



EDUCATION FOR LIFE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 24TH MAY 2016

**SUBJECT: THE DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING
PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2015/16 AND THE PRIORITIES FOR 2016/17**

REPORT BY: CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update and inform Members on the Directorate performance for the financial year 2015/16 and the Directorate priorities for the financial year 2016/17.
- 1.2 The report also considers one of the Council's six Improvement Objectives for 2016/17, "*Improve outcomes for all learners, particularly those vulnerable to underachievement*".

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 A review of the Directorate's performance for 2015/16 has been undertaken as part of the Council's corporate planning process.
- 2.2 Through the Self Evaluation process and taking account of Council priorities, introduced by the Council in 2014, the Directorate has identified 8 key priority themes for 2016/17.
- 2.3 The Council has identified 5 Improvement Objectives. The Directorate will be responsible for one of the six Improvement Objectives, "improving outcomes for all learners, particularly those vulnerable to underachievement"
- 2.4 Members are asked to review progress and performance against agreed outcomes, and agree the priorities for 2016/17.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 This report is influenced by a number of national strategies including:
 - Programme for Government (Welsh Government)
 - Building a Brighter Future: The Early Years and Childcare Plan (Welsh Government)
 - Child Poverty Strategy for Wales (Welsh Government)
 - National Youth Service Strategy for Wales (Welsh Government)
 - Youth Engagement and Progression Framework (Welsh Government)
 - Delivering community learning for Wales (Welsh Government)
 - Libraries Inspire: The strategic development framework for Welsh Libraries (Welsh Government).

3.2 This report is influenced by a number of local strategies including:

- Single Integrated Plan
- CCBC Corporate Plan
- CCBC Poverty Strategy
- Directorate of Education and Lifelong Learning annual Service Plan
- Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)
- Education Achievement Service (EAS) Business Plan
- Caerphilly Youth Service Strategy
- Gwent Adult Community Learning Partnership Strategic Plan
- Library Service Strategic Action Plan.

4. THE REPORT

4.1 A review of the performance of the Directorate for 2015/16 has been undertaken through the self evaluation process. Managers have worked together to identify successes and areas that require development.

4.2 The planning process undertaken within the Directorate is outlined in Appendix A.

4.3 The Directorate agreed 10 service priorities for 2015/16 as outlined in Appendix B. These will be detailed in the accompanying presentation.

4.4 The presentation accompanying this report highlights what went well for 2015/16 as well as matters which did not go according to plan. These will be explained in more detail as part of the presentation.

4.5 The 8 priority themes proposed by the Directorate for 2016/17 are illustrated in the presentation. These may be summarised as follows:

1. Improve standards of attainment particularly in Key Stage 4 at the Level 2+ threshold
2. Raise standards of attendance
3. Reduce the impact of poverty on children and young people
4. Complete review of EOTAS
5. Complete final phase of ALN Review
6. Deliver 21st Century Schools Strategy & Development
7. Meet the requirements of the CCBC Medium Term Financial Plan
8. Maintain and further deliver good practice in Safeguarding.

4.6 Details of progress of the Improvement Objective is included as Appendix C which will also be included in the 2015/16 review presentation. The self evaluation review has been undertaken early in the development of the objective and to date is deemed partially successful.

4.7 Copies of the Directorate's Annual Service Plans for 2015/16 and 2016/17 are enclosed as Appendix D & E respectively.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Any equalities implications found and associated with this report have been concluded, although the main objective seeks to address inequalities and promote equal opportunities for learning and young people.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 These are detailed in the service improvement plans, as appropriate.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this report.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 All responses from consultations have been incorporated into this report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Members are asked to review progress and performance against agreed outcomes, and agree future priorities and recommendations.

9.2 Members are also requested to note the content of the report and to agree or challenge the judgement of partially successful at the full year stage in respect of the Improvement Objective assessment.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That Council undertakes effective scrutiny for setting and monitoring of performance improvement.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Statutory power which impacts on this report includes:

- Schools Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013
- Government of Wales Act 2006 (Section 78)
- National Welsh Medium Education Strategy 2010
- The Local Government Measure 2009.

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Councillor Rhianon Passmore, Cabinet Member for Education
Councillor Wynne David, Chair of Education Scrutiny Committee
Councillor Jamie Pritchard, Vice-Chair of Education Scrutiny Committee
Bleddyn Hopkins, Assistant Director 21st Century Schools
Gail Williams, Interim Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer
Jane Southcombe, Financial Services Manager
Roz Roberts, Corporate Performance Manager
David Thomas, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities and Welsh Language)

Appendices:

Appendix A : Planning Framework

Appendix B : Top 10 Priorities for 2015/16

Appendix C : Improvement Objective

Appendix D : Service Improvement Plan (SIP) 2015/16

Appendix E : Service Improvement Plan (SIP) 2016/17