

# Education and Children Scrutiny Committee

23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020

## Subject- The Education and Children's Services Strategy 2020-2025

**Purpose: To consider and provide feedback on the draft strategy.**

### To consider and comment on the following issues:

To comment on the draft strategy in terms of content, clarity and fitness for purpose identified prior to submission to the Executive Board.

### Reasons:

To ensure a sound basis for our business planning and clarity for stakeholders in terms of the vision for Education and Children's Services in Carmarthenshire a strategy has been developed which outline-

- What is our Purpose?
- Our vision and values
- Priorities for 2020-2025 and
- Policy Background

**To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: YES**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: - Cllr. Glynog Davies**

Education and Children's  
Services

Name of Head of Service:

Gareth Morgans

Report Authors:

Departmental Management  
Team

Designations:

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**Executive Summary**  
**Education and Children Scrutiny Committee**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020**

**Subject- The Education and Children's Services  
Strategy 2020-2025**

**Purpose: To consider and provide feedback on the draft strategy.**

Local authorities have many roles and responsibilities in relation to the provision of education and children's services. The powers and duties of a local authority are in some cases general and in other cases quite specific. In regard to Education, Local Authorities operate within a statutory framework that places upon them, amongst others, the following general powers:

- Local authorities must contribute towards the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community by securing that efficient primary and secondary education is available to meet the needs of the people in its area
- Local authorities must secure that their education and training functions are exercised with a view to promoting high standards and promoting the fulfilment of learning potential.
- Local authorities must also secure that sufficient schools for providing primary and secondary education are available for its area.
- Local authorities play a key role in the financing of schools.
- Local authorities have statutory duties to identify, assess and make provision for children's special educational needs.

The primary statutory role of safeguarding the welfare of children in Wales lies with local authorities as defined by Children Act 1989, the Children Act 2004 and [Social Services and Well-being \(Wales\) Act 2014](#).

As a County Council we therefore have defined responsibilities to deliver high quality services to meet the needs of all of our children and young people. We need to build on the improving practice which is already evident in order to deliver the same opportunity for all learners and consistently excellent outcomes. This strategy sets out a clear, shared vision for the role that education and children's services plays in the future development of vibrant communities and a prosperous economy in Carmarthenshire.

Our new proposed vision is ***Making sure every child and young person is valued and valued equally.*** This vision is hopefully clear and concise and based on the principles of equality and equity.

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES**

## IMPLICATIONS

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

Signed:

*Edyn Morgans*

Director of Education and Children's Services

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

**Legal-** there will be a requirement to adhere to Welsh Government legislation in regard to maintaining standards and safeguarding. In addition, Estyn, Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales, and CSSIW will be inspecting us.

**Finance-** The strategy is to be delivered within our current resources.

**Risk Management Issues-** If we do not meet our duties and responsibilities in regard to children and young people, there are risks in regard to the inspection by Estyn and CSSIW.

**Staffing Implications-** The strategy is to be delivered within our current resources.

## CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed:

*Edyn Morgans*

Director of Education and Children's Services

The Strategy has been drafted as a result of workshops with Senior Managers within the Education and Children's Services Department.

It is proposed to share the draft Strategy, following CMT with PEB and then to engage with-

- Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee via Cllr Darren Price for comment.
- Engage with Headteachers for their views/comments
- Relevant Partners- ERW.
- Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information**

**List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:** Referenced in the Strategy's Appendix.