

July 2016

Annual Report 15/16 & Improvement Plan 16/17



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

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

Welcome from the Leader of the Council

I can scarcely believe that a year has gone by since my election as Leader of Carmarthenshire County Council in May 2015. Becoming the Leader of such a successful Council was undoubtedly a great honour.

It's very important that we self assess and evaluate our performance and governance as a Council before we set out our plans for the year ahead and we are very fortunate that we can include an independent source to sum up our performance.

In January of this year the Wales Audit Office undertook a Corporate Assessment of the Council and highly praised us for having:

".....a well established vision that is driven forward by a strong collective leadership from both Executive and Corporate Management Teams"

The report stated that a clear framework of well-aligned plans and strategies has translated priorities into action.

This combined Annual Report and Improvement Plan is directly aligned to the *Integrated Community Strategy* that we have agreed with our partners. It's very important that we deliver our side of the agreement. For the five *outcomes* and 30 *goals* we signed up to, it outlines the Council's progress last year and its aims for the coming year.

The Wales Audit Office has consistently found that our public reporting of performance is *"fair and balanced"* and you will see that along with the good news, inconvenient news is also reported, although there is not much of it. *We are going to make the Council the most open and transparent Council in Wales to enable 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.

Regenerating the local economy, creating jobs and keeping young people here to fulfil their potential is my main priority. We have strengthened the *Outcome - Carmarthenshire has a stronger and more prosperous economy.*

With severe budget reductions we have achieved much and plan to achieve more, despite less funding. We will continue to consult widely on budget reduction proposals and make sure we listen to the people of Carmarthenshire who we serve. We will make better use of resources, build a better council and make sure we embed the Council's core values in everything we do.

These are challenging and uncertain times, but with uncertainty come opportunities 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 plan 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, identify if anyone is better off and set out the improvements for the year ahead.

Introduction

Purpose:

This Annual Report and Improvement Plan (ARIP) 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.

Previous Annual Report and Improvement Plans have been recognised by our external regulators as providing comprehensive information in a fair and balanced way. In March 2016 the Wales Audit Office concluded:-

'Public reporting of performance is fair and balanced. The ARIP is clearly laid out and presents a comprehensive picture of what the Council is aiming to achieve, the progress it is making and how its performance compares with other councils in Wales.'

Wales Audit Office – Annual Improvement Report March 2016

Legal Duty:

By law under the [Local Government \(Wales\) Measure](#) we must:

- Publish an Improvement Plan as soon as it is *reasonably* practicable after the start of the financial year i.e. April 1st and
- Publish an Annual Report on past performance by the end of October¹ each year.
- This document is a combined Annual Report and Improvement Plan.
- Combining these documents means that we can review what we did last year before deciding what we will do in the year ahead. We report our own results for 2015/16 and reflect on our year on year performance and assess any improvements needed.
- However, we will not be able, with the timing of this publication, to compare our 15/16 results to every other Council in Wales, until the All Wales results are published in September 2016.

Duty to Improve:

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. Previously there had been separate partnership plans in Regeneration, Children and Young People, Health & Community Safety.

In its Corporate Assessment of the Council, January 2016, the Wales Audit Office concluded that *'The Council has a well established and effective approach to partnership working'*.

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.

¹ The report deadline in October is set to enable Councils to compare their performance to all other Welsh Councils results that are not available and audited until September.

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. SEPs generally contain a set of equality objectives, together with an action plan, which aim to promote equality and fairness.

Consultation is an intrinsic part of developing a new [Strategic Equality Plan](#) and, as such, public opinion was sought to strengthen the Plan. During the year, we have worked closely with our partners across Dyfed Powys and with Equality Carmarthenshire to undertake detailed consultation. A mixed methods approach was employed to seek the views and experiences of stakeholders across Dyfed Powys.

It was agreed to produce one master survey (and sister versions) and hold local stakeholder events in each of the four regions. This approach increased the robustness of collected data and facilitated comparability of results. Furthermore, the consultation survey formed part of the September 2015 mail out to Citizens' Panel (c. 600) and 50+ Forum (c. 2400) members.

Feedback from the consultation was used to prepare the Strategic Equality Objectives and will also be key in preparing the action plan for the next period of implementation.

Welsh Language

During 2015/16 the focus has been on the preparatory work of introducing the [Welsh Language Standards](#) within the Council. We have prepared a detailed action plan for the initial phase of implementation and this will be the basis of our [Annual Report](#) for this year.

The period of preparation has been a busy one and communication has been a key element in raising awareness of the changes amongst staff. Consequently, we have received a number of enquiries from departments. This 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 preparation work, it became clear that there would be increased pressure on the Translation Unit. In order to meet our responsibilities and support a bilingual workplace, there was additional investment in the Unit's budget in order to appoint more staff and invest in systems that will support their work. The Unit has a key role to play in facilitating the Standards and in supporting departments to increase the use of the Welsh language in our workplace as we build internal capacity.

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	Our 2015/16 KIOP	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</i>	<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>Improve Governance, decision making, openness and transparency</i>	<i>Continue to improve Governance, decision making, openness and transparency and keep under review by the Constitutional Review Working Group</i>
Health	<i>Support the growing numbers of older people to maintain dignity and independence in their later years</i>	<i>Promoting Independence and Well Being for Older People</i>
	<i>Improve the Council housing stock and assist local people to gain access to rented and affordable homes</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 School Attainment</i>	<i>Improve Learner Attainment</i>
		New - <i>To further reduce young people Not in Education, Employment or Training</i>
Environment		New - <i>Improving the highway infrastructure network to support further economic development and connectivity</i>
Economy	<i>Tackle Poverty</i>	<i>Tackle Poverty</i>
		New - <i>Creating jobs and growth throughout the County</i>

Key overall performance news

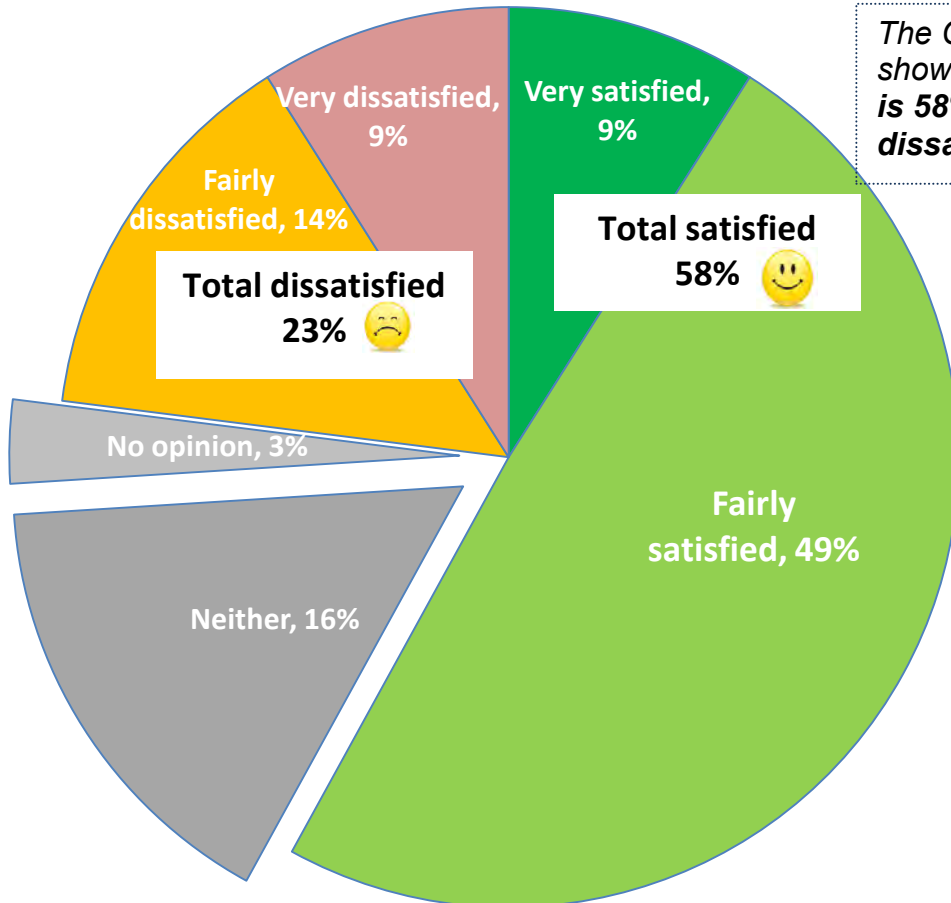
Citizens' Verdict

In March 2014 the Citizens Panel was sent a questionnaire with the following question:-

'Taking everything into account, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the services provided by Carmarthenshire County Council overall?'

😊 **58% V 23%** 😞

March 2014 - Responses 376



The Citizens Panel Survey shows that **total satisfaction is 58%** and **total dissatisfaction is 23%**

✓ The Citizens' panel have been asked the same question previously and net satisfaction has improved this year compared to two years ago

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	c-h
Citizens Panel	Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Total satisfied	Neither	No opinion	Fairly dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Total dissatisfied	Net Satisfaction#2
March 2014 376 responses	9%	49%	58%	16%	3%	14%	9%	23%	35%
April 2012 461 responses	7%	45%	52%	25%	4%	16%	3%	19%	33%
May 2010 538 responses	6%	52%	58%	19%	4%	14%	4%	18%	40%

#1 The Carmarthenshire Citizens' Panel was established in 2001 and is a joint initiative between Dyfed-Powys Police and the Council. As usual the Survey Data is analysed with the courtesy of Dyfed-Powys Police

#2 The use of net satisfaction is in line with normal market research practice and the National Survey of Wales approach

#3 Citizens Panel results may be more critical than Resident Survey results. The 2010 Residents Survey showed that 82% of residents were satisfied – the 2010 Citizens Panel results were 58% satisfied, a 24% difference.

Regulators Verdict

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



Wales Audit Office - [Corporate Assessment](#) - January 2016

In 2013-14 the Wales Audit Office began a four-year cycle of corporate assessments of improvement authorities in Wales. This means that, in addition to an annual programme of improvement studies and audits of councils' approaches to improvement planning and reporting, each authority receives an in-depth corporate assessment once during a four-year period. In the autumn of 2015 Carmarthenshire was examined and in January 2016 the Wales Audit Office Report was received.

The Auditor General concluded that:

Carmarthenshire County Council, demonstrating ambition in its vision, with collective leadership and more robust and transparent governance, is delivering improved outcomes for its citizens although some out-dated approaches may limit the speed of progress.

Overall the report was very favourable and made no recommendations for improvement. It did make six proposals for improvement and these are addressed in the *Making Better Use of Resources* and *Being a Better Council* sections of this plan.

Wales Audit Office - [Annual Improvement Report](#) - March 2016

The Annual Improvement Report largely repeated the Corporate Assessment findings and added further comments on our Annual Report and Improvement Plan approach:

The combined review of past performance with the actions the Council plans to take next within a single document allows the reader to form a balanced picture of how well the Council is performing. The ARIP is lengthy and detailed and there is also a useful summary, together they provide all the information the reader could need. The ARIP and summary are published in Welsh and English, with appropriate arrangements for publicity. The report is easy to find on the Council's website.

Given this endorsement of our approach, we have decided to repeat the process for 2016/17 with some further improvements.

How we Measure up

When we published the [Corporate Strategy 2015 - 2020](#) we set out the following outcome measures to judge our progress:-

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	✓
	Reduced staff sickness absence levels	✗
Healthier	Reduction in referrals to adult and children's social services	✓
	Increased availability of rented and affordable homes	✓
	Increased use of leisure facilities	✗
Learning	Improved educational attainment	✓
	Improved school attendance rates	✓
	Reduced number of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training	Year 11 ✗ Year 13 ✓
	Improved condition of schools	✓
Safe	Appropriate support provided to children, young people and families	✓
	Reduction in road casualties	Awaiting result
	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 2015/16, **56%** of our measures improved while **24%** have declined and **17%** remained the same; this builds on the improvement achieved in 2014/15 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)
2015/16 [#]	56% (23 measures)	17% (7 measures)	24% (10 measures)	32% [#]
2014/15	56% (24 measures)	14% (6 measures)	30% (13 measures)	26%
2013/14	59% (26 measures)	11% (5 measures)	30% (13 measures)	29%

[#] Please note that there is 1 result still outstanding therefore these figures will require updating

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 **2014/15**

****	Upper quartile results	15 Results 36%	60%
***	Upper middle results	10 Results 24%	
**	Lower middle results	7 Results 16%	40%
*	Lower quartile results	10 Results 24%	

For 2014/15 **60%** of our measures are in the upper two quartiles with **40%** in the lower two quartiles compared to approximately 50:50 split for 2013/14, an excellent achievement.

[#] Please see a **list of all measures** in the above tables showing the results and how they have improved, declined or whether they have remained the same in **Appendix A**. This also shows how we compare with other Authorities in Wales but mainly for 2014/15 since the 2015/16 results for all Welsh Authorities will be published by the Local Government Data Unit in September 2016.

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

New Legislation

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Welsh Government has put in place the *Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act* as the latest step in the journey to embed sustainable development in the public sector in Wales. The United Nations has highlighted the Act as a groundbreaking piece of legislation and noted its potential in relation to the recently agreed sustainable development global goals.



The Well-being of Future Generations Act requires most public bodies in Wales to carry out sustainable development with the objective of improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of their area. It places a well-being duty on those public bodies to set and publish objectives designed to maximise their contribution to the seven national well-being goals. They are also required to take all reasonable steps to meet those objectives. This is intended to strengthen sustainable development in these bodies through effective governance. The Act identifies five ways of working which can support the well-being of future generations – integration, collaboration, long term, involvement and prevention.

Public Services Board

The [Well-being of Future Generations Act](#) was passed with the intention of improving the well-being of the people of Wales. The Act outlines how public bodies must work, and work together, to achieve this.

A new Carmarthenshire Public Services Board (PSB) has been set up, (as is required in all the other counties in Wales), and its role is to effectively involve citizens and the local community in making decisions.

The aim is to make a difference to improving social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being in the county.

The new Public Services Board is made up of four statutory organisations:

- [Carmarthenshire County Council](#)
- [Hywel Dda University Health Board](#)
- [Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service](#)
- [Natural Resources Wales](#)

There are also several invited participants including:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh Government • Dyfed Powys Police • Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner • CAVS • Department for Work and Pensions • Coleg Sir Gâr | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Wales Trinity Saint David • National Probation Service • Community Rehabilitation Company • Brecon Beacons National Park Authority • Arts Council of Wales |
|--|--|

① [Carmarthenshire Public Services Board](#) newsletter

Publication of the Council's Well-being Objectives

As required in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, by March 2017 the Council will publish its *Well-being Objectives* for the year ahead.

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act comes into force from April 2016 and creates a new legal framework for social services. The Act imposes duties on local authorities, health boards and Welsh Ministers that require them to work to promote the well-being of those who need care and support (including carers). In addition to supporting well-being, the Act seeks to put people, partnership and prevention at the centre of service development. Local authorities, health boards and NHS trusts must work more closely together to integrate health and social care. Local authorities will be expected to use assessments of need, undertaken in partnership with health boards, to arrange appropriate preventative services that reduce the need for more formal support in their area.

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)

- 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 Key Improvement Objective Priorities (KIOPs) are:

- 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

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	✗

Our Performance & Results for 15/16 / Improvement Planned for 16/17:

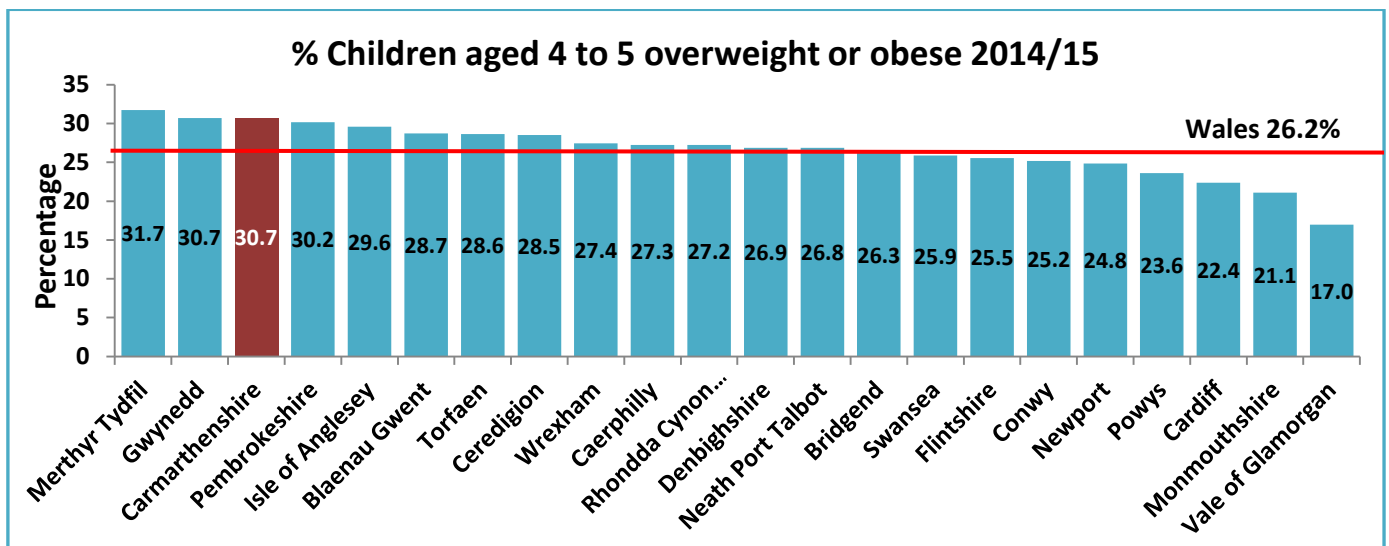
Goal: C1 Ensuring each child has the best start in life:

Our Review and Evaluation for 2015/16

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 recently published its fourth release of the 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 in 2014/15.

- **Participation** in the programme has increased by more than 10% in three years, from 84.3% of all children in 2012/13 to 94.5% in 2014/15. The participation rate in Carmarthenshire has increase from 88% to 92%.
- 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 % overweight or obese in Carmarthenshire has increased from **26.2%** in 2013/14 to **30.7%** in 2014/15 moving from 9th lowest and below the Welsh average (26.5%) to **3rd highest** and well above the Welsh average which has reduced to 26.2%.
- The proportion of children who are obese continues to increase from **10.9%** in 2012/13 to 11.6% in 2013/14 and **13.6%** in 2014/15



Childcare provision in Carmarthenshire is delivered in partnership with private, voluntary and statutory sectors, and has continued to develop. We currently have:

- **107** registered child minders (with **553** places)
- **36** registered full day nurseries (with **1,288** places)
- **43** registered out of school clubs (with **1,294** places)
- **63** registered sessional care placements (with **1,171** places) includes Flying Start settings
- **249 Total providers**, with **4,306** registered places.

How did we perform during 2015/16?

The **Flying Start early years programme** (a key component of the Welsh Government's *Tackling Poverty* agenda) aims to support families with children aged 0-3 who live in some of the most disadvantaged areas in the country providing a range of intensive prevention services to improve children's language, cognitive, social and emotional development and physical health, 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

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

Flying Start Key Measures		2014/15 Result	2015/16 Target	2015/16 Result	Comment
!	The % of children registered to take up the free Flying Start child care placement (9.1.8.0)	79.8%	80.0%	70.4%	Off target but Improved #See comment below
✓	The % of attendance at the free Flying Start Child Care placement (9.1.8.1)	77%	75%	79%	On target and improved
✗	The 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)	18	23	17	Off target and Declined #See comment below
✓	The % 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)	90%	90%	96%	On target and improved
✓	The % of children living in a Flying Start area that have had a needs assessment carried out using the Family Assessment Tool within a month of entry to service. (9.1.8.4)	100%	100%	100%	On target and continues to be at maximum result
✓	The % 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)	95%	93%	96%	On target and improved
✗	The number of children aged 0-4 in Carmarthenshire benefitting from the intensive Flying Start service provision (9.1.8.7)	1671	1800	1570	Off target and Declined #See comment below

#The childcare coordinator has been working closely with the childcare settings and health visitors to ensure children registered are attending regularly. This term we have found a significant drop in numbers eligible to register but this is mainly due to low birth rate numbers and therefore out of our control. (9.1.8.0)

#The number of children living outside of the Flying Start area who are able to access the Flying Start service through referral for outreach is set at 23 by WG with a 10% variance. Unfortunately due to difficulties in recruiting qualified health visitors (which is a national issue), meant we were unable to accept further outreach referrals, and were also unable to increase the capacity number. We will be shortly holding a recruitment event to try and attract interest. (9.1.8.2 & 9.1.8.7)

- ✓ Over the last year there have been 9,486 visits to the **Family Information Service** website and 40,620 page views with 67% being new visits.



A thought-provoking and inspirational storytelling event attended by more than 50 families and their children took place in February. The 'Once upon a time...why start early' event was organised by Family Information Service, Flying Start and Childcare & Play Team. The purpose to encourage family learning as shared and enjoyable activity, raise aspirations and readiness to learn.

- ✓ We have provided a full school holidays programme and family workshops at Oriol Myrddin, including a regular 'free' book club, and cross-disciplinary talks on a broad range of themes e.g. architecture, farming, poetry and archaeology
- ✓ All of our 14 secondary schools plus 2 special schools are delivering the [5x60](#) extra-curricular physical activity scheme and **100%** of primary schools are on board for [Dragon Multi-skills / Sport](#) extra-curricular activity scheme, linking in with a number of community sports clubs. 60% of our school pupils are members of a sports club
- ✓ We have provided [free swimming](#) for children (u16) at all CCC swimming pools on weekends and in school holidays, with the programme linked to the Welsh Learn to Swim pathway, [Aqua passport](#)
- ✓ [Young Ambassadors](#)' for sport are now in place in all secondary schools and 80% of primary schools, 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 to retain Bronze YA's and develop their leadership skills as they move from primary to secondary schools.
- ✓ We have provided swimming lessons to over 4,100 children during school time and over 2,000 children outside of school hours.
- ✓ 83 primary schools visited our Pendine Outdoor Education Centre to learn about outdoor adventurous activities and the environment
- ✗ Unfortunately we did not meet our target of 270,000 attendances at sporting opportunities facilitated by Sport & Leisure Officers and only achieved **197,899**. Reason for the decline and shortfall is due to having two vacant posts for a period of time, which have since been filled and our Hockey development officer has been absent from work for 5 months which has resulted in a downturn in hockey activity. Also the Rugby development partnership was ceased by Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) in October 2015. (3.4.2.8)

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

Increased partnership working with Public Health Wales has assisted in promoting the health and well being benefits of play i.e. reducing the risk of obesity in children, smoke-free playgrounds. Therefore it has been a season of summer fun at our Integrated Children’s Centres with a focus on promoting ‘**healthy living**’ through exercise and sport to promote fitness and wellbeing.



Working with CrossFit, Llanelli, and the Swans Football Community Trust.



CSSIW commented positively on our Flying Start provision in Carmarthenshire
[\(Annual Performance Report 2014-15\)](#)



“The visit to the Flying Start service demonstrated that this is a well-run service with managers providing a sound strategic lead on service delivery with a clear focus on ensuring effective multi-disciplinary working. The service has expanded during the past twelve months with nine new areas, with a total of 17 Flying Start communities. This has significantly strengthened the preventative services available to families in line with the Welsh Government’s child poverty strategy”.

[CSSIW Performance Evaluation Report 2014/15](#)

The 14 newly commissioned Families First projects have supported a total of **8,626** individuals of which **6,829** were new to service individuals. All are using a Team Around the Family approach to evidence whether the family are ‘**better off**’ as a result of the intervention. **Results of a survey** was positive with **99%** reporting **they would recommend the service** to others. Unfortunately the Families First grant is being cut by 12% next year, and although all 14 commissioned projects will remain, service delivery will reduce across the board.

We have used the evaluation of the **Child and Family Unit (CFU)** ‘reclaim social work’ pilot to restructure within our long-term children’s social work teams. Dinefwr Childcare Team (DCCT) began operating within a **POD** framework from September 2015. The PODs hold weekly meetings to discuss cases, with input from the Educational Psychologist, and have refined elements of the model in line with the needs of the team. Workers have received training to use the ‘Outcomes Star’ which will assist service users and staff to evaluate the effectiveness of input. Implementation of the model across all long-term child care teams will be completed by the end of March 2017.

Improvements for 2016/17

1. Despite an increase number of places purchased due to expansion, we shall aim for at least 77% attendance at the free Flying Start Child Care placement (9.1.8.1)
2. We shall aim to reduce the % of unauthorised absence at the free Flying Start Child Care placement from 6.38% to 6% (9.1.8.8)
3. We will aim to increase the number of children living outside of the Flying Start area who are able to access the Flying Start service through referral for outreach from 17 to 23 (9.1.8.2)
4. We will ensure that at least 93% of high need families living in a Flying Start area receive least a monthly contact from the Flying Start Health Visiting Service (9.1.8.3)
5. Of families with additional social welfare needs linked to poverty living in a Flying Start area, we will ensure that at least 95% receive time specified interventions from the wider Flying Start Team e.g. Social Worker or Family Support Officer or Domestic Abuse Project Worker or Midwife (9.1.8.6)
6. We will aim for at least 85% 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)
7. We will aim for at least 90% 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)
8. We will implement the Child and Family Unit (CFU) systemic model of working across children's services teams (12044)
9. We aim to increase the number of attendances per year at sporting opportunities facilitated by Sport & Leisure Officers from 197,899 to 208,000 (a 5% increase) (3.4.2.8)
10. We shall increase the % of children who can swim 25m aged 11 from TBC to TBC (3.4.2.1)
11. We shall increase the number of young people (0-16) accessing free swim sessions from TBC to TBC (3.4.2.2)

① For further Actions please also see goal **G5 Tackling poverty and its impact on the local economy and E5 Safeguarding all people from abuse, victimisation, neglect & exploitation**

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



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 Key Improvement Objective Priorities (KIOPs) are:

- 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	✓
Reduced number of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training	Year 11 ✗
	Year 13 ✓
Improved condition of schools	✓

Our Performance & Results for 15/16 / Improvement Planned for 16/17:

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

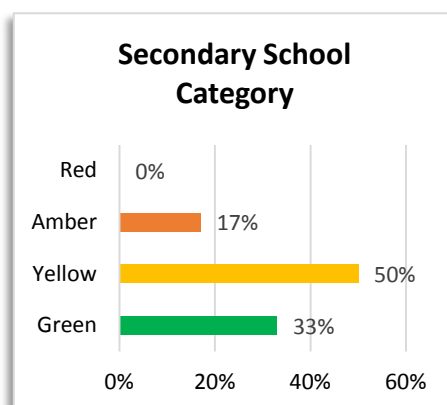
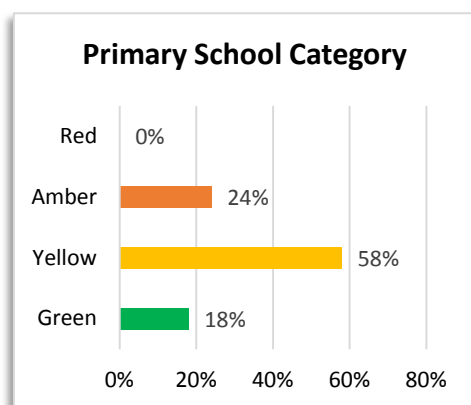
Our Review and Evaluation

For the second year in succession our school pupils achieved their best ever examination results at GCSE, achieving 61.1% against the key Level 2 Inclusive indicator (at least 5 number GCSE passes at grade A* to C including mathematics and language) with teacher assessments at all other key stages of education improving and comparing favourably with other authorities.

Children's services received another very good evaluation from the CSSIW. It was particularly pleasing to receive CSSIW's comments that *"for children's services performance of the Council continues to be amongst the best in Wales"*.

Within our Modernising Education Programme major school development projects were completed at Ysgol Bro Dinefwr and Ysgol Dyffryn Aman, part of the major transformation of secondary education in the Dinefwr region, and at Burry Port Primary School and Ysgol Carreg Hirfaen, with thousands of children benefiting.

Welsh Government School Categorisation:



- ✓ At 77%, well over three quarters of our schools are now in a **Green or Yellow category**, 8% higher than 2014-15.
- ✓ The proportion of **Green schools** in Carmarthenshire has increased by 2% as compared to 2014-2015. (11661)

School inspections by **Estyn** were increasingly positive, with Brynaman Primary School being the first school in Carmarthenshire to be awarded the 'Excellent' judgement in both overall judgements, all three key questions and all ten quality indicators.

How did we perform during 2015/16?

The Council still sees improving learner attainment as a KIOP for the year ahead, as it is crucial to the development of education within the county. At a recent 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

Best ever learner attainment

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 2012/13	Academic Year 2013/14	Academic Year 2014/15			Academic Year 2015/16
	Results	Result	Target	Result	Progress	Target
% of pupils age 15 achieving Level 2 threshold including GCSE A*-C in English or Welsh and mathematics (L2i) (EDU/017)	53.9%	58.7%	61.1%	61.1%	Improved	61.6%

- ✓ Our result for 2014/15 (academic year) is a 4% improvement on the previous year's result and demonstrates our greatest success to date with this key indicator. Breaking through the '60% barrier' is an excellent achievement. It clearly represents the combined and focused efforts of our schools and officers on raising standards.
- ✓ This result is above the Welsh average and was the 7th highest in Wales.

Why this is important

% of pupils age 15 achieving Level 2 threshold including GCSE A*-C in English or Welsh and Mathematics is currently regarded as the key measure of achievement at the end of compulsory education. However, L2i will cease to be considered as the key achievement indicator as of 2017 when the revised 'Capped 9 Measure' comes into force.

In addition to this key measure we also need to improve the following attainment measures...

Performance Indicators (PI's)	Academic Year 11/12	Academic Year 12/13	Academic Year 13/14	Academic Year 14/15	2014/15 Welsh Average	Comments	Academic Year 15/16
% of pupils achieving the Foundation Phase Indicator (Year 2 achieving language, maths and personal development) (5.0.2.9)	80.0	81.6	84.1	86.8	86.8	Improved result compared to previous academic year, result equal to the Welsh Average.	87.3
% KS2 pupils achieving Core Subject Indicator (Year 6 pupils expected performance in English or Welsh first language, maths and science) (EDU/003)(OAG)	83.9	85.4	87.4	88.2	87.7	Improved result compared to the previous academic year. The core subject indicator at KS2 continues to improve and is at its highest ever level.	88.7
% KS3 pupils achieving Core Subject Indicator (Year 9 pupils expected performance in English or Welsh first language, maths and science) (EDU/004)(OAG)	74.3	77.1	84.5	85.1	83.9	Improved result compared to the previous academic year. Results at KS3 continue to improve and are at their highest point.	85.6
% of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE's grade A*-C or vocational equivalent (L2) (5.0.2.2)(OAG)	69.5	78.0	84.7	87.0	84.1	Improved result compared to previous academic year, and above the Welsh Average and is our best ever result.	87.5
Eligible for Free School Meals							
% 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)	n/a	29.3	28.9	33.7	31.6	Improved result compared to previous academic year, result and above the Welsh Average.	34.2

① [See School Performance and Achievement Report Academic Year 2014/15](#)

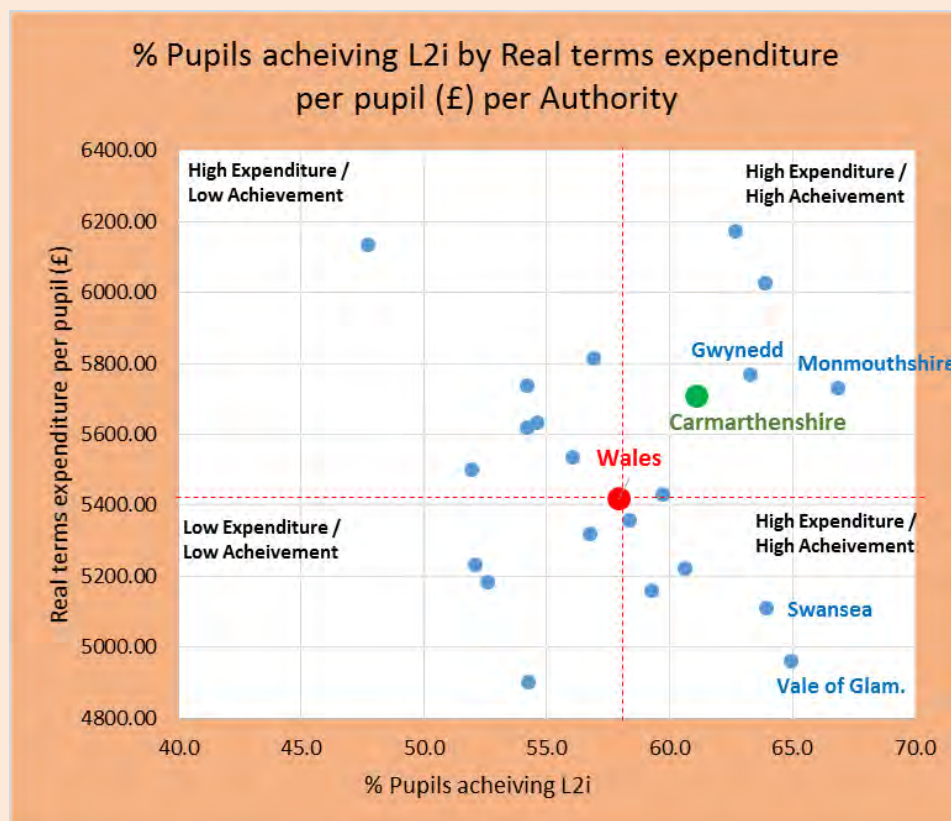
- ✓ Successfully improved the performance of pupils **eligible for Free School Meals (eFSM)** across nearly all Key Stages. This success reflects the impact of work undertaken in partnership focusing directly on higher achievement for this vulnerable group. Effective use of PDG funding encompassing a range of specific strategies and interventions underpins this success. (Action 11699, measure 5.0.3.1)

How do we compare with others

There are 22 Councils in Wales and Carmarthenshire’s progress can be compared as follows:-

Table to compare results against key measures

Measures	Our 2014/15 result and change	How our results rank compared to 21 authorities in Wales and our change in position																						
		22 nd	21 st	20 th	19 th	18 th	17 th	16 th	15 th	14 th	13 th	12 th	11 th	10 th	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2 nd	1 st	
		Worst results										Best Results												
		Arrows start from our Academic Year 2013/14 position to our 2014/15 position																						
% Achieved the Level 2 inclusive threshold (EDU/017)	61.1 ↑ 2.4																							
% of pupils achieving the Foundation Phase Indicator (Year 2 achieving language, maths and personal development) (5.0.2.9)	86.8 ↑ 2.7																							
% Pupils achieving Key Stage2 Teacher Assessment (EDU/003)	88.2 ↑ 0.8																							
% Pupils achieving Key Stage3 Teacher Assessment (EDU/004)	85.1 ↑ 0.6																							
% of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE's grade A*-C or vocational equivalent (5.0.2.2)	87.0 ↑ 2.3																							



Our relative Welsh ranking has improved for the L2, L2i and Foundation Phase Indicator. Despite continuing our upward trend in results for the KS2 and KS3 Indicators, our relevant Welsh ranking has declined. The upward ‘jump’ for each of these indicators was not as pronounced as in previous years.

How we compare in Wales for results and cost per pupil

Two Authorities achieved better results with a similar budget, Gwynedd and Monmouthshire, two very rural counties with fewer pupils, no urban centres, and lower efsm cohorts. Two Authorities achieved better

results on a lower budget; Swansea and Vale of Glamorgan, two counties that are geographically small and urban with lesser transport issues.

We delivered 20 out of our 28 KIOP commitments last year

Last Year's Commitments	Progress Comment
Continue to deliver our Modernising Education Programme / 21st Century Schools Plan	
We will increase the number of surplus places removed as result of Carmarthenshire's 21 st Century Schools reorganisation from 46 to 394 (4.3.1.7)	✓ 394 school places were removed overall as follows; 1120 places were removed, Llanfynnydd, 41, Llansawel, 60, Burry Port Primary, 98, Maes Y Gwendraeth, 464, Bro Dinefwr, 313, Dyffryn Aman, 144, however capacity increased by 726, Ffwrnes, 329, Strade, 397.
We will increase the % of schools graded as "Good" (Category A) or "Satisfactory" (Category B) for school building condition from 53% to 55% (4.3.1.8)	✓ The % has improved to 55% from 53% the previous year. This is a slow moving measure due to the time scales in improving and building new schools. New schools will not be opened each year, so results will be 'stepped' as each building project is due to be completed.
We will complete construction on the new Burry Port Community Primary School (11622)	✓ Construction was completed and pupils have occupied the new school building as per statutory notice from 01/09/15.
We will complete construction on Carreg Hirfaen Primary School (11623)	✓ Construction was completed on and the new school opened to pupils on 23 rd February 2016.
We will continue construction and refurbishment on Ysgol Maes Y Gwendraeth site (11620)	✓ Construction work is progressing well and remains on target for completion and full occupation by September 2018.
We will continue and complete construction of the new Ysgol Bro Dinefwr Secondary School (Completion Date January 2016) (11621)	✓ The Authority took ownership of the New school Building on Monday 22nd February 2016.
We will complete construction of Ysgol Y Strade (11624)	✓ Refurbishment completed on target and was ready for occupation to staff and pupils at the start of the new 2015 academic term.
We will continue and complete construction of Ysgol Dyffryn Aman (11625)	✓ Construction Programme completed and the Official Opening took place on Monday 7th December 2015.
We will commence construction on Coedcae Project, subject to business case approval by Welsh Government (11626)	✓ A £6.7million investment is being made in Coedcae School to include a new science block and refurbishment of the existing building. Phase 1 is progressing well on site with an existing building demolished and construction of the new science block underway.
We will commence construction on the Seaside Project, subject to business case approval by Welsh Government (11627)	✓ The Business case has been approved and Statutory consultation has been completed. Contractor started on site 22nd February 2016.
We shall complete the provision of a vocational construction skills block at Bryngwyn School (11745)	✓ Construction works programme is progressing well and the completion date remains as August 2016.
We will aim commence work to construct new premises for Ysgol Trimsaran, a project with a value of £6.8 million subject to business case approval by Welsh Government. (11733)	✓ The Full Business Case was approved by WG on 29/01/16. Construction works are programmed to start on site in May 2016.
Improving School Attendance - Making every day count	
We will increase the % of pupil attendance in primary schools from 95% - 95.2% (EDU/016a)	✓ Result has improved from 95.0% to 95.2% compared to the previous year. This is the Local Authority's best ever result and is the 5 th best in Wales.
We will reduce the % of authorised absence in primary schools 4.3% to 4.1% (4.1.2.3)	✓ Result improved compared to previous academic year, 4.0% compared to 4.3%, due to an improved focus on attendance.
We will increase the % of pupil attendance in secondary schools from 93.9% to 94.2% (EDU/016b)	✓ Result has improved from 93.9% to 94.2% compared to the previous year. This is the Local Authority's best ever result, is above the Welsh average being the 9 th best in Wales.
We will reduce the % of authorised absence in secondary schools from 5.6% to 5.3% (4.1.2.2)	✓ Result improved compared to previous academic year, 5.1% compared to 5.6%, due to an improved focus on attendance.
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 from 58.7% to 61.1% (EDU/017)	✓ Result has improved from 95.0% to 95.2% compared to the previous year. This is the Local Authority's best ever result and is the 5 th best in Wales.

We will increase the % of pupils achieving the Foundation Phase Indicator (Year 2 achieving language, maths and personal development) from 84.1 to 88.7% (5.0.2.9)	!	Result of 86.8% is slightly off target , however the performance achieved represents an improvement of 2.7 percentage points on the previous year's performance and is the Local Authority's best result to date .
We will increase the % KS2 pupils achieving Core Subject Indicator (Year 6 pupils expected performance in English or Welsh first language, maths and science) from 87.4% to 88.7% (EDU/003)	!	Result of 88.2% is off target however continues to improve , is above the Welsh average and is at its highest ever level .
We will increase the % KS3 pupils achieving Core Subject Indicator (Year 9 pupils expected performance in English or Welsh first language, maths and science) from 84.5% to 86.5% (EDU/004)	!	Result of 85.1% is off target however results continue to improve, is above the Welsh average and is at its highest point .
We will increase the % of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSE's grade A*-C or vocational equivalent from 84.7% to 87.4% (5.0.2.2)	!	Result of 87.0% is slightly off target , however has improved by 2.3 percentage points, is above the Welsh average and is our best ever result .
Implementing a consistent regional support, challenge and intervention framework		
We will accelerate the development of Education through Regional Working (ERW) regional school improvement service, including our participation in the West Hub, with a view to helping schools raise standards (11640)	✓	The initial development of `Western Hub Working` has matured greatly as a model across a range of key activities and provision areas in support of regional working. Collaboration between the Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire School Improvement Teams has strengthened with both Teams contributing to each other's provision and performance in valuable ways.
We will increase the number of Primary and Secondary schools in green and yellow support National School Categorisation System categories. (2014/15 had 69 Primary schools and 9 Secondary schools in the green and yellow support categories) (11661)	✓	The proportion of Green schools (National School Categorisation System) in Carmarthenshire has increased by 2% as compared to 2014-2015
Improving outcomes of Estyn School Inspections		
We will ensure that fewer schools are placed in ESTYN Local Authority Monitoring, Monitoring by ESTYN and statutory categories by ensuring early identification and intervention from school improvement professionals (11641)	✓	Reduced the number of schools placed in Estyn Local Authority Monitoring (15% from 16%)
Reducing fixed term exclusions		
We will minimise the % of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions in Primary Schools from 0.008% to 0.007% (EDU/010a)	✗	Result has declined to 0.015%, unfortunately this year four schools had significant difficulties with a small number of pupils leading to an increased exclusion rate.
We will minimise the % of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions in Secondary Schools from 0.039% to 0.037% (EDU/010b)	✗	Result has remained constant compared to the previous year. This is at a very low level of exclusion with results being in the top three in Wales for several years.
Developing values and skills for lifelong learning		
We will increase the % of 17 year olds who enter a volume equivalent to 2 A Levels and who achieve the Level 3 threshold (2 A levels grade A-E) from 98.6% to 99% (5.0.2.3)	✗	Result declined to 98.1% from 98.6% the previous year. However the Welsh average also declined and the LA's relative ranking in Wales actually improved two places to 4 th .
We will increase the % of pupils in Welsh-medium and bilingual primary schools transferring to Welsh-medium secondary schools (2014 result 91.8%) See the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) for further information. (11628)	✗	Disappointingly, 2015 saw a reduction , from 91.8% to 85.25%, however we have no direct control over pupil/parent preferences.

Is anyone better off?

A child and young person's education attainment, including their ability to gain good qualifications, provides them with a solid foundation in which to pursue education and employment opportunities.

Everyone deserves to have the best chance in life. A good, high quality education forms part of that expectation. It not only allows young people to gain new knowledge and skills but it also extends their future life opportunities, enabling them to take a full and active part in community life, widen future education opportunities and preparing them for working life in the 21st century.

For the second year running, all Carmarthenshire school pupils who left education had an approved external qualification.

Statistics from [Stats Wales](#) shows that 33.6% of working age adults in Carmarthenshire have qualifications at NQF level 4+ in 2015 (32.6% in 2014). This shows a steady improvement on our 2005 figure of 22.8% but we continue to be lower than the Welsh average of 36.1%.

The percentage of working age adults with no qualifications in Carmarthenshire has reduced slightly again to 11.1% in 2015 from 11.2% in 2014.

How we plan to achieve the KIOP this Year


In particular this year we especially aim to improve the results of those pupils who are entitled to free school meals (eFSM)

What we will improve & how we will measure success	2016/17 (academic year 2015/16)
	Targets
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)	March 17
We will invest around £19 million in major school construction and modernisation projects at Coedcae, Seaside, Trimsaran, Llangadog and Parc y Tywyn. (12070)	March 17
We will increase the number of surplus places removed as the result of Carmarthenshire's Modernising Education Programme (4.1.1.7) (2015/16 – 394)	141
We will increase the % of schools graded as "Good" (Category A) or "Satisfactory" (Category B) for school building condition.(4.3.1.8) This is a self evaluation based on a survey completed in 2010 by WG on behalf of the Authority. Definition of categories A – D: A - good (no deterioration) B - satisfactory (minor deterioration) C - poor (major deterioration) D - bad (life expired) (2015/16 – 55%)	56%
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%)	95.4%
We will reduce the % of authorised absence in primary schools (4.1.2.3) (Academic Year 2014/15 – 4.0%)	3.9%
We will increase the % of pupil attendance in secondary schools (EDU/016b) (Academic Year 2014/15 – 94.2%)	94.4%
We will reduce the % of authorised absence in secondary schools (4.1.2.2) (Academic Year 2014/15 – 5.1%)	5.0%
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%)	61.6%
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%)	87.3%

We will take forward the recommendations of the Foundation Phase report (12071)	31/03/17
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%)	88.7%
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%)	85.6%
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%)	87.5%
% 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%)	34.2%
We will enhance outcomes for More Able and Talented pupils.(12072)	31/12/16
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%)	98.6%
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)	March 17
We will improve the proportion of schools with a Green or Yellow categorisation in the National School Categorisation System (12074)	March 17
Improving outcomes of Estyn School Inspections	
We will increase the % of Good or Better Outcomes in Estyn Judgments (12075)	March 17
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%)	0.013%
We will minimise the % of school days lost due to fixed-term exclusions in Secondary Schools (EDU/010b) (Academic Year 2014/15 – 0.039%)	0.037%
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)	March 17

Other key work for this goal

- ✓ **Numeracy and literacy standards** at Foundation Phase. Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 improved as measured by Teacher Assessment. Key Stage 4 and 5 key indicators also witnessed success. We have maintained a robust focus on promoting high quality teaching and learning through leadership seminars, development programmes and enhanced collaboration between schools and the LA/ERW. (11679)
- ✓ **Regional School Improvement Service:** We have continued to develop our partnership with ERW in support of raised standards across all of our schools. Such activity, in the main through the implementation of ERW Core Visits (support and challenge), has impacted well on the attainment and outcomes achieved by our learners. (11640)
- ✓ **National Curriculum** Commenced implementing the recommendations of the Donaldson review of the national curriculum into a vibrant and engaging local curriculum (11732)

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

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

2015 has seen Glan-y-Môr pupils achieve outstanding success.

- ✓ It has been a truly exceptional year of results across GCSE, Key / Essential Skills and Welsh Baccalaureate Qualifications
- ✓ The top fifteen pupils achieved a staggering 100 A* and A grades.
- ✓ The improvement of the Key Level 2 inclusive Indicator over the last few years is a remarkable achievement. The school has doubled the most important performance measure over three years from 30% in 2012 to 60%.

What the pupils said.....



"I am so pleased with my results. Thanks to all the staff in the school for their support.

*They were fantastic" **Robbie Williams***

*"I am extremely happy with my achievements. Thanks to Glan-y-Môr I can now continue with my chosen career path!" **Tane Davies***

*"The school was brilliant. I am really happy. Thanks to everyone at the school I achieved everything I wanted." **Rebecca Roberts***

- ! For the **National Survey of Wales** question 'what they thought about the state of education in Wales?' Carmarthenshire had a score of 6.6 out of ten (the average score in Wales). 600 residents were asked in each Council in Wales.

Improvement for 2016/17

1. We will increase the % of 15/16 year olds achieving the `core` subject indicator. Those pupils achieving at least grade C in GCSE English or Welsh, Mathematics and Science in combination from 58.22% to 58.7% **(5.0.2.6)**
2. We will increase the average point score for pupils aged 15 at the preceding 31 August from 580.3 to 581.0 **(EDU/011)**
3. We will increase the number of people using Public Library Services during the year per 1,000 population from 6,806 to 7,274 **(LCL/001b)**
4. We will continue to hold all schools and ERW to account for further improving standards and outcomes for learners, intervening in schools where performance is not satisfactory **(12077)**
5. We will support schools, in tandem with ERW, to further improve outcomes for all pupils but with a particular emphasis on raising the achievements of pupils entitled to free school meals and looked after children. **(12078)**
6. We will continue with the design of the Carmarthenshire Curriculum in partnership with schools and other providers; to incorporate national policy developments as they emerge; achieve key milestones in line with the development strategy Palmantu'r Ffordd/Paving the Way and including publishing a Carmarthenshire Curriculum Declaration as an interim developmental step. **(12079)**
7. We will implement the actions 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)**

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.

Adult Community Learning (ACL)

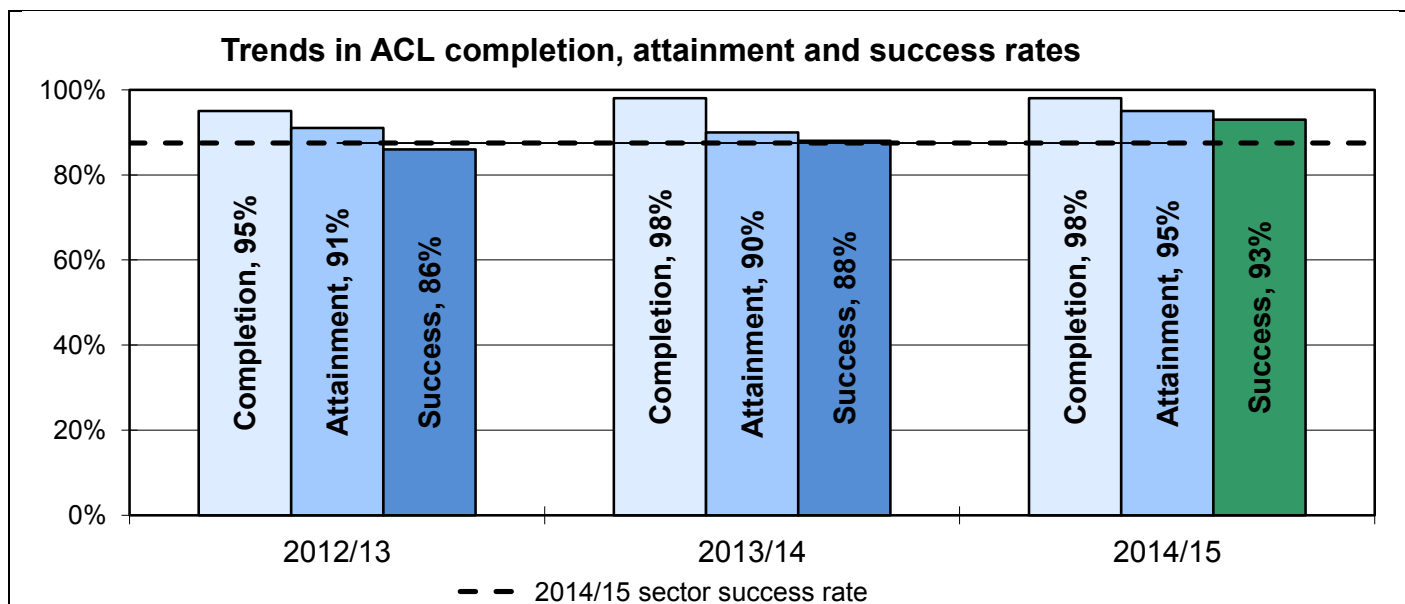
The emphasis of Local Authority course provision continues to be the long-term personal development of learners to enable them to progress to further education, training or employment. This includes support for literacy, numeracy and English for Speakers of Other Languages. The Adult Community Learning Service has 218 active enrolments on approximately 19 courses. 281 learners completed on 27 courses at the end of the Autumn term;

The Welsh for Adults provision currently has 292 individual learners enrolled on 31 courses. Welsh for Adults provision across Wales will be subject to major change in the 2016-2017 year, with a new all Wales entity established to oversee provision, replacing the existing four regional centres;

Our Review and Evaluation for 2015/16

We have achieved our best ever Adult Community Learning (ACL) Results. There has been continuous improvement for the last 5 years:-

Adult Community Learning (ACL)



- **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 2015/16?

- ✓ Secured an allocation from the Education **Improvement Grant** for 14-19 related activity including collaborative courses to meet the requirements of the Welsh Governments Learning and Skills Measure. (11876)
- ✓ Acted on the Recommendations of the Welsh Governments *Young People NEET Findings from a review of Councils in Wales* report:

It's very important to improve skills and training in order to increase the employment opportunities for young people. This has been identified as a Key Improvement Objective Priority for 2016/17.



KEY IMPROVEMENT OBJECTIVE PRIORITY (KIOP)

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

There is an imperative for the County to renew efforts to reduce the number of young people who become NEET. This work will be supported by curriculum review initiatives currently 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 will assist young people in progressing to further education, training and employment during the Post 16 education phase.

Key Measure of Success	Academic Year 2012/13	Academic Year 2013/14	Academic Year 2014/15			Academic Year 2015/16
	Results	Result	Target	Result	Progress	Target
% of Year 11 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET's) (5.1.0.1)	3.0% (65 / 2198)	3.4% (69 / 2016)	3.0%	3.5% (69 / 1962)	Declined	3.0%
% of Year 13 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET's) (5.1.0.2)	5.5% (40 / 727)	6.0% (46 / 767)	None set	2.8% (21 / 761)	Improved	2.6%

There has been a slight increase (0.1%) in the percentage of year 11 pupils becoming NEET, though the actual number of pupils remains the same as 2014 (69 pupils became NEET).

There has been a very positive result (2.8%) for the percentage of year 13 pupils becoming NEET compared to the previous year (6.1%).

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 18/22 LA's in Wales and above the All-Wales average of 2.8%. 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. (link to Action re. new Vulnerable Young people panel below)
- **Year 13** - On completion of Year 13, our performance ranks 3rd of 22 LA's and is above the Wales average of 3.7% and an improvement on our 2014 performance of 4% of cohort.

Is anyone better off?

Case study

The young person was identified by a School-based youth worker who was working with his sister. He had not attended school for two years after being removed by his mother to be elected home educated. However, no education took place and as a result he had become cut off from the outside world. He lives at home with his mother and two sisters and has had quite a chaotic upbringing which has led to the issues around social exclusion. Due to the chaotic upbringing he finds it hard to trust people and would not engage with anyone outside the family. He was receiving support from CAMHS for mental health issues.

Following one-to-one support and recreational sessions he has managed to over-come many of his fears around social inclusion. He has managed to develop many life skills like having his own bank account for him to be able to save and spend his own money; making appointments and seeing them through, e.g. having an eye-test and glasses; socialising with new young people and re-engagement into education by starting on a traineeship with LRC training.

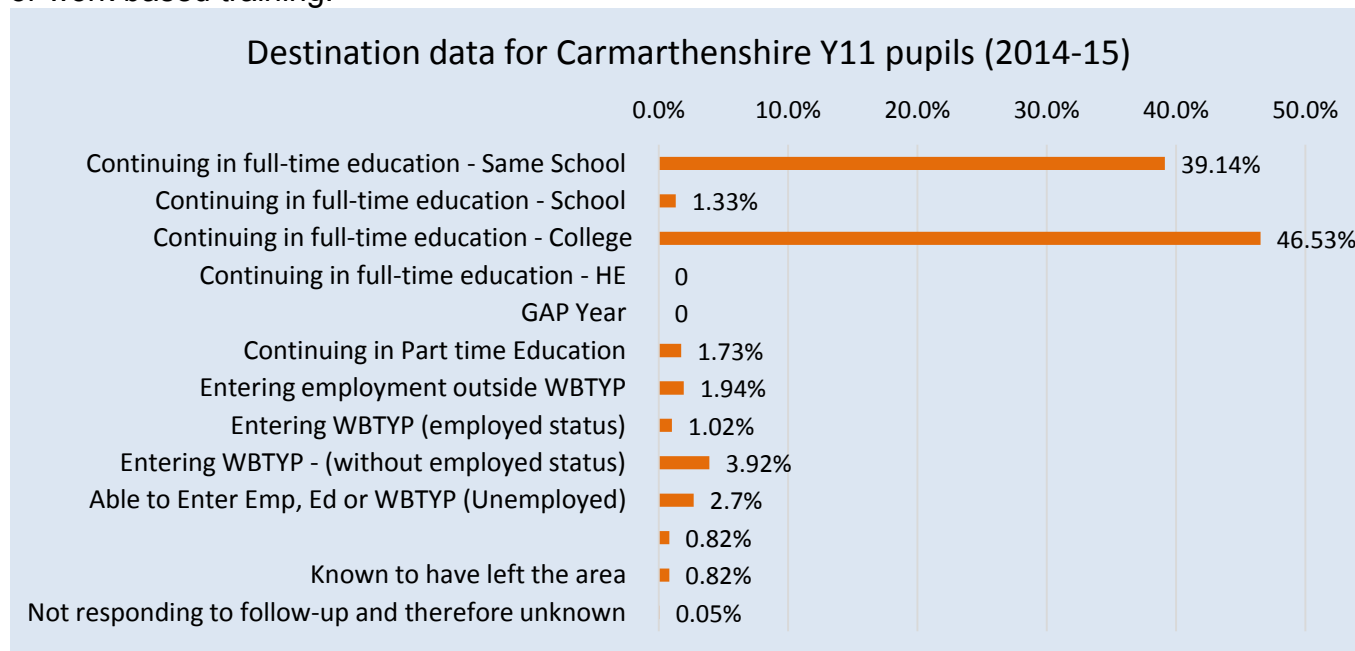
How we plan to achieve the KIOP this Year

What we will improve & how we will measure success	2015/16 (academic year)
	Targets
We will reduce the % of Year 11 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) <i>(5.1.0.1)</i>	3.0%
We will reduce the % of Year 13 leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) <i>(5.1.0.2)</i>	2.6%
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. <i>(12081)</i>	Sept 2016
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. <i>(120821)</i>	Oct 2016
We will implement the Carmarthenshire Cynnydd European Social Fund (ESF) Project elements to reduce the number of young people who become NEET. <i>(12083)</i>	March 2017
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. <i>(12084)</i>	March 2017
We shall support care leavers where possible to ensure that they are in education, training or employment at 12 months after leaving care <i>(SCC/34a)</i>	New Measure
We shall support care leavers where possible to ensure that they are in education, training or employment at 24 months after leaving care <i>(SCC/34b)</i>	New Measure
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. <i>(12085)</i>	March 2017

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

What happened to school leavers from 2014/15?

96.5% of year 11 pupils (from Academic Year 2014-15) went on to further education, employment or work based training.



Improvement for 2016/17

1. We shall implement the actions identified in the Carmarthenshire Youth Engagement and Progression Framework Plan for the period 2016-2017, including full take up of the Vulnerability Assessment Profile. (12086)
2. We shall support partnership working with the other providers of adult community learning through the continuing management of the Carmarthenshire Adult Community Learning Group. (12087)
3. We will complete a review of the 11-19 Curriculum in Carmarthenshire. (12088)
4. We shall deliver a programme of activities for the Carmarthenshire Seren Hub. (12089)

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 for 2015/16

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 2016 we have:

- **107** registered child minders (with **553** places)
- **36** registered full day nurseries (with **1,288** places)
- **43** registered out of school clubs (with **1,294** places)
- **63** registered sessional care placements (with **1,171** places) includes Flying Start settings
- **249 Total providers**, with **4,306** registered places

How did we perform during 2015/16?

- ✓ Our **Education Welfare Service (EWS)** was remodelled just over two years ago and continues to develop, providing support to 116 schools in Carmarthenshire on attendance issues (total of over 27,109 pupils).
 - EWS works in partnership with children, families, schools, communities, statutory and other agencies to try and reduce persistent non-attendance and ensure educational entitlement.
- ✓ All parents are provided, by schools, an annual report to parents that informs them of their child attendance, outcome of teacher assessments (Years 2,6 & 9), examination results and other information
- ✓ Primary **School attendance** has improved to 95.2% ranked 5th in Wales whilst Secondary attendance is at 94.2% ranked 9th in Wales. The percentage of primary schools in the 1st and 2nd benchmarking quartiles have improved considerably with 56% in these quartiles as compared to 40% in 2012/13. For 2014-15 8 out of 12 secondary schools performed at or above their expected benchmark with 6 schools in the 1st or 2nd quartile as compared to 1 in 2012-13. (*EDU/016a, EDU/016b, 4.1.2.3, 4.1.2.2*)
- ✓ Primary **School attendance** has improved to 95.2% ranked 5th in Wales whilst Secondary attendance is at 94.2% ranked 9th in Wales. The percentage of primary schools in the 1st and 2nd benchmarking quartiles have improved considerably with 56% in these quartiles as compared to 40% in 2012/13. For 2014-15 8 out of 12 secondary schools performed at or above their expected benchmark with 6 schools in the 1st or 2nd quartile as compared to 1 in 2012-13. (*EDU/016a, EDU/016b, 4.1.2.3, 4.1.2.2*)
- ✓ Area 43 commissioned to provide a professionally accredited **school based counselling service** to young people from 10 to 18 years of age.



You wanted to be able to express a preference when applying for a school place for their child.

We are implementing a change to the school admissions process to allow parents to express a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice when applying for a school place

- ✓ Over the last year there have been 9,486 visits to the **Family Information Service (FIS)** website and 40,620 page views with 67% being new visits.

ATTENDANCE IMPROVES AT CARMARTHENSHIRE SCHOOLS



Attendance figures across Carmarthenshire have improved with schools reporting an all-time high of 94.1%. Parents and carers are being thanked for their co-operation in helping the county achieve the figures, which are well above the Welsh average of 93.8%. It comes as new Welsh Government data shows that the number of pupils being absent from secondary schools across Wales is at the lowest level ever recorded. Education Minister Huw Lewis has welcomed the falling rate as excellent news.

Carmarthenshire's education executive board member Cllr Gareth Jones said: *"Improving attendance has been a key priority for Carmarthenshire and further improvement in attendance rates has been realised with our schools achieving an all-time high of 94.1% which is well above the Welsh average of 93.8%.*

"Authorised absence has improved and our unauthorised absence rate is still one of the best in Wales.

"This is primarily due to co-operation from parents and carers, the diligence of schools and input from the local authority's Education Welfare Service and school data team.

"I would like to personally thank all those involved in helping schools achieve these attendance rates."

The main responsibility of the Education Welfare Service (EWS) is to promote regular attendance at school.

Officers give support and advice on regulations regarding non-attendance, child employment, performance, and chaperones.

To secure regular school attendance, they work in partnership with pupils and their families, schools, community support services and other professionals such as social workers, youth services, and educational psychologists.

A school may refer a family to the EWS if a child's school attendance is of concern.

Improvement for 2016/17

1. We shall continue to promote regular school attendance to maximise educational opportunities and child welfare, robustly challenging poor attendance and persistent absenteeism. (12090)

Please also see Goal: C1 Ensuring each child has the best start in life (EDU/16a, 4.1.2.3, EDU/016b & 4.1.2.2)

2. We shall pilot the 'Holiday Hunger' programme, supporting families and children during school vacations to cook healthy meals, particularly aimed at eFSM. (12091)
3. We shall further develop the family engagement programme to support families to engage in education. (12092)
4. We shall conduct a Behaviour Review to consider how children and families can be better supported. (12093)

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 2015/16

Garreglwyd is a **specialist education facility** for up to 24 children and young people age 11+ on the Autistic Spectrum. As well as attending as day pupils, the facility also provides accommodation on site for up to six pupils with complex needs who have been assessed as requiring 24 hour care. It provides a nurturing environment where all pupils /residents are valued, supported, challenged, and where they can gain the foundation of skills, knowledge and

values essential to progress in and out of school, and the opportunity to reach their maximum potential.

The specialist education facility at Garreglwyd has moved from Maes Y Gwendraeth to the new Bro Dinefwr campus and is called 'Canolfan Cothi', and following a transition period children commenced at the new facility on 24th February 2016.

The Catering Services installed a **cashless school meal system** in Ysgol Gyfun Emlyn in October 2015, ensuring that cashless catering is available in all Secondary schools. The uptake of free school meals has improved as a result of this non stigmatising system.

In March 2016, Carmarthenshire had 918 learners with **Statements of Special Education Needs (SEN)** out of a total school population of 27,109. This figure has decreased since March 2015 when we had 1,007 statements. Approximately half of these statements are amended every year.

How did we perform during 2015/16?

Disabled Young people

- ✓ We continued to develop a partnership approach with key stakeholders including Coleg Sir Gar, Careers Wales and Hywel Dda health board to implement the 'Unlocking the Potential' report this year. We have regular meetings to try and address many of the practical issues presented within the Unlocking the Potential report.

Sensory Impairment Service

- ✓ The **Sensory Impairment Service** continues to work effectively with colleagues within children's services, education and health, supporting children from 0-19 yrs who have a visual or hearing impairment, or a combined hearing and vision loss (MSI). The service provides specialist teaching and support services to ensure children with hearing or visual impairment have access to high quality, teaching and learning experiences and are enabled to reach their full potential as young adults leading healthy and fulfilling lives.

Additional Learning Needs

- ✓ The **% of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks (including exceptions)** exceeded our target of 25.0% during 2015/16 at 34.8% compared to 22.9% in 2014/15. However, results again reflect the difficulties experienced by Health in recruitment and retention of doctors working in paediatrics and administrative staff in this locale. Pupils wait a long time for medical assessments and there are also long delays in typing up reports even after a medical is completed (EDU/015a)
- ✗ The **% of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks (excluding exceptions)** did not meet our target of 90.0% but has improved during 2015/16 at 80.0% compared to 75.0% in 2014/15. There has been a number of delay's receiving information from professionals (EDU/015a)

Free School Meals

- ✓ During the year we have been looking into the cost/benefit of introducing **online payments for school meals**, which we believe is an essential step in modernising the service, making it easier and more convenient for parents to pay, and delivering other back office improvements including income reconciliation and debt management. We will develop a business case during 2016-17.

Children & Young People's Participation

- ✓ We have further developed our strategic approach to engaging with children and young people in decisions that affect them. The **Children & Young People's Participation Strategy** was developed and approved at full Council, spelling out what our priorities are and how we will deliver on them. A **Children's Rights Promise** was also agreed by the Council and work to put this into action will take place in 2016-17.

Alisha at UK Youth Parliament

Alisha Gibbons 14 from Tycroes and a member of Carmarthenshire Youth Council represented Carmarthenshire and Wales at the UK Youth Parliament debate and vote to decide which two issues should become the UKYP's priority campaigns for 2015, on Friday 13th November.

Alisha joined 300 Members of the UK Youth Parliament aged 11-18 who took part in a debate in the House of Commons.

Even though Alisha was one of twenty four young people to from Wales to be elected, she was the only young person from Wales to be elected as a debate lead at the Commons Chamber meaning she spoke at the dispatch box where the Prime Minister, the cabinet and the shadow cabinet speak from.



Respite

- ✓ Our two respite centres **Llys Caradog and Blaenau** have continued to provide planned, overnight respite for disabled children aged 5-18 years living in Carmarthenshire. The centres are continuing to build valuable links with the local community.

The Minority Ethnic and Traveller Achievement Service

- ✓ In Carmarthenshire there are over 1,105 pupils on the English as an Additional Language (EAL) register. 324 primary school pupils and 165 secondary aged pupils are in receipt of support in 45 Primary schools and 10 Secondary schools.
- ✓ There are currently 166 Gypsy/Traveller children on roll in schools across the county. The service works with 6 secondary schools and 8 primary schools to raise the attendance and achievement of eligible Gypsy and Traveller children and young people. Close working with families and other agencies helps to support with these key areas.

Behaviour Support

- ✓ The Behaviour Support Community Team (BSCT) works with schools to support them in changing the behaviour of individual pupils by working with the pupil, their parents/carers and school staff. The Team provide advice and support on group/whole class management techniques and whole-school policy development. The Team provides training and professional development opportunities. It works with individual schools to devise bespoke training in response to need.
- ✓ During the 2014/15 Academic Year 68 cases were worked with either directly or in an advisory capacity with 99 referrals in total (80 referrals from primary schools and 19 from secondary schools)..

Women's Worker

- ! A **Women's Worker** is employed by Action for Children and commissioned by Carmarthenshire County Council to work with, and provide support to women referred, who have had –
 - more than one child removed from their care, or
 - are currently in court proceedings, or
 - are at risk of losing their children.

Disabled young people

! **Disability support** – includes specialist parenting support in the home (Tim Camau Bach). To facilitate communication, bonding, attachment and interaction between parents and children 0-12 yrs, strategies to manage behaviours, programmes to promote child development; one to one support for disabled children to access their local mainstream pre-school settings, specialist groups for after-school / holiday schemes; Giant Steps – for young people aged 11-19 years with high functioning autism, Aspergers, ADHD, social communication difficulties or at risk of being NEET, group based and individual support, bespoke interventions.

Families First programme and Youth Service developments

! This year we have established and consolidated new services for children and young people with learning difficulties as part of the Families First programme. The Giant Steps project works with disabled Children and Young people who do not require statutory services but would benefit from some positive activities and support on both a one to one and group basis. In addition, we continue to work with our Youth Service who have a responsibility around NEET prevention for all children and young people, including those who are disabled. We have developed proposals as part of the regional Cynnydd programme which will build upon this work in the future.

Improvement for 2016/17

1. We shall ensure that **all pupils** aged 15 who leave compulsory education, training or work based learning with an **approved external qualification** (EDU/002i)
2. We shall ensure that all Looked After Children, educated by the LA, age 15 leave compulsory education, training or work based learning without an approved qualification (EDU/002ii)
3. We will aim to ensure that every **permanently excluded pupil** receives an offer of full time appropriate education provision within the required timescale (EDU/009a)
4. We will increase the % of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks including exceptions from *34.8 to 40.0% (EDU/015a)
5. We will increase the % of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks excluding exceptions from 80.0% to 90.0% (EDU/015b)
6. We shall increase the % of children receiving care and support achieving the core subject indicator at key stage 2 (SCC/29a)
7. We shall increase the % of children receiving care and support achieving the core subject indicator at key stage 4 (SCC/29b)
8. We shall enhance programmes for safeguarding in schools and other settings to fully embed safe recruitment practices and strategies to meet the Prevent duty to protect children and young people from the risks of radicalisation. (12094)
9. We will complete a review of behaviour management services and present proposals to reform provision. (12095)

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

Our Review and Evaluation for 2015/16

We are increasing the provision of:

- **Childcare** as we continue to improve year on year on the number of Welsh speaking childminders, full day care, seasonal care and out of school care that is provided within the County.
- **Education** we have seen a continuous improvement in Welsh first language at KS3 over the past 4 years. There is also an improvement in Welsh first language at KS2.
- **Training** is continuing to be provided through the medium of Welsh. The Welsh for Adults provision currently has 292 individual learners enrolled on 31 courses.

The **Welsh in Education Plan 2014-2017** has been reviewed during the last 12 months:-

- ✓ The Welsh medium primary schools language charter '**Codi Caerau**' was launched and both the secondary school and 2nd language Welsh charters have been drafted.
- ✓ A comprehensive pack of materials have been drafted to promote the value of a bilingual education.
- ✓ The number of 7 year old pupils receiving Welsh medium education has increased.
- ✓ High performance has been maintained in Welsh 1st and 2nd language.
- ✓ The % of learners following 1st language Welsh at Key Stage 3 has increased to 43%.
- ✓ The % of learners studying 5 GCSE's through the medium of Welsh has increased to 61.5%
- ✓ The % of learners achieving expected levels at Key Stages 2, 3 and 4 have improved.
- ✓ Issues identified in the monitoring report will be the focus of the Department's work in 2016/17. This will be coordinated through our Welsh in Education Forum.

How did we perform during 2015/16

Childcare

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

- ✓ 107 registered childminders with **53** (43) of these registered as Welsh speaking childminders with **283** (256) Welsh medium child care places out of a total of 532
- ✓ 35 registered full day care with **16** (13) of these registered as Welsh speaking full day care with 547 (524) Welsh medium child care places out of a total of 1,288
- ✓ **83%** (82%) (52 Welsh / 63 in total) of **sessional care** is registered as Welsh speaking with **981** (1,076) Welsh medium child care places out of a total of 1,168
- ✗ **53%** (56%) (23 Welsh / 43 in total) of **out of school care** is registered as Welsh speaking with **636** (625) Welsh medium places out of a total of 1,294

Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) noted:

It is pleasing to report that there has been growth (in Carmarthenshire) in both the number of registered childcare providers and places since 2014-15. Given the current economic climate, this is hugely encouraging.

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 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
Bilingual (2A)	-	3
Bilingual (2B)	-	2
Welsh Medium (WM)	57	-
English medium with significant use of Welsh (EW)	5	3
English Medium (EM)	25	4
Dual Stream (DS)	10	-
Transitional School (TS)	4	-

- ✓ Completed construction of the new **2B bilingual** category school (80% of subjects are taught through the medium of Welsh but are also taught through the medium of English) Ysgol Bro Dinefwr which is located in the village of Ffairfach.
- ✓ Children in the Cwmann area have moved into their new £5.7million **Welsh Medium** primary school. Ysgol Carreg Hirfaen was delivered through Carmarthenshire County Council's Modernising Education Programme.
- ✓ Commenced procedures to process statutory proposals to amalgamate the infants and junior schools in Llangennech into a new **Welsh medium** primary school.
- ✗ Disappointingly, 2015 saw a reduction in pupils in Welsh-medium and bilingual primary schools **transferring to Welsh-medium** secondary schools, from 91.8% to 85.25%, however we have no direct control over pupil/parent preferences.



Training

- ✓ The Welsh for Adults provision currently has 292 individual learners enrolled on 31 courses.
- ! Welsh for Adults provision across Wales will be subject to major change in 2016-2017, with a new all Wales entity established to oversee provision, replacing the existing four regional centres.

Improvement for 2016/17

1. We shall increase the percentage of pupils to receive a **teacher assessment in Welsh** (first language) at the end of **Key Stage 2** from 51.9% to 52.4% *(EDU/006i)*
2. We shall increase the percentage of pupils to receive a **teacher assessment in Welsh** (first language) at the end of **Key Stage 3** from 43.2% to 43.7% *(EDU/006ii)*
3. We will publish the drafted **Welsh Medium Secondary school and Welsh 2nd Language Charters**. *(12096)*
4. We will complete statutory procedures to **change the language category of Ysgol Bro Myrddin** from bilingual (2A) to Welsh medium (WM). *(12097)*
5. We will continue to advance the objectives of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan. *(12098)*

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.



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	Awaiting results
Reduction in total recorded crime	✗
Reduction in anti-social behaviour	✓

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

Goal: E5 Safeguarding all people from abuse, victimisation, neglect & exploitation

Corporate Safeguarding

Safeguarding people from harm, abuse and neglect is our highest priority as a Council

We operate an 'everyone's business' approach and this year we have developed a new [Corporate Safeguarding Policy](#) to ensure all departments develop a greater understanding of the policies and procedures in relation to safeguarding in respect of both children and adults

Safeguarding Children

In June 2014 Local Safeguarding Children Boards in Wales were regionalised in order to co-ordinate safeguarding on a regional basis. In Carmarthenshire we are part of the Mid and West Wales region known as CYSUR. The structure has been reviewed in line with the development of the Adult Safeguarding Board to consider how best to work with cross-over safeguarding issues e.g. domestic abuse and violence. CYSUR has also devised a regional policy in relation to child sexual exploitation (CSE) and the first regional conference took place in March 2016.

The number of children on the Child Protection Register (still living with their family but with a safeguarding plan in place) has decreased to **88** this year from 104 last year. As at 31st March 2016 we were looking after **215** children/young people a significant reduction from 239 in 2015 and 247 in 2014 and our rate of children who become looked after continues to be better than the Wales Average since 2012. The [Social Services and Well-being Act 2014](#) places a strong emphasis on early intervention and prevention, and we feel our continued focus in this area is beginning to succeed through programmes provided via Flying Start and Families First. CSSIW recognised our commitment to preventative services in their [Annual Evaluation Report 2014-15](#):



"The council continues to build and develop its preventative strategies and visits to these services have confirmed that there are effective and innovative arrangements in place, with a key focus on developing services that are sustainable".

"The council is ensuring growth and development in its preventative services to ensure statutory intervention is only taken when necessary".

During 2015/16 our key focus has been on:

- Developing the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Children Hub (MASH), Central Referral Team (CRT), and Regional Adoption Service
- Improving the quality of care plans and placement stability

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding children Hub (**MASH**) and Central Referral Team (**CRT**) have continued to work well as a means of improving information and decision-making at the point of referral, providing a single point of contact making it easier for families to access, and anyone who has concerns over a child's welfare ensuring a consistent approach. Regular threshold meetings take place to ensure our preventative services are being fully utilised and as a result we have seen the number of referrals for statutory social work services decrease during the year.

Referrals	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
	1,063	1,090	1,144	1,572	1,354

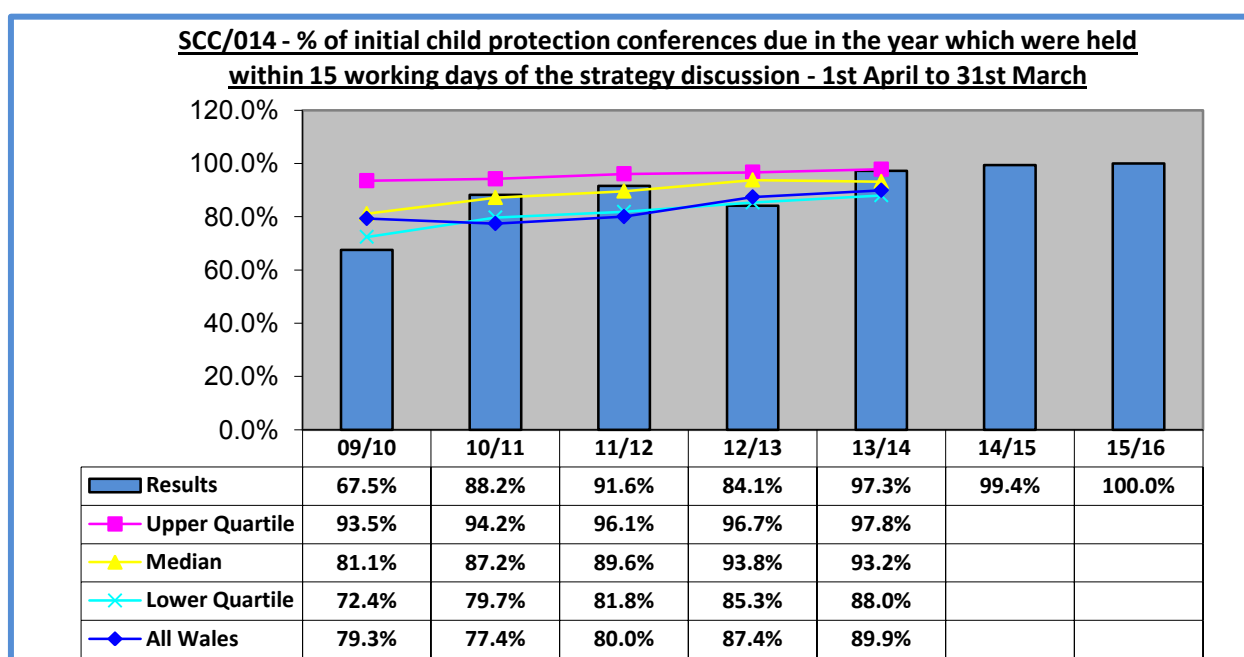
Unfortunately commitment by other agencies to base staff within MASH hasn't yet materialised and this is now being taken forward by CYSUR on a regional basis.

We are continually improving the **quality of care plans**, to focus on outcomes, and engagement of children and families. Development sessions have taken place with all childcare, assessment and Independent Reviewing officer (IRO) teams. Our Permanency Panel maintains oversight of care plans ensuring standards are maintained.

Safeguarding in education remains a key priority. Basic awareness training on child protection continues to be delivered to all staff within schools (32 schools received the training this year). All governors are expected to attend safeguarding training.

The Mid and West Wales **regional adoption service**, has been operational since April 2014. As from June 2015, the Adoption Panel sitting in Carmarthen became paperless, with all information being shared electronically, which has led to more effective use of administrative time and reduced costs.

	Safeguarding Children Key Measures	14/15	15/16	Comment
✓	% Initial Child Protection Conferences during the year were held within 15 working days of a strategy meeting (SCC/014)	99.4%	100%	Improvement (see chart below)
✓	% of reviews carried out in accordance with the statutory timetable (SCC/045)	89.4%	89.4%	Constant
✗	% of Initial Assessments where the child had been seen by a social worker (SCC/011a)	83.1%	80.7%	Decline # see comment below
✗	% of Initial Assessments where the child had been seen alone by a social worker (SCC/011b)	47.3%	46.5%	Decline # see comment below
✗	% of statutory visits to looked after children due in the year that took place in accordance with regulations (SCC/025)	98.5%	98.2%	Slight decline
✓	% first placements of children looked after during the year began with a care plan in place (SCC/001a)	100%	100%	Constant
✓	% of eligible, relevant and former relevant children that have pathway plans as required (SCC/041a)	100%	100%	Constant
✗	% of looked after children with three or more placement moves (SCC/004)	11.7%	14.9%	Decline#
✓	% of eligible, relevant and former relevant children that have pathway plans as required (SCC/002)	5.4%	3.9%	Improvement



- ✘ #Even though we have not met our targets of children seen or seen alone by a qualified social worker during Initial Assessments, we are performing above the All Wales 2014/15 figure of 78% and 44.8% respectively. Assessments are allocated to the appropriate workers and are dependent on the nature of the assessment. We have multi-disciplinary teams where it may be deemed more appropriate for another professional within the team who is the child's 'key worker' to see the child as part of an Assessment who isn't a qualified social worker e.g. health worker in respect of a child with a disability. Not every case will require the child to be seen alone due to age whilst others refuse to be seen alone. (SCC/011a) (SCC/011b)
- ✘ #The percentage of looked after children with three or more placement moves has increased during 2015/16. We have seen a rise in challenging teenage placements during the year which places an added pressure on services and placement stability. This along with a decrease in the number of Looked After Children has impacted on the end result. Many young people do not wish to be in the care system despite this being in their best interests and as a result placements subsequently become fragile and break down despite our best efforts. An Accommodation Panel has been set up to assist the matching process and resource allocation and the Resource Panel will ensure appropriate resources are put in place to support placements to avoid placement breakdown. The department are focussed on recruiting foster carers for older children (SCC/004).

As lead agency for child protection it is important that our staff and the systems in place serve to safeguard the welfare of children. We continue to monitor caseloads monthly to ensure they are appropriate and manageable. Our children's social services workforce remains stable with vacancy levels low at just 2.7% (as at 31/3/16). Keeping vacancies to a minimum is crucial in ensuring all our children in need, children in need of protection, and looked after children are being safeguarded.

Improvements for 2016/17 – Safeguarding Children

1. We shall increase the % of assessments completed for children within statutory timescales (SCC/24)
2. We will review our assessments in light of the implementation of the Social Services and Well-being Act 2014 (12105)
3. We will ensure Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessments (SERAF's) and Missing Persons Risk Assessments are completed as required. (12106)
4. We shall ensure that supported children remain living within their family wherever possible (SCC/25)
5. We shall ensure that looked after children are returned home from care as quickly and safely as possible (SCC/26)
6. We will continue to improve the quality of Care Plans ensuring a multi-agency assessment, with a focus on outcomes, and engagement of children and families. (12107)
7. We shall ensure that all councillors are equipped to act as corporate parents to looked after children. (12108)
8. We shall aim to reduce the % of re-registrations of children on local authority Child Protection Registers (CPR) (SCC/27)
9. We shall reduce the average length of time for all children who were on the Child Protection Register during the year (SCC/28)
10. We shall increase the % of children seen by a registered dentist within 3 months of becoming looked after (SCC/30)
11. We shall increase the % of looked after children registered with a GP within 10 working days of the start of their placement (SCC/31)
12. We will work to reduce the % of children who are looked after, from having 3 or more placement moves during the year to 13.5% (was SCC/004 now SCC/33)
13. We shall keep the % of looked after children who experience one or more change of school to 5.0% or below (was SCC/002 now SCC/32)
14. We will undertake Reviews of foster carers on an annual basis in accordance with regulations to achieve 100% target. (12109)
15. We will implement the plan for improving placement stability. (12110)
16. We will implement the 'Signs of Safety' model within Carmarthenshire and incorporate into practice. (12111)
17. We will ensure the Independent Reviewing Service (IRO) becomes more outcome focused in line with recommendations and reflect on the outcomes of Welsh Government Review. (12112)

18. We will consolidate the regional Adoption service and develop Adoption Support in line with national and regional priorities. *(12113)*.
19. We will continue to work with partners to improve appropriate accommodation options, and housing support for all vulnerable young people (aged 16-25) to ensure no children/young people end up in Bed and Breakfast. *(12114)*
20. We will implement new arrangements in respect of our leaving care services in accordance with the Social Services and Well-being Act 2014 and 'When I am Ready' guidance. *(12115)*

Appendix A

This report only shows the measures relevant to **Education & Children Services Scrutiny**

There is a suite of **National measures** for all council's in Wales, where we are required to collect them, to set performance targets and publish both our target and performance in our Annual Report/Improvement Plan

There are two main ways of measuring improvement:-

- Year on year improvement – shown under 'A' in the table below
- How we compare with other Authorities in Wales – shown under 'B' in the table below – the majority of the comparative data is for 2014/15 other than some of the Education data which is for 2015/16 and marked with #. All 2015/16 results for all Welsh Authorities, will be published by the Local Government Data Unit in September 2016.

A				B																						
The 41 measures published by all councils in Wales and our results for <u>2015/16</u> and whether they have improved on 2014/15				How our results rank compared to 21 authorities in Wales and our change in position																						
			Our 2015/16 result and change	22 nd	21 st	20 th	19 th	18 th	17 th	16 th	15 th	14 th	13 th	12 th	11 th	10 th	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2 nd	1 st	
				Worst results											Best Results											
				Arrows start from our 2013/14 position to our 2014/15 position																						
People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential																										
12	% Pupils achieving Key Stage2 Teacher Assessment (EDU/003)	88.2	↑	#																						
13	% Pupils achieving Key Stage3 Teacher Assessment (EDU/004)	85.1	↑	#																						
14	Average point score in external qualifications (EDU/011)	580.3	↑	#																						
15	%Achieved the Level 2 threshold (EDU/017)	61.1	↑	#																						
17	Average qualifications score-looked after children(SCC/037)	334	↑																							
18	% Pupils leaving with no qualification (EDU/002i)	0.0	↔																							joint with 4
				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	
People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential - continued																										
19	% Pupils in care leaving with no qualification (EDU/002ii)	0.0	↔																							joint with
20	Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools (EDU/016a)	95.2	↑	#																						
21	% Pupil attendance in secondary schools (EDU/016b)	94.2	↑	#																						
22	% Of statements submitted < 26 weeks incl exceptions (EDU/015a)	34.8	↑																							
23	% Of statements submitted < 26 weeks excl exceptions (EDU/015b)	80.0	↑																							
24	% Achieving Welsh (first language) Key Stage 3 (EDU/006ii)	43.2	↑																							Same

Appendix A

		Our 2015/16 result and change	22 nd	21 st	20 th	19 th	18 th	17 th	16 th	15 th	14 th	13 th	12 th	11 th	10 th	9 th	8 th	7 th	6 th	5 th	4 th	3 rd	2 nd	1 st			
			Worst results										Best Results														
			Arrows start from our 2013/14 position to our 2014/15 position																								
People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer																											
26	% Looked-after children changing school (SCC/002)	3.9	↑																								
27	% Children in care with 3 or more placements in a year (SCC/004)	14.9	↓																								
28	% Initial assessments - been seen alone by SW (SCC/011b)	46.5	↓																								
29	% Statutory visits to looked after children (SCC/025)	98.2	↓																								
30	% 19yr olds formerly looked after- LA in contact (SCC/033d)	100.0	↔																							Same joint with 6	
31	% 19yr olds once looked after, non-emergency accom (SCC/033e)	94.7	↑																								
32	% 19yr olds in education, training, employment (SCC/033f)	73.7	↑																								
33	% Children that have pathway plans as required (SCC/041a)	100.0	↔																							joint with 9	
34	% Of children's reviews carried out on time (SCC/045)	89.4	↔																							Same	

Appendix B

The following tables provide detailed measure by measure profiles for performance measures that are measured by all Councils in Wales

Reference Number:
3 letters = Nationally set measure (e.g. SCA/001)
Definition: What we are measuring?
A brief description of the performance measure

How did we perform during 2014/15?

The minimum performance level required to be amongst the top 5 Welsh councils

Is the 2016/17 performance target set to improve on the 2015/16 result?
✓ (Yes) or ✗ (No)

Our final result for 2015/16

A comparison between our 2014/15 result, and our 2015/16 performance. Did we improve?
▲(Yes) or ▼(No)

How does our result compare with other Local Authorities?
* Worst Quartile to
**** Best Quartile

Our Key Measures of success – 2015/16 results and targets for 2016/17										
	How well have we done?	How well are we doing?							Improvement	
		See explanation of performance				All Wales Comparative Info.				
	Definition / Measure Reference	2014/15	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 ****	Target Set	Target Set to improve against Actual Result ✓ or ✗
Key measure(s)	6.18	5.77	4.69	☺	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	4.51	✓
<p>SCA/001 The rate of delayed transfers of care for social care reasons per 1,000 population aged 75 or over</p>	<p>An explanation of performance is provided here when off target, poor comparative performance and/or future target has not been set to improve.</p>									

Our target set for 2015/16

Did we meet our 2015/16 Target?
☺ (Yes) or ☹ (No)

The mid range performance within Wales (only applies to National measures) **these will be available in September 2016**

Our 2016/17 performance target

Performance measures that are measured by all Councils in Wales for 2015/16

2015/16 results and targets for 2016/17

	How well have we done?	How well are we doing?							Improvement		
		See explanation of performance				All Wales Comparative Info.					
Definition / Measure Reference	2014/15	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 ****	Target Set	Target Set to improve against Actual Result ✓ or ✗	
12 EDU/003 (NSI) & (PAM) % 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	87.4%	88.7%	88.2%	☹	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	88.7%	✓	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
	Despite being off target the result has improved by 0.8 percentage points compared to the previous year from 87.4% to 88.2%. The performance achieved represents the Local Authority's best result to date and continues our ongoing upward trend. 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.										
13 EDU/004 (PAM) % 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	84.5%	86.5%	85.1%	☹	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	85.6%	✓	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
	Despite the 2015/16 result being slightly off target, it shows an increase of 0.6 percentage points on last year's performance. The result is also the highest recorded by the Local Authority, continuing our upward trend since 2011 (68.4%), an increase of 16.7 percentage points. 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.										
14 EDU/011 (NSI) & (PAM) The average point score for pupils aged 15 at the preceding 31 August, in schools maintained by the local authority	579.8	599.0	580.3	☹	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	581.0	✓	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
	The 2015/16 result is off target but has improved, this is the best ever result for the Local Authority and 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.										
15 EDU/017 (NSI) & (PAM) % of pupils aged 15 at the preceding 31 August, in schools maintained by the local authority who achieved the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A*-C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics.	58.7%	61.1%	61.1%	☺	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	61.6%	✓	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
	The 2015/16 result (2014/15 Academic Year) represents a strong improvement of over 4% from the previous year and for the first time the Authority's schools have passed through the 60% barrier. Numerous 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. Two schools need to further improve their performance. Intervention from the School Improvement Team is in place and the current outlook for Academic Year 2015/16 is good.										

APPENDIX B

Definition / Measure Reference	2014/15	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 ****	Target Set	Target Set to improve against Actual Result ✓ or ✗	
17 SCC/037 (NSI) The average external qualifications point score for 16 year old looked after children, in any local authority maintained learning setting	315	318	334	☺	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	This measure has been deleted for 2016/17		People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
18 EDU/002i (NSI) & (PAM) % 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%	0.0%	☺	At maximum result	TBC	TBC	TBC	0.0%	At maximum result	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
19 EDU/002ii (NSI) % 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	TBC	TBC	TBC	0.0%	At maximum result	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
20 EDU/016a (PAM) % of pupil attendance in primary schools	95.0%	95.2%	95.2%	☺	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	95.4%	✓	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
	There has been a slight improvement again during 2015/16 (2014/15 Academic Year) and we now rank 5th in Wales (6th the previous year), a significant improvement from 15th two years ago. The Education Welfare Service has improved engagement from parents, and Head teachers are now supported with more accurate and regular data monitoring and sharing both of which have contributed to improving attendance. Continued improvements will be sought through increased support and challenge of schools.										
21 EDU/016b (PAM) % of pupil attendance in secondary schools	93.9%	94.2%	94.2%	☺	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	94.4%	✓	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
	The 2015/16 (2014/15 Academic Year) result has improved and our provisional comparative ranking is 8th, which is consistent with the previous year after rising from 20th in 2013/14. Based on the % of Eligible Free School Meal pupils per Local Authority, our expected ranking was 10th, which we have exceeded 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 assisted in improving attendance. Continued improvements are expected through increased support and challenge of schools.										

APPENDIX B

Definition / Measure Reference	2014/15	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 ****	Target Set	Target Set to improve against Actual Result ✓ or ✗	
22 EDU/015a (NSI) % of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks including exceptions	22.9%	25.0%	34.8%	☺	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	40.0%	✓	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
<p>The number of Statements issued has reduced as expected following the devolvement of Additional Needs funding to schools, despite this the percentage issues within 26 weeks continues to be low but has improved slightly on last year. Hywel Dda Health Board continue to have problems recruiting and are running clinics ad hoc when they can employ a locum. This is leading to continued delays in receiving medical assessments. We have addressed concerns with senior managers in the Local Health Board and we shall continue to</p> <p>1) Track assessments to pre-empt delays where possible 2) Continue to request info on why reports are late from external agencies; 3) Inform parents when the assessment is being delayed by the Local Health Board; Send reminders of the Authority's statutory obligation to external agencies; 4) Ask the Local Health Board to alert us when a child does not attend a medical so that we can offer to assist parents to make arrangements to take the child to appointments to avoid a 'Did Not Attend'.</p>											
23 EDU/015b (NSI) % of final statements of special education need issued within 26 weeks excluding exceptions	75.0%	90.0%	80.0%	☹	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	90.0%	✓	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
<p>Despite being off target, this measure does show an improvement on the previous year. With four assessments not issued within 26 weeks due to delay's receiving information from professionals from within the department. A reminder has been sent to all Inclusion staff of the need to comply to statutory timescales.</p>											
24 EDU/006ii (NSI) % 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	39.0%	40.0%	43.2%	☺	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	43.7%	✓	People in Carmarthenshire fulfil their learning potential
26 SCC/002 (NSI) % 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	5.4%	10.0%	3.9%	☺	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	5.0%	✗	People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
<p>The department has performed exceptionally well during 2015/16 with only 6 children experiencing one or more change of school. It is envisaged that the good work will continue but this performance indicator is dependent on the number of compulsory school aged children looked after at 31st March which is always prone to change and subsequently influences the end result therefore 5% is a realistic target for 2016/17 based on past performance.</p>											

APPENDIX B

Definition / Measure Reference	2014/15	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 ****	Target Set	Target Set to improve against Actual Result ✓ or ✗	
27 SCC/004 (NSI) & (PAM) % of children looked after on 31 March who have had three or more placements during the year.	11.7%	11.3%	14.9%	☹	▼	TBC	TBC	TBC	13.5%	✓	People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
<p>This is a provisional result and will be confirmed by the Welsh Government in due course. We have seen an increase in challenging teenage placements during the year which places an added pressure on placement stability. This, along with a decrease in the number of Looked After Children, has impacted on the end result. Many young people do not wish to be in the care system despite this being in their best interests. Placements subsequently become fragile and break down despite the department's best efforts. On a positive note, some children have returned to live with parent/relative carer. An Accommodation Panel has been set up to assist the matching process and resource allocation, in addition to a Resource Panel to ensure appropriate resources are put in place to support placements to avoid placement breakdown. The department are focussed on recruiting foster carers for older children.</p>											
28 SCC/011b (NSI) % of initial assessments that were completed during the year where there is evidence that the child has been seen alone by the Social Worker	47.3%	48.3%	46.5%	☹	▼	TBC	TBC	TBC	This measure has been deleted for 2016/17		People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
<p>Even though we have not met our target, the department is performing above the All Wales 2014/15 figure of 44.8%. Many children are not seen alone due to age whilst others refuse. Not every case will require a child to be seen alone, but we will ensure they do wherever possible, however, this is dependent on the nature of the assessment.</p>											
29 SCC/025 (PAM) % of statutory visits to looked after children due in the year that took place in accordance with regulations	98.5%	98.0%	98.2%	☺	▼	TBC	TBC	TBC	This measure has been deleted for 2016/17		People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
<p></p>											
30 SCC/033d (NSI) % of young people formerly looked after with whom the authority is in contact at the age of 19.	100.0%	95.0%	100.0%	☺	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	This measure has been deleted for 2016/17		People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
<p></p>											

APPENDIX B

Definition / Measure Reference	2014/15	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 ****	Target Set	Target Set to improve against Actual Result ✓ or ✗	
31 SCC/033e (NSI) % of young people formerly looked after with whom the authority is in contact, who are known to be in suitable, non-emergency accommodation at the age of 19.	88.2%	89.5%	94.7%	☺	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	This measure has been deleted for 2016/17		People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
32 SCC/033f (NSI) % of young people formerly looked after with whom the authority is in contact, who are known to be engaged in education, training or employment at the age of 19.	64.7%	73.7%	73.7%	☺	▲	TBC	TBC	TBC	This measure has been deleted for 2016/17		People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
33 SCC/041a (NSI) % of eligible, relevant and former relevant children that have pathway plans as required.	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	☺	At maximum result	TBC	TBC	TBC	This measure has been deleted for 2016/17		People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
34 SCC/045 (PAM) % of reviews of looked after children, children on the Child Protection register and children in need carried out in line with the statutory timetable	89.4%	90.0%	89.4%	☹	▼	TBC	TBC	TBC	This measure has been deleted for 2016/17		People who live, work and visit Carmarthenshire are safe and feel safer
	Even though we have not met our target, we are performing above the All Wales 2014/15 figure of 88.9% and remain constant with our 2014/15 result. Completion of Children in Need (CIN) reviews within timescales has again been an issue showing a decline in performance with staff sickness being a contributory factor, this has impacted on the overall result. Looked After Children and Child Protection reviews have both improved during this year, 96.2% and 99.4% respectively. the Team Manager will continue to monitor Children in Need reviews, however, sickness of staff has been an issue in some teams. Social Workers will ensure that all Care Assess (electronic record) review forms are entered onto the system as and when required										