



EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 21ST SEPTEMBER 2021

**SUBJECT: DIRECTORATE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT YEAR END REPORT
2020/21**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND CORPORATE
SERVICES**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present Scrutiny with the year-end Education Service Performance Assessment which is part of the Council's Performance Management Framework.
- 1.2 The Performance Assessment (referred to hereafter as the DPA) is the Directorate's self-assessment and forms part of the Council's overall self-assessment activity. It provides information and analysis for the year ending 2020/21. Members are invited to discuss, challenge, and scrutinise the range of information in the DPA.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Council's revised Performance Framework was endorsed by Cabinet in February 2020 and this report introduces one of the key components of the Framework, the Directorate Performance Assessment (DPA). The DPA is a 'self-assessment' of Directorate's progress across a wide range of information types and meets our 'duty as a principal council to keep our performance under review'
- 2.2 DPA's are an opportunity to bring together a range of information and intelligence into one picture to answer the self-assessment questions of 'how well are we performing, how do we know? And what and how can we do better? Appendix 1 is the Education Services Performance Assessment Year End Report 2020/21.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members review the attached document (Appendix 1) and discuss, challenge, and scrutinise the information contained within.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Scrutiny Members are involved in the 'self-assessment' process by scrutinising the

information within the Directorate Performance Assessment. This also supports the principles within the new section (Part 6, Chapter 1) of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act which provides for a new performance and governance regime for principal councils.

5. THE REPORT

- 5.1 The Performance Framework has been developed to meet several strategic and operational needs as well as to meet the legislation and further the Council's desire to be a high performing learning organisation focused on meeting the needs of its residents. The framework was piloted in 2019 and endorsed by Cabinet February 2020 and now is reported as a regular part of scrutiny committees. This report introduces and shares the Education dashboard (the DPA) for the year end 2020/21.
- 5.2 The spirit of the DPA (appendix 1) is about providing learning. The DPA is less about performance and targets (though they have their place) and is more so to provide a wider picture of performance that will support reflective and challenging conversations and scrutiny that will ultimately lead to learning and further improvement.

5.3 Conclusion

This DPA covers the period April 2020 to March 2021 which of course includes the response to the initial lockdown in late March 2021; the return to school in September 2020; the local lockdown that was introduced in Caerphilly shortly afterwards; the second national lockdown in January 2021, and the return to school with restrictions thereafter.

It is impossible to adequately put in to words the size and scale of the challenges that our schools and LEA staff have faced during that period or to appropriately recognise the level of achievement that has taken place in overcoming every such challenge.

Colleagues from across the service, wider organisation and our school communities have been incredible through extraordinarily challenging times and it is important that this DPA is considered through the lens of these efforts and the wider pandemic response.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

- 6.1 There are no assumptions thought to be required within this report.

7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 This report is for information only and on this basis an integrated impact assessment is not required.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no financial implications within this report, however the DPA (appendix 1)

has a section on resources including relevant budget outturns as part of the overall self-assessment of the directorate.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no personnel implications within this report, although the DPA (appendix 1) has a section called 'resources' which provides data on a range of workforce aspects.

10. CONSULTATIONS

- 10.1 Any consultation responses have been included with in this report.

11. STATUTORY POWER

- 11.1 The Local Government Measure (2009) and Local Government (Wales) Act 2020

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Mark S Williams, Corporate Director Economy and Environment
Rob Tranter, Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
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Lynne Donovan, Head of People Services
Keri Cole, Chief Education Officer
Sue Richards, Head of Education Strategy and Planning
Cllr Ross Whiting, Cabinet Member for Learning and Leisure
Cllr Teresa Parry, Chair of Education Scrutiny Committee
Cllr Carol Andrews, Vice Chair of Education Scrutiny

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Directorate Performance Assessment (end of year report 2020/21)