

Scrutiny Report



Performance Scrutiny Committee – People

Part 1

Date: 17 September 2019

Subject **Additional Learning Needs Out of County Placements report**

Author Scrutiny Adviser

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

Invitee:	Area / Role / Subject
Sarah Morgan	Chief Education Officer
Katy Rees	Assistant head of Education – Inclusion
James Harris	Strategic Director – People

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked to consider;

1. The Education Department report on the Additional Learning Needs Out of County Placements and decide if it wishes to comment and make recommendations to the Cabinet Member.

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 Some young people with Additional Learning Needs require specialist support and placements to ensure they are able to engage with statutory education. The needs of these young people are sometimes to a degree where the support and provision is unavailable in Newport, so it must be sought elsewhere.

Previous Consideration of this item

- 2.2 The Committee received a briefing on out of county (OOC) placements from the Chief Education Officer in September 2018. The briefing introduced to the Committee what an out of county education placement was; the link between Education and Children’s Services, OOC data from 2018, the journey to approve a young person for an OOC placement, the commissioning of placements and the quality assurance and annual reviews conducted by the Education Department. This presentation has been provided with the

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1 **Appendix 1 – Additional Learning Needs Out of County Placements report**

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

Role of the Committee

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

The role of the Committee when considering this report is to establish the work currently being carried out by the Education department. This should include the service provided to those young people with additional learning needs who are educated out of County. The Committee might wish to request more information on specific parts of the report or to provide information on how Officers aim to improve performance or mitigate risks in the future.

Potential lines of enquiry the Committee might wish to consider include;

- Whether the Committee feel they have sufficient information on OOC placements for young people with Additional Learning Needs.
- Assess and make comment on:
 - How effective the links between Education and Social Services is for all young people, including those who are transitioning from Children to Adult Social Services;
 - The performance and monitoring of the commissioned services and how any underperformance is addressed. This Committee might want to enquire as to the risks and what mitigations are in place for young people receiving education through commissioned services;
 - The number of young people excluded from secondary school and the number of days lost are both falling, can Officers provide details as to what has changed and do they have examples of best practice to share;
 - Are the Committee satisfied with the ‘next steps’ section and the information contained.
- Conclusions:
 - What was the overall conclusion on the information contained within the reports?
 - Is the Committee satisfied that it has had all of the relevant information to provide a comment on the OOC placements for young people with Additional Learning Needs?
 - Do any areas require a more in-depth review by the Committee?
 - Do the Committee wish to make any Comments / Recommendations to the Cabinet Member?

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 Education's presentation from September 2018 on Out of County placements will be included in the email also containing the Pre Meeting Agenda.

6 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

- The report has links to the Education Service Plan and the overall Corporate Plan. The links in the Corporate Plan include the *improve skills, educational outcomes and employment opportunities* Wellbeing Objective and the *Aspirational People* Corporate Plan Commitment:

Well-being Objectives	Promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment	Improve skills, educational outcomes & employment opportunities	Enable people to be healthy, independent & resilient	Build cohesive & sustainable communities
Corporate Plan Commitments	Thriving City	Aspirational People		Resilient Communities
Supporting Function	Modernised Council			

7 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

5 Ways of Working	Types of Questions to consider:
<p>Long-term The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.</p>	<p>Are there any long term trends that will impact your service area?</p> <p>How will the needs of your service users potentially change in the future?</p>
<p>Prevention Prevent problems occurring or getting worse.</p>	<p>What issues are facing your ALN OOC service users at the moment?</p> <p>How are you addressing these issues to prevent a future problem?</p> <p>Is any underperformance being addressed and associated risks being mitigated and prevented?</p>
<p>Integration Considering how public bodies' wellbeing objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.</p>	<p>Are there any other organisations providing similar / complementary services?</p> <p>How does the Council's performance within this service area impact upon the services of other public bodies and their objectives?</p>
<p>Collaboration Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the organisation itself).</p>	<p>Who have you been working with to deliver these services?</p> <p>How are you co-working with other sectors?</p> <p>How are you using the knowledge / information / good practice of others to inform / influence the Council's work?</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Involvement</p> <p>The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.</p>	How have you sought the views of those who are impacted by your service area?
	How have you taken into account the diverse communities in your decision making?

8. Background Papers

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan](#)

Report Completed: September 2019