

Public Document Pack

Penallta House,
Tredomen Park,
Ystrad Mynach,
Hengoed CF82 7PG

Ty Penallta,
Parc Tredomen,
Ystrad Mynach,
Hengoed CF82 7PG



www.caerphilly.gov.uk
www.caerffili.gov.uk

For all enquiries relating to this agenda please contact Amy Dredge
(Tel: 01443 863100 Email: dredga@caerphilly.gov.uk)

Date: 25th April 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee** will be held in the **Sirhowy Room, Penallta House, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach** on **Tuesday, 1st May, 2018** at **5.30 pm** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda. Councillors and the public wishing to speak on any item can do so by making a request to the Chair. You are also welcome to use Welsh at the meeting, both these requests require a minimum notice period of 3 working days, and a simultaneous translation will be provided if requested.

All Committee meetings are open to the Press and Public, observers and participants are asked to conduct themselves with respect and consideration for others. Please note that failure to do so will result in you being asked to leave the meetings and you may be escorted from the premises.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chrissy', enclosed in a large, loopy oval shape.

Christina Harrhy
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

A G E N D A

Pages

- 1 To receive apologies for absence.

A greener place Man gwyrddach



2 Declarations of Interest.

Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest (s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Officers.

To approve and sign the following minutes: -

- 3 Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held on the 20th March 2018. 1 - 6
- 4 Consideration of any matter referred to this Committee in accordance with the call-in procedure.
- 5 To receive a verbal report by the Cabinet Member(s).
- 6 Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme. 7 - 16
- 7 To receive and consider the following Cabinet report*: -

Draft Gwent Violence Against Women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy.

**If a Member of the Scrutiny Committee wishes for the above Cabinet report to be brought forward for discussion at the meeting please contact Amy Dredge, Committee Services Officer, Tel no. 01443 863100 by 10.00am on Monday, 30th April 2018.*

To receive and consider the following Scrutiny reports: -

- 8 Parliamentary Review - Health Social Care (Presentation).
- 9 Notice of Motion - To Support The Lucy's Law National Campaign to Ban And Outlaw Third Party Puppy Farming. 17 - 22
- 10 Foster Carer Fee Levels. 23 - 26

Circulation:

Councillors: A. Angel, C. Bezzina, L.J. Binding (Chair), D. Cushing, M. Evans, Miss E. Forehead, A. Gair, Ms J. Gale (Vice Chair), D.C. Harse, V. James, L. Jeremiah, B. Owen, Mrs A. Leonard, J. Simmonds, S. Skivens and C. Thomas

Users and Carers: Michelle Jones, Jill Lawton and Mr C. Luke

Aneurin Bevan Health Board: S. Millar (ABUHB)

And Appropriate Officers



HEALTH SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN,
YSTRAD MYNACH ON TUESDAY, 20TH MARCH 2018 AT 5.30 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillor L. Binding - Chair
Councillor Mrs J. Gale - Vice Chair

Councillors:

A. Angel, D. Cushing, M. Evans, D.C. Harse, L. Jeremiah, B. Owen, and C. Thomas.

Cabinet Member – Councillor C. Cuss (Social Care and Wellbeing).

Together with:

D. Street (Corporate Director, Social Services), J. Williams (Assistant Director, Adult Services), G. Jenkins (Assistant Director, Children's Services), R. Hartshorn (Head of Policy and Public Protection), J. Morgans (Customer Services Co-Ordinator), C. Evans (Scrutiny Officer), J. Morgan (Solicitor) and A. Dredge (Committee Services Officer).

Users and Carers – Mrs M. Jones and Mr C. Luke.

Also Present:

Rebecca Haycock – Regional Adviser (Gwent), Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Safeguarding Unit.

Carin Quinn, Healthy Schools Practitioner – Education Department.
Paul Warren, Strategic Lead for School Improvement – Education Department.

Lianne Dallimore – Branch Secretary of Unison.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors C. Bezzina, Miss E. Forehead, A. Gair, V. James, J. Simmonds, S. Skivens and Ms J. Lawton (Co-Opted Member).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

3. MINUTES – 6TH FEBRUARY 2018

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee held on 6th February 2018 (minute nos. 1 - 11) be approved and signed as a correct record.

4. CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALL-IN PROCEDURE

There had been no matters referred to the Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the call-in procedure.

5. REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBERS

The Scrutiny Committee received a verbal statement from Councillor C. Cuss (Cabinet Member for Social Care and Wellbeing). He confirmed Welsh Government have recently announced an amount of £10M to assist Local Authorities in meeting the additional costs of winter pressures. Caerphilly was allocated £530,948 and it was confirmed this is a 'one off' grant payment which limits the Directorates ability to use this for ongoing packages of care.

The Cabinet Member was pleased to confirm that Social Services has established a new Children's Residential Home at Hillcrest in Hengoed, which was a former Solas building. The House will initially take one single placement but the longer term plan will be to place up to 4 Children. Staff are currently being recruited for this facility. Councillor Cuss personally thanked Local Councillors their support, as this additional service is required in the County Borough.

The Scrutiny Committee were advised that Rhiw Syr Dafydd Primary School in Oakdale was the first school in the County Borough to complete Dementia Friends Training. Councillor Cuss was pleased to present staff and pupils with a plaque to acknowledge this and he was accompanied by Assembly Member for Islwyn Rhiannon Passmore AM, Cabinet Member for Education and Achievement - Councillor P. Marsden, Dementia Friends Champion Councillor C. Andrews and Ward Member, Councillor R. Saralis. He advised that Cabinet would be trained on Wednesday 21st March and urged all Councillors to undertake this training. It is intended that the training will be rolled out across the Council and to the wider community.

Mrs M. Jones who represents the Parent Network donated 5 copies of 'The Elephant who forgot' book to the School and they were congratulated for achieving the Dementia Friends status. The book was written by parents and carers from the Abertysswg Forum, who became dementia friends in 2015, they were concerned that although they felt they knew all about dementia it was difficult to explain it to their children.

In terms of the inclement weather, Councillor Cuss placed on record his appreciation to all staff in Social Services who worked hard to meet the needs of the most vulnerable people in the drastic weather conditions recently.

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member for his informative update.

6. HEALTH SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Scrutiny Officer introduced the report that informed the Committee of its forward work programme including all reports that were identified at the meeting on the 6th February 2018.

Members were asked to consider the work programme and to make any amendments or additional agenda items to be included for future meetings. It was suggested that the following items be included on the agenda for the meeting on the 1st May 2018: Parliamentary Review HSC, Social Work Salaries – Children’s Services, Foster Care Fees and Domiciliary Care Tendering. It was also suggested that for the meeting on the 19th June 2018: Pooled Budgets for Older Peoples Services, Ffrind i Mi Presentation, Social Services Revenue Budget and Social Services and Public Protection Grants, be scheduled.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that subject to the foregoing, the work programme appended to the report be approved:

- (i) the meeting scheduled for the 1st May 2018 will include the following reports: Parliamentary Review HSC, Social Work Salaries – Children’s Services, Foster Care Fees, Domiciliary Care Tendering;
- (ii) the meeting scheduled for the 19th June 2018 will include the following reports: Pooled Budgets for Older Peoples Services, Ffrind i Mi Presentation, Social Services Revenue Budget and Social Services and Public Protection Grants.

7. CABINET REPORTS

The Cabinet Reports listed on the agenda had not been called forward for discussion at the meeting.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Consideration was given to the following reports.

8. HOW SCHOOLS ENGAGE WITH HEALTHY LIVING

The Healthy Schools Practitioner and Strategic Lead for School Improvement, introduced the report that provided members with details of how schools are engaging in the Healthy Schools Programme and also considers comparative performance against other Local Authorities in Wales.

The Scrutiny Committee were advised of the roles of the Healthy Schools Practitioners and the number of schools actively engaging with and working towards the National Quality Award (NQA). Schools who are not fully engaged and the measures in place to address this issue were highlighted in the report. The comparative data looks at Caerphilly’s position in relation to the 22 other Local Authorities and finally shows judgements made by ESTYN linked to Health and Well-being in the last 12 months.

It was explained that the Local Authority has 2 full time and 1 part time practitioners supporting schools across the Caerphilly region. They enter schools on a daily basis (with co-ordination) and produce and deliver specialist training. Copies of the ‘Gwent Charter for Working Together’ were distributed to Members of the Committee that set out what the Charter consists of, who signs up to this with strong emphasis for learning life skills and working together. Reference was made to paragraph 4.3 in the report in terms of the indicators for health and wellbeing provision and outcomes across the Caerphilly region and how they compare favourably against other Authorities in Wales. Members were advised that in October 2017, 88 schools had registered with the Healthy Schools Initiative (100% of schools), however some schools’ initiative has stalled are in need of review. There is no correlation with the participation of these schools to school categorisation of free school meals.

Members discussed the award levels achieved that were broken down into 'Primary', 'Secondary' and 'Other' categories. It was explained that after the NQA's are achieved, external assessors undertake assessments every 2 years to ensure schools are progressing. In terms of children with disabilities, Members were pleased to note that Trinity Fields School would be assessed for their NQA this week.

Clarification was sought as to how the Education Department interface with the Social Services Department. Emphasis was placed on good 'joined up' working with both Directorates in particular Helen West – Safeguarding Team Manager and Sarah Ellis (Lead for Inclusion and ALN). A Member of the Scrutiny felt this initiative is a missed opportunity for groups such as the Parent Network and that the principles and initiatives within the training should be provided to families as well as children.

The Chair thanked the Officers for delivering their informative presentation and for responding to questions during the course of the debate.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted.

9. DRAFT GWENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE STRATEGY

The Head of Policy and Public Protection and the Regional Adviser (Gwent), Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Safeguarding Unit, delivered a presentation in relation to the Draft Gwent Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse And Sexual Violence Strategy. They confirmed the aim of the strategy is to end violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence, to support those who have been affected and to increase help-seeking. The background to the regional model was set out including the main aims of the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015. Members were referred to the six Strategic Priorities, that include:

- Increase awareness and challenge attitudes of Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Across Gwent.
- Increase awareness in children and young people of the importance of safe, equal and healthy relationships and that abusive behaviour is always wrong.
- Increase focus on holding perpetrators to account and provide opportunities to change their behaviour based around victim safety.
- Make early intervention and prevention a priority.
- Relevant professionals are trained to provide effective, timely and appropriate responses to victims and survivors.
- Provide victims with equal access to appropriately resourced high quality, needs led, strength based, gender responsive services throughout the region.

The Scrutiny Committee were informed how the progress will be monitored, in the Strategic Delivery Plan.

The report provided Members with the draft Gwent Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Strategy. The Strategy is required by the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 and has been prepared by the Gwent VAWDASV Partnership Board of which the Council is a Member. It calls for the Public Sector in Wales to work together in a consistent and cohesive way to improve the outcomes for individuals and their families subjected to VAWDASV.

The Partnership Board has been established to meet the requirements of the Act and consists of the five Local Authorities in Gwent, Gwent Police, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Welsh Ambulance Service, Probation Services, Registered Social Landlords, Supporting People Regional Collaborative Committee, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Gwent Adult and Children Safeguarding Boards, VAWDASV Specialist Sector Partners and Voluntary Sector Organisations.

The Chair gave permission for Lianne Dallimore – Branch Secretary of Unison to address the Scrutiny Committee. She referred to paragraph 8 in the report and felt that due to the amount of staff employed by Caerphilly County Borough Council, there could be women suffering abuse or violence. She therefore considers that there are likely to be financial implications with potential absences from work. Members were informed that Unison welcomes the Strategy and it was queried how the Strategy will be used to support staff. Officers confirmed the intention of the Strategy is to bring about increased disclosure, to raise basic awareness, with the opportunity for face to face meetings and utilising work place policies.

Members expressed concerns in relation to the language and terminology used throughout the Strategy and felt that this excludes some groups of people. It was explained that issues around the language used will be discussed through training sessions and work will be undertaken across Gwent that will target all groups. The purpose of the training is to ensure that Professionals are trained to provide an effective response to anyone affected by any form of gender-based violence, domestic abuse and sexual violence. Through on-going monitoring, evaluating and review the VAWDASSV Partnership will ensure issues around equality are consistently raised and delivery of the strategy adapted

The Scrutiny Committee also discussed the need for the strategy to be promoted across Third Sector Voluntary Organisations as they feel this message needs to be extended on a wider scale.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved.

RESOLVED that subject to the foregoing, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed:

- (i) the draft Gwent Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) Strategy, be supported;
- (ii) the Strategy be promoted widely across Third Sector Voluntary Organisations.

10. 2017/18 ANNUAL COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS REPORT

The Customer Services Manager introduced the report that provided Members with information and analysis on the operation of the Social Services Directorate's Representations and Complaints procedure, from 1st April 2017 to 12th March 2018. The Report also includes details of the compliments received during this period. She explained that a representation is a request for information or a referral for a service made by a third party (including Elected Members) on behalf of another person. The Customer Services team make every effort to ensure compliance with the Protocol that governs the sharing of information. Staff are advised through training sessions to minimise the opportunity for information to be shared inappropriately and that all enquiries for information to be referred to the Customer Services Team or the Council's Data Protection Unit.

The Scrutiny Committee were advised of the three stage process of the Complaints Procedure set out in paragraph 2.3. in the report and details of cases that reached each of the stages were summarised. The Directorate appreciates the importance of learning from complaints and it is recognised that equal emphasis needs to be placed on learning from positive outcomes. Praise is received by teams in the form of thank you cards, letters and emails. In addition, annual survey responses by some service areas results in positive feedback that can be used to measure the success of the Directorate in those areas.

Clarification was sought in terms of the 118 stage 1 Complaints received and if data was available to confirm if they relate to staff or service providers. It was confirmed that this information could be distributed to the Committee following the Meeting. Historically, complaints have related to communication and in other cases, issues have related to eligibility for services rather than members of staff.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved.

RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.00pm.

Approved as a correct record, subject to any amendments agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 1st May 2018.

CHAIR



HEALTH SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 1ST MAY 2018

**SUBJECT: HEALTH SOCIAL CARE & WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES & SECTION 151
OFFICER**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To report the Health Social Care & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 Forward Work Programmes are essential to ensure that Scrutiny Committee agendas reflect the strategic issues facing the Council and other priorities raised by Members, the public or stakeholders.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

3.1 The operation of scrutiny is required by the Local Government Act 2000 and subsequent Assembly legislation. The Forward Work Programmes contribute to the following Well-being Goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2016 by ensuring there is an effective scrutiny function and that council policies are scrutinised against the following goals:

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
- A globally responsible Wales

4. THE REPORT

4.1 The Health Social Care & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee forward work programme includes all reports that were identified at the scrutiny committee meeting on 20th March 2018. The work programme outlines the reports planned for the period May 2018 to July 2018.

4.2 The forward work programme is made up of reports identified by officers and members and has been prioritised into three priority areas, priority 1, 2 or 3. Members are asked to consider the work programme alongside the cabinet work programme and suggest any changes before it is published on the council website. Scrutiny committee will review this work programme at

every meeting going forward alongside any changes to the cabinet work programme or report requests.

- 4.3 The Health Social Care & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1. The Cabinet Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 2.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 This report contributes to the well-being goals as set out in links to strategy above. It is consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle in that by ensuring the scrutiny function is effective when reviewing services and policies and ensure it considers the wellbeing goals.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no specific equalities implications arising as a result of this report.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no specific financial implications arising as a result of this report.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no specific personnel implications arising as a result of this report.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 There are no consultation responses that have not been included in this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 That Members consider any changes and agree the final forward work programme prior to publication.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 To improve the operation of scrutiny.

12. STATUTORY POWER

- 12.1 The Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Catherine Forbes-Thompson Interim Head of Democratic Services

Consultees: Lisa Lane, Interim Monitoring Officer
Dave Street, Corporate Director Social Services

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme.

Appendix 2 Cabinet Work Programme.

Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee – March 2018- July 2018			
Meeting Date: 1st May 2018			
Subject	Purpose	Key Issues	Witnesses
Parliamentary Review HSC	To advise Members of the content of the Parliamentary Review and how the work will progress.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four key Principles • Ten recommendations • Significant potential issues for how Social Services is delivered in the future. 	
Pooled Budgets for Older Peoples Services	To inform members of requirements and the approach of Caerphilly to the work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key requirement of Social Services & Wellbeing Act • Regional approach being taken. 	
Foster Care Fees	To advise Committee of the foster carer recruitment pressures and the need to review current fee payment levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment and retention of Foster Carers • Fee payment comparisons with other Local Authorities • Budgetary implications 	
Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 - Presentation	A presentation to provide members with details of the changes in regulation and inspection for long-term care homes, domiciliary care, and supported living and the significant changes in the requirement and roles and the implications for the Authority.		

Appendix 1

Meeting Date: 19th June 2018			
Subject	Purpose	Key Issues	Witnesses
Frrindi Mi Presentation	Response to members request this will be a presentation on a service that looks to address loneliness	Presentation from health	Tanya Strange ABuHB
Social Services Revenue Budget	To provide Members with details of the revenue budget settlement for the Directorate of Social Services	Confirmation of agreed savings targets and allocation of growth money.	Mike Jones
Domiciliary Care Tendering	To advise members of proposals to commence a tendering process for domiciliary care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National and local perspective re dom care availability. • Tender proposals linked to practice • Potential financial implications 	
Social Work Salaries – Children’s Services	To advise Committee of the recruitment pressures in the Children’s Services Locality Teams and outline proposals to address this.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment and retention of Qualified Social Workers in Children’s Services • Salary comparisons with other South Wales Local Authorities • Budgetary implications 	

Meeting Date: 11th September 2018			
Subject	Purpose	Key Issues	Witnesses

Appendix 1

Meeting Date: Date to be Confirmed			
Subject	Purpose	Key Issues	Witnesses
Update Presentation Multi-disciplinary Intervention Support Team (MIST) Service	To receive a presentation outlining the development of Caerphilly MIST and progress made since the service was established in September 2017.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Caerphilly MIST • Services provided • Workload activity • Case studies • Budgetary impact – cost avoidance 	Jennie Welham, Children's Services Manager & Sam Thomas, Therapeutic Practice Manager, Action for Children
Period 3 Budget report 2018/19	To inform Members of projected revenue expenditure for the Social Services Directorate and to update Members on the progress made against the savings targets built in to the revenue budget for the Directorate	Identification of significant variances between budgeted expenditure and forecasted expenditure for the financial year based on information available at the end of June, along with causes and any mitigating action taken.	Mike Jones
Dementia Friends Training			
Citizens Charter			

Cabinet Forward Work Programme (Scrutiny)

Appendix 2

25TH APRIL 2018	Key Issues	Service Area
Review of the Rechargeable Repairs and Appeals Panel.	To consider revising the way in which requests for second stage formal reviews for rechargeable repairs are considered.	Housing
Bedwellty School Site Playing Fields.	To seek the views from Cabinet to declare two football fields situated within the grounds of the former Bedwellty Comprehensive School, Aberbargoed as surplus and commence consultations that could allow the sale of the site for residential development.	Communities
Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems Approval Body (SAB).	To update members regarding the new statutory function CCBC has to establish in regard to a SuDs Approval Body (SAB) under Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and seek Cabinet approval to establish a structure to deliver the SAB.	M. Lloyd
21st Century Schools and Education Band B Proposals.	To seek Cabinet endorsement on the proposals contained within the 21st Century Schools and Education Band B Strategic Outline Programme 2019 – 2026.	Education
16TH MAY 2018	Key Issues	Service Area
Property Review Report	Property position statement on the overall condition of Council Properties.	Property M. Williams
Programme for Procurement	The Programme for Procurement sets out the Councils vision for developing and managing its third party expenditure in line with the Councils wellbeing objectives, Wales Procurement Policy and UK legislation. The Council is committed to ensuring it achieves value for money from its third party procurement expenditure – circa, £170,000,000 per annum. It also recognises the value of using procurement to support its wider Cultural, Social, Economic and Environmental objectives, in ways that offer real long-term benefits to the community it serves and the people of Wales, whilst balancing the issues of value for money.	Procurement
Notice of Motion – Introduction of Free Female Hygiene Support within our Schools Setting.		Education
Schools Workforce Flexibilities Policies.	To seek Cabinet approval to go out to Consultation with Schools on Workforce Strategies.	Education

Cabinet Forward Work Programme (Scrutiny)

Appendix 2

30TH MAY 2018	Key Issues	Service Area
Sheltered Housing Schemes – Eastern Valleys Area Remodelling.	To provide members with proposals for remodelling a small number of sheltered housing schemes in the eastern valley, in order for members to consider a number of options which may include improvements, remodelling, alternative use and possibly demolition.	Housing
Affordable Homes New Build Proposals.	To confirm the new build Council Housing programme, including the preferred delivery option in order for the Council to utilise the Affordable Housing Grant funding that has been allocated to CCBC.	Housing
Review of Town Centre Management.	To seek Cabinet approval for revision of the Council's current Town Centre Management model.	D. Whetter
Future Regeneration Projects Governance Arrangements.		M. S. Williams
13TH JUNE 2018	Key Issues	Service Area
Equalities and Welsh Language Annual Reports.	To update Members on the progress made during the financial year 2017/18 against targets in the Council's current Strategic Equality Plan and Welsh Language Scheme and seek Cabinet approval for submission of the annual monitoring and improvement reports to the relevant commissions before the deadline dates.	Policy
27TH JUNE 2018	Key Issues	Service Area
Sport and Leisure Strategy	To Seek Cabinet approval to go out to Consultation.	R. Hartshorn
11TH JULY 2018	Key Issues	Service Area
Corporate Risk Register.	To provide an update of the Corporate Risk Register in accordance with the Council's Risk Management Strategy. The updated Corporate Risk Register (CRR) is presented to Audit Committee so there is opportunity for the Committee to satisfy itself that appropriate arrangements are in place for the council's risk management processes to be regularly and robustly monitored and scrutinised.	Public Protection
Street Lighting.	To agree a future strategy.	M. Lloyd

Cabinet Forward Work Programme (Scrutiny)

Appendix 2

Town Centre Events Programme.	To agree future strategy for events.	D. Whetter
Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre.	To agree the future of the Leisure Centre in the context of the Leisure Review.	M. S. Williams
Decriminalisation of Parking Proposals (Stage 2).	To confirm the full scope for CPE implementation, timescale, how any related issues are to be addressed, further delegations required and what level of public engagement is appropriate.	M. Lloyd

25TH JULY 2018	Key Issues	Service Area

19TH SEPTEMBER 2018	Key Issues	Service Area
Air Quality Options Appraisal.		Public Protection

14TH NOVEMBER 2018	Key Issues	Service Area
Sport and Leisure Strategy.	To seek Cabinet's endorsement of the Draft Sport and Leisure Strategy.	Public Protection

This page is intentionally left blank



HEALTH SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 1ST MAY 2018

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION – TO SUPPORT THE LUCY’S LAW NATIONAL
CAMPAIGN TO BAN AND OUTLAW THIRD PARTY PUPPY FARMING**

REPORT BY: INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the Notice of Motion as set out in paragraph 4.1 to this report and make a recommendation to Council.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 A Notice of Motion has been received from Councillor Eluned Stenner and is supported by Cllrs Sean Morgan, Lisa Phipps and Carl Cuss.
- 2.2 The Notice of Motion meets the criteria set out in the Council's Constitution and in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure is now referred for consideration.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Notice of Motion meets the criteria set out in the Council's Constitution.
- 3.2 Supporting the ban on third party sellers of puppies contributes to the following Well-being Goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015:
- A prosperous Wales
 - A healthier Wales
 - A globally responsible Wales

In terms of the five ways of working set out in the sustainable development principle, as defined in the Act. The motion to support Lucy's Law is integrated in that it contributes to a number of the Well-being goals and supports the objectives of other stakeholders.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Councillor E. Stenner requests in her Notice of Motion that:-

Caerphilly County Borough Council adds its support to the Lucy's Law National Campaign to ban and outlaw third party puppy farming. That Caerphilly County Borough Council will add its name to the growing list of supporting organisations and will proactively highlight the campaign to our residents across the County Borough. This Council requests that the Leader of the Council Cllr David Poole writes to UK Government, supporting the call for urgent action on this matter.

4.2 Background Information

Lucy's Law was launched in December 2017 and supported by APDAWG, All-Party Parliamentary Dog Advisory Welfare Group chaired by MP Dr Lisa Cameron MP. Lucy's Law promotes an immediate ban on all commercial third party sales of dogs. "Commercial" means sales as part of a business, for profit. Third party sellers are dealers; people who did not breed the dogs and who operate as "middlemen" between the breeders and the buying public.

4.3 Currently the law (Pet Animals Act 1951) requires commercial third party sellers to be licensed as a "pet shop", irrespective of the type of trading premises.

4.4 On the 8th of February 2018 the Government published new rules with the aim of modernising and enhancing welfare requirements applying to dog breeding, pet sales and other pet related activities licensed by local authorities in England. These reforms place enhanced requirements on licensed pet sellers who are not pet breeders, i.e. third party sellers but do not go as far as an outright ban. The Government however wish to explore a ban on third party sales further and have therefore issued a call for evidence on the effect of introducing a ban. The proposal under the revised Regulations, with the ban incorporated would be that puppies can only be sold from licensed breeders, in the presence of their mothers, after the age of eight weeks, or alternatively, from verified charity and rescue centres.

4.5 The sale of puppies through third party dealers can seriously harm animal welfare, trauma of transportation, increased risk of exposure to disease, behavioural problems resulting from premature separation from the mother and lack of appropriate socialisation. The puppy market is very lucrative with even small breeds selling for over a thousand pounds.

4.6 Puppies imported into the UK for commercial re-sale can only legally be sold if the seller holds a pet shop licence. Banning the sale of puppies by third party sellers would remove the legal market for imported puppies.

4.7 A ban on commercial third party sales would amount to a legal requirement that only licensed dog breeders would be able to sell puppies in the course of a business. It would not impact on non-commercial activities including rehoming puppies through dog charities and sanctuaries as they are not done for profit.

4.8 A ban on third party selling will probably not entirely eradicate puppy farming but it is an effective strategy to dramatically reduce the scale of the problem and compel breeders to raise standards.

4.9 Caerphilly Council Animal Health and Licensing officers have dealt with a number of cases of unlicensed pet sellers and breeders which has resulted in enforcement action. Officers have also dealt with cases where traders have purchased dogs imported from European countries and claimed that they had bred the puppies themselves.

4.10 Legislation is currently slightly different in Wales. Pet shops are governed by the Pet Animals Act 1951 but there is separate devolved legislation covering Dog Breeders, namely the Animal Welfare (Breeders of Dogs) (Wales) Regulations 2014. Welsh Government is keeping a watching brief on developments in England and has expressed its general support for a ban on third party sellers.

5. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015

5.1 Public Protection activity is integrated across the Well-being Goals within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The banning of third party sales of dogs would contribute towards the health protection of citizens in helping to reduce the spread of disease in animals that could impact on humans. It would also enhance public protection and protect animals, consumers and enable legitimate trade to operate in fair and open market place.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no potential equalities implications of this report and its recommendations on groups or individuals who fall under the categories identified in Section 6 of the Council's Strategic Equality Plan 2016-2020.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this report.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 This report has been sent to the Consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The Notice of Motion be duly considered by the Scrutiny Committee and make a recommendation to Council.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 To be in accordance with the Council's Constitution. To demonstrate the commitment the Authority has to animal welfare and controls on the commercial sale of dogs.

12. STATUTORY POWER

- 12.1 Local Government Act 1972.

Author: Jacqui Morgan Trading Standards, Licensing & Registrars Manager
Consultees: Cllr Lyndon Binding (Chair) Health Social Care and Well Being Scrutiny Committee
Cllr J Gale (Vice Chair) Health Social Care and Well Being Scrutiny Committee
Mark S. Williams, Interim Corporate Director Communities
Rob Hartshorn, Head of Policy and Public Protection
Lisa Lane, Corporate Solicitor,
Anwen Cullinane, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities and Welsh Language)
Mike Eedy, Finance Manager
Shaun Watkins, HR Manager

Background Papers:
Call for Evidence, A ban on commercial third party sales of puppies and Kittens in England.

Appendix 1: Signed copy of Notice of Motion

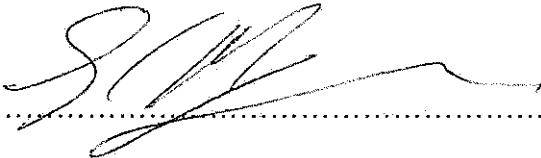
This page is intentionally left blank

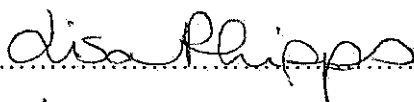
Notice of Motion

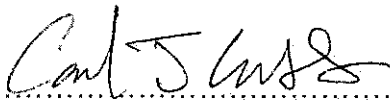
To consider the under-mentioned Notice of Motion standing in the name of County Borough Councillor Eluned Stenner supported by Cllr Sean Morgan, Cllr Lisa Phipps and Cllr Carl Cuss

We the undersigned elected members request that "Caerphilly County Borough Council adds its support to the Lucy's Law National Campaign to ban and outlaw third party puppy farming. That Caerphilly County Borough Council will add its name to the growing list of supporting organisations and will proactively highlight the campaign to our residents across the County Borough. This Council requests that the Leader of the Council Cllr David Poole writes to UK Government, supporting the call for urgent action on this matter".

Councillor Eluned Stenner 

Councillor Sean Morgan 

Councillor Lisa Phipps 

Councillor Carl Cuss 

This page is intentionally left blank



HEALTH SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 1ST MAY 2018

SUBJECT: FOSTER CARER FEE LEVELS

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Scrutiny Committee support to implement a revised fee structure for Caerphilly foster carers which will bring the Council in line with other Local Authorities in South Wales and will assist Children's Services to recruit additional foster carers.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Scrutiny Committee are already aware of the service pressures faced across Children's Services with the increased complexity of difficulties being presented by families, the significant increase of over 100 Looked After Children, the relentless demands of increased court proceedings and the resultant budget overspend. These pressures have been compounded by the availability of sufficient in-house foster care placements.
- 2.2 The Children's Services Commissioning Strategy clearly expects children and young people to be placed with in-house foster carers in the first instance. The average in-house foster placement costs £16k per annum. Given the significant increase in LAC numbers, all in-house provision is full. As a result, Children's Services have to commission foster care placements from Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA's). The average cost of an IFA placement is £35-45k per annum.
- 2.3 Despite continuous recruitment activity, Caerphilly has experienced a net loss in the total number of available placements over the last few years and the age profile of existing carers suggests that several more will be retiring over coming years. The reduction in numbers of carers has, in part, been impacted by an improved quality assurance approach to reviewing the standards of care being provided which has resulted in several carers being de-registered.
- 2.4 Scrutiny Committee are aware of Cabinet's agreement to fund a radio advertising campaign which has generated increased enquiries leading to an increase in assessments. However, the Fostering Team are aware that a number of potential applicants are choosing to apply to other Councils or the IFA's based on the remuneration packages offered.
- 2.5 This report identifies that Caerphilly's mainstream foster carer fee level is now one of the lowest in South Wales and this is inevitably impacting on our ability to recruit the additional foster carers that are required to meet demand.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Social Services & Well Being (Wales) Act 2014.
- 3.2 Children's Services Commissioning Strategy 2015-2020.

- 3.3 Statutory Foster Care Regulations.
- 3.4 Well-Being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Foster carers financial remuneration consists of two elements which are paid weekly:
 1. An allowance in respect of each child in line with the National Minimum Allowance (NMA) set annually by Welsh Government. The NMA varies based on age bands; 0-4, 5-10, 11-15 and 16+ years.
 2. A professional fee reflecting the skills, training and experience of the foster carer. Currently, there are two fee levels in Caerphilly; a mainstream carer fee is £68 and a career carer fee is £176. All other Local Authorities have a single fee level for all foster carers at a similar level to Caerphilly’s career carer rate.
- 4.2 Caerphilly has 38 mainstream carers and 38 career carers. As stated above, the NMA is set annually by Welsh Government and increases annually. The fee levels are agreed by the Local Authority and the current fees were set in 2004 with no increases made since that time.
- 4.3 The NMA levels for 2018/19 are as follows:

Age band:	National Minimum Allowance:
0 – 4	£175
5 – 10	£159
11 – 15	£159
16 +	£199

- 4.4 Children and young people in the 11 to 15 age band are the most difficult to place. Using this age group, the following table identifies the current remuneration rates across neighbouring Local Authorities together with the average IFA cost:

Local Authority:	Fee:	Child allowance:	Total placement cost:
Caerphilly	Mainstream: £68.41 Career: £176.73	£159	£227.41 £335.73
Blaenau Gwent	£175	£159	£334
Torfaen	£103.75	£168.50	£272.25
Monmouthshire	£75	£174	£249
Newport	£150	£159	£309
Merthyr	£160	£159	£319
Rhondda Cynon Taff	£165.50	£159	£324.50
Cardiff	£175.83	£159	£334.83
Average IFA			£770

In addition, with the exception of Caerphilly, all the Local Authorities make additional Birthday and Christmas payments ranging from £100 to £300.

- 4.5 Recent consultation undertaken with Caerphilly foster carers in response to the National Fostering Framework highlighted that although carers felt very satisfied with the support they received from the Fostering Team, mainstream foster carers felt that their fee levels did not reflect the level of commitment they are required to provide and as a result they felt undervalued. Many carers stated that they had to consider seeking alternative employment which would limit their availability to accept placements.

- 4.6 Having reviewed the remuneration packages across the region, in an attempt to address the varying allowance and fee levels and the inequity between the current mainstream and career carers, the following fee structure is proposed:

Age band:	Allowance:	Single Fee:	Total:
0 – 4	£175	£125	£300
5 – 10	£159	£161	£320
11 – 15	£159	£181	£340
16+	£199	£181	£380

- 4.7 Implementation of the proposed fee structure will place Caerphilly in a strong position to compete within the region. In order to maintain this position it is proposed that the fees increase annually in line with the Council's agreed pay award percentage. In addition, it is proposed that a Birthday Allowance of £100 and a Christmas Allowance of £200 is implemented.
- 4.8 On the basis that the new fee structure is linked to the NMA age bands, a number of existing Career Carers will be at risk of detriment with the implementation of the new fees due to the ages of the children currently in placement. As a result, it is proposed that existing fee levels for those carers are protected for the duration of the current placement or until the transition through to a higher age band whichever comes first.
- 4.9 Consultation has included Caerphilly's Foster Carer Forum and the final proposals will be presented to Foster Carers on 18th April. Given the reporting timescales it is not possible to include feedback in this report but a verbal update will be provided to Scrutiny Committee.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 Social Services contribute to the Well-being Goals and the 5 ways of working in the context of strategy and vision, preventing problems occurring or getting worse and collaborating to meet agreed objectives specifically:
- Corporate planning
 - Risk management
 - Workforce planning
 - Performance management
 - Financial planning.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Council's EIA process does not need to be applied in this matter.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are significant financial implications involved in addressing the remuneration challenges.
- 7.2 The costs of implementing the revised fee structure are:

Fees:	£175,305
Protection for existing Career Carers:	£ 53,666
Total:	£228,971

- 7.3 Reintroduction of the Birthday Allowance at £100 and Christmas Allowance at £200 for children in mainstream foster care (129) and Kinship foster care (78) will cost £62,100.

- 7.4 Therefore, the total full year cost of implementing both the revised fees and additional allowances is £291,071.
- 7.5 Part year implementation effective from 1st June 2018 will cost £242,559 or from 1st July 2018 will cost £218,295.
- 7.6 It is proposed that for 2018/19, Service reserves are utilised to fund the proposal. However, from 2019 onwards, the costs will need to be met through savings within the Children's Services budget.
- 7.7 The total annual cost could be offset by savings if a minimum of 8 children currently placed in the independent sector were able to be returned to Caerphilly carers.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no HR implications resulting from this report.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 The report reflects the views of the consultees.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 Scrutiny Committee are requested to note the content of this report and support the following:
- i) Implementation of the revised fee structure as detailed in this report;
 - ii) Re-introduction of Birthday and Christmas Allowances;
 - iii) Fee payment protection for those Career Carers with younger aged children in placement and;
 - iv) The use of Service reserves to fund the proposals for the remainder of 2018/19.
 - v) The level of savings achieved as a result of placements returning to Caerphilly carers will be monitored throughout 2018/19 and will be used to fund the recurring impact of the revised fee structure from April 2019 onwards.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 To ensure Scrutiny Committee is fully aware of the foster care recruitment pressures and the need to address the fee structures and allowances in order attract additional carers to meet the service demands.

12. STATUTORY POWER

- 12.1 Social Services and Well Being (Wales) Act 2014.

Author: Gareth Jenkins, Assistant Director – Children's Services
Consultees: Cllr Carl Cuss, Cabinet Member
Dave Street, Corporate Director – Social Services
Mike Jones, Interim Financial Services Manager – Social Services
Social Services Senior Management Team
Corporate Management Team
Children's Services Divisional Management Team
Caerphilly Foster Carer Forum