

October 2017

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

Cllr 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:-

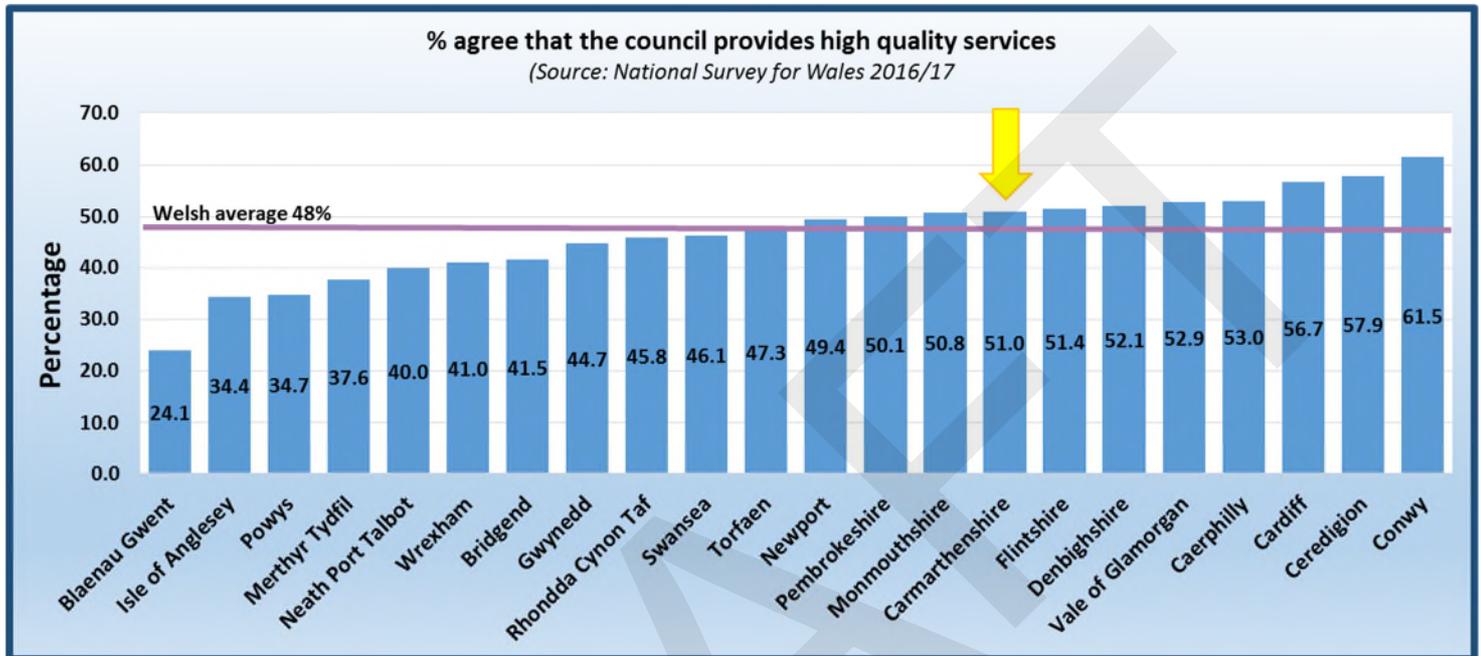
- Carmarthenshire's results relative to other Councils results and if available our previous position and result.
- it also shows the best and worse results in the range

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		Improved ↑ Standstill ↔ Declined ↓	Worst results											Best Results										
	2014/15 survey result	2016/17 survey 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
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

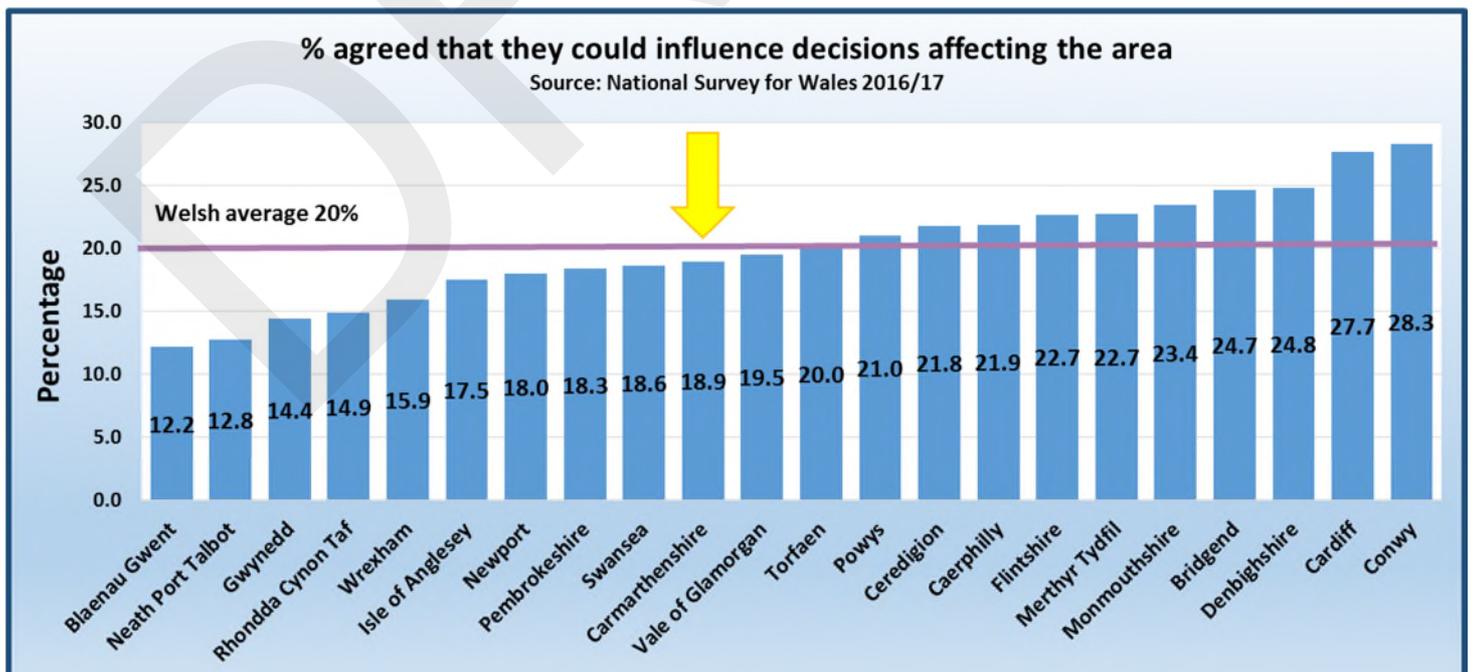
Does the authority provide high quality services?

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.

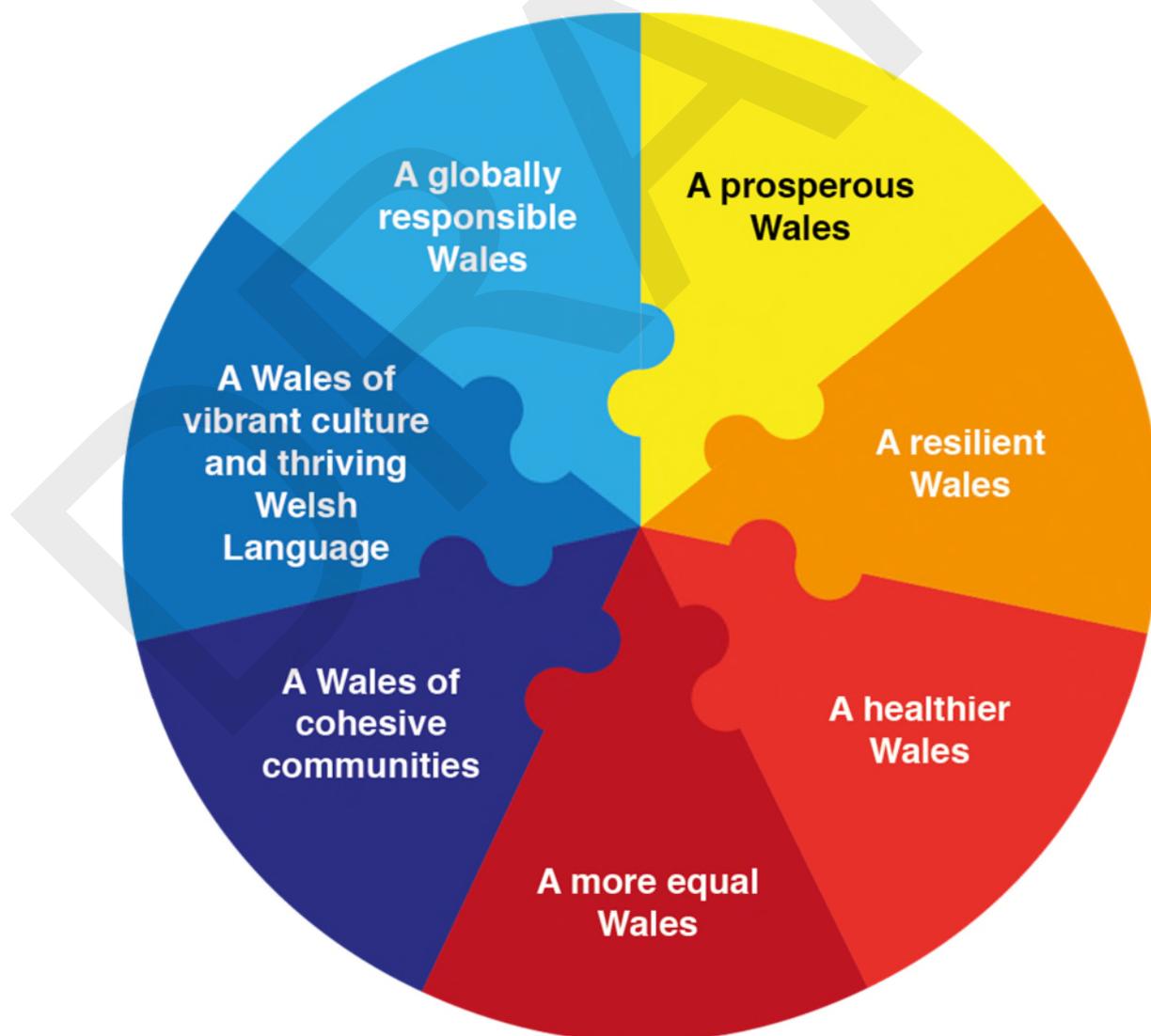
A **list of all the measures** in the above tables showing the results and how they have improved, declined or whether they have remained the same is included in **Appendix B**. This also shows how we compare with other Authorities in Wales.

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

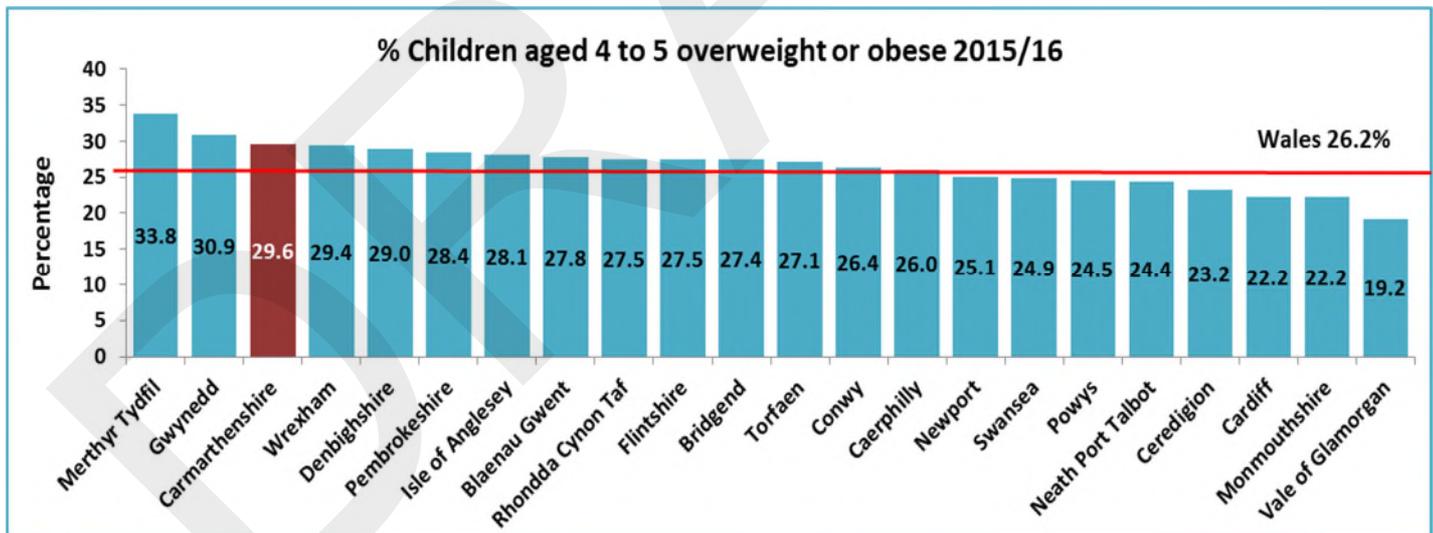
Giving every child the best start in life is crucial to reducing health inequalities across the life course. The foundations for virtually every aspect of human development – physical, intellectual and emotional – are laid in early childhood. What happens during these early years (starting in the womb) 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 North, Glanamman, 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 Heoll'*

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

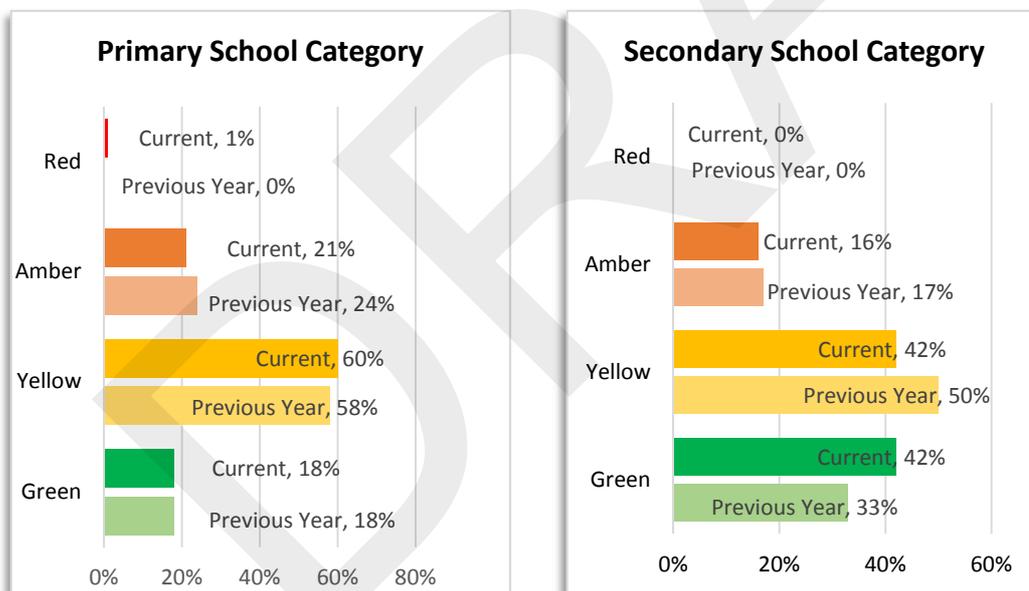
For the third year in succession our school pupils achieved their best ever examination results at GCSE, achieving 65.1% against the key Level 2 Inclusive indicator (at least 5 number GCSE passes at grade A* to C including mathematics and language) with the outcomes of national literacy and numeracy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

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

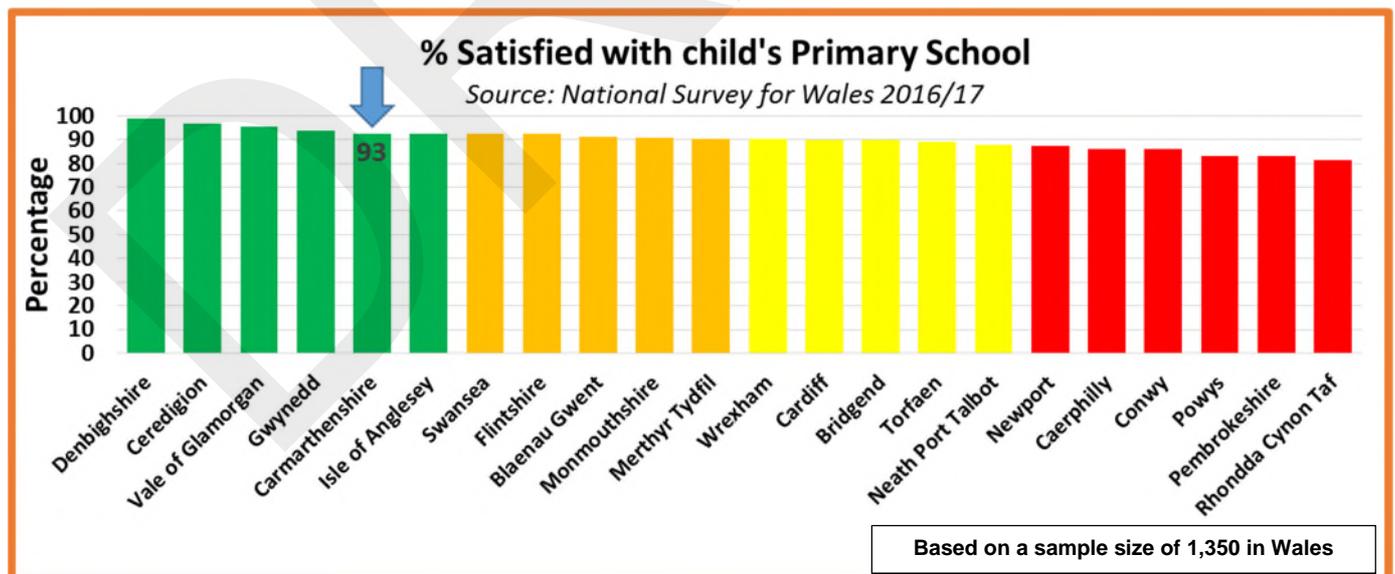
Please see 'Continue to deliver our Modernising Education Programme / 21st Century Schools Plan' section of KIOF Commitments above for additional details.

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.

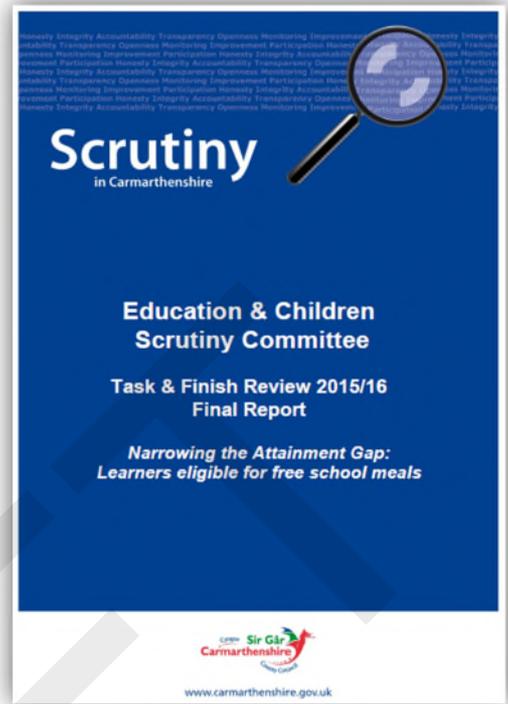
The percentage of working age adults with no qualifications in Carmarthenshire has reduced again to 9.7% in 2016 from 11.1% in 2015. This continues the trend for improvement on the 2008 figure of 16.1%

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.



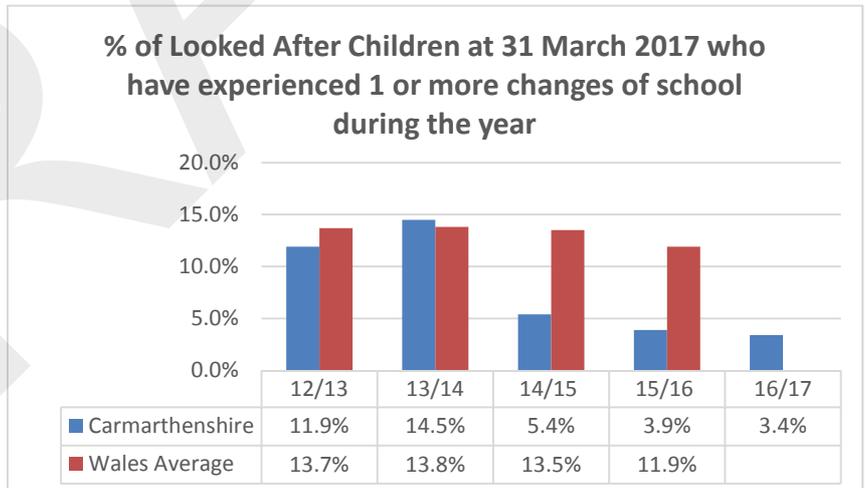
The Authority has worked collaboratively through a Task and Finish Review in support of ‘Narrowing the Attainment Gap for Learners **eligible for free school meals**.’ This extensive piece of work produced an informative and practical document for use as a valuable resource across our schools. Its key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



- ✓ 56.6% of children in receipt of ‘care and support’ achieved the core subject indicator at Key Stage 2 (SCC29a)
- ✓ 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).

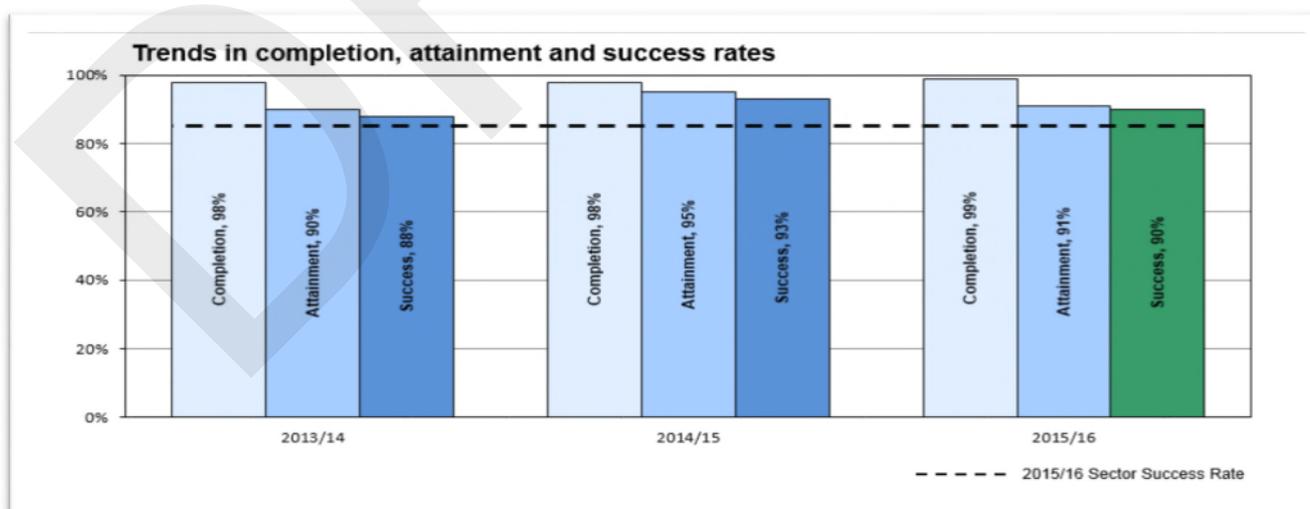
The **Welsh Heritage Schools** Initiative invites schools across Wales to undertake heritage projects and to submit them for this nationwide heritage competition and this year was another successful year for schools in Carmarthenshire with six winning submissions.

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.

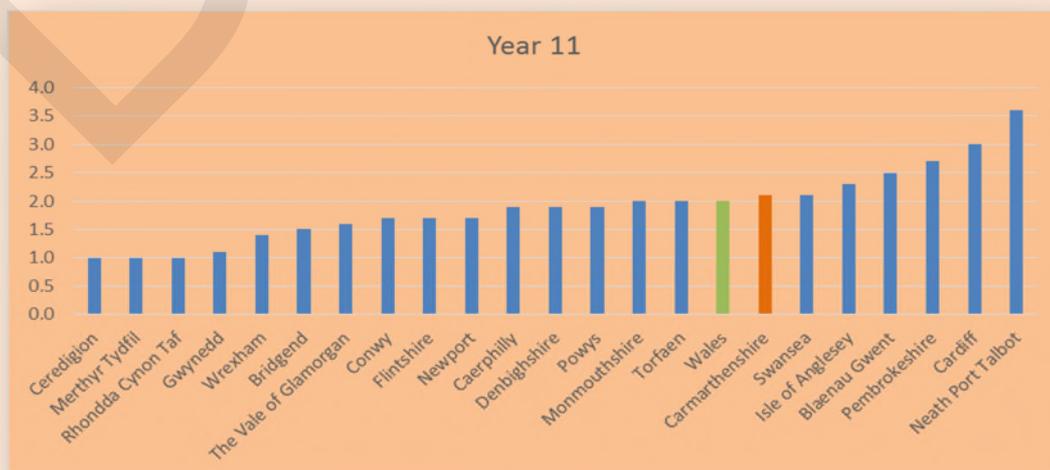
Why this is important?

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 KIOF 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.

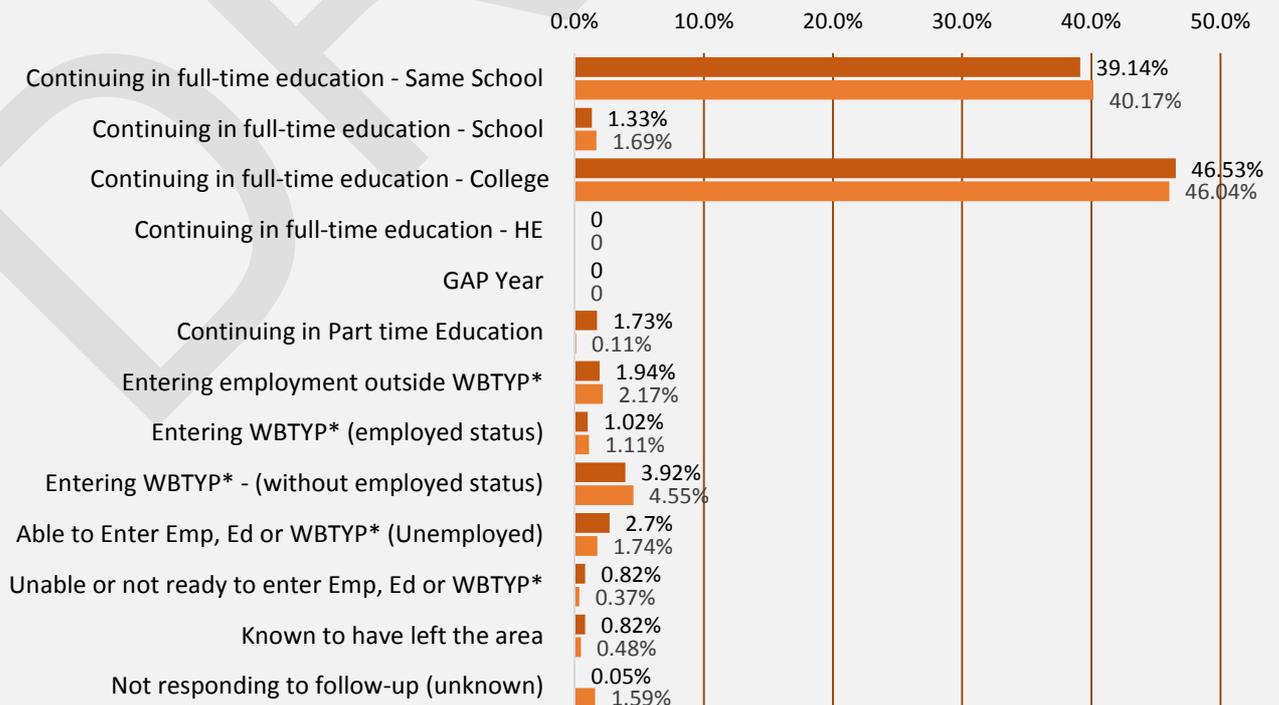
How do we know we made a difference? / Is anyone better off?

- ✓ 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.

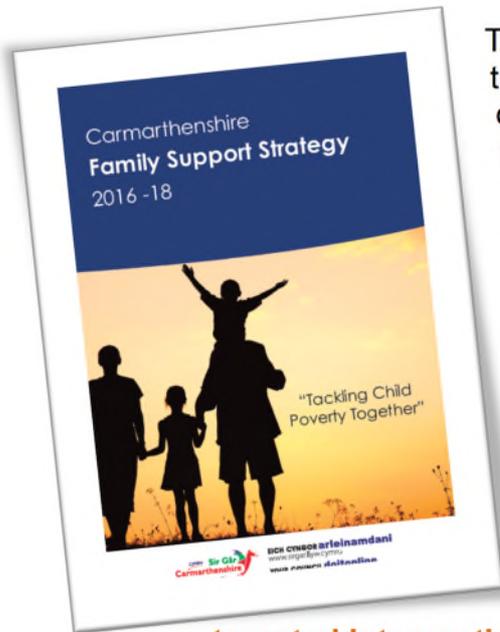
Officers worked closely with the students on two projects – one to investigate methods of chlorine removal for pools and the other was to design a new sustainable science classroom.

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?

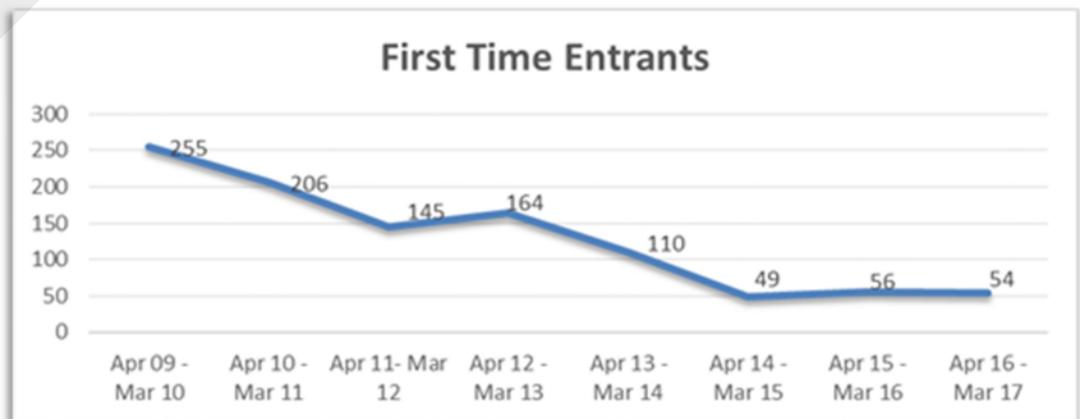
Last Year's Commitments:

- ✘ **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
English 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



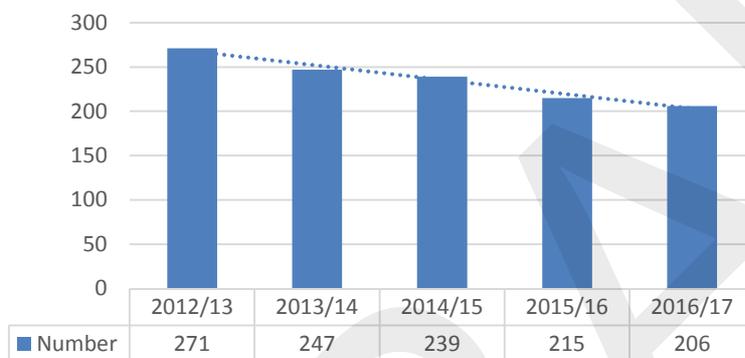
Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board’s new website, launched 14th November 2016, developed by the regional safeguarding boards for children and adults, Child & Youth Safeguarding; Unifying the Region (CYSUR) and Collaborative Working & Maintaining Partnership for Adult Safeguarding (CWMPAS).

www.cysur.wales and www.cwmpas.wales

Safeguarding Children

Our Review and Evaluation for 2016/17

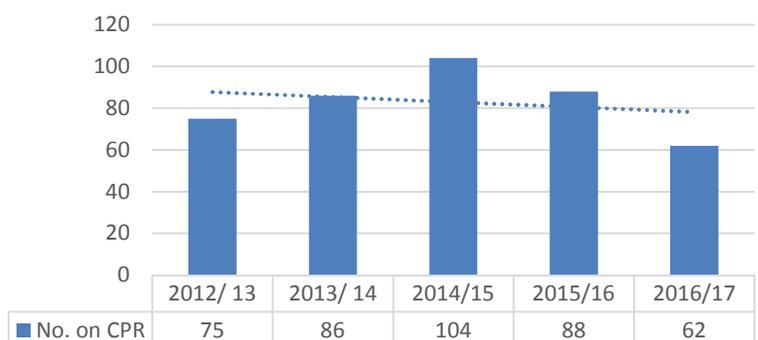
Children Looked After as at 31st March



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

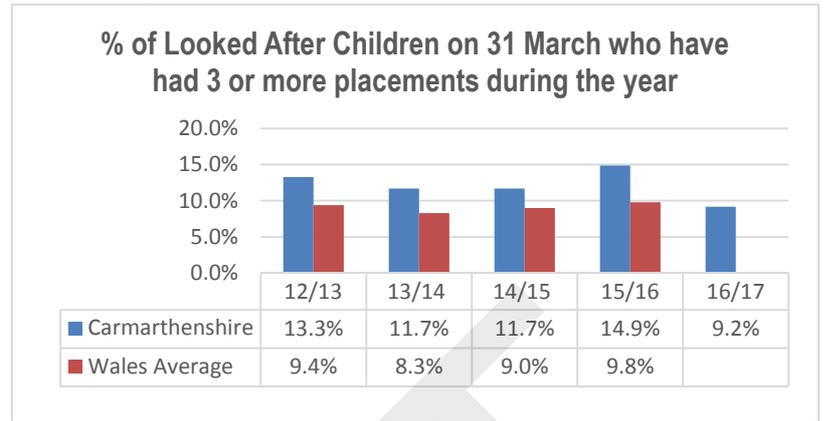
CSSIW inspection (July 2016) recognised our commitment to supporting children to remain living within their family:

"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. 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	↑	★																							

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
	<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%.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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>								
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
	<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>								
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

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

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.									

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 ****	
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

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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