

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015/16

**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL
AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

21ST DECEMBER 2015

Author: Mrs A Edwards, Scrutiny Support Officer (Tel.No.01443-424012)

AGENDA ITEM 6

**SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME -
UPDATE**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To update Members with regard to the work programme for the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee.

2 WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

3.1 In accordance with the agreed work programme it was originally intended to provide the Committee with two other reports:

- (i) in relation to the Wales Audit Office's review of Children's Safeguarding and the Council's response to recommendations;
- (ii) a report from the Service Director, Children's Services in relation to the Council's approach to Looked After Children being seen by a social worker and the performance measure.

3.2 In discussion with the Chairman, it was agreed to defer these two important items to a later Committee, in part due to the size of today's agenda and the need proper consideration to all issues; and secondly, in view of the fact that a Member Development workshop has been organised for Tuesday, 5th January 2016 at 3 pm which it is intended will inform Members on the key challenges facing Children's Services and how the Committee's work programme can be developed to support this work.

3.3 Members are asked to note that at the meeting of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee scheduled for 18th January 2016 representatives from the Central South Consortium will be in attending and it is also hoped that the head teacher of Cardinal Newman school will be able attend to speak to Members.

3.4 At the last meeting of the Finance & Performance Scrutiny Committee held on 9th December 2015, Members considered the Council's performance as at Quarter 2. The Committee noted that the percentage and number of fixed term exclusions has compared to last year and an Exclusion/Prevention teacher has

been appointed to support parents and pupils to re-engage. The Committee was informed that the Welsh Government had recently published 'exclusion data' and a request was made that the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee should consider this issue in more detail.

- 3.5 As pointed out previously, the Committee's work programme needs to be flexible to meet changing demands and priorities. A copy of the current work programme is attached and it is proposed that more detailed consideration be given following the Member workshop on 5th January 2016.

**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16**

| Mon 13 th July 15 5 pm | Mon 21 st Sept 15 5 pm | Mon 19 th Oct 15 5 pm | Mon 16 th Nov 15 5 pm | Mon 21st Dec 15 5 pm | Mon 18 th Jan 16 5 pm | Mon 29 th Feb 16 5 pm | Mon 21 st March 16 5 pm | Ongoing into 2016/17 |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| Half Termly School Attendance figures Developing a work programme | Central South Consortium – Hannah Woodhouse and Cllr Chris Elmore – chair - business plans for Consortium - provisional exam results Reports of the LAC Scrutiny Working Groups (placements and attainment) Director of SS Report Work Programme | CSC - agreement <u>Attainment</u> Key Stage Performance Report Social Services Complaints Work Programme | <u>Governor Support</u> - Information report on Governor Support - discuss potential of working group Overview of Youth Offending Service | Regional Adoption Service – progress report Feedback from Cabinet – LAC Scrutiny Reports CSSIW Report | Attainment Key Stage 4 Results - attendance by Consortium - invitation to Headteacher (secondary) Update – moderation of teacher assessments Reporting of performance - Estyn School Inspections | <u>Early Intervention/Prevention/TAF</u> Overview – consider areas for targeted scrutiny School Attendance Performance Figures Report on Fixed Penalty Notices Invitation to Head Teacher (Primary)? | LA Education Services Self Evaluation report School Exclusion Data Additional Learning Needs Fund – update report Preparation - Scrutiny Annual Report Update WESP Education Strategic Plan? | Educational Outcomes for Vulnerable Groups of Children Special Education Needs Seren Programme update – Autumn 2016 |

PTO

For Re-scheduling –

- Children's Safeguarding
- Performance Measure, Children seen by Social Worker

Referrals:

Fixed Term Exclusions

On-going Working Groups:

- Governor Support