

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT**

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

**SUBJECT: PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023**

**REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC & COMMITTEE SUPPORT OFFICER**

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**PRESENT:** Councillor T. Smith (Chair)

Councillors Jen Morgan, J.P.

C. Bainton

D. Bevan

J. Gardner

G. Thomas

D. Wilkshire

G. Humphreys

J.P. Morgan

**WITH:** Interim Corporate Director of Social Services  
Interim Corporate Director of Education  
Service Manger Education Transformation & Business Change  
Head of Adult Services  
Head of Democratic Services, Governance & Partnerships  
Policy Officer Engagement & Equality  
Scrutiny & Democratic Officer

**AND:** Amy Thomas (Regional Lead Advisor, Gwent Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence)

<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>SUBJECT</u></b>	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
<b>No. 1</b>	<b><u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u></b>  It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.	

<p><b>No. 2</b></p>	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>No apologies for absence were received.</p>	
<p><b>No. 3</b></p>	<p><b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u></b></p> <p>No declarations of interest or dispensations were reported.</p>	
<p><b>No. 4</b></p>	<p><b><u>PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</u></b></p> <p>The decisions of the People Scrutiny Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 were submitted.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the decisions be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
<p><b>No. 5</b></p>	<p><b><u>ACTION SHEET</u></b></p> <p>There were no actions arising from the meeting of the People Scrutiny Committee held on the 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2023.</p>	
<p><b>No. 6</b></p>	<p><b><u>VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, DOMESTIC ABUSE &amp; SEXUAL VIOLENCE (VAWDASV): GWENT REGIONAL STRATEGY 2023 – 2027</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Head of Democratic Services, Governance &amp; Partnerships.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend approval of the Strategy by Cabinet. (Option 1)</p>	
<p><b>No. 7</b></p>	<p><b><u>ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES 2022/2023</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to the report of the Interim Corporate Director of Social Services.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend the publication of the Annual Report of the Director of Social Services 2022/2023 and approval by Council. (Option 1)</p>	

<p><b>No. 8</b></p>	<p><b><u>HOME TO SCHOOL AND POST 16 TRANSPORT POLICY REVIEW 2024 – 2025</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Interim Corporate Director of Education, and the Service Manager for Education Transformation and Business Change.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend that the Home to School and Post 16 Transport Policy 2024/25 (<b>Appendix 1</b>) be accepted; and recommended to Cabinet for approval. (Option 1)</p> <p>Councillor Jen Morgan, J.P. abstained from the voting process.</p>	
<p><b>No. 9</b></p>	<p><b><u>INCLUSION AND ALN STRATEGY/POLICIES/GUIDANCE (REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS)</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Interim Corporate Director of Education.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED to recommend Option 2, and reject the policies, owing to there being no consultation with Headteachers and Members felt that as a result the policies may not be fit for purpose.</p>	
<p><b>No. 10</b></p>	<p><b><u>FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME – 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2023</u></b></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Scrutiny &amp; Democratic Officer.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED the Forward Programme for the meeting 7th November 2023, as presented (Option 2).</p>	