



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
MERTHYR TUDFUL  
MERTHYR TYDFIL  
County Borough Council

## MINUTES OF MEETING

# SCRUTINY : SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING

TUESDAY, 24TH JULY, 2018

**PRESENT:** Councillors: W R Smith (Chair)  
S Jago (Vice-Chair)

Councillors G Richards, D Sammon and I Thomas

**Other Councillors in Attendance:**

Councillor David Hughes (Cabinet Member)

**Officers:**

M Purnell (Performance and Scrutiny Officer), L Curtis Jones (Chief Officer (Social Services)), M Anderton (Head of Adult Services), L Lewis (Youth Offending Team), A Lloyd (Head of Children's Services) and M Phillips (Democratic Services Officer)

**Outside Bodies:**

(none)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
199	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor T Rogers and Co-opted member B Lewis.
200	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No declarations of interest were received.

201	Update on Residential Care Home Accommodation	<p>Mark Anderton introduced the item to the committee and explained that the purpose of the report is to provide an update on occupancy and developments around the two residential care homes in Merthyr Tydfil.</p> <p>The following questions were raised by the committee and responded to in detail by the appropriate officers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can a presentation be arranged for the committee in relation to the butterfly approach</li> <li>• In relation to the care homes has there been any overspend in Quarter one</li> <li>• What is the butterfly approach and will there be additional training for the care workers to take this approach forward</li> <li>• Do all staff in the care home have level three dementia training</li> <li>• Can a quarterly update be provided to the committee in relation to the current overspend</li> <li>• In relation to the previous inspections at the homes, has there been any progress on the recommendations made by CSSIW</li> <li>• Can you confirm what the overspend was last year</li> <li>• With such tight budget constraints can you confirm if there will be any further cuts to the capacity in Ty Gurnos</li> <li>• The report states there are 30 vacancies in the Independent Sector, can you confirm how many beds they currently offer</li> <li>• Are Independent and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council homes inspected in the same way</li> <li>• Can you confirm why there have been more vacancies in Ty Gurnos than in Ty Bargoed</li> <li>• What plans do you have once children's services vacate the area in Ty Gurnos</li> <li>• What timescales are in place to re-open this wing in Ty Gurnos</li> <li>• Can you provide an update in relation to the action plan outlined in 7.2 of the report</li> </ul>
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		<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>Members note the progress and provide support for the ongoing developments around the implementation of the Dementia Care Matters programme within the homes and the future proposals regarding changes to rotas within Ty Gurnos Newydd.</p>
202	Regional Partnership Business	<p>Lisa Curtis-Jones introduced the item to the committee and provided information in relation to the regional partnership business that is currently carried out. The Committee were informed that the report was brief but will assist them in deciding what more in depth reports they may want to request in the future.</p> <p>The following questions were raised by the committee and responded to in detail by the appropriate officers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the best way to break down the issues addressed in the report as Social Services covers such a vast area. Should we set up a task and finish group and meet with specific officers</li> <li>• How does the pool budget work and is it based on population</li> <li>• Work under children and young people – can this be brought back to the committee in particular - Engagement Plan, what work has been done in Merthyr Tydfil and across the region to balance the resource shift from safeguarding and complex care to early and targeted help.</li> <li>• In relation to roll over work in the 16/17 annual report in response to referrals in respect of substance misuse and early pregnancies were not timely to effect change. Has this work been carried over to be included into the new work programme</li> <li>• Regional contracts for residential care, is this beyond the Cwm Taf area or just Cwm Taf region</li> </ul> <p>The Chair agreed with the officers that the first report to be brought back to the committee will be Children and Young People as raised by Councillor Jago.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>Scrutiny Committee Members note and debate the contents of the report.</p>
203	Adult Services Strategy Projects	<p>Mark Anderton introduced the report to the committee and explained that the report provides information on the strategic projects currently running that link with the Wellbeing objective and the statement of Wellbeing – living well.</p>

		<p>The projects covered are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valley's Life</li> <li>• Stay Well @ Home</li> <li>• Supporting People Pricing System</li> <li>• GP Shared Welfare Service</li> </ul> <p>The following questions were raised by the committee and responded to in detail by the appropriate officer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you provide the details on who sits on the Stay Well @ Home task and finish group</li> <li>• The report states that Phase one of the Stay Well @ Home project was a success – can you provide some statistical and qualitative data in relation to this phase</li> <li>• Can the same statistical and qualitative data also be provided for the GP Shared Welfare Service as without this data how are we able to measure that success and whether the projects should continue</li> <li>• In relation to the GP Shared Welfare Service are the six pilots being carried out in Merthyr Tydfil or across the Cwm Taf area</li> <li>• Can you tell us where the pilots are being carried out in Merthyr Tydfil</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The committee discuss and note the progress on projects within the Adult Services Strategy.</p>
204	Youth Offending Service – Inspection Action Plan	<p>The Head of Cwm Taf Youth Offending Service Team Lyndon Lewis introduced the report to the committee and provided an overview of the Inspection Action Plan.</p> <p>The following questions were raised by the committee and responded to by the appropriate officer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In relation to referrals to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) how long is the waiting list</li> <li>• Does a full joint inspection take place every year</li> <li>• In relation to 4.4 3.Routine intelligence sharing between the police and the YOS should make sure that case managers receive timely information about all children and young people who are arrested (South Wales Constabulary and YOS Manager)</li> </ul>

		<p>and 4.4 4. Joint working with children's services and information sharing at case level should be consistent (YOS Manager and Directors of Children's Services). Do you feel that people are now working together a lot better</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you update the committee in relation to funding for 2018/2019</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The committee receive this update report in order to be satisfied of the progress and improvements being made as a result of the improvement action plan.</p>
205	Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014	<p>Lisa Curtis-Jones updated the committee in relation to the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.</p> <p>It was agreed that the item be removed and updates only be given when necessary.</p>
206	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	<p>The Chair advised that there was no update on this item.</p>
207	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	<p>The Chair and the Committee reflected on the issues that had been considered.</p>
208	Scrutiny Committee Work Programme	<p>The committee raised their concerns in relation to two items listed on the work programme for today's meeting that were not included in the agenda. The Chair addressed the committee and explained that the items would be listed for the next meeting.</p>
209	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	<p>No other business deemed urgent by the Chair.</p>