

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT

REPORT TO: THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 6TH SEPTEMBER, 2022

REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC & COMMITTEE SUPPORT OFFICER

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR T. SMITH (CHAIR)

Councillors J. Morgan, J.P. (Vice-Chair)
C. Bainton
D. Bevan
K. Chaplin
G. A. Davies
J. Holt
D. Wilkshire
T. Baxter
R. Lewis

WITH: Corporate Director of Education
Corporate Director of Social Services
Head of Adult Services
Head of Children's Services
Strategic Education Improvement Manager
Head of Governance & Partnerships
Service Manager Young People & Partnerships
Service Manager Education Transformation & Business Change
Safeguarding in Education Manager
Policy Officer Engagement & Equality
Communications, Marketing and Customer Access Manager
Press & Publicity Officer
Communications & Policy Officer
Scrutiny & Democratic Officer

**AND: Executive Member People & Social Services
Councillor H. Trollope**

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
No. 1	<p><u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u></p> <p>It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.</p>	
No. 2	<p><u>APOLOGIES</u></p> <p>No apologies for absence were reported.</p>	
No. 3	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u></p> <p>No declarations of interest or dispensations were reported.</p>	
-----	<p><u>KEY STAGE 4 OUTCOMES FOR BLAENAU GWENT (PROVISIONAL)</u></p> <p>At the invitation of the Chair, the Corporate Director of Education provided an overview of the Key Stage 4 outcomes based on the provisional data, and maybe subject to change.</p>	
No. 4	<p><u>SOCIAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Social Services Scrutiny Committee held on 20th January, 2022 were submitted.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
No. 5	<p><u>ACTION SHEET - SOCIAL SERVICES - 20TH JANUARY 2022</u></p> <p>The Action sheet arising from the meeting held on 20th January, 2022 was submitted.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the action sheet be noted.</p>	
No. 6	<p><u>JOINT SAFEGUARDING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Joint Scrutiny Committee (Safeguarding) held on 21st January, 2022 were submitted.</p>	

	<p>The Committee AGREED that the minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
No. 7	<p><u>ACTION SHEET - JOINT EDUCATION AND LEARNING AND SOCIAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 21ST JANUARY 2022</u></p> <p>The Action sheet arising from the meeting held on 21st January, 2022 was submitted.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the action sheet be noted.</p>	
No. 8	<p><u>SPECIAL EDUCATION & LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Special Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee held on 26th January, 2022 were submitted.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
No. 9	<p><u>EDUCATION & LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee held on 1st February, 2022 were submitted.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
No. 10	<p><u>EDUCATION & LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Education & Learning Scrutiny Committee held on 15th March, 2022 were submitted.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
No. 11	<p><u>ACTION SHEET - EDUCATION AND LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 15TH MARCH 2022</u></p> <p>The action sheet arising from the meeting held on 15th March, 2022 was submitted.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the action sheet be noted.</p>	

<p>No. 12</p>	<p><u>TIMING OF MEETINGS SURVEY RESULTS</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Scrutiny & Democratic Officer.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to alternative meeting times, i.e. 9.30am for 10.00am and 4.00pm for 4.30pm. (Option 2)</p>	
<p>No. 13</p>	<p><u>PROPOSED SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2022-23</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Scrutiny & Democratic Officer.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED the Forward Work Programme for the People Scrutiny Committee. (Option 1)</p>	
<p>No. 14</p>	<p><u>SUMMARY SELF-EVALUATION REPORT 2022</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Corporate Director of Education.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend the information detailed within the report and contribute to the continuous assessment of effectiveness by making appropriate suggestions and/or recommendations to the Executive Committee. (Option 2)</p>	
<p>No. 15</p>	<p><u>HOME TO SCHOOL AND POST 16 TRANSPORT POLICY REVIEW 2023 - 2024</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Corporate Director of Education and the Service Manager for Education Transformation and Business Change.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend the Home to School and Post 16 Transport Policy 2023/24 (Appendix 1) subject to comments/amendments prior recommending it to Executive Committee for approval. (Option 2)</p>	
<p>No. 16</p>	<p><u>PROPOSAL TO EXPLORE AND DEVELOP A BUSINESS CASE FOR CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL PROVISION IN BLAENAU GWENT</u></p>	

Consideration was given to report of the Corporate Director of Social Services.

The Committee AGREED to recommend that the Executive Committee agree to the development of a business case to deliver local authority residential placements for children looked after; and to enter into a collaborative arrangement with a neighbouring authority for them to provide the management, staffing and oversight required to provide quality residential care for our children looked after. This will reduce our reliance on private childcare providers, provide care closer to home for our children looked after and remove the profit element included within the current charges made by private providers. (Option 1)