



COUNCIL - 10TH OCTOBER 2017

SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES 2016/17

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Council of the key messages that has been identified in the preparation of the Annual Report of the Director Of Social Services for 2016/17.
- 1.2 To request Councils endorsement of the report prior to its submission to the Care & Social Services Inspectorate for Wales (CSSIW).

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Part 8 of the Social Services & Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 (SSWBA) requires Directors Of Social Services to publish an annual report about the exercise of the local authority's social services functions. The attached report has been written in a format that is compliant with the SSWBA , albeit the new format does not have to be formally adopted until 2017/18. Producing the report this way has given staff an opportunity to determine which areas we have had the appropriate information at hand and those areas where we will need to develop our information gathering in readiness for 2017-18. It also gives us an opportunity to benchmark our performance in order to provide a meaningful comparison in future years.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The report is compliant with Part 8 of the Social Services & Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014
- 3.2 Caerphilly Social Services contributes to all of the Well-being Goals contained within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The attached report is the eighth Annual Director's Report for Caerphilly County Borough Council. The report is an opportunity for the Statutory Director Of Social Services to provide a summary of how effective Caerphilly County Borough Council delivers Social Services to its citizens.
- 4.2 As previously stated the report for 2016-17 has been written in a format that is compliant with the SSWBA , albeit the new format does not have to be formally adopted until 2017/18. This has allowed staff to identify areas where improvements in our information collection will be necessary to support the production of the report for 2017-18.

- 4.3 The report has a significant emphasis on well-being and highlights some of our priorities for 2017-18. Our progress against these priorities will be a significant part of the annual report for 2017-18.
- 4.4 The report highlights the increasing pressure on social care services in the Borough, both from a financial perspective and in terms of the complexity of need. This is demonstrated on page 23 of the report by the level of growth required over the past four years and the increasing challenge of coming within budget.
- 4.5 The draft report has been submitted to CSSIW and the comments received have been positive. Should Council endorse the report then it will be made available to members of the public, partners and stakeholders.

5. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 The delivery of Social Services by Caerphilly County Borough Council contributes to all of the Well-being Goals contained within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and also supports the well-being objectives of other public bodies. The service operates in a manner that is in accordance with sustainable development principle as set out in the Act. The Annual Report evidences the emphasis on collaboration, for example, with the establishment of the Greater Gwent Regional Partnership Board and a Population Needs Assessment which will inform Area Plans. Caerphilly Social Services are also active partners in Gwent wide partnerships developing integrated approaches to supporting children and young people.
- 5.2 Service users are involved in how services will be developed and delivered in the future through surveys, contract monitoring processes, Elected Member rota visits, complaints and compliments, consultation events and feedback from Inspections. The Annual Report focusses on performance in 2016/17, but takes a longer term view as well in considering the challenges that lie ahead and how services are being developed now to meet them. The promotion and maintenance of independence is a guiding principle for the service and is reflected in the emphasis on prevention.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no equalities implications to this report that have not been considered or would adversely affect any individual or group who fall under one of the protected characteristics or wider issues as shown in the Council's Strategic Equality Plan.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

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

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 In order to produce the annual report information is taken from a wide variety of sources including the Directorates self-evaluation, feedback from regulators and our complaints and compliments policy. This feedback has been incorporated into the annual report where relevant.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That Council endorse the Annual Report of the Director Of Social Services for 2016/17.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 Statutory guidance requires the Corporate Director Social Services to present the Annual Report to Council for their endorsement.

12. STATUTORY POWER

12.1 The Local Government Act 2000.
Social Services & Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

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Social Services Senior Management Team
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Appendices:

Appendix 1: Annual Director's Report on the Effectiveness of Social Care Services 2016-17.