

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 8TH JULY 2021

FORTHCOMING ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING – 6TH OCTOBER 2021

Proposed Agenda Item	Background	Reason for report
<p>Llesiant ac Iechyd Meddwl / COVID-19 / Wellbeing and Mental Health / COVID-19</p>	<p>Impact of the pandemic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of pupils starting school with behaviour issues is on the increase • A number of pupils are showing a decline in socialising skills • Self-harm and anxiety (anxiety) is on the rise • More referrals to counselling services. • The various effects of the pandemic on families have seriously affected some pupils • However, many pupils have demonstrated high resilience and a desire to settle back into school life <p>Since re-opening, the county's schools have made good progress in addressing these trends. The report will provide an opportunity to study successes and challenges, with suggestions for next steps for the LA and schools to consider.</p>	<p>At the timely request of the Scrutiny and Children Committee</p>
<p>Mynd i'r afael â NEETs a Heriau Cyllido / Tackling NEETs and Funding Challenges</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counteracting NEETs is a WBO objective and an active consideration for school curriculum design, in support of pathways into FE/HE and the world of work • Two Youth Support Service Initiatives will be referenced with interim and longer-term suggestions for continuation of service following tailing off of European Funding • European Social Fund Cam Nesa Project operational delivery ended Dec 2021. Arrangements have been put in place to continue aspects of youth work support for 16-25 NEET cases through to March 2022. 	<p>At the timely request of the Scrutiny and Children Committee</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Social Fund Cynnydd (11-16) operational delivery ends July 2022. The Youth Support service is currently formulating an options appraisal to inform exit strategy for DMT. • Funding post ESF- there is no certainty currently regarding the UK Government response to ongoing funding of work to replace the gap left by ESF ending. • Families First Funding for post 16 youth work support (including NEET related work) has been reduced by 50% and is supplemented by Housing Support Grant Funding. 2021/22 is a transition year regarding Families First and Housing Support Grant funding for this project and there is wider work being led by Housing and Children's Services in relation to 16-25 Housing which may well influence NEET delivery post April 2022. • Families First funded School and College Based Youth Work has been subject to reductions and/or standstill budget in the last 6 years. This has caused the staffing resource to reduce its size and capacity. This project is undergoing a review led by Janine Patrick in conjunction with YSS key managers. 	
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Items circulated to the Committee under separate cover since the last meeting

- Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2020/21

Items attached for information

N/A