



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

DECISION MADE BY: Cabinet DATE DECISION MADE: 25 March, 2021

Cabinet Members Present:

Councillor A Morgan (Chair), Councillor M Webber (Vice-Chair), Councillor R Bevan, Councillor A Crimmings, Councillor M Norris, Councillor J Rosser, Councillor R Lewis, Councillor C Leyshon and Councillor G Hopkins

Other Councillor(s) in Attendance:-

Councillor G Caple, Councillor P Jarman & Councillor P Howe

Agenda Item : 10

SUBJECT: A Proposal to deliver Shared Regional Education Advisory Services for Children and Young People with a Sensory Impairment

1. DECISION MADE:

Agreed –

1. To note the contents of the report.
2. To support the proposal developed in partnership with the Education Directors from Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Councils in the Cwm Taf Morgannwg area, to deliver sub-regional, shared educational advisory services for children and young people with a sensory impairment, for at least the next three years.

N.B With the agreement of the Chair, County Borough Councillor P Jarman addressed the Cabinet on this item.

2. REASON FOR THE DECISION BEING MADE:

The need for Members to consider a proposal for Rhondda Cynon Taf's Sensory Team within the Access and Inclusion Service to move from a separate and autonomous sensory service to a shared sub-regional, educational advisory service for children and young people with a sensory impairment.

Provide a resilient and future-proofed sensory impairment service to families and schools across the region, which can respond effectively as the numbers of children and young people with sensory impairments increases, appreciably.

Address the unequivocal nationally collated evidence of rising challenge on the current capacity of Councils to meet this group of young people's additional learning needs (ALN).

Diminish the growing difficulties of recruiting and retaining specially skilled staff to provide these statutory services, locally.

Ensure that all partner local authorities are prepared and able to meet the additional challenges inherent in the forthcoming ALN reforms and the implementation of the Additional Learning Needs Educational Tribunal Act (2018).

3. LINKS TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES/FUTURE GENERATIONS - SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

The decision will meet national and local priorities for regional collaboration and regionalisation and comply with the five ways of working set out in the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO DECISION BEING MADE:

There will be significant engagement with all families across the region, Councils' current sensory impairment staff/teams, headteachers, governors and members of the area's voluntary and community sector, as part of the transformation of the current, individual sensory impairment services.

5. PREVIOUS CONSIDERATION BY A COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL:

None

6. PERSONAL INTERESTS DECLARED:

None

7. DISPENSATION TO SPEAK (AS GRANTED BY STANDARDS COMMITTEE):

N/A

8. (a) IS THE DECISION SUBJECT TO CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

Yes

Note: This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 3 clear working days after its publication i.e. **31 March 2021** to enable it to be the subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

8.(b) IF NO, REASONS WHY IN THE OPINION OF THE DECISION-MAKER THE DECISION IS EXEMPT OR NON APPLICABLE:

I. COUNCIL / SCRUTINY FUNCTION (CALL IN IS THEREFORE NON APPLICABLE):-

Reason: N/A

II. URGENT DECISION:-

Reason N/A

8.(c) IF DEEMED URGENT - SIGNATURE OF PRESIDING MEMBER OR DEPUTY PRESIDING MEMBER OR HEAD OF PAID SERVICE CONFIRMING AGREEMENT THAT THE PROPOSED DECISION IS REASONABLE IN ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR IT BEING TREATED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULE 17.2:

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(PRESIDING MEMBER)

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(Dated)

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PUBLICATION

Publication on the Councils Website:- **Thursday, 25 March 2021**

APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION: ✓

