

EDUCATION, YOUNG PEOPLE AND WELSH LANGUAGE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

24 MARCH 2023

TRANSFORMATION, INNOVATION CHANGE (TIC), INCLUDING SCHOOL BUDGETS.

Purpose:

The Schools' Transformation Programme was introduced in 2017 to support schools with meeting the significant financial challenges facing them through a number of different work streams. The Committee is periodically consulted on progress. The work plan has recently been updated under the new thematic approach to corporate transformation.

The Scrutiny Committee Is Asked To:-

This item will enable the Committee to comment on the current work plan and consider further ways in which the schools' budget can be supported.

Reason(s)

To show how the division, for which this Scrutiny has a remit, supports the Schools' Transformation Programme.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr Glynog Davies

Cabinet Member for Education and Welsh Language

Directorate

Education and Children

Gareth Morgans

Director of Education and
Children's Services

EDGMorgans@cararthenshire.gov.uk

Name of Head of Service:

Simon Davies

Head of Access to Education

SiDavies@cararthenshire.gov.uk

Report Author:

Allan Carter

Schools Transformation & Change
Manager

ACarter@cararthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TRANSFORMATION, INNOVATION CHANGE (TIC), INCLUDING SCHOOL BUDGETS.

SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

The TIC Schools' Programme was established in 2017 to support our schools as education budgets come under increasing pressure whilst schools strive to maintain high quality outcomes for children and young people. The programme aims to apply the core TIC principles of collaborative working and challenging existing practices by engaging with schools to support head teachers and governing bodies in taking advantage of cost saving opportunities across a wide range of activities.

The Schools' Change and Transformation priorities are a key thematic component of the Council's wider Transformation Strategy. A dedicated workstream has been established to support this work and is currently engaged in delivering the following priorities:

- Benchmarking – curriculum and routine spend
- Financial Efficiency Templates
- Schools' Property '*Handyvan*' Service
- Review of School Grounds' Maintenance Service
- Implement findings of schools SLA Review
- Investigate new approaches to back office and support functions in primary schools
- Savings opportunities and Best Value approaches to procurement
- Communication and sharing of good practice between schools
- School Suitability Surveys
- Rising 4s Policy
- Additional Learning Needs funding models
- School Catchment Area Review

The presentation will provide an update on progress in these key priorities.

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: Simon Davies

Head of Access to Education

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

3. Finance

The programme aims to assist schools in identifying cost reductions and better ways of working and support the development of sustainable school budgets and help protect front line academic provision.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED		None
YES		
Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information		
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:		
THERE ARE NONE		
Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
To be completed	To be completed	To be completed (Delete as applicable)
To be completed	To be completed	To be completed (Delete as applicable)