



Carmarthenshire County Council's Scrutiny Function

ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

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Foreword

I am pleased to present this Annual Report for Carmarthenshire County Council's Scrutiny Function for the 2016/17 municipal year. The Annual Report provides a useful opportunity to reflect on the work of the Council's Scrutiny Committees during the past year. To recognise the achievements and identify where improvements could be made. This analysis is instrumental in developing the work of scrutiny and to inform the Forward Work Programmes for the upcoming year.

It has continued to be a challenging period for the Council, particularly with the unprecedented budget situation faced by all local authorities in Wales. All the scrutiny committees have played their part in terms of scrutinising performance and contributing to key council policies and decisions.

A number of joint meetings were held during the past year, which allowed a number of cross-cutting issues to be discussed and scrutinised by committees. Joint meetings are beneficial as they help to pool the expertise found on different committees and improve the knowledge of members on important topics. For the first time, a "Super Scrutiny" meeting was held in February 2017 to consider Council's Well-being Objectives for 2017/18. This type of meeting assisted with reducing duplication in terms of both papers and officer time, as the report was cross cutting and relevant to all scrutiny committees. Further opportunities for streamlining processes will be considered going forward.

It is noteworthy that there was public participation at meetings of the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee during 2016/17. Parents and community representatives from Llangennech addressed the Committee with a series of questions in relation to the Council's Modernising Education Programme. Members encourage public engagement in scrutiny and hopefully there will be further engagement in the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Scrutiny Committees during 2016/17 for their constructive input and to the Chairs and Vice-Chairs for the way they managed their Committees. I have no doubt that 2017/18 will also be a challenging year and Members will continue to be dedicated to effective scrutiny. I would also like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to our partners for their participation in the scrutiny process and on a personal note, I look forward to inviting PSB partners to meetings of Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee.

Finally I would like to thank all the officers who have provided support, advice and guidance throughout the year, particularly those in the Democratic Services Unit.

Cllr. Giles Morgan
Chair of Chairs & Vice-Chairs of Scrutiny Forum and
Carmarthenshire County Council's Scrutiny Champion

Scrutiny in Carmarthenshire

Scrutiny plays a key role in improving the services that the people and children of Carmarthenshire use. The majority of decisions are made by the Executive Board of 10 county councillors. Scrutiny offers the other 64 councillors an opportunity to influence those decisions and act as a 'critical friend'. It is also useful in ensuring that Council policies respect current priorities, as well as promoting efficiency and encouraging effective partnership working with external bodies. Scrutiny Committees' main roles and responsibilities are to:

- Examine how well the Executive Board and Council are performing.
- Hold the Executive Board to account and seek to promote open and transparent decision-making.
- Monitor the performance of the Council's services and functions.
- Review decisions made by the Executive Board where appropriate.
- Assist the Executive Board in the development, monitoring and review of policy.
- Scrutinise, as a key element of the consultation process, the proposed revenue budget strategy and capital investment programmes.
- Enable the participation of external organisations and partners in consideration of issues that may impact upon the delivery of Council and countywide priorities.

All non-executive councillors can be appointed to at least one Scrutiny committee, depending on their specialist interests or expertise.

Carmarthenshire County Council has 5 Scrutiny Committees:

- Policy & Resources
- Community
- Education & Children
- Environmental & Public Protection
- Social Care & Health

The Committees normally meet 8 times a year on a 6 weekly basis to consider issues and reports included in a scrutiny forward work programme, which is developed at the beginning of the municipal year. Additional meetings are sometimes arranged if required and special or joint meetings may be held to consider urgent or cross-cutting issues.

The Scrutiny Committees are politically balanced to reflect, as far as possible, the political composition of the Council as a whole. The Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Scrutiny Committees are appointed at the beginning of each municipal year for a period of one year (e.g. May 2016 to April 2017) by Council. They also participate in the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Scrutiny Forum which meets on a quarterly basis to oversee the strategic direction of Scrutiny.

The Scrutiny Committees

Standard Scrutiny Monitoring Reports / Items

All scrutiny committee receive the following monitoring reports as standard and have previously agreed the frequency and format of these reports.

Performance Management Reports - One of the principal roles of a scrutiny committee is to monitor the performance of services and functions under its remit. They undertake this work mainly through the consideration of half-yearly performance monitoring report, which provide a balanced picture of performance. In addition, the committees receive business plans and compliments and complaints monitoring information.

Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Reports – Each scrutiny committee receives half yearly reports on the revenue and capital budgets for the services within their remit.

Actions & Referrals Updates - During the course of the municipal year several recommendations and requests for additional information are made by scrutiny committees to assist them in discharging their scrutiny role. Quarterly action and referral reports are produced to provide an update on progress against the recommendations and actions requested.

Community Scrutiny Committee

The Community Scrutiny Committee has 13 members and its remit covers:

- Housing – Social and Private Sector
- Planning Policy
- Community Regeneration including physical and rural development
- Economic Development
- European and Externally Funded Programmes
- Libraries
- Arts and Theatres
- Museums and Archives
- Countryside facilities
- Sports, Leisure and Recreation

Committee meetings – During 2016/17 the Committee considered reports on a wide range of topics including:

- Development of the new Carmarthenshire Archive Service
- National Licensing of Landlords and Agents
- Actif Fitness Provision
- Community Infrastructure Levy
- Annual Performance Report (Planning)
- Annual Performance Monitoring Report 2015/16 – Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan
- Leisure Services Annual Update
- Burry Port Harbour – Future Maintenance
- Welsh Public Library Standards Annual Report 2015-16: Carmarthenshire

- Affordable Homes New Build Programme Phase 1 2016/17
- Review of Access to Social Housing Policy
- Carmarthenshire County Council guidance and service level agreement on chargeable pre-application and post consent advice in relation to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (Planning Act 2008) and Developments of National Significance (Planning (Wales) Act 2015)

The Committee was also consulted on the following issues:

- Carmarthenshire County Council's Annual Report 2015/16 and Improvement Plan 2016/17
- Annual Revenue Budget Consultation
- Five year Capital Programme – 2017/18 – 2021/22
- Housing Revenue Account and Housing Rent Setting 2017/18 (Revenue and Capital)
- The Carmarthenshire Homes Standard Plus (CHS+) 'Delivering What Matters'
- Draft Local Development Order – Llanelli Town Centre

Task and Finish Work - During 2016/17, the Committee held a joint meeting with the Planning Committee to consider a progress report on the recommendations of the Community Scrutiny Committee's Task and Finish review of Planning Enforcement and Protocols. The Committees were satisfied that progress was being made against the recommendations.

The Committee monitored the Action Plan from the review of Empty Properties in Carmarthenshire and received a progress report on the recommendations. A seminar had also been held to brief members on the Council's approach, challenges and achievements in returning empty properties back to use and raising awareness of that work.

The Committee did not undertake a task and finish review during 2016/17, however, the Committee had started to consider establishing a Task and Finish Group to look at large empty buildings (i.e. old churches/chapels and halls) that were blighting town centres, and the options available for their conversion. The Ammanford Task Group was charged with undertaking a pilot of such properties in the Ammanford area, and a report on its findings was to be presented to the Committee at a later date prior to a formal decision being taken on whether to progress with a formal task and finish group. The Committee will receive a report on its findings in 2017/18

The Committee, undertook site visits to the following museums and libraries during 2016/17:

- Abergwili Museum
- Carmarthen Library
- Llanelli Library
- Kidwelly Heritage Museum
- Ammanford Library
- Bro Aman Heritage Museum
- RNLI Life Saving Centre Burry Port

The Committee found these visits provided a very useful insight and assistance in scrutinising reports. For example, in understanding the range of services provided by libraries and the importance of accessibility in terms of both physical access and access to on-line provision. The Committee's visits to the museums will also assist members in their scrutiny of the Museums Strategy which has been identified within the Forward Work Programme for 2017/18.

Education & Children Scrutiny Committee

The Education & Children Scrutiny Committee has 19 members and five of these are Co-opted Members. Only the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee has co-opted members and they represent:

- Parent Governor Member for Area 1 – Dinefwr
- Parent Governor Member for Area 2 – Carmarthen
- Parent Governor Member for Area 3 – Llanelli
- Roman Catholic Church Representative
- Church in Wales Representative

The Committee's remit covers:

- Educational Standards & School Performance
- Inclusion & Additional Learning Needs
- Welsh Medium Education
- School Modernisation
- Adult Community Learning
- Youth Services
- Youth Offending
- School meals
- Children's Services including Social Services & Family Support Services

Committee meetings – During 2016/17 the Committee considered reports on a wide range of topics including:

- Annual Report of the Statutory Director of Social Services on the effectiveness of Social Care Services in Carmarthenshire 2015/16 (Joint with Social Care & Health)
- Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan 2016
- 11-19 Learning Network Update
- Youth Support Services Business Plan 2016/17
- Partnership Arrangements Established in West Wales under Part 9 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and the West Wales Population Assessment (Joint with Education & Children)
- Examination and Teacher Assessment Results and Provisional School Attendance Data
- ERW Business Plan
- School Improvement Panel
- Categorisation of Schools
- CSSIW Inspection of Children's Services in Carmarthenshire County Council
- Corporate Parenting Update

- Reforming the Provision of Support for Learners with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)
- Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategy (WESP) – 2016/17
- Carmarthenshire Curriculum Declaration

It was also consulted on the following matters:

- Carmarthenshire County Council's Annual Report 2015/16 and Improvement Plan 2016/17
- Modernising Education Programme (MEP) Biennial Review
- Modernising Education Programme (MEP) – Proposals to Discontinue Llangennech Infant School and Llangennech Junior School and Establish Llangennech Community Primary School
- Modernising Education Programme (MEP) – Proposal to Change the Language Category of Ysgol Bro Myrddin from Bilingual (2A) to Welsh-Medium (WM)
- Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation 2017/18 to 2019/20
- Five Year Capital Programme—2017/18—2021/22

Task & Finish Review - The Committee did not undertake a task and finish review during 2016/17 as its previous review of the attainment gap and learners eligible for free school meals, carried over into 2016/17. The Task & Finish Group published this particular report in January 2017. The Chairman of the Committee presented the findings of the Review to the Executive Board in April 2017 and the Executive Board endorsed the recommendations.

Site Visits - In addition to its regular meetings, the Committee also continued with the programme of school visits and visited 5 schools between May 2016 and April 2017. The visits provide members with a better understanding of the work being undertaken within schools in the County and the challenges they face.

Following its visit to Cwrt Henri in October 2015, the Committee had visited all the County's primary, secondary and special schools, along with the 3 integrated family centres, since the programme commenced in 2009/10. In 2016/17 it began re-visiting schools, linking in with the School Improvement Panel's work programme and the Authority's Modernising Education Programme proposals. With the recent changes to the Committee the opportunity was taken to consider the future format and focus of the visits. The Committee has decided to continue with the visits and to do so on a rota basis that will commence in January 2018. The main focus will be on school improvement.

Public Engagement - The Committee received several questions from members of the public, at two of its meetings, in relation to the Modernising Education Programme (MEP) Proposal to discontinue Llangennech Infant School and Llangennech Junior School and establish Llangennech Community Primary School. This was a contentious issue and all questions submitted within the agreed timescales were heard and responded to by the Committee. Scrutiny provided a platform for members of the public to voice their views and public engagement in the democratic process is encouraged by all members of scrutiny.

Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee

The Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee has 14 members and its remit covers:

- Visible front line services (e.g. highways, street cleaning, waste and recycling services, town-centre management, grounds maintenance, public conveniences, bus shelters and maintenance of car parks)
- Regional Waste Plan
- Transport
- Trading Standards
- Vehicle Maintenance
- Road Safety
- On/Off Street and Residents' Car Parking
- Conservation
- Shoreline Management & Coastal Protection
- Contaminated Land
- Public Protection (Air Pollution, Trading Standards, Pest control & Environmental Health)
- Community Safety issues —identified in the Corporate Community Safety and Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategies, working with the relevant partners
- Environmental Enforcement (e.g. litter, dog fouling)
- Planning Enforcement
- Pest Control

Committee meetings - In addition to its regular monitoring reports, the Committee requested and received a number of reports on areas of specific concern and interest, such as:

- Food Hygiene
- Review of Led Conversion Project
- Trading Standards Update
- AQMA Update
- Enforcement Update
- Area Planning Board Drug and Alcohol Misuse Strategy Annual Report 2015/16 (Joint with Social Care & Health)
- Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2015/16
- Prioritisation Model for Highway Infrastructure and Road Safety Improvements
- Kerosene Oil Spill, Nantycaws, Carmarthen - October 2016

It was also consulted on:

- Carmarthenshire County Council's Annual Report (2015/16) and Improvement Plan (2016/17)
- Annual Revenue Budget Consultation
- Carmarthen County Council's Environment Act Forward Plan
- Animal Establishment and Licensing Fees
- Kerbside Green Waste Collection

Task and Finish Review - The Committee did not undertake a task and finish review during 2016/17. However, at its meeting on the 13th May 2016, the Committee considered the final report of the Task & Finish Group it had established on 15th May 2015. The Group had researched the different approaches to car parking charges that could be applied in the County. The review culminated in the formulation of 11 recommendations to be presented to the Executive Board.

Development Sessions - No specific development sessions were held for the Committee during 2016/17, however, the Committee identified the following Development sessions and resolved to incorporate them into the post-election Member Induction Programme:-

- Financial Education Safeguarding Scheme Seminar
- Corporate Manslaughter training

Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee

The Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee has 13 members and its remit covers:

- Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance Monitoring
- Cross-cutting issues
- Sustainable Development
- Finance
- Property
- Information Technology
- Communications
- Customer Services
- Audit
- Procurement
- Non-housing maintenance
- Organisational Development
- Human Resources
- Emergency Planning
- Public Service Board (PSB)

Committee meetings - Reports considered by the Committee this year included:

- Third Sector Funding Review
- Asset Transfer Annual Report 2015/16
- End of Year Treasury Management and Prudential Indicator Report 2015/16
- Transform, Innovate & Change (TIC) Programme Annual Report 2015/16 and Business Plan 2016/17
- Spend on External Consultants 2015/16
- Corporate Asset Management Plan 2016 – 2019
- Carmarthenshire's Ageing Well Plan 2015/16 – Annual Report

It was also consulted on:

- Carmarthenshire County Council's Annual Report 2015/16 and Improvement Plan 2016/17
- Annual Revenue Budget Consultation
- Carmarthenshire Well-Being Assessment 2016/17
- Strategy to Promote the Welsh Language
- Portable Device Usage Policy
- Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2017-18

Task and Finish Reviews - The Committee did not undertake a task and finish review during 2016/17. However, potential options for further scrutiny investigation have been identified for 2017/18.

Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee

The Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee has 14 members and its remit covers:

- Social services for older people including nutritional standards
- Adults with learning disabilities
- Support for Carers
- Mental health services
- Safeguarding of Adults
- Integration of Health and Social Care Services
- Dementia Services

Committee meetings - Reports considered by the Committee this year included:

- Annual Report of the Statutory Director of Social Services on the effectiveness of Social Care Services in Carmarthenshire 2015/16 (Joint with the Education & Children)
- Area Planning Board Drug and Alcohol Misuse Strategy Annual Report 2015/16 (Joint with Environmental & Public Protection)
- Partnership Arrangements Established in West Wales under Part 9 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and the West Wales Population Assessment (Joint with Education & Children)
- Together for Mental Health: Annual Report
- Community Resilience in Carmarthenshire
- Unpaid Carers
- Deprivation of Liberty (DoLS)
- Trading Standards Division's Initiatives for the Protection of the Elderly and the Vulnerable
- Older People's Services – Extra Care
- Domiciliary Care Commissioning Framework
- Older People's Services – Demand and Budget
- Annual Safeguarding Adults Report 2015/16
- Carmarthenshire's Ageing Well Plan – Annual Report
- Improving Dementia Support in Carmarthenshire
- Information, Advice and Assistance (IAA) Service
- Social Care Welsh Language Strategy

It was also consulted on:

- Carmarthenshire County Council's Annual Report (2015/16) and Improvement Plan (2016/17)
- Annual Revenue Budget Consultation

Task and Finish - The Committee did not undertake a task and finish review during 2016/17. Consideration will be given to topics for further scrutiny investigation during 2017/18.

Site Visits - The Committee undertook a site visit during the municipal year to Ty Dyffryn Extra Care Scheme. This work complemented previous visits the Committee had undertaken during 2015/16 to the Cwm Aur Extra Care Scheme and Annedd Care Home and the Cartref Cynnes Extra Care Scheme.

Super Scrutiny - Joint Scrutiny Committee of all Committees

Carmarthenshire County Council's Well-being Objectives 2017/18 - In February 2017, all Scrutiny Committees met to form a Joint Scrutiny Committee to consider a report on the Council's Well-being Objectives for 2017/18. This report cut across all scrutiny committees and by undertaking a super scrutiny it prevented duplication and Members were able to consider a wider range of views.

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. Each of the Council's Well-being Objectives 2017/18 were developed to comply with the Act, which states that public bodies must carry out sustainable development, improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. This includes the adoption of the 5 new ways of working, demonstrating that the sustainable development principle has been applied.

The 5 new ways of working aims to encourage collaboration, avoid duplication of effort between public bodies and tackle some long-term challenges. In addition, in order to ensure that those public bodies listed within the Act were working towards the same vision, the Council's Well-being Objectives were linked to the 7 National well-being goals which the Act had in place. The Council is required to publish an annual report showing progress made in meeting the objectives.

Other Activities during 2016/17

Chairs & Vice-Chairs of Scrutiny Forum – The Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Council’s Scrutiny Committees usually meet on a quarterly basis to discuss issues relating to the scrutiny function. The Forum, which was established in 2004, is chaired by the Chair of the Policy & Resources Committee, who is also the Council’s ‘Scrutiny Champion’. During 2016/17 the Forum met on 2 occasions.

Scrutiny Member Development and Training - The following all member development sessions were held during 2016/17, to which Committee members were invited:

- Changes to Community Services in Wales
- Changes to the Planning System
- Changes to Refuse and Recycling Collection Seminar
- Well-being Objectives
- Empty Houses in the Private Sector
- Launch of Roadworks Information Services
- Curriculum Developments
- Corporate Parenting

In addition, there were several departmental budget seminars held and two Members Induction Focus Groups to assist with the development of the new induction programme following the Local Government Elections in May 2017.

Following the Local Government Elections in May 2017, a comprehensive Induction Programme for Members was undertaken. New and existing Members were invited to attend these sessions. The sessions also included suggestions that had been made by the Scrutiny Committees throughout the 2016/17 Municipal Year.

ERW Scrutiny Councillor Group - This Group is a regional group that consists of the chairs and vice-chairs of the six education scrutiny committees from across the ERW consortium. The aim of the Group is to ensure there is consistent scrutiny across the region on matters within the remit of ERW. It meets twice a year to discuss ERW items and the opportunity is also taken to consider other education items of common interest. The meetings take place on a rota basis between the six local authorities that make up the ERW consortium. The Chair of the Group is also rotated and is normally the chair of the hosting local authority. The meetings have been productive and Estyn view the Group as a strength for the consortium. The meetings are administered by the City & County of Swansea’s Scrutiny Team. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Education & Children Scrutiny Committee have attended two meetings of this regional group during the past year. Carmarthenshire Council will be hosting the meeting of the Group in March 2018.

Wales Scrutiny Managers Network - Officers attended the new Scrutiny Managers Network in December 2016 and June 2017. Issues discussed included:

December:

- Scrutiny arrangements for Public Service Boards
- Key challenges and opportunities presented by PSB Scrutiny
- Content and structure of draft guidance

June

- Local Government White Paper – Implications for Scrutiny
- WAO Scrutiny study
- WG guidance on the Scrutiny of Public Services Boards
- Public Services Board Scrutiny local progress
- Scrutiny Member Induction progress

Attendance at these meetings has been useful in providing a national perspective of scrutiny and sharing ideas and issues with cross cutting themes for all areas. They are also a useful insight into future developments. It is envisaged that the Scrutiny Manager Network will continue to meet 2/3 times a year, with administration to be provided by the WLGA.

Local Government Wales Measure 2011

Forward work programmes for all Scrutiny Committees are available on the Authority's Scrutiny pages.

Chairs of Scrutiny Committees are appointed in accordance with Part 6 of the Measure.

Looking ahead to 2017/18

Each Scrutiny Committee must develop and publish a forward work programme for the forthcoming year and an annual report outlining the work of the previous year. All annual reports for 2016/17 have been completed and approved by the relevant scrutiny committees.

The Local Government elections in May 2017 resulted in changes to the membership of the Scrutiny Committees and a comprehensive induction programme was undertaken, including sessions on scrutiny and meeting procedures. Planning sessions for the forward work programmes for 2017/18 were held with each scrutiny committee. Due to the number of new Members on the scrutiny committees, an overview of the remit of each of the committees was provided by lead officers, which Members found useful. As part of this overview officers also highlighted the key plans, policies and strategic issues for the upcoming year. Members discussed what they felt were the priority topics for their committee and developed a draft forward work programme. The forward work programme planning also provided Members with the opportunity to consider potential member development sessions and topics for further scrutiny investigation.

Due to the Local Government Elections and the Induction Programme, the first meetings of the scrutiny committees for 2016/17 took place in September/October time. During these meetings the Scrutiny Committees formally agreed their respective Forward Work Programmes for 2017/18. The work programmes and the annual reports are available to view on the Council's website.

The Council continues to face serious budgetary pressures and needs to continue to identify and achieve more savings and efficiencies. A key achievement for the Council will be to maintain and deliver improvements to services, whilst meeting the required savings targets. Scrutiny Committees will continue to contribute and challenge in a constructive way to support the Council in meeting these challenges.

Key policies, plans and performance will continue to be monitored and scrutinised. The Council's overarching policies and plans include: the Annual Report and Improvement Plan, Wellbeing Objectives, Ageing Well Plan and Corporate Strategy. The Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee has the overarching remit for corporate policy, strategy and performance, however, such plans and objectives also cross over into other scrutiny areas. Where appropriate, all scrutiny committees will consider elements of such plans and policies relevant to their remits. Innovative solutions will be sought to reduce duplication and waste, such as the super scrutiny held during 2016/17.

Other key areas that the Committees will be focussing on include:

Community – Museum Strategy, monitoring of the National Licensing of Landlords and Agents scheme, Choice Based Lettings, LDP Review and Progress, Tenant Engagement and Theatre Services. The Committee has also indicated that it wishes to undertake a series of site visits to the County's leisure facilities and regeneration areas.

Education & Children - Improving standards and performance in schools, ERW business plan and curriculum developments, school budgets, school leadership, Corporate Parenting and fostering and adoption. The Committee will also commence with a new programme of visits to schools and intend on undertaking task and finish review work into fostering services.

Environmental & Public Protection - Rights of Way Improvement Plan, Highways Network Hierarchy & Condition, Parking Strategy, Highway Footway and Road Safety Investment Programme, Environmental Health & Licensing, Garden / Green Waste including Waste Strategy, Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and Public Lighting LED. The Committee has indicated that it wishes to undertake site visits to view waste facilities and the fleet (gritters). The Committee has also specified that they will be undertaking task and finish work to review maintenance of highway, hedgerow and verges in rural areas.

Policy & Resources – Equalities Annual Report, Welsh Language Annual Report, Sickness Absence, Digital Transformation Strategy 2017-2020 Progress Report, Procurement Strategy 2018/19, Public Services Board (PSB) Annual Report 2016, Carmarthenshire Draft Well-being Plan and a key piece of work will be the continued scrutiny of the PSB. The Committee also intends on continuing previous work undertaken on sickness absence. In addition, the Committee is planning on leading on cross cutting scrutiny investigative work into emergency planning that will be involve all scrutiny committees.

Social Care & Health – Pooled Budgets, Information Advice & Assistance (IAA), Mental Health Transformation, Learning Disability Strategy and Safeguarding. The Committee also intends visiting Day Centres in the County.

Support for the Scrutiny Function

In July 2015, support for Carmarthenshire County Council's scrutiny function was transferred from the former Scrutiny & Consultancy Team, based in the People Management & Performance Division, to the Democratic Services Unit, based in the Administration & Law Division of the Chief Executive's Department.

Support for the Scrutiny function includes:

- Providing support and constitutional advice to the Council's Scrutiny Committees and to members of those Committees as well as producing minutes of their meetings and ensuring items arising from those meetings are actioned
- Giving support and advice in relation to the functions of the Council's Scrutiny Committees to executive and non-executive members of the Council and its officers
- Managing the strategic development of Scrutiny in Carmarthenshire through engaging in national and regional Scrutiny networks and initiatives, supporting the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Scrutiny Forum and the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Executive Board Forum
- Advising and supporting the implementation of the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 as guidance is published
- Managing the co-ordination and development of the Scrutiny forward work programmes in conjunction with Scrutiny members
- Managing and co-ordinating Scrutiny review work, including the operation of scrutiny task and finish groups, authoring reports in conjunction with the groups, and assisting in the implementation and monitoring of completed reviews
- Managing the Scrutiny member development programme.
- Despatching agendas for Scrutiny Committee meetings a minimum of 4 working days prior to the meeting.

For more information on scrutiny in Carmarthenshire, including work programmes, task and finish reports and annual reports, visit the County Council's website at: www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/scrutiny

To contact the Democratic Services Unit, please call 01267 224028 or email: scrutiny@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Scrutiny Committee Chairs & Vice-Chairs during 2016/17

Policy & Resources

Cllr. Hugh Richards
Chair
(Felinfoel)
Independent

Cllr. Glynog Davies
Vice-Chair
(Cwarter Bach)
Plaid Cymru

Community

Cllr. Deryk Cundy
Chair
(Bynea)
Labour

Cllr. Edward Thomas
Vice-Chair
(Llandeilo)
Independent

Education & Children

Cllr. Eirwyn Williams
Chair
(Cynwyl Gaeo)
Plaid Cymru

Cllr. Ryan Bartlett
Vice-Chair
(Betws)
Labour

Environmental & Public Protection

Cllr. Peter Cooper
Chair
(Saron)
Labour

Cllr. Ivor Jackson
Vice-Chair
(Llandovery)
Independent

Social Care & Health

Cllr. Gwyneth Thomas
Chair
(Llangennech)
Plaid Cymru

Cllr. Sue Allen
Vice-Chair
(Whitland)
Independent

Glossary of Terms

ALN - Adult & Community Learning

Bilingual Secondary (2A) - At least 80% of subjects apart from English and Welsh are taught through the medium of Welsh to all pupils. One or two subjects are taught to some pupils in English or in both languages.

CSSIW - Care & Social Services Inspectorate Wales

DoLS - Deprivation of Liberty

ERW - Education through Regional Working

IAA - Information Advice & Assistance

MEP – Modernising Education Programme

PSB – Public Service Board

TIC – Transform, Innovation and Change

WESP – Welsh in Education Strategic Plan

WLGA - Welsh Local Government Association

WM - Welsh-Medium