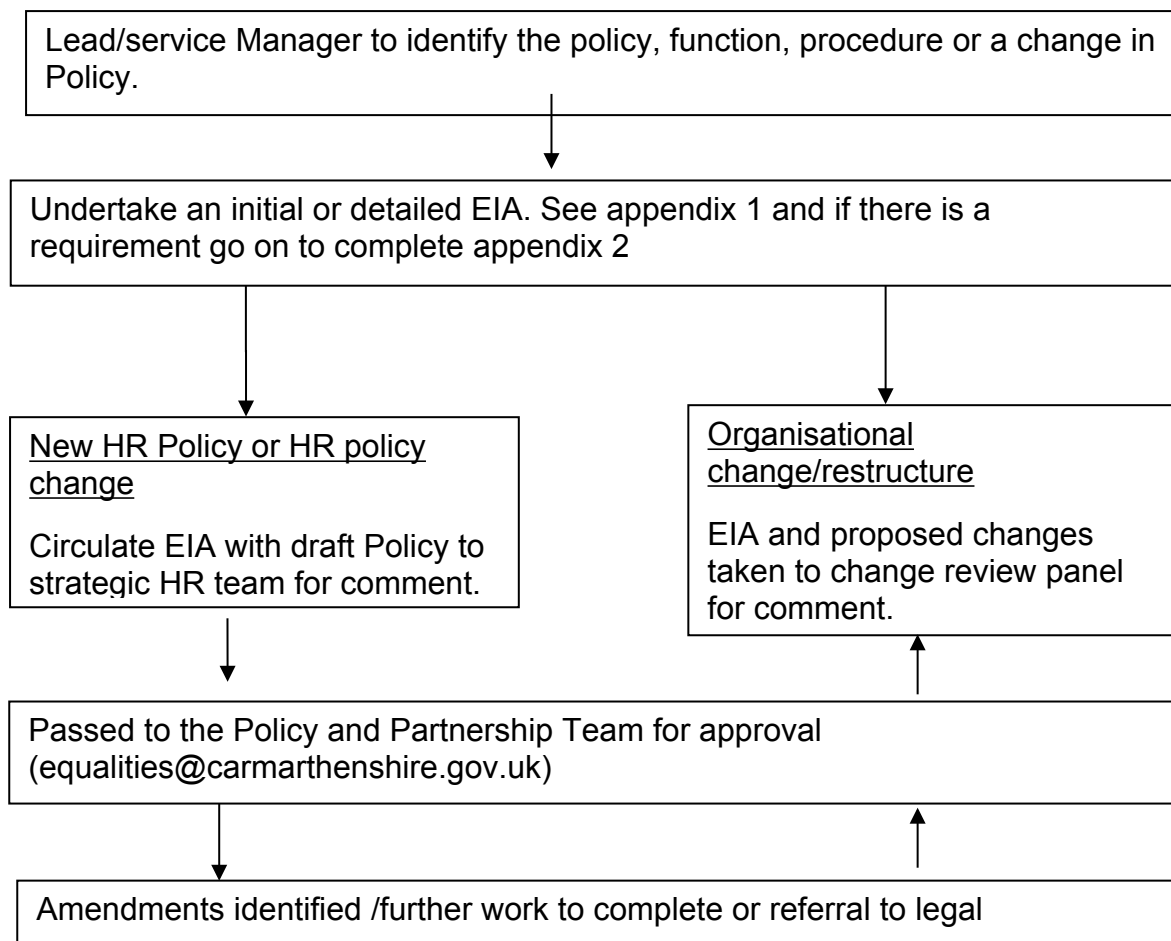
Where it is clear from the assessment that the likely impact on the authority's ability to meet the general duty is substantial, then it must publish a report.

Initial and Detailed Equality Impact Assessments

The initial EIA (appendix 1) is a simple and quick method of assessing the effect of a policy, function, procedure, decision including financial cuts on one or more of the protected characteristics.

The Service Manager responsible for the relevant new or revised policies, functions, procedures and financial decisions must undertake, at least, an initial EIA and where relevant a detailed Equality Impact Assessment (appendix 2); EIA must be attached as background paper with reports to Executive and Scrutiny .

Equality impact assessment – Process to follow where HR implications have been identified



Initial Equalities Impact Assessment Template

Appendix 1

Department: Education & Children	Completed by (lead): Sara Griffiths	Date of initial assessment: June 2017 Revision Dates: TBC
Area to be assessed: (i.e. name of policy, function, procedure, practice or a financial decision)	The scheme is to provide a new school building with 21 st Century facilities for Gorslas Primary School. As part of this scheme, the proposal is to to increase the capacity of the school from 110 to 210.	
Is this existing or new function/policy, procedure, practice or decision?	School Re-organisation Proposal – Modernising Education Programme	
What evidence has been used to inform the assessment and policy? (please list only)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21st Century Schools Programme • Modernising Education Programme • School Organisation Code 2013 • PLASC Data 2016/2017 		

1. Describe the aims, objectives or purpose of the proposed function/policy, practice, procedure or decision and who is intended to benefit.	The aim of the scheme is to provide the pupils and staff of Gorslas Primary School with a new school building and facilities which are suitable for teaching and learning in the 21 st Century. The increase in capacity will benefit the school by addressing the capacity issues experienced in recent years and will also ensure that the school can accommodate future demand. Providing space to accommodate an external nursery will also strengthen the relationship between nursery providers and the school and will help to ensure a smooth transition between facilities.		
The Public Sector Equality Duty requires the Council to have “due regard” to the need to:- (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; (2) advance equality of opportunity between	2. What is the level of impact on each group/ protected characteristics in terms of the three aims of the duty? Please indicate high (H) medium (M), low (L), no effect (N) for each.	3. Identify the risk or positive effect that could result for each of the group/protected characteristics?	4. If there is a disproportionately negative impact what mitigating factors have you considered?

different groups; and (3) foster good relations between different groups (see guidance notes)			Risks	Positive effects	
Protected characteristics Page 307	Age	L		The proposal will provide nursery age pupils with access to nursery provision within a school building.	
	Disability	L		The new school building will be fully DDA compliant ensuring full accessibility for all.	
	Gender reassignment	N	Neutral		
	Race	N	Neutral		
	Religion/Belief	N	Neutral		
	Pregnancy and maternity	N	Neutral		
	Sexual Orientation	N	Neutral		
	Sex	N	Neutral		
	Welsh language	L		The increase in capacity will allow greater	

			opportunities for access to Welsh medium education within the Gorslas area in line with national and local policies.	
Any other area	L	The increase in capacity of the school may have an effect on schools surrounding the Gorslas catchment area.		

5. Has there been any consultation/engagement with the appropriate protected characteristics?	<p>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The Project Officer has liaised with the Headteacher, Staff and Parents of Gorslas Primary School with regards to the proposal. Local members have also been fully informed of the scheme. Consultation has been undertaken with the Community Council and local residents regarding the location of the new school building.</p>
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6. What action(s) will you take to reduce any disproportionately negative impact, if any? Ensure that all key stakeholders are fully informed throughout the statutory process.

7. Procurement

Following collation of evidence for this assessment, are there any procurement implications to the activity, proposal, service. N/A

Please take the findings of this assessment into your procurement plan. Contact the corporate procurement unit for further advice.

8. Human resources

Following collation of evidence for this assessment, are there any Human resource implications to the activity, proposal or service? As there will be an increase in capacity, additional staffing may be required. However, this will be addressed as the scheme progresses and Human Resources will be fully consulted.

9. Based on the information in sections 2 and 6, should this function/policy/procedure/practice or a decision proceed to Detailed Impact Assessment? (recommended if one or more H under section 2)

YES

NO

Approved by:

Andi Morgan

Date: August 2017

Head of Service

Appendix D – Area Profile Gorslas Ward

Policy Research and Information Section, Carmarthenshire County Council, May 2017

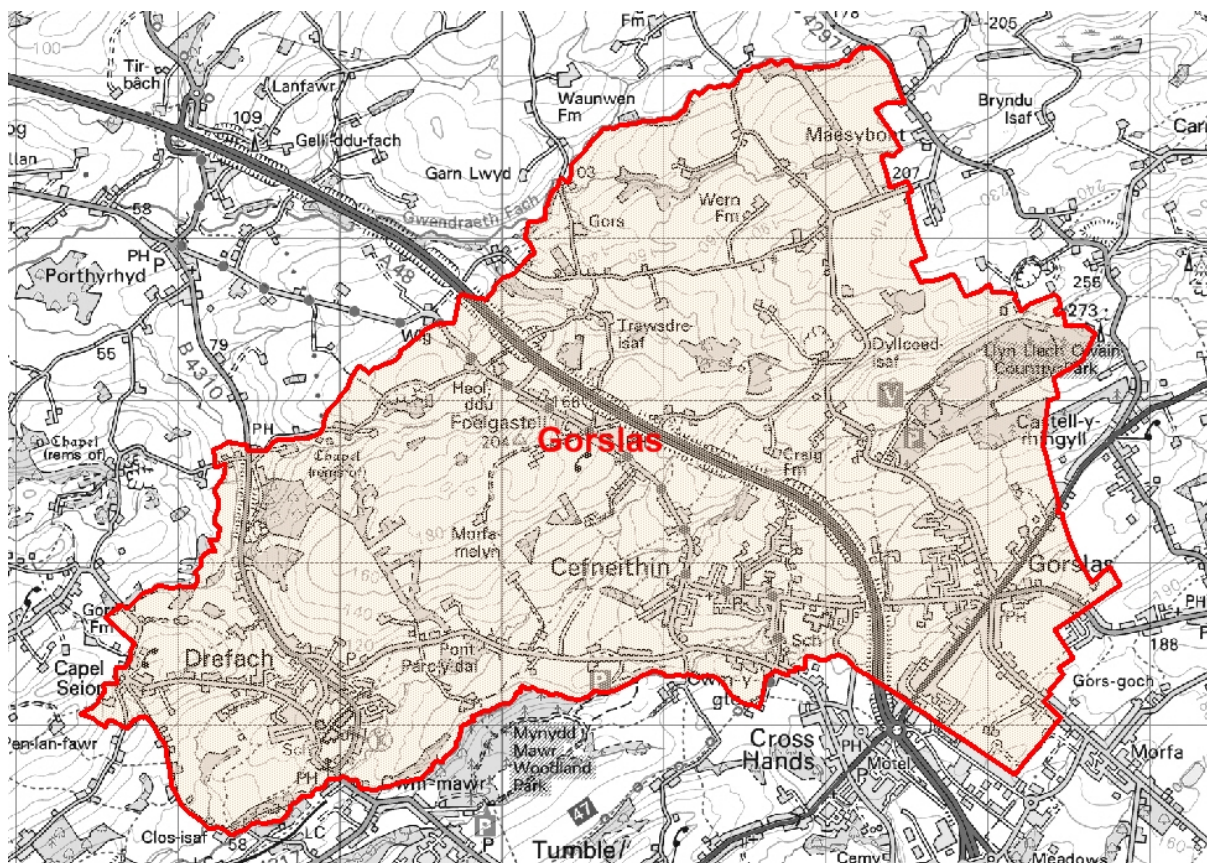
Councillors (Electoral Vote 2017, Turnout = 47.28%): Darren Price and Aled Owen (Plaid Cymru).

Electorate (December 2016): 3,586

Population: 4,301 (2015 Mid Year Population Estimates, ONS)

Welsh Assembly and UK Parliamentary Constituency: Carmarthenshire East & Dinefwr

Council owned Facilities: Cefneithin C.P. School, Drefach C.P. School, Gorslas C.P. School, Ysgol Gyfun Maes Y Gwendraeth Cefneithin, Ysgol Maes Y Gwendraeth Drefach, Llyn Llech Owain Country Park, Gorslas Park Toilets.



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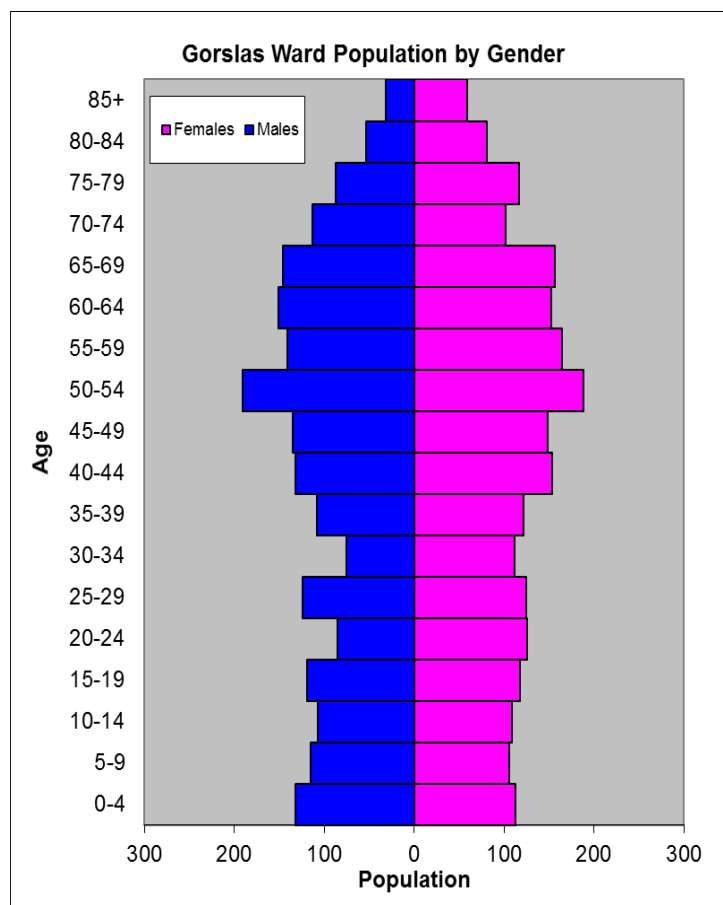
Location: Approximately 20km from Carmarthen Town

- ⇒ Regeneration Designations: Rural Development Plan 2007-2013 eligible ward
- ⇒ Area: 16.51km²
- ⇒ Population Density: 261 people per km²
- ⇒ Population Change: 2001-2015: +584 (+15.7%)
- ⇒ Major Employers: Carmarthenshire County Council (schools and leisure)

POPULATION STATISTICS 2015 Mid Year Population Estimates

Age Structure	Gorslas Population	Gorslas %	Carmarthenshire %
Aged: 0-4	245	5.7	5.4
5-14	437	10.2	11.2
15-24	448	10.4	11.2
25-44	952	22.1	21.7
45-64	1273	29.6	27.8
65-74	518	12.0	12.7
75+	428	10.0	10.0
Total	4,301	100	100

Source: aggregated lower Super Output Area (LSOA) Small Area Population Estimates, 2015, Office for National Statistics (ONS)



- ⇒ 9th highest ward population in Carmarthenshire, and 20th highest population density.
- ⇒ Highest proportion of people aged over 45.
- ⇒ Slightly higher proportion of people with limiting long term illness
- ⇒ Over 20% higher proportion of Welsh Speakers than the Carmarthenshire average.

2011 Census Data

Population: Key Facts	Gorslas	Gorslas %	Carmarthenshire
People: born in Wales	3211	79.0	76.0
born outside UK	87	2.2	4.1
in non-white ethnic groups	39	0.9	1.9
with limiting long-term illness	1082	26.7	25.4
with no qualifications (aged 16-74)	853	25.1	26.8
with higher level qualifications (aged 16-74)	878	25.8	23.9
able to speak Welsh	2523	64.1	43.9

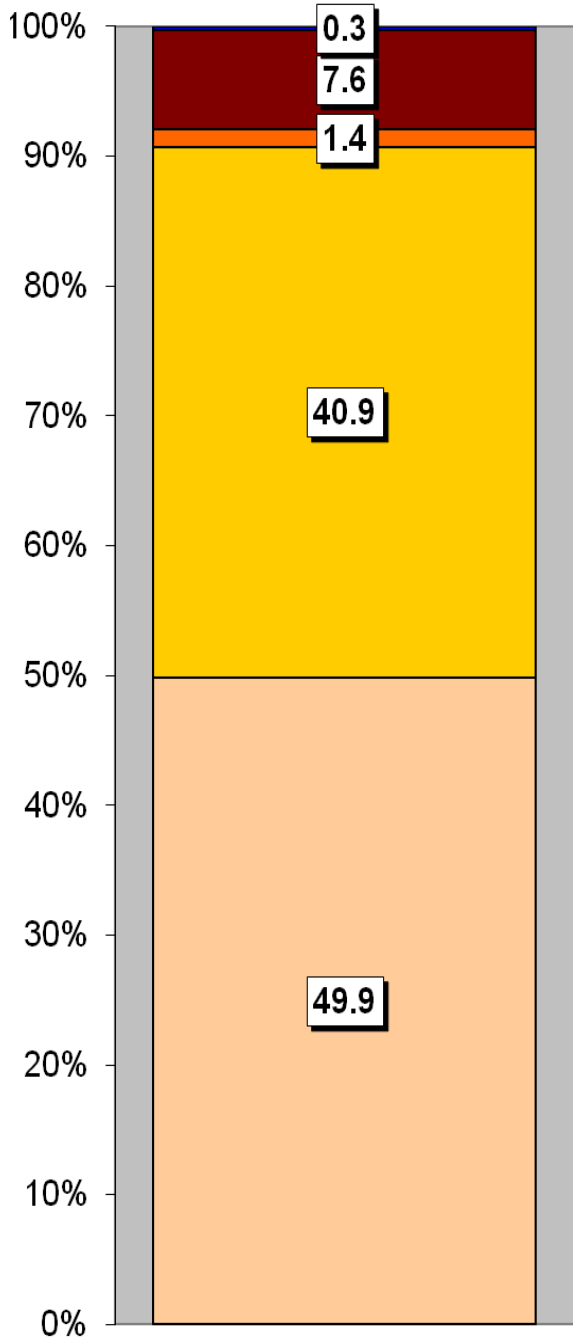
Household Composition	Gorslas	Gorslas %	Carmarthenshire
Total Households/ (Average Household Size)	1735	(2.3)	(2.3)
Household Type: one person: pensioner	285	16.4	14.8
one person: other	212	12.2	15.4
one family: all pensioners	181	10.4	9.8
one family: married couple	658	38.0	34.1
one family: cohabiting couple	138	7.9	8.7
one family: lone parent	169	9.7	11.3
one family: other	92	5.4	5.9

Source: 2011 Census, ONS

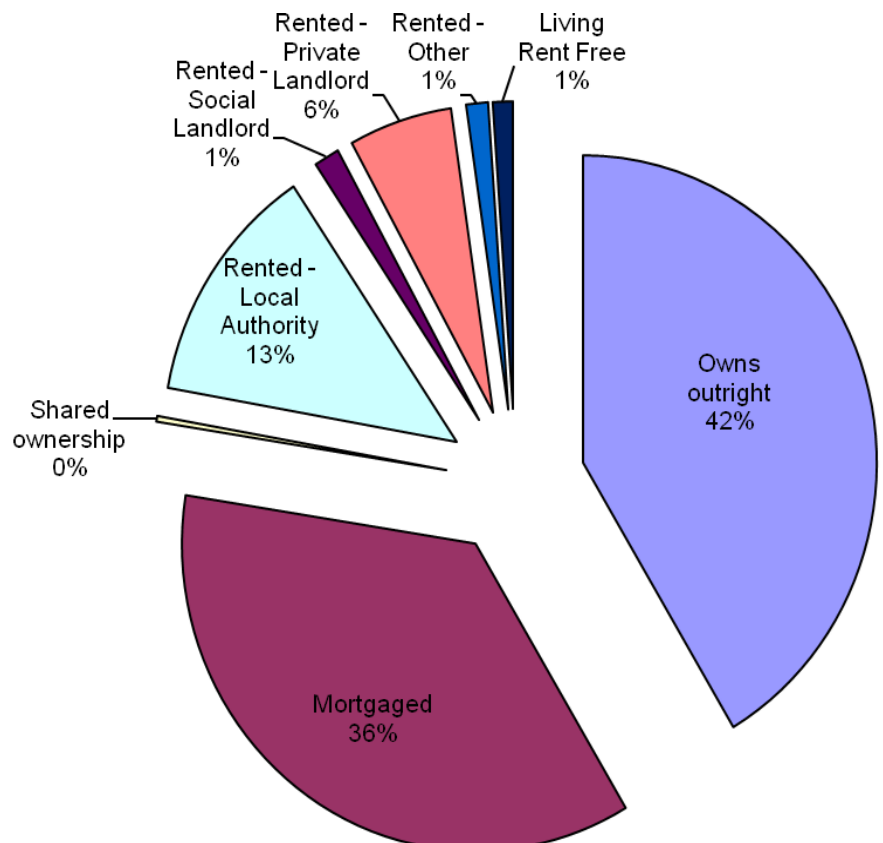
HOUSING

The area's housing consists largely of detached and semi-detached accommodation, which combined is over 90% of the accommodation. The smallest proportion of housing is the caravan or other mobile temporary accommodation. The ward consists of 222 local authority owned properties and 24 Housing Association properties.

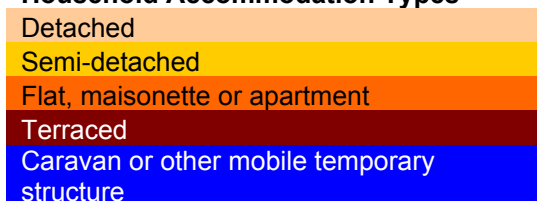
Household Accommodation Types



Household Tenure	%
Owns outright	41.5
Mortgaged	36.1
Shared ownership	0.3
Rented - Local Authority	12.8
Rented - Social Landlord	1.4
Rented - Private Landlord	5.7
Rented - Other	1.2
Living Rent Free	1.1



Household Accommodation Types



SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

- ⇒ The estimated median household income for Gorslas, based on CACI's 2016 'PayCheck' data, is £27,288 which is the 11th highest (of 58 wards) in Carmarthenshire and 12.7% above the Carmarthenshire median of £23,825.
- ⇒ The social profile information indicates a higher than average level of people being in higher and lower managerial and professional administrative occupations (Levels 1-2).

Social Profile	Gorslas	%	Carmarthenshire %
<i>All people aged 16-74 in households</i>	2997	100	100
1: Higher Managerial & Professional Admin. Occupations	464	15.5	13.8
2: Lower Managerial & Professional Admin. Occupations	673	22.5	19.9
3: Intermediate Occupations	397	13.2	11.6
4: Small Employers & Own Account Workers	296	9.9	12.6
5: Lower Supervisory & Technical Occupations	231	7.7	7.6
6: Semi-routine Occupations	448	14.9	16.7
7: Routine Occupations	405	13.5	13.0
8: Never Worked & Long Term Unemployed	117	3.9	4.9

Source: 2011 Census, ONS

ECONOMY AND LABOUR MARKET

Benefit Claimants	Gorslas	Rate %	Carmarthenshire Working Population %
Unemployment Benefit (JSA): March 2017	18	0.7	1.4
Incapacity Benefits (ESA/IB/SDA) August 2016	230	8.8	8.9
Income Support: August 2016	25	1.0	1.8
Disability Living Allowance: August 2016	270	10.3	9.6
Pension Credit: August 2016 (Population 65+)	175	18.5	17.1
State Pension Claimants: August 2016	1,010	-	-

Source: Jobcentre Plus administrative system Dept. for Work & Pensions

Economic Status (people aged 16-74)	Gorslas	Gorslas %	Carmarthenshire %
Economically Active	1943	64.8	64.9
Employees: Part-time	399	13.3	13.9
Employees: Full-time	1132	37.8	33.7
Self-employed	256	8.5	11.0
Unemployed	86	2.9	3.7
Full-time Student	70	2.3	2.5
Economically Inactive	1054	35.2	35.1
Retired	585	19.5	18.1
Student	135	4.5	4.5
Looking after home/family	86	2.9	3.8
Permanently sick/disabled	192	6.4	6.8
Other	56	1.9	1.9

Source: 2011 Census, ONS

WELSH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION (WIMD)

WIMD 2014 based on fine-grained geography of lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs). The WIMD 2014 is compiled from eight domains, Income, Employment, Health, Education, Housing, Access to Services, Physical Environment and Community Safety and is published at Lower Super Output Area of which there are 112 in Carmarthenshire.

Under WIMD, where Rank 1 is the most deprived, **Gorslas 1** ranks 96 out of 112 LSOAs in Carmarthenshire and is ranked 1352 in Wales from 1909 LSOAs. **Gorslas 2** ranks 90 most deprived area in Carmarthenshire and is ranked 1277 in Wales.

The highest level of deprivation attributed to **Gorslas 1** is the Education Domain, being ranked 67th in Carmarthenshire and 1121 in Wales for this domain. In **Gorslas 2** the Physical Environment domain is also the most prominent ranking 35th in Carmarthenshire and 586 in Wales.

Gorslas 1 – Drefach Gorslas 2 – Maes yr Yrfa School

LSOA	Overall Index		Income		Employment		Health		Education		Access to Services		Community Safety		Physical Environment		Housing	
	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales
Gorslas 1	1352	96	1139	72	1236	85	1067	76	1121	67	810	71	1702	90	1110	68	1453	88
Gorslas 2	1277	90	1215	80	931	56	1302	89	1059	61	900	76	1853	103	586	35	1459	89

Source: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2014 (updated August 2016), Welsh Assembly Government.

Note: LSOAs ranked 1-112 (Carmarthenshire), 1-1909 (Wales).

CRIME

Gorslas	Offence Group												Annual Total	
	Arson & Criminal Damage	Burglary – Business & Community	Burglary – Residential	Drug Offences	Miscellaneous Crime Against Society	Possession of Weapons	Public Order Offences	Robbery	Sexual Offences	Theft	Vehicle Offences	Violence Against the Person		
Fiscal Year (1st April to 31st March)														
2016/2017	19	5	3	18	2	2	3	0	2	20	5	31	110	

Source: Dyfed Powys Police, Headquarters, Llangunmor.

Please provide us with your comments on the proposal regarding future provision for primary pupils residing in the Gorslas catchment area.

Your comments:

Do you have any other issues that you wish to bring to our attention?

Please tick box if you wish to be notified of the publication of a consultation report and your language of preference.

Welsh Version

English Version

Signature _____

Print Name _____

Position /

Category of

Respondent

(E.g. parent) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

E-mail _____

Date _____

Please note that unless you indicate otherwise your comments will be open to the public as part of the formal records of the consultation.

Please detach this form and return to: Mr Gareth Morgans, Director – Department for Education and Children, Building 2, St David's Park, Jobs Well Road, Carmarthen, SA31 3HB or E-mail to DECMEP@carmarthenshire.gov.uk by no later than **17th December 2017**.

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EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 28 SEPTEMBER 2017

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

**Proposal to provide nursery provision at Ysgol Parc y Tywyn
by increasing its age range from 4-11 to 3-11**

To consider and comment on the following issues:

1. The proposal as outlined in the attached Consultation Document;
2. That officers initiate formal consultation on the proposal during the Autumn Term 2017;
3. That a report is presented to the Committee and Executive Board at the end of the statutory consultation period.

Reasons:

- To comply with statutory procedures and guidance in relation to school re-organisation.
- To formulate views for submission to Executive Board for consideration.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision:

Yes, 23 October 2017

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder:

Cllr. Glynog Davies (Education & Children)

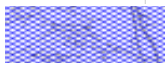
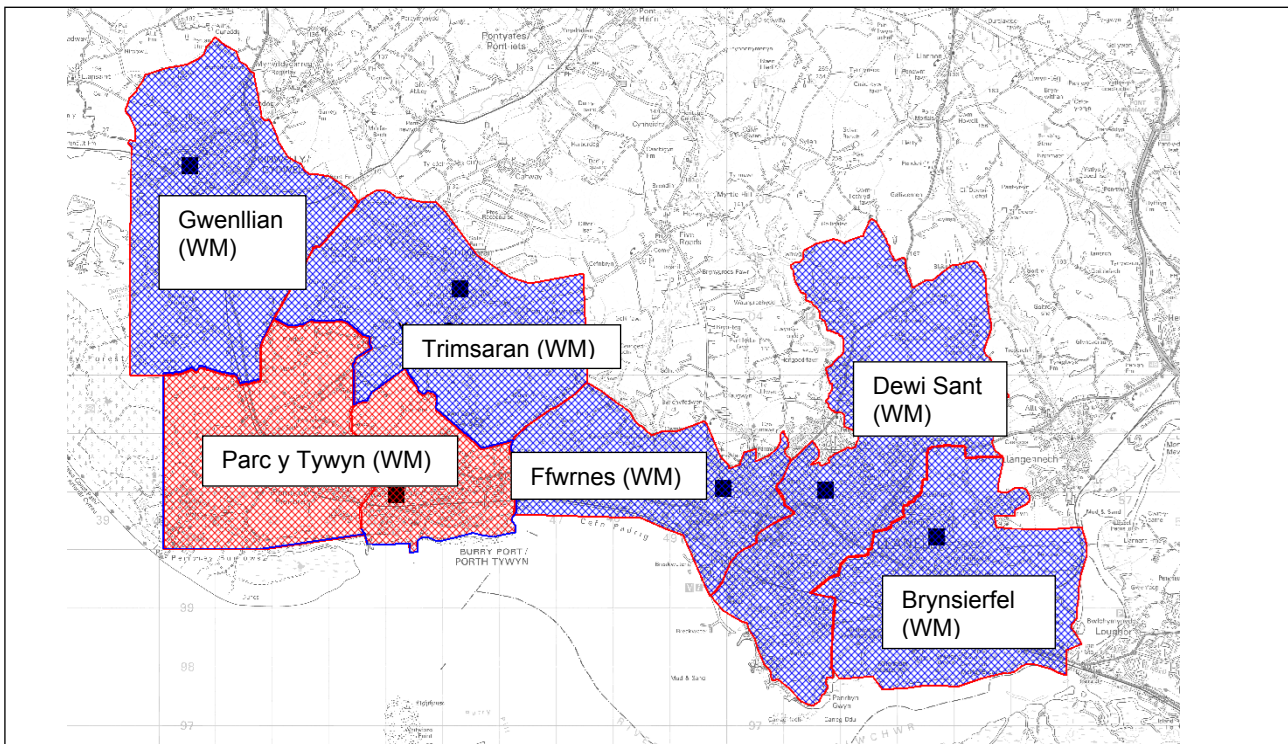
<p>Directorate: Education & Children</p> <p>Name of Head of Service: Gareth Morgans</p> <p>Report Author: Simon Davies</p>	<p>Designations:</p> <p>Director of Education and Children's Services</p> <p>Modernisation Services Manager</p>	<p>Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:</p> <p>01267 246522 EDGMorgans@sirgar.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 246471 SiDavies@sirgar.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 28th SEPTEMBER 2017

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

**Proposal to provide nursery provision at Ysgol Parc y Tywyn
by increasing its age range from 4-11 to 3-11**



3-11 Welsh Medium primary schools **with** a nursery



4-11 Welsh Medium primary school **without** a nursery

As can be seen in the map above, Ysgol Parc y Tywyn is surrounded by Welsh Medium schools that provide local authority nursery provision.

This proposal seeks to standardise the nursery provision in Welsh Medium schools by ensuring that the same level of provision is provided at all **Welsh medium schools** in the area, including Burry Port and Pembrey.

Recommendation

That the Committee endorses the proposal and recommends to the Executive Board that a formal consultation be initiated.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	YES – Consultation Document
----------------------------------	------------------------------------

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: **G. Morgans** Director of Education and Children's Services
S. Davies Modernisation Services Manager

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
---	-------	---------	-----	------------------------	-----------------------	-----------------

YES	YES	YES	NONE	YES	YES	YES
-----	-----	-----	------	-----	-----	-----

<p>1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities</p> <p>Developments are consistent with National, Welsh Government and the Authority's Corporate Strategy. Also, Welsh Government Welsh Language Strategies and the Authority's Welsh Language Development Strategy and Welsh In Education Strategic Plan as well as the Children and Young People's Plan and Modernising Education Strategic Outline Programme.</p>
<p>2. Legal</p> <p>Appropriate consultation will need to be initiated in accordance with the relevant statutory procedures.</p>
<p>3. Finance</p> <p>Revenue implications will be catered for within the Local Management of Schools Fair Funding Scheme.</p>
<p>4. ICT</p> <p>None</p>
<p>5. Risk Management Issues</p> <p>The disparity between Welsh and English nursery provision with the catchment of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn.</p>
<p>6. Staffing Implications</p> <p>There will be staffing implications for Ysgol Parc y Tywyn in terms of appointing additional teaching and support staff for the nursery. This can be managed effectively through existing staff recruitment arrangements.</p> <p>This proposal will have a detrimental effect on employment for local private providers as provision is currently being provided for 3 year olds by local nurseries and childminders.</p>
<p>7. Physical Assets</p> <p>None</p>

CONSULTATIONS

<p>I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:</p>		
Signed:	G. Morgans	Director of Education and Children's Services
	S. Davies	Modernisation Services Manager

1. Scrutiny Committee –

2. Local Member(s) – Local members in the Wards of Pembrey (Cllr. Shirley Matthews and Cllr. Hugh Shepardson) and Burry Port (Cllr. John James and Cllr. Amanda Fox) have been kept fully informed.

3. Community / Town Council – The Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council we be consulted during the formal consultation stage.

4. Relevant Partners – All relevant partners will be consulted during the formal consultation period including existing Nurseries and Childminders.

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – Staff side representatives and other organisations, such as the local nurseries and childminders will be consulted with during the formal consultation period.

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

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Modernising Educational Provision Future Use/Disposal of Redundant Land and Buildings arising from the MEP programme	www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales Executive Board 31/05/05
MEP Annual Report 2013/14 and Programme 2014/15	MEP Annual Report 2013/14 and Programme 2014/15
Strategic Outline Programme 21 st Century Schools	Strategic Outline Programme 21st Century Schools
Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2014-2017	WESP 2014-2017

DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Proposal to change the age range of *Ysgol Parc y Tywyn*
from 4–11 to 3–11

*Our Vision.....Carmarthenshire is a community where children
are safe and nurtured and learners of all ages are supported
to achieve their full educational potential*

6 November 2017

Gareth Morgans
Director of Education & Children's Services

School Modernisation Section

Simon Davies, Modernisation Services Manager

If you require this information in large print, Braille or on audiotape please contact the Department for Education & Children

Email: DECMEP@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 01267 246475

As part of its statutory obligation to keep the number and type of school places under review, the County Council has adopted a wide-ranging programme designed to improve school buildings and enhance opportunities for learning. The strategy reflects the vision and policies established by the County Council which embraces the requirement to deliver services, to clear standards – covering both cost and quality – by the most economic and effective means. In our drive to continually improve on the services made available to all learners, we must maximise the finite resources available to the Council, and continue to work in partnership with all those who have a contribution to make to the process of learning and the well-being of both children and their families. Schools of the future will need to serve as a focus for a wide range of services dedicated to serving the needs of the community through a joined up approach.

Carmarthenshire is blessed with many very able teachers but the continuing changes to the curriculum places a heavy demand on their skills to meet the wide ranging demands of all children. Although the processes of learning, and skills of teaching, are extremely important, deep subject knowledge on the part of the teacher is essential if learners with their various gifts in different areas are to discover and develop their talents to the full.

Schools designed to meet current demands are expected to provide a broad and balanced curriculum through high quality and inspirational teaching. In the planning of new provision it will be important to ensure that our schools are properly equipped to enhance opportunities for social inclusion, sustainable development, equal opportunities and bilingualism. In practical terms we need to ensure that provision reflects the changing patterns of population, with schools based in the right location with accommodation and facilities fit to serve the needs of all learners in the twenty first century.

Consultation will follow the guidelines established by the Welsh Government and will involve identified interested parties. The information set out in this document is intended to clarify the proposals for your school and support the consultation process.



Gareth Morgans
Director of Education & Children's Services

Glossary of Abbreviations

ALN	Additional Learning Needs
AN	Admission number
CCC	Carmarthenshire County Council
CP	Community Primary
DS	Dual Stream
EM	English medium
Estyn	Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
LA	Local Authority
MCSW	Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales
MEP	Modernising Education Programme
NOR	Number on Roll
PLASC	Pupil Level Annual School Census Data
PT	Part time
WESP	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan
WG	Welsh Government
WM	Welsh medium

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1. Introduction

Carmarthenshire County Council has a legal responsibility to review the number and type of schools it has in the area and whether or not it is making the best use of the resources and facilities to deliver the opportunities that children deserve.

As part of this process the Council has published its vision on how it sees the future for all of the primary schools in the County and this includes consulting on the future shape of education in Ysgol Parc y Tywyn. The proposals for change included in this document are in line with that long-term objective.

This document seeks to stimulate the process of consultation by explaining the Authority's preferred option for the future provision of primary education for the pupils of **Ysgol Parc y Tywyn**. The document offers an opportunity for consultees to put forward any comments, observations or alternative proposals they wish to be considered.

Consultation on this proposal will follow the guidelines established by the Welsh Government and will involve identified interested parties.

The main purpose of this document is to provide information and to gather the views of identified interested parties. You may wish to make use of the attached response Pro-forma included in **Appendix E** of this document or by E-mail to: DECMEP@carmarthenshire.gov.uk for any response.

1.1 The Consultation Process

The consultation process will be outlined in detail in **section 6** of this consultation document. The consultation on this proposal will follow guidelines as established by the Welsh Government.

1.2 Who else will be consulted?

This document has been sent to the following interested parties:

Staff (Teaching and Ancillary) Ysgol Parc y Tywyn	Governors and Parents Ysgol Parc y Tywyn
Carmarthenshire Children's Partnership Child Care / Early Years ** Communities First Partnership	Community Councillors Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council
Local County Councillors	Welsh Language Commissioner
Assembly Member (AM) Regional Assembly Members	National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT)

National Union of Teachers (NUT)	Association Of Teachers & Lecturers (ATL)
Undeb Cenedlaethol Athrawon Cymru (UCAC)	The Professional Association of Teachers (PAT)
National Association Of Head Teachers (NAHT)	GMB Union
UNISON	*Neighbouring Primary and Secondary schools in Carmarthenshire
Transport and General Workers' Union (T&G)	LA Special Educational Needs Division
Director of Education – All Neighbouring Authorities	ERW – Education through Regional Working
Local Service Board	Regional Transport Consortium
Local Police and Crime Commissioner	Welsh Ministers
Estyn	Diocesan Director of Education
Flying Start	

*Consultation document sent to Headteachers and Chair of Governors of - **Primary Schools** - Burry Port Community Primary School, Ysgol Pembrey, Ysgol Trimsaran, Ysgol Y Castell and Ysgol Gwenllian, and **Secondary Schools** - Ysgol Glan-y-Môr and Ysgol Y Strade.

**** Including Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin and any current local nursery or childminder.**

1.3 Consultation with Pupils

There will be an opportunity for the pupils of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn to participate in the consultation process during a session which will be conducted at the school with the challenge adviser.

1.4 Consultation Period

There will be a period from **6 November 2017** to **17 December 2017** when you can express your views.

You can express your views by writing a letter or alternatively completing the attached response form in **Appendix E** which should be received by the Department for Education and Children's Services, Building 2, St. David's Park, Jobs Well Road, Carmarthen, SA31 3HB, or by E-mail to: DECMEP@carmarthenshire.gov.uk no later than noon on **17 December 2017**.

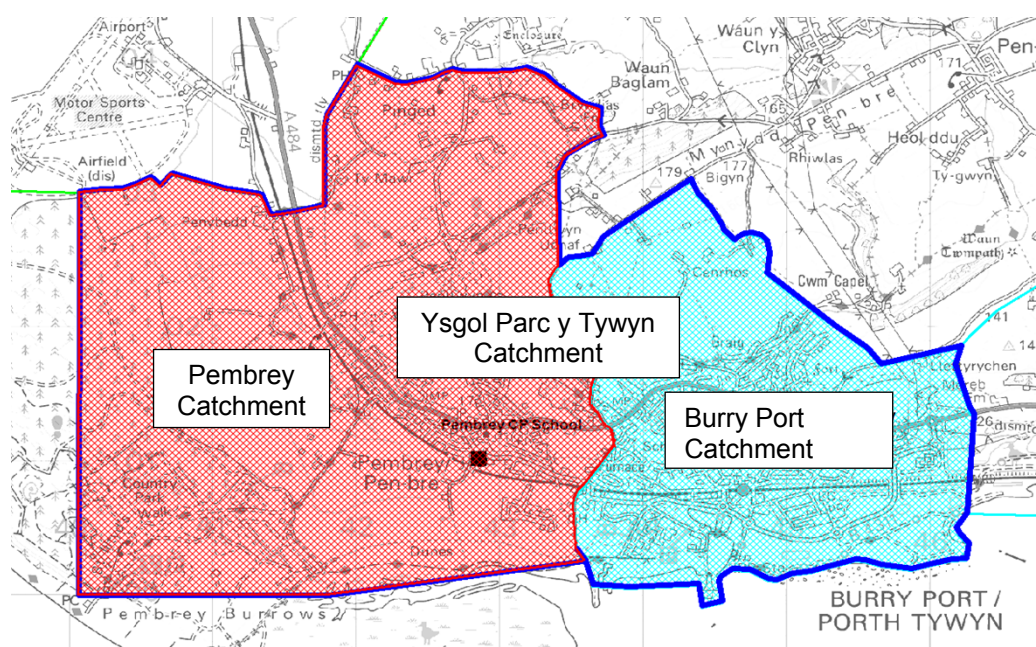
2. Background

Carmarthenshire County Council is committed to providing each child with the best possible start in life and meeting the aspirations of Welsh Government as set out in their strategic documents e.g. *Building a Brighter Future: The Early Years and Childcare Plan*, *Qualified for life: An education improvement plan*.

The provision of high quality early years education is key to realising this ambition.

Currently the age range of this school is 4-11.

Outlined in blue below is the catchment area for Ysgol Parc y Tywyn. The school shares the same catchment as the combined catchments of Burry Port Community School and Ysgol Pembrey.



The association between the catchments of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn, Pembrey and Burry Port primary schools can be seen in the above map, with Pembrey catchment to the West side of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn and Burry Port catchment to the East side of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn catchment area.

Burry Port Community School and Ysgol Pembrey are both categorised as English Medium language schools. The age range at the schools is 3 -11, therefore nursery provision is provided at both schools.

This proposal seeks to standardise the nursery education for the area by ensuring that the same level of provision is provided for both the **Welsh and English medium schools**.

Current position within Carmarthenshire

Designated early years provision is offered in **36 schools** across the County Council.

Ysgol	Age Range
Betws	3-11 years
Bigyn	3-11 years
Bro Brynach	3-11 years
Bryn	3-11 years
Bryn Teg	3-11 years
Brynaman	3-11 years
Brynsierfel	3-11 years
Burry Port	3-11 years
Bynea	3-11 years
Cross Hands	3-11 years
Dafen	3-11 years
Dewi Sant	3-11 years
Gymraeg Ffwrnes	3-11 years
Griffith Jones	3-11 years
Gwenllian	3-11 years
Halfway	3-11 years
Johnstown	3-11 years
Llangain	3-11 years
Llangynnwr	3-11 years
Maes y Morfa	3-11 years
Model	3-11 years
Myrddin	3-11 years
Nantgaredig	3-11 years
Pembrey	3-11 years
Pen Rhos	3-11 years
Pen-y-Gaer	3-11 years
Pwll	3-11 years
Richmond Park	3-11 years
St Mary's , Llanelli	3-11 years
St Mary's	3-11 years
Carmarthen	
Stebonheath	3-11 years
Teilo Sant	3-11 years
Trimsaran	3-11 years
Ysgol y Bedol	3-11 years
Y Castell	3-11 years
Y Dderwen	3-11 years

Ysgol Feithrin Rhydaman provides for Bro Banw and Ysgol Gymraeg Rhydaman.

- There are **65 schools** in Carmarthenshire that do not have designated early years provision.
- Early Years Foundation Phase Learning Provision in Carmarthenshire is being offered in **47 non-maintained settings**.

This document sets out the proposal to formally change the age range of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn from 4-11 to 3-11 as from the beginning of the 2018/19 autumn term, to enable the incorporation of nursery provision in to the school's new building.

The County Council has a legal duty to look at the number and type of schools it has in Carmarthenshire and is required to make sure that they are located in the right place, have the right facilities for the future and have the right resources to deliver education and learning for pupils. We think that both our pupils and staff deserve nothing less.

Changes in the curriculum and the way in which children will be taught in the future also means that we also have to look at whether or not, it is possible to review the age range of its schools to meet the future needs of the pupils.

3. What are we aiming achieve?

We are seeking to standardise the nursery provision at both the Welsh and English schools in the Burry Port and Pembrey areas. This will ensure that there is seamless transition through from nursery age to primary aged pupils in the Welsh Medium sector.

Nursery provision for the community is currently provided by privately run nurseries and childminders. Although the provision is of high quality, the introduction of a Local Authority Nursery will in the authority's opinion, lead to a more integrated approach for the education of young children.

The Welsh Medium provision for children at a 3-11 Primary School will allow young children in the area to smoothly progress from nursery provision on to foundation phase.

The benefits of this transition will ensure continuity of progression whilst providing a seamless progression from nursery into primary and from primary into secondary education. It is known that children benefit educationally from the elimination of stages of transfer.

On average 75% of the pupils that arrive at Ysgol Parc y Tywyn have very little, or no Welsh at all, as it is not the language spoken at home. This proposal will immerse these pupils sooner in the Welsh language.

Pupils with Additional Learning Needs will also benefit greatly. Parents will have a specialist Additional Learning Needs Coordinator to help them access necessary services and to advise parents on how to help their children begin their formal education on a more level playing field with their cohorts.

It is important that the pupils of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn begin their educational continuum at the earliest point of provision. All pupils transfer to Ysgol Y Strade and continue their studies through the medium of Welsh. It is vital that pupils begin at Ysgol Parc y Tywyn as early as possible, to ensure that their educational journey is a success as possible and for their full potential to be reached.

Conclusion

In order to support the seamless transition of pupils through the Nursery to Primary school admission, it is considered essential that the County Council moves to extend the age range of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn from 4-11 to 3-11. The provision to be provided at the new replacement school building which is currently being constructed on the former Burrows Yard near Burry Port Harbour.

This proposal will address the current disparity between the Welsh and English nursery provision being offered in this area. This will also bring Ysgol Parc y Tywyn in line with all other Welsh Medium primary schools in the Llanelli area (Ysgol Gymraeg Ffwrnes, Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel and Ysgol Dewi Sant), which offer Welsh medium nursery provision.

3.1 The Proposal

“To change the age range at Ysgol Parc y Tywyn from 4-11 to 3-11 for the beginning of the school 2018/19 academic year (1 September 2018) in the new school building which is currently being constructed on the former Burrows yard, Burry Port.

3.2 Alternative Options Considered

Option 1

Continue with the present arrangement.

This was considered prejudicial to Ysgol Parc y Tywyn as it would not offer the same level of nursery provision as the English medium primary schools it shares its catchment with and the Welsh medium primary schools it is surrounded by.

Option 2

Provide nursery provision at neighbouring schools.

Similar to option 1 it would not address the issue of pupils living within the catchment of Burry Port and Pembrey not being given the option of attending a Welsh Medium primary school nursery within catchment.

Option 3

Create a standalone Welsh Medium nursery for the catchment of Burry Port and Pembrey.

This option would not offer would not provide the benefits of the seamless transition and ensure the continuity of progression from nursery into primary education.

3.3 Advantages and Disadvantages

The advantages are as follows:

Standardisation of Welsh & English Medium nursery provision for pupils living within the catchment of Burry Port and Pembrey.

Standardisation of Welsh Medium nursery provision for pupils living in the Llanelli and surrounding areas.

Seamless progression from nursery into primary school for Welsh medium pupils living in the areas Burry Port and Pembrey.

Opportunity for employment at Ysgol Parc y Tywyn.

The disadvantages are as follows:

The reduction in demand for places at the privately run nurseries and childminders who currently provide provision.

Unemployment due to the lack of demand at the private run nurseries and childminders.

3.4 Risks Associated with this proposal

Risk	Counter Measure
Failure to obtain statutory approval to implement the proposal	Follow guidelines as set out in the School Organisation Code 2013
Integration of pupils into the school	The Authority will work with the pupils to ensure smooth transition and integration into the school

3.5 Staffing

There will be staffing implications for Ysgol Parc y Tywyn in terms of appointing additional teaching and support staff for the nursery. This can be managed effectively through existing staff recruitment arrangements.

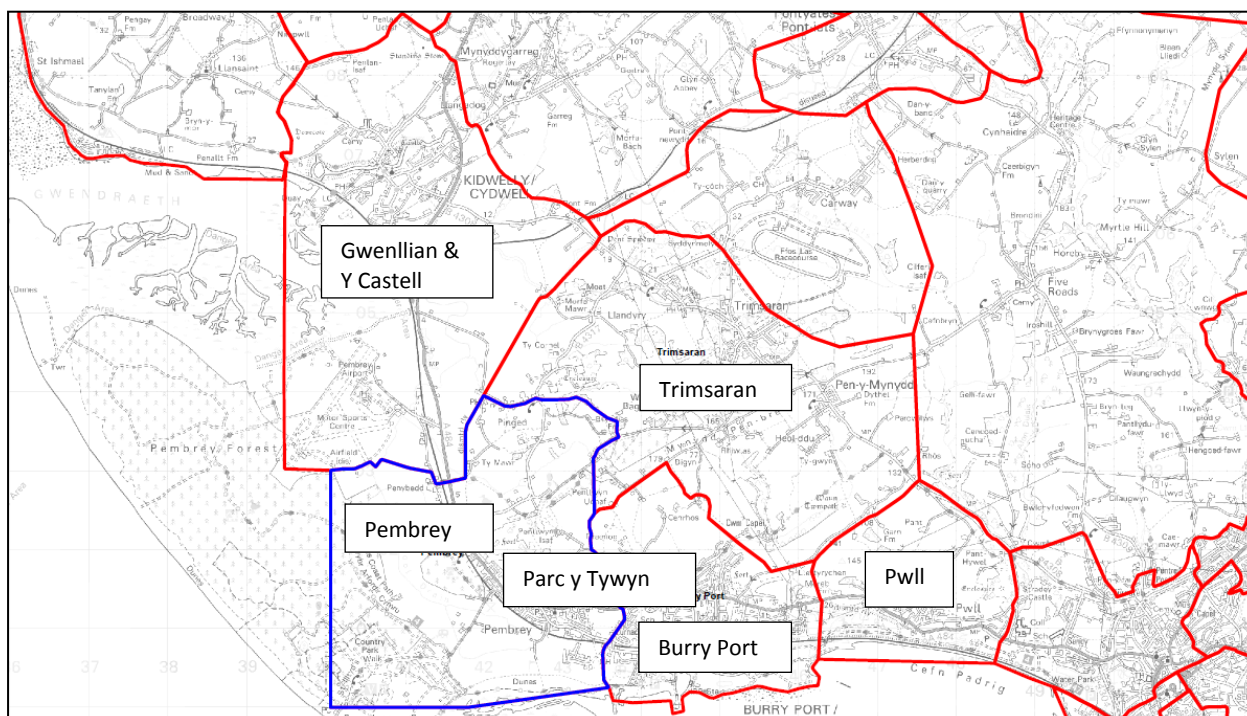
4. General Information

School / Nursery Providers which may be affected by this proposal

The catchment area of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn is surrounded by the following community primary schools:

Burry Port Community Primary School, Burry Port
Ysgol Pembrey, Pembrey
Ysgol Trimsaran, Trimsaran
Ysgol Y Castell, Kidwelly
Ysgol Gwenllian, Kidwelly
Ysgol Pwll, Pwll, Llanelli
Ysgol Gymraeg Ffwrnes, Ffwrnes, Llanelli

The following diagram shows the catchment areas for the schools



Name of School	Type of School	Language Category	Admission Number	Capacity (as at Jan 2017)	Jan 2017 PLASC Number Total (FTE)	Age Range
Burry Port	Community Primary	EM	30	240	207	3 - 11
Pembrey	Community Primary	EM	30	240	235	3 - 11
Trimsaran	Community Primary	WM	30	240	172	3 - 11
Y Castell	Community Primary	EM	30	244	267	3 - 11
Gwenllian	Community Primary	WM	18	141	129	3 - 11
Pwll	Community Primary	EM	15	123	92	3 - 11
Gymraeg Ffwrnes	Community Primary	WM	60	480	398	3 - 11

4.2 Pupil Numbers in Full Time Education (FTE) (Inc. Nursery) (Neighbouring schools)

The table and graph below shows pupil numbers in full time education (PLASC 2017) for Ysgol Parc y Tywyn, Ysgol Pembrey, Burry Port Community Primary School, Ysgol Trimsaran, Ysgol Y Castell and Ysgol Gymraeg Gwenllian, for January 2017 and the projected numbers for the next five years.

School	Capacity (Inc. Nursery)	Total Pupils FTE	Total Pupils FTE	Total Pupils FTE	Total Pupils FTE	Total Pupils FTE	Total Pupils FTE	Total Pupils FTE
		2017 (Inc. Nursery)	2018 (Inc. Nursery)	2019 (Inc. Nursery)	2020 (Inc. Nursery)	2021 (Inc. Nursery)	2022 (Inc. Nursery)	2023 (Inc. Nursery)
Burry Port	240	207	213	211	213	216	204	211
Pembrey	240	235	230	218	201	201	198	205
Trimsaran	240	172	176	176	181	187	184	182
Y Castell	244	267	260	255	249	251	254	254
Gwenllian	141	129	132	129	129	133	133	132
Pwll	123	92	96	99	100	103	105	103
Gymraeg Ffwrnes	480	398	410	426	432	438	431	433

The above table includes Full time Equivalent pupil data

4.3 Nursery providers - (within a 1 mile radius of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn)

This proposal will have a detrimental effect on employment for local private providers as provision is currently being provided for 3 year olds by local nurseries and childminders.

Primary Type	Provider Name
Full Day Care	Meithrinfa Hapus Dyrfa
Full Day Care	Serendipity Day Nursery
Full Day Care/ Sessional Care	Cylch Meithrin Porth Tywyn
Flying Start Burry Port	Hapus Dyrfa
Flying Start Pembrey	Serendipity
Cylch Meithrin	Burry Port Community Primary
Childminder	Mrs Christine Park
Childminder	Mrs Heather Williams

5. General School Information – Ysgol Parc y Tywyn

5.1 Pupil Projections

The following table shows the actual pupil numbers at Ysgol Parc y Tywyn at January 2017 and projected pupil numbers at the school for next five years.

School	Capacity (Inc. Nursery)	Total Pupils FTE 2017	Total Pupils FTE 2018	Total Pupils FTE 2019 (Inc. Nursery)	Total Pupils FTE 2020 (Inc. Nursery)	Total Pupils FTE 2021 (Inc. Nursery)	Total Pupils FTE 2022 (Inc. Nursery)	Total Pupils FTE 2023 (Inc. Nursery)
Parc y Tywyn	323~/315	262~	272~	308	306	296	299	304

~ The existing building does not include a nursery.

5.2 Historical Pupil Numbers

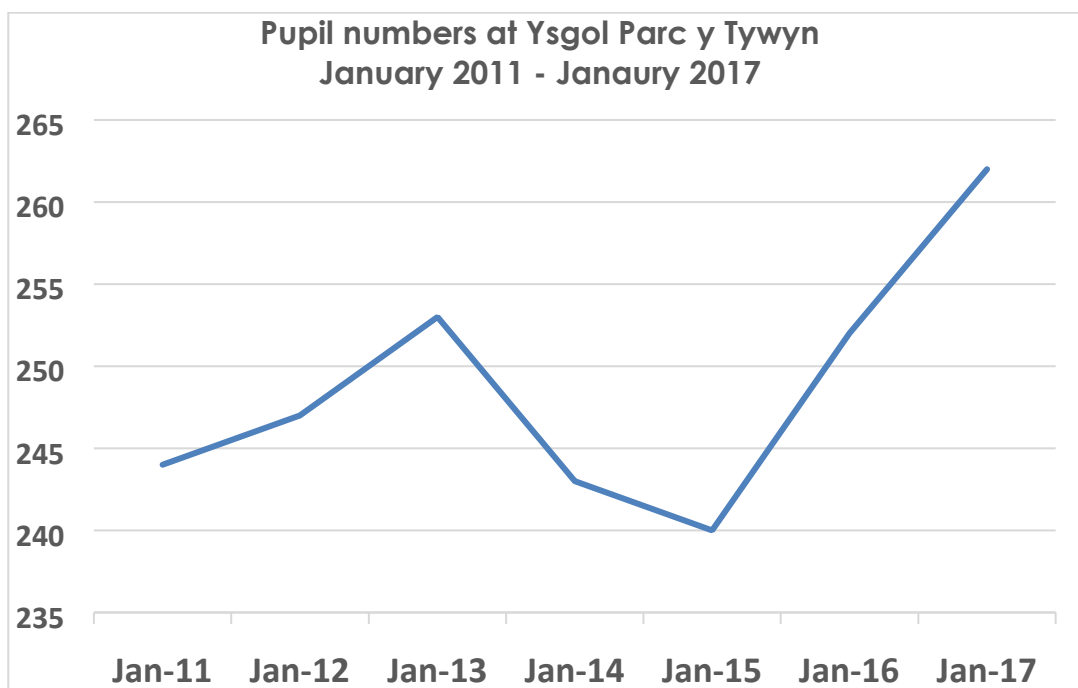
5.2.1 Current Trends

The following table and graph shows pupil numbers for January 2017 and the previous six years.

	2yrs (PT)	2yrs (FT)	3yrs (PT)	3yrs (FT)	4yrs (PT)	4yrs (FT)	5yrs	6yrs	7yrs	8yrs	9yrs	10yrs	Total (PUP)	Total (FTE)
*Jan-17	0	0	0	18	0	44	30	31	42	35	37	25	262	262
*Jan-16	0	0	0	22	0	28	30	41	35	40	25	31	252	252
*Jan-15	0	0	0	10	0	29	41	35	41	24	31	29	240	240
*Jan-14	0	0	0	16	0	36	36	39	24	31	29	32	243	243
*Jan-13	0	0	0	22	0	38	40	27	31	31	34	30	253	253
*Jan-12	0	0	0	18	0	41	29	31	34	33	32	29	247	247
*Jan-11	0	0	0	24	0	28	32	34	34	33	30	29	244	244

*Age of pupils as at 31 August of the previous year.

It can be seen from the information above and following graph that pupil numbers have remained consistently high.



5.3 Pupil Capacity Information

The methodology used for the calculation of school capacities is as per Welsh Government guidelines. "Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales" (MCSW).

	Actual Pupil Total (FTE) Jan 2017					
	Jan 2017*	Jan 2018*	Jan 2019	Jan 2020	Jan 2021	Jan 2022
Total projected numbers	262*	272*	309	306	296	299
Capacity (Nursery + Primary)	323*	323*	360 (45 + 315)	360 (45 + 315)	360 (45 + 315)	360 (45 + 315)
Surplus	61*	51*	51	54	64	61

* The Existing building does not include a nursery.

The table above provides an analysis of the implications of accommodating nursery pupils at the school.

As can be seen, the capacity of the new Ysgol Parc y Tywyn school has been designed to ensure that there is enough capacity at the school to allow for the future increase of pupil numbers.

5.4 Quality and Standard of education

The most recent Estyn inspection for Ysgol Parc y Tywyn took place in January 2012.

Context

'Ysgol Parc y Tywyn provides Welsh-medium education for pupils. The school serves the town of Burry Port and the surrounding area. It is located on the outskirts of the town, in the middle of an estate of council houses near the local secondary school. According to the school it is an area that is developing economically with recent developments in the world of tourism and leisure. Nine per cent of pupils are entitled to free school meals, a figure that is significantly lower than the average for Wales and the education authority's average'.

'Twenty-four per cent of pupils receive support for additional educational needs, a percentage that is a little higher than the national figure. Three pupils have a statement of special educational needs. No permanent exclusions have been recorded since the last inspection'.

During each inspection, inspectors aim to answer three key questions:

Key Question 1: How good are the outcomes?

Key Question 2: How good is provision?

Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management?

Inspectors also provide an overall judgement on the school's current performance and on its prospects for improvement.

In these evaluations, inspectors use a four-point scale:

Judgement	What the judgement means
Excellent	Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice
Good	Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement
Adequate	Strengths outweigh areas for improvement
Unsatisfactory	Important areas for improvement outweigh

Summary

The School's current performance	Adequate
The Schools prospects for improvement	Adequate

Main Findings

Key Question 1.	How good are outcomes ?	Adequate
Key Question 2.	How good is provision ?	Good
Key Question 3.	How good are leadership and management ?	Adequate

The impact of this proposal would mean the integration of a nursery in Ysgol Parc y Tywyn.

The authority is of the opinion that this will improve the learning environment and experience. It would provide a more coherent foundation Phase for the young learners. This would be by the elimination of a stage of transition between nursery and reception, and the continuity of staffing and data transfer for individual pupils especially in teaching, care and support for pupils aged 3 – 11 years and provide the learning opportunities in a single through primary school that are available in other neighbouring schools in Carmarthenshire.

These factors would have a positive effect on the learning experience for the children.

5.5 School Standards

National School Categorisation System

The Minister for Education and Skills announced the introduction of the national School Categorisation System in September 2014. The system is not purely data-driven but also takes into account the quality of leadership and teaching and learning in our schools. The system will not take the place of Estyn reports, Estyn will continue to inspect schools and provide an external check on the national school categorisation system when inspecting.

The new system evaluates and assesses schools and places them in a support category using the following information:

- A range of performance measures provided by the Welsh Government.
- Robust self-evaluation by the school on its capacity to improve in relation to leadership and teaching and learning.
- Assessment of the school's self-evaluation by challenge advisers in the regional consortia, agreed with the County Council.

The new categorisation system will give a clear and fair picture of a school's progress. There is a three step process in generating a category for a school, firstly after the performance data and self-evaluation have been analysed a draft support category is generated for each school. This category is discussed with the school by regional consortia and then agreed with the local authority.

The table below summarises the data for Ysgol Parc y Tywyn:

National School Categorisation System – Data 2016

School	Standards Group	Improvement Capacity	Support Category
Ysgol Parc y Tywyn	2	A	Green

As can be seen from the table above Ysgol Parc y Tywyn has been categorised in the Green category which is reported as being a **'highly effective school'** which is **'well run'**, has a **'strong leadership'** and is **'clear about its priorities for improvement'**.

Leadership and Management

It is not anticipated that learner outcomes will be adversely affected during the change to the age range from 4-11 to 3-11. Indeed, we are wholly confident that learner outcomes will be enhanced as learners are integrated into an appropriate learning environment from an earlier age. All aspects of provision and outcomes will be monitored in line with the high expectations and processes of our regional school improvement service – ERW.

In addition, the County Council collects and collates learner outcomes on a regular and systematic basis to ensure the frequent monitoring and progression of standards across all core areas of learning. This will continue throughout the proposal of change to ensure that learner outcomes are continuously monitored and not affected as a result of the proposal. Central to this work will be the support and challenge work undertaken by ERW Challenge Advisers within the school. This activity will include a menu of scheduled visits focusing on analyses of pupil outcomes and the quality of teaching provision and learning. It is important to note that the findings of this work are always shared directly with the Governing Body. This ensures the highest levels of whole school accountability are firmly in place in support of learners' outcomes.

ERW Challenge Advisers place much emphasis on a school's ability to demonstrate high levels of 'valued added performance' based on an individual learner's benchmark starting point. This aspect will remain a key feature of the monitoring and review of the school's performance during this period.

5.6 Pupil Costs

Based on 2017/18 data the budget cost per pupil is £3,166 at Ysgol Parc y Tywyn, which is lower than the county average of £3,649.

5.7 Financial Implications - Revenue

Ysgol Parc y Tywyn is funded in accordance with the County Council Fair Funding policy and will receive resources on the same basis as any other school within the County Council, based on the new school's pupil numbers and facilities.

5.8 Admission Arrangements

The County Council is the Admissions Authority for Ysgol Parc y Tywyn. The current admission number (AN) is 40. When the new building has completed the Admission number will increase to 45.

If you have any queries in relation to admission to the school the contact details for Carmarthenshire LA are as follows:

School Admissions Unit
Carmarthenshire County Council
Department for Education and Children
Building 2, St. David's Park
Carmarthen. SA31 3HB

Tel No: 01267 246449

E-mail : admissions@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

5.9 Building Facilities

Existing

The **Building Condition Survey undertaken in August 2001** reported that Ysgol Parc y Tywyn is 'located on the edge of Porth Tywyn, built in the early 1970s comprising of a modular style block brick with low-pitched roof. Terrapin classrooms have been added to provide additional classroom facilities'.

'Access for wheelchair disabled and the partially sighted would be possible with the introduction of some small ramps to the entrance doors'.

In 2010 as part of the **National 21st Century School Programme assessment**, EC Harris carried out a survey on behalf of all schools in Wales. The survey scored each school building for

1) Condition, 2) Priority and 3) Suitability.

1) Condition – Categorized from A to D:

- A Good (No Deterioration)
- B Satisfactory (Minor Deterioration)
- C Poor (Major Deterioration)**
- D Bad (Life Expired)

2) Priority – A recommended timeline from 1 to 3 for carrying out any work:

- 1 Urgent (1 Year)
- 2 Essential (2 Year)**
- 3 Desirable (3 to 5 Years)

3) Suitability – Categorised from A to D:

- A Good (Suitable levels for Teaching, Learning and Well Being in Schools)
- B Reasonable (but Behaviour / morale adversely and management affected)
- C Poor (Teaching methods inhibited)**
- D Bad (Severe situation and / or Unable to teach the curriculum)

Ysgol Parc y Tywyn building was categorised as follows:

Condition	Priority	Suitability
C	2	C

New Building

When the new building is completed it is expected to be awarded a grade A in Building Condition and the highest grade in respect of Suitability. It will also be fully compliant in respect of disability access and in respect of the EPC (Energy Performance Certificate), it receive an A rating.

5.10 Transport

Transport arrangements will be made in accordance with the Council Councils home to school transport policy. The overall change in travelling time is expected to reduce for pupils living within the catchment area due to new road infrastructure that has been put in place as part of the Burry Port harbour redevelopment.

5.11 School Catchment Area

The school's site will move from Heol Elfed to just off Burrows Terrace, which is less than a mile from the existing site. There will be no change in catchment area.

5.12 Secondary School Transfers

There will be no changes to the current transfer arrangements for pupils in respect of Secondary education.

5.13 Additional Learning Needs

There will be no change to the current provision offered for pupils with additional educational learning needs at the school.

6. The Statutory Process

6.1 Consultation Period

The consultation period for this proposal starts on **6 November 2017** and ends on **17 December 2017**. During this period you can ask questions and express your views by writing a letter or completing the attached response form in **Appendix E**. Letters and response forms should be sent to:

Department for Education and Children's Services, Building 2, St. David's Park, Jobs Well Road, Carmarthen, SA31 3HB, or by E-mail to: DECMEP@carmarthenshire.gov.uk no later than noon on **17 December 2017**.

Consultees can submit their views in favour of or against a proposal. Responses received during the consultation period will not be treated as statutory objections. If consultees wish to object, they will need to do so in writing during the statutory objection period outlined below.

6.2 Considering Your Views

Within 13 weeks of **17 December 2017** a consultation report will be published on Carmarthenshire County Council's website. Hard copies of the report will also be available on request. The report will summarise the issues raised by consultees and provide Carmarthenshire County Council's response to these issues. The report will also contain Estyn's view of the proposal.

The County Council of Carmarthenshire County Council will consider the consultation report and decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal.

If the County Council of Carmarthenshire County Council decides to continue with the proposal Carmarthenshire County Council must publish a statutory notice.

6.3 Statutory Notice

The statutory notice will be published on Carmarthenshire County Council's web site and posted on the main and all other entrances of the school. Copies of the notice will be made available to the school to distribute to pupils, parents, carers and guardians, staff members and governors (the school may also distribute the notice by email).

The notice will set out the details of the proposal and invite anyone who wishes to object to do so in writing within a period of 28 days.

6.4 Determination of Proposal

The Full County Council of Carmarthenshire County Council will determine the proposal. The County Council may decide to approve, reject or approve the proposal with modifications. In doing so, the Executive Board will also take into account any statutory objections that is received.

6.5 Decision notification

Following determination of proposals all interested parties will be informed and advised of the availability of the decision which will be published electronically on Carmarthenshire County Council's website.

6.6 The Statutory Process Time-Table

The statutory process and timetable will be as follows:-

<p>6 November 2017 (42 Days)</p>	<p>Issue of this consultation document to identified and other interested parties.</p>
<p>17 December 2017</p>	<p>Closing date for views on the proposal to be received by the Department for Education & Children.</p>
	<p>Within 13 weeks of 17 December 2017 a Consultation Report will be taken to the County Council and published on Carmarthenshire County Council's website.</p> <p>Decision to proceed to publish statutory notice. OR alternatively proposal ends.</p> <p>If the decision is made to proceed then a statutory notice will be published. The notice will outline details of the proposal and be published on the Council's web site and be displayed near the entrance of the school and schools which are subject to the proposals. Copies of the notice will be made available to the school to distribute to parents, guardians and staff members.</p> <p>Following publication there will be a 28 day period during which time formal written objections will be invited.</p> <p>The statutory notice will give details on how you may record your objections to the proposal.</p>
<p>April 2018</p>	<p>End of formal 28 day notice period for objections. County Council will determine the proposal. The County Council may decide to approve, reject or approve the proposal with modifications, in doing so the County Council will take into account any statutory objections that it received.</p> <p>Deadline to notify parents of intention to implement proposal.</p>
<p>July 2018</p>	<p>Following determination of proposals all interested parties will be informed and advised of the availability of the decision which will be published electronically on Carmarthenshire County Council's website.</p>

7. Appendix A – Community Impact Assessment

Community Impact Assessment

Ysgol Parc y Tywyn is located in Heol Elfed, which is situated on the outskirts of Burry Port, in the middle of an estate of council houses near the local English medium secondary school.

Burry Port is located approximately 5 miles west from the town of Llanelli.

There are currently 262 pupils between three (rising fours) and 11 years old on roll. There are ten classes in the school. The number of reception classes has increased from one to three to accommodate a rise in pupil numbers. Approximately 10.9% of pupils are entitled to free school meals.

There are currently 27 pupils with additional learning needs at the school. 2 pupils are statemented, 11 pupils are categorised as Action plus and 14 are School Action.

There are very few pupils from minority ethnic backgrounds.

The school currently provides education for pupils between 4 – 11. The new school building when completed will have provision to accommodate a nursery class which will increase the age range to 3 – 11. Pupils are taught through the medium of Welsh.

The school provides a choice of after school activities which include various clubs which cater a range of outdoor activities and clubs that develop pupil self-confidence and independence. There is good provision to ensure continuity and progression in pupils knowledge and understanding of basic skills as they move through the school.

The partnership with parents and the community is an outstanding feature of the work and activities of the school.

Catchment Area Analysis

Local / Catchment Area School

Carmarthenshire County Council recognises that there is an important relationship between a school and its community. The County Council has therefore identified a designated geographical area which the school serves and is referred to as the school's catchment area. Details of a school's catchment area is available from the school, or the County Council's website or available from the relevant Admissions Authority.

Whilst living in a school's catchment area does not guarantee admission to the school it is an important factor as it will give the application a higher priority

than those from individuals who live outside the catchment area. Residency within the defined catchment area of a school is also important as it is one of the key criteria in assessing eligibility for assistance with home to school transport.

Prior to making an application for admission to a school the County Council strongly recommends that you contact, discuss and if possible visit your local school so that you are aware of the facilities and opportunities they are able to offer.

Most parents send their child to their local school but parents have a right to state a preference for other schools.

Children attending the school from inside catchment

Based on January 2017 pupil address data, the geographical data in relation to the pupil distribution for Ysgol Parc y Tywyn catchment area indicated that of the 262 pupils on roll, 240 lived within the catchment area.

Children attending the school from outside catchment

Based on January 2017 pupil address data, the geographical data in relation to the pupil distribution for Ysgol Parc y Tywyn catchment area indicated that of the 262 pupils on roll, 22 pupils lived outside the catchment area.

Children within the catchment area attending other schools

Based on January 2017 pupil address data, the geographical data in relation to the pupil distribution for Ysgol Parc y Tywyn catchment area indicated that 398 pupils within the catchment attend other schools. A significant number of these pupils attend either Burry Port or Pembrey primary schools as they share the same catchment at Ysgol Parc y Tywyn.

Ysgol Parc y Tywyn Facilities / Activities

Ysgol Parc y Tywyn offers pupils a breakfast club during term time between 8am and 8:50am. The school also offers after school clubs for pupils wishing to participate in various activities between Monday and Friday until 5:20pm every school day.

After school clubs deliver various activities (depending on the time of year), to extend the pupil learning experience by enabling them to participate in a range of outdoor activities and develop self-confidence and independence. i.e. Clwb Hwyl and Junior School Clubs

Community use of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn building

The community do not currently use the building.

Church in Wales Provision

Should parents wish to send their children to a school offering the church in Wales character their nearest school would be Pentip Voluntary Aided Primary school in Llanelli subject to parental preference.

8. Appendix B – Welsh Language Impact Assessment

Carmarthenshire County Council's vision is to provide a service, which will ensure access to high quality learning opportunities for all children, young people and adults, this enabling the achievement of their full potential within the context of the unique bilingual nature of the county.

This proposal supports the Council's vision and aims for Welsh medium education as set out in Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2014 – 2017. The proposal will allow greater opportunities for access to Welsh medium education within the Burry Port area and will ensure linguistic continuity from the nursery sector along the key stages to the secondary sector so that every pupil becomes fluent and confident in both Welsh and English languages.

Language Category

Ysgol Parc y Tywyn is categorised as a Welsh medium primary school. As noted in the Admission to School – Information to Parents booklet this means that in the Foundation Phase, pupils are taught through the medium of Welsh and that in KS2, at least 70% of teaching is through the medium of Welsh. Welsh is the language of communication with pupils and the language of the day to day business of the school.

Standards

In Foundation Phase, pupils are assessed in different areas of learning. Based on 2016 data, 95.12% of pupils achieved at least Outcome 5 in "Language, literacy and communication skills in Welsh, whilst 48.78% of pupils achieved at least Outcome 6. In Key Stage 2, pupils are assessed in each of the core subjects. Based on 2016 data, 93.55% of pupils achieved at least Level 4 in Welsh first language.

After school activities which provide additional opportunities to use the Welsh language

To promote the Welsh language the pupils at Ysgol Parc y Tywyn are fortunate to be able benefit from several after school clubs, which are held on various nights. These include, 'Clwb yr Urdd', 'Clwb Côr Mawr', 'Clwb Unsain' and 'Clwb Deulais'.

9. Appendix C – Welsh Language Impact Assessment

Carmarthenshire County Council Assessing Impact

The Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) brings together and replaces the previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act. It simplifies and strengthens the law, removes inconsistencies and makes it easier for people to understand and comply with it. The majority of the Act came into force on 1 October 2010.

The Act includes a new public sector equality duty (the 'general duty'), replacing the separate duties on race, disability and gender equality. This came into force on 5 April 2011.

What is the general duty?

The aim of the general duty is to ensure that public authorities and those carrying out a public function consider how they can positively contribute to a fairer society through advancing equality and good relations in their day-to-day activities. The duty ensures that equality considerations are built into the design of policies and the delivery of services and that they are kept under review. This will achieve better outcomes for all.

The duties are legal obligations. Failure to meet the duties may result in authorities being exposed to legal challenge.

Under equality legislation, public authorities have legal duties to pay 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality with regard to race, disability and gender, including gender reassignment, as well as to promote good race relations. The Equality Act 2010 introduces a new public sector duty which extends this coverage to age, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and religion or belief. The law requires that this duty to pay 'due regard' be demonstrated in the decision making process. It is also important to note that public authorities subject to the equality duties are also likely to be subject to the obligations under the Human Rights Act and it is therefore wise also to consider the potential impact that decisions could have on human rights as part of the same process.

Carmarthenshire's approach to Equality Impact

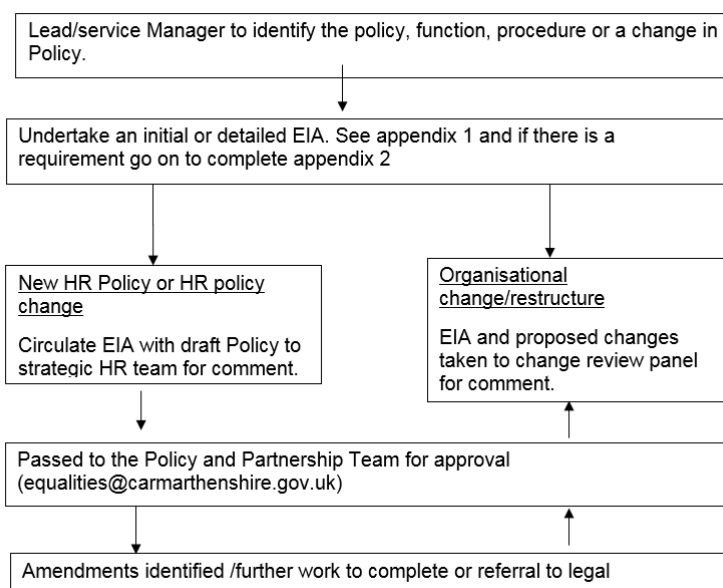
In order to ensure that the council is considering the potential equality impact of its proposed policies and practices, and in order to evidence that we have done so, every proposal will be required to be supported by the attached Impact Assessment. Where this assessment identifies a significant impact then more detail may be required.

Reporting on assessments

Where it is clear from the assessment that the likely impact on the authority's ability to meet the general duty is substantial, then it must publish a report.

Carmarthenshire County Council Assessing Impact

Equality impact assessment – Process to follow where HR implications have been identified



Initial Equalities Impact Assessment Template

Department: Education & Children	Completed by (lead): Martin Jones	Date of initial assessment: August 2017 Revision Dates: TBC
Area to be assessed: (i.e. name of <i>policy, function, procedure, practice or a financial decision</i>)	To legally change the age range of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn from 4-11 to 3-11 by 2018-19 autumn term (1 September 2018)	
Is this existing or new function/policy, procedure, practice or decision?	School Re-organisation Proposal – Modernising Education Programme	
What evidence has been used to inform the assessment and policy? (please list only)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21st Century Schools Programme Modernising Education Programme School Organisation Code 2013 PLASC Data 2016/2017 		

1. Describe the aims, objectives or purpose of the proposed function/policy, practice, procedure or decision and who is intended to benefit.	The aim of the scheme is to provide the pupils and staff of Ysgol Parc y Tywyn primary school with a nursery by legally increasing the age range pupils are admitted to school the current 4 – 11 to 3 -11. The authority is seeking to standardise the nursery provision at both the Welsh and English schools in the Burry Port and Pembrey areas. This will ensure that there is seamless transition through from nursery age to primary aged pupils in the Welsh Medium sector. Nursery provision is already being provided in the Burry Port & Pembrey English Medium schools		
The Public Sector Equality Duty requires the Council to have “due regard” to the need to:- (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; (2) advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and (3) foster good relations between different groups (see guidance notes)	2. What is the level of impact on each group/ protected characteristics in terms of the three aims of the duty? Please indicate high (H) medium (M), low (L), no effect (N) for each.	3. Identify the risk or positive effect that could result for each of the group/protected characteristics?	4. If there is a disproportionately negative impact what mitigating factors have you considered?

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			Risks	Positive effects	
Protected characteristics	Age	L		The proposal will provide nursery age pupils with access to nursery provision within a school building	
	Disability	L		The nursery will be accommodated in a building that will be fully DDA compliant ensuring full accessibility for all	
	Gender reassignment	N	Neutral		
	Race	N	Neutral		
	Religion/Belief	N	Neutral		
	Pregnancy and maternity	N	Neutral		
	Sexual Orientation	N	Neutral		
	Sex	N	Neutral		
Welsh language	L			This will standardise the nursery provision at both the Welsh and	

				English schools in the Burry Port and Pembrey areas	
	Any other area	L	L		

5. Has there been any consultation/engagement with the appropriate protected characteristics?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO The Project Officer has liaised with the Headteacher, private nursery and childminders providers in the Burry Port and Pembrey area. Local members have also been fully informed of the proposal
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6. What action(s) will you take to reduce any disproportionately negative impact, if any? **To ensure that all key stakeholders are fully informed throughout the statutory process.**

7. Procurement
 Following collation of evidence for this assessment, are there any procurement implications to the activity, proposal and service. **Not Applicable**
 Please take the findings of this assessment into your procurement plan. Contact the corporate procurement unit for further advice.

8. Human resources
 Following collation of evidence for this assessment, are there any Human resource implications to the activity, proposal or service? **As there will be an increase in age range, additional staffing will be required. This will be addressed as the scheme progresses and Human Resources will be fully consulted.**

9. Based on the information in sections 2 and 6, should this function/policy/procedure/practice or a decision proceed to Detailed Impact Assessment? (recommended if one or more H under section 2)	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
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Approved by: Head of Service	Andi Morgan	Date: August 2017
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Thank you for completing this assessment.

For further information regarding Assessing Impact, please contact the -
 Policy & Partnership Team
 Chief Executive's Department
 01267 22(4676)
equalities@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

10. Appendix D – Area Profile

Ysgol Parc y Tywyn falls within the ward of Pembrey 2.

Pembrey - (Pembrey 2 (SA160TP) LSOA Code: W10000711)

WELSH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION (WIMD)

WIMD 2014 based on fine-grained geography of lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs).

The WIMD 2014 is compiled from eight domains, Income, Employment, Health, Education, Housing, Access to Services, Physical Environment and Community Safety and is published at Lower Super Output Area of which there are 112 in Carmarthenshire.

Under WIMD, where Rank 1 is the most deprived, **Pembrey 2** ranks 14th in Carmarthenshire from 112 LSOAs and is ranked 400 in Wales from 1909 LSOAs.

The highest level of deprivation attributed to **Pembrey 2** is the Employment domain, being ranked 10th in Carmarthenshire and 292 in Wales for this domain.

Pembrey 2 – Ashburnham to Pembrey Country Park

LSOA	Overall Index		Domains: Income		Employment		Health		Education		Housing		Access to Services		Physical Environment		Community Safety	
	14	400	11	412	10	292	30	535	14	413	14	435	49	459	110	1782	37	1058
Pembrey 2	14	400	11	412	10	292	30	535	14	413	14	435	49	459	110	1782	37	1058

Source: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2014 (released November 2014), Welsh Assembly Government.

Note: LSOAs ranked **1-112** (Carmarthenshire), **1-1909** (Wales).

Area Profile for Postcode: SA16 0TP: (Pembrey 2 LSOA Code: W10000711)

Population:	2,030
Welsh Language:	People with knowledge of Welsh: 45.1% Can speak Welsh: 26.8% Can speak, Read and Write Welsh: 17.8% Can speak Welsh (Age 3-15):5.3% No skills in Welsh:54.9%
Number of Children & Young People:	17.9% (Aged 0-15) 9.9% (Aged 16-24)
Population Mitigation:	Overall population churn in area: rate per 1,000 Data no longer available
Ethnicity:	White (British): 97.0% White (Irish): 0.7% White (Other): 0.2% Mixed (White/Black Caribbean): 0.4% Asian British (Indian) 0.1% Asian British (Other Asian): 0.3% Other Ethnic Group: 0.3%
Religion:	Christian: 60.4% Buddhist: 0.0% Hindu: 0.0% Jewish: 0.0% Muslim: 0.0% Sikh: 0.1% Other Religion: 0.4% No Religion: 32.8% Religion Not Stated: 6.3%
Deprivation Ranking:	Total number of Households: 908 Total households not deprived in any dimensions: 257 No of households Deprived of between 1-4 dimensions: 651

The new site falls within the ward of Burry Port 2.

Burry Port 2 - (Burry Port 2 (SA16 0NH) LSOA Code: W01000633)

WELSH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION (WIMD)

WIMD 2014 based on fine-grained geography of lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs). The WIMD 2014 is compiled from eight domains, Income, Employment, Health, Education, Housing, Access to Services, Physical Environment and Community Safety and is published at Lower Super Output Area of which there are 112 in Carmarthenshire.

Under WIMD, where Rank 1 is the most deprived **Burry Port 2** ranks 18th in Carmarthenshire and 471 in Wales.

The highest level of deprivation attributed to **Burry Port 2** is the Community Safety domain, ranking 12th in Carmarthenshire and 412 in Wales.

- Burry Port 1 – Burry Port Central**
- Burry Port 2 – Burry Port South**
- Burry Port 3 – Burry Port Suburbs**

Burry Port 2

LSO A	Overall Index		Income		Employment		Health		Education		Housing		Access to Services		Physical Environment		Community Safety	
	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales	Rank	Wales
Burry Port 2	18	471	18	533	13	335	55	880	16	431	47	850	60	597	37	663	12	412

Source: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2014 (released November 2014), Welsh Assembly Government.

Note: LSOAs ranked **1-112** (Carmarthenshire), **1-1909** (Wales).

Area Profile for postcode SA16 0NH (Burry Port 2 LSOA Code W01000633)

Population:	1,406
Welsh Language:	People with knowledge of Welsh: 46.9% Can speak Welsh: 28.9 Can speak, Read and Write Welsh: 19.3% Can speak Welsh (Age 3-15):5.5% No skills in Welsh: 53.1%
Number of Children & Young People:	15.6% (Aged 0-15) 10.5% (Aged 16-24)
Population Mitigation:	Overall population churn in area: rate per 1,000 Data no longer available
Ethnicity:	White (British): 97.2% White (Irish): 0.7% White (Gypsy or Irish Traveller): 0.1% White (Other): 1.0% Mixed (White/Black Caribbean): 0% Mixed (White & Asian): 0.1% Mixed (Other): 0.2% Asian British (Indian) 0.1% Asian British (Other Asian): 0.3% Black/African/Caribbean/Black British; Caribbean: 0.1% Other Ethnic Group: 0.1%
Religion:	Christian: 61.6% Buddhist: 0.3% Hindu: 0% Jewish: 0.1% Muslim: 0.3 % Sikh: 0.1% Other Religion: 0.8% No Religion: 28.2% Religion Not Stated: 8.6%
Deprivation Ranking:	Total number of Households: 703 Total households not deprived in any dimensions: 168 No of households Deprived of between 1-4 dimensions: 535

11. Appendix E – Response Pro-forma

Please provide us with your comments on the proposals regarding the future provision for primary pupils residing in the **Ysgol Parc y Tywyn** catchment area.

Your comments:

Do you have any other issues that you wish to bring to our attention?

Please tick one of the boxes if you wish to be notified with a copy of the consultation report. Welsh copy English copy

Signature _____
Address _____

Postcode _____

Position /
Category of
Respondent
(E.g. parent) _____
Date _____

Please note that unless you indicate otherwise your comments will be open to the public as part of the formal records of the consultation.

Please detach this form and return to: Department for Education and Children's Services, Building 2, St David's Park, Jobs Well Road, Carmarthen. SA31 3HB or E-mail to DECMEP@carmarthenshire.gov.uk no later than **17 December 2017**.

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 28TH SEPTEMBER 2017

Forthcoming items for next meeting – Monday 27th November 2017

1. School Budgets (including TIC work)
2. ERW Business Plan 2017/18 & Review of 2016/17 (including update on curriculum changes)
3. MEP Proposals – Llanedi / Banffosfelen / Laugharne
4. New Children's Zone
5. Fostering Annual Reports
6. Behavioural Services Review

Education & Children Scrutiny Committee – Forward Work Programme 2016/17 (as at 7th March 2017)

23 May 16	17 June 16	22 Sept 16	10 Oct 16	21 Nov 16	22 Dec 16	26 Jan 17	15 March 17	24 April 17
Annual Report of Director of Social Services 2015/16 [Joint with SC&H]	Draft CCC Annual Report 15/16 and Imp. Plan 16/17	Unverified Results 2016 Teacher Assessments and External Examinations	ERW Business Plan 2016/17 & Review of 2015/16 (including ERW Inspection 2016)	MEP Proposal – Llangennech (Stage 3)	Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)	Task & Finish Report – Attainment Gap and eFSM Learners	Q3 Performance Monitoring Report 2016/17	Corporate Parenting & Safeguarding Panel Annual Report 2016
CCC Draft Play Sufficiency Assessment	EOY Budget Monitoring 2015/16	Youth Support Service Business Plan 2016/17	School Improvement Panel Annual Report 2015/16	ALN Reform – A Carms response	3-year Revenue Budget Consultation	School Performance and Achievements 2015/16	Budget Monitoring 2016/17	
MEP Proposal – Llangennech	EOY Performance Monitoring 2015/16	Q1 Performance Monitoring Report 2016/17	TIC Project Update	Half-Year Compliments & Complaints Report	5-year Capital Budget Consultation	CSSIW Inspection of Children's Services	WG Categorisation of Schools 2017	
MEP Biennial Review	11-19 Learning Network Update	Budget Monitoring 2016/17	School Visit Activity Report 2015/16	Budget Monitoring 2016/17	Draft Carms Curriculum Declaration		Actions & Referrals Update	
E&C Forward Work Programme 2016/17	MEP Proposal – Bro Myrddin	E&C Scrutiny Annual Report 2015/16		Actions & Referrals Update	Education Business Plan 2017/18			
	WESP Consultation							
	Actions & Referrals Update							

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday, 24 April 2017

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, P.E.M. Jones, M.J.A. Lewis and D.W.H. Richards

Mrs J. Voyle Williams – Church in Wales Representative

Also in attendance:

Councillor G.O. Jones, Executive Board Member for Education and Children

The following Officers were in attendance:

S. Smith - Head of Children's Services

B. James - Service Manager Corporate Parenting

J. Meredith - Service Manager Fostering and Resources

S. Owen - Looked After Children Education Co-ordinator

Ms. M. James - Personal Advisor

C. Gadd - Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance:

Care Leaver Representatives

Chamber, County Hall, Carmarthen - 10.00 - 11.10 am

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. V. Kenny (Roman Catholic Church Representative), Mrs. K. Hill (Parent Governor Member – Dinefwr Area) and Mrs. A. Pickles (Parent Governor Member – Carmarthen Area).

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

3. DECLARATIONS OF PROHIBITED PARTY WHIPS

There were no declarations of party whips.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (NONE RECEIVED)

No public questions were received.

5. CORPORATE PARENTING UPDATE

The Committee considered a Corporate Parenting Annual Update Report, which provided information on Corporate Parenting, unaccompanied asylum seeking children and fostering services. The report outlined the successful outcomes that

had been achieved, the challenges of retaining foster carers and having sufficient staff and resources to meet the increasing demands of care leavers.

Officers highlighted that Corporate Parenting included young people leaving care aged between 16 and 25 years old. The Committee heard from two care leavers about their experiences and the support that they had been provided with. Members were informed that the Council offered traineeships to care leavers, which provided them with an opportunity to develop their skills. Members noted that there were positive comments about how they had been supported and recognised the work undertaken by the Service. The Committee thanked the care leavers for the useful insight they had provided and noted that it was a beneficial for the Committee to hear directly from those receiving such services.

Officers explained that the Local Authority had a Corporate Parenting Strategy that outlined the measures it would take to ensure that outcomes for looked after children and care leavers were positive. The number of looked after children had consistently declined since 2011, with the current number being 210. It was noted that the majority of looked after children were educated in mainstream education with only 11 children accessing alternative education provision. It was highlighted that Carmarthenshire was doing well in comparison to the Welsh average in regards to school attainment of looked after pupils and schools were provided with support from the Corporate Parenting Team.

The Corporate Parenting Services provided access to therapy, counselling and therapeutic interventions for looked after children and their carers. It was highlighted that the services supported a third of the County's looked after children and such services were important to address their emotional health. It was noted that the Hywel Dda Health Board's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) had only seen 3 looked after children in the last year.

Officers reported that the projected number of care leavers would increase over the next few years due to changes in legislation and it would take some time for the numbers to decrease. It was highlighted that the Leaving Care Team provide a range of training opportunities and support for care leavers and planned to continue to reduce the number of care leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs). However, Carmarthenshire was below the Welsh average for care leavers who were NEETs. The Committee requested that comparison figures against other local authorities and national averages to be included in future reports.

Ensuring care leavers live in appropriate accommodation was recognised as a challenge moving forward, especially with the requirements of the 'When I am Ready Scheme', which allowed care leavers to remain with their foster families for longer. It was noted that this was a positive scheme, however, there was no additional funding support from the Welsh Government. It also prevented some foster carers being released for new placements. It was highlighted that no care leaver had been placed in Bed & Breakfast accommodation in the last 12 months.

Members queried the number of looked after children from other counties that attended schools in Carmarthenshire and asked who was responsible for them. The Service Manager for Corporate Parenting explained that the Council was not the Corporate Parents for looked after children from other counties and there were currently 105 placed in the area. It was clarified that the local authority where the

child had become looked after was responsible for them. It was noted that schools now received Pupil Deprivation Grant for children from out of county. Members asked if it was the best system to place children in other areas. The Head of Children's Services commented that there was a national shortage of foster carers and at times the services had to be bought from Independent Foster Agencies, which could result in children being placed out of county. It was highlighted that Carmarthenshire was the best Council in Wales for keeping its own looked after children within its own county.

The Service Manager for Fostering and Resources informed the Committee of the work that was being undertaken in the Fostering Service. It was highlighted that there were fewer looked after children, however they often had more complex needs. It continued to be a challenge to recruit foster carers to meet demand. The Head of Children's Services noted that there was a Welsh Government proposal to develop regional fostering services, similar to the setup of the regional adoption services. It was highlighted that there would be more complexity in regionalising fostering services.

Members raised concerns regarding the number of placement moves for looked after children. Officers recognised that this was a concern and outlined the improvements that were being undertaken. It was explained that the majority of placements moves were for children over the age of 10 and it was difficult to recruit foster carers for teenagers and some of those children had very challenging and complex needs. An action plan had been put in place to address teenage placements, which included a fostering recruitment programme targeting placements for over 10s. There had also been some discussions about shared marketing and media advertising with neighbouring local authorities. Placement stability was monitored through the Permanency Panel and it was planned for additional meetings to be held to review placements requiring additional support. In addition, a senior social worker had a specific role in supporting highly challenging teenage placements. Members queried if foster carers received training on managing challenging and complex placements. Officers confirmed that there was extensive training and Carmarthenshire had been commended for the quality of its training.

Another area highlighted that required further recruitment was for mother and baby placements and it was noted that the Council was one of the few that offered this option. The Committee was informed that a Recruitment and Retention Strategy for foster carers had been developed and was being implemented. It was noted that Carmarthenshire provided one of the lowest reimbursements to foster carers and this had an impact on recruitment. There was a lot of competition from neighbouring local authorities and Independent Fostering Agencies. However, it was highlighted that the Service did provide good support services and managed to retain foster carers. It was noted that they had recently managed to recruit some foster carers from independent agencies. Another challenge was the average age of foster carer was 55 years old and strategies for attracting younger foster carers were being considered.

It was noted that during 2014-15 there had been a high number of foster carers deregistering. On further analysis the Service was satisfied that they had not lost foster carers due to dissatisfaction but for other reasons such as changes to personal circumstances and retirement. There was evidence that a good in house service was being provided.

Members queried if the Independent Fostering Agencies (IFAs) were businesses and it was confirmed that generally they were private organisations, with a few being charitable organisations. It was highlighted that the Independent Agencies charged Local Authorities a lot more for placements. The Head of Children's Services explained that in Scotland there were regulations to prevent IFAs from making a profit, however, in Wales and England there was no regulation on the costs they could charge and some organisations had made a considerable profit. It was highlighted that it had been suggested to Welsh Government that they should follow Scotland's example in developing regulations. The Committee agreed to recommend to Executive Board that the Council writes to the Welsh Government supporting the proposals to develop regulations to restrict Independent Fostering Agencies making a profit from placing looked after children.

The Service Manager for Corporate Parenting provided the Committee with an overview of accommodating child refugees and asylum seekers in Carmarthenshire. It was explained that there were a range of programmes and ways in which child refugees and asylum seekers may re-settle in the UK. It was highlighted that these children would be classed as looked after, however, the costs could be recharged as the Home Office provided an allowance for these children. All local authorities were requested to take a percentage of the child population of their area. However, it was reported that Carmarthenshire Council currently had insufficient foster carer capacity. The proposal was to develop a service to be offered to children over the age of 16 years old.

Members asked if the UK Government changing its policy on Syria would have an impact on these proposals. It was explained that the legislation was changing regularly, however, the Home Office was still requesting local authorities to take a percentage of unaccompanied children.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that:

- 5.1 the report be received;**
- 5.2 to recommend to the Executive Board that the Council writes to the Welsh Government supporting the proposals to develop regulations to restrict Independent Fostering Agencies making a profit from placing looked after children.**

6. EXPLANATION FOR NON-SUBMISSION OF SCRUTINY REPORT

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the explanation for the non-submission for Behaviour Services Review be noted.

7. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 15TH MARCH, 2017

Reference was made to minute 7 (Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2016/17) and specifically the seventh paragraph of the issues discussed in relation to the re-organisation of primary provision in the Ammanford town area and it was pointed out that that it should include the statement that "it was noted that £19 million pounds had been set aside for this project".

RESOLVED that, subject to the inclusion of the above-mentioned amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on the 15th March, 2017 be signed as a correct record.

Prior to closing the meeting, the Chair and members of the Committee acknowledged the excellent work undertaken on behalf of the Committee by Matthew Hughes, the former Democratic Services Officer. It was requested that a letter of thanks was sent to him on behalf of the Committee and to wish him well in his new post.

CHAIR

DATE

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