



SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORT

Date Written	2 nd July 2018
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Service Area	Learning
Committee Date	16 th July 2018

To: *Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen*

THE WORK OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD AND LINKS WITH EDUCATION

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides members with information regarding how the priorities outlined in the Cwm Taf Wellbeing Plan align with the work of schools and the Learning Department.
- 1.2 It also outlines the other key drivers for schools – The National Mission and Successful Futures and considers how these link with the Cwm Taf Wellbeing plan.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 The report is discussed and noted.

3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Cwm Taf Wellbeing plan 2018-2023 was published in March 2018.
- 3.2 The Public Service Board (PSB) set out its statement of intent *“The members of the Cwm Taf Public Services Board are committed to developing a collaborative public service that puts the people in our communities at its centre.”*
- 3.3 The ambition being *“We work as One Public Service, with communities, to support the development of resilient communities that are informed, connected, active and resourced and have the ability to adapt to and influence change and improve wellbeing.”*

There are three objectives within the plan:–

- Thriving Communities
- Healthy People
- A Strong Economy

with one cross-cutting objective – Tackling Loneliness & Isolation.

- 3.4 Schools are also expected to reference their work within the aims of Education in Wales : Our National Mission. The key priorities in this are developing a high quality education profession, supporting and developing inspiration leaders, ensuring excellence, equity and wellbeing for all, and developing robust and rigorous assessment, evaluation and accountability systems.
- 3.5 Alongside this schools are preparing for the introduction of the Successful Futures Curriculum which has as its four enablers the need to develop learners who are ambitious and capable, are enterprising and creative contributors, being ethical informed citizens and who are healthy confident individuals.

4.0 WHERE WE WERE

- 4.1 Underneath the PSB sits a Strategic Partnership Board (SPB) which is tasked with drawing up the delivery plans for each of the objectives.
- 4.2 The delivery plans include actions, timescales, key milestones, performance and outcome indicators and accountability for delivery.
- 4.3 The Chief Officer (Learning) for Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council has been the Education representative on this board since its inception.
- 4.4 The Head of Community Wellbeing also sits on the SPB as do other officers from other service areas within the Council.
- 4.5 The Learning Department officer for inclusion and well-being has been part of a number of the work streams relating to Healthy People.

5.0 WHERE WE ARE NOW

- 5.1 Schools and the Learning Department are involved in ensuring the success of the delivery plans.
- 5.2 In March 2018, the Learning Department arranged a Young People's Conference to look at the impact of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act on their local community. The work from this conference is available as a background paper.
- 5.3 Within **Tackling Loneliness and Isolation** one of the immediate actions involves connecting people interested in volunteering "*e.g. linking opportunities for young people doing the Welsh Bacalaureate or Duke of Edinburgh awards with local volunteering opportunities.*"

- 5.4 A session has been arranged with all secondary schools and colleges across Cwm Taf, Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil (VAMT), Interlink (the equivalent of VAMT in Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT)) and other interested parties, to look at how schools can improve their Welsh Baccalaureate offer to include as wide a range of voluntary organisations as possible.
- 5.5 Further work will be undertaken with cluster primary schools to see how links can be made for volunteering from an early age.
- 5.6 The objective relating to **Thriving Communities** gives education the opportunity to become involved in the development of the Community Zone on the Gurnos. Pupils from Goetre Primary School and Pen y Dre High School have identified how they would wish the community zone to support them and their wellbeing.
- 5.7 The plan refers to raising awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES)
- 5.8 The Learning Department accessed money from the Central South Consortium (CSC) to purchase 'Resilience', a film which outlines research into the biological effects of ACES.
- 5.9 This film has been shown as part of a training session to Headteachers. It has also been shown to staff within the Learning Department and will be rolled out during the Autumn Term to further teachers and governors.
- 5.10 CSC are also supporting schools to understand this agenda and the Children Looked After (CLA) team also support schools.
- 5.11 Other initiatives that support this priority are – the Healthy Schools Agenda, Eco Schools & Mile a Day.
- 5.12 Working with The College, Merthyr is key to developing education links with the **Strong Economy** objective.
- 5.13 In September 2018, for the second year, there will be a cohort of learners undertaking junior apprenticeships in construction.
- 5.14 New standards for teachers have been co-constructed and are being rolled out from September 2018.
- 5.15 The National Academy for Educational Leadership (NAEL) has been launched and an agreed All Wales programme for leaders is being introduced.
- 5.16 New accountability measures are being introduced at Key Stage 4 from Summer 2019, and changes in reporting at the other key stages have also been made.
- 5.17 The CSC are supporting school in their preparation for the roll out of Successful Futures.

6.0 WHERE WE WANT TO BE

6.1 The local authority's ambition is to be ranked in the top ten performing local authorities in Wales by 2020 – we also have the ambition that children and young people are equipped with the skills they need to be successful learners and confident individuals. Understanding priorities of the community and how these are met through formal education will support this ambition.

7.0 WHAT WE NEED TO DO NEXT






- 7.1 In order to achieve our ambition the local authority will:
- work with The College, Merthyr and other partners to develop a 14+ strategy to support learners in making a considered career pathway;
 - link with the work undertaken for The Crucible with activities being undertaken in schools (see below in Background Papers);
 - ensure schools are aware of the PSB and its aims and objectives considering how they link to the National education priorities; and
 - continue to involve pupils in discussion around this agenda.

8.0 CONTRIBUTION TO WELLBEING OBJECTIVES

- 8.1 The contents of this report relate to the following Wellbeing Objectives:
- Best start to life: Children and young people are equipped with the skills they need to be successful learners and confident individuals.
 - Living Well – tackling adverse childhood experiences and developing community resilience; improving emotional wellbeing and mental health
 - Working well – preparing learners for the life of work

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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
Cwmtaf Wellbeing plan	March 2018	 CWMTAF WBP.pdf
WFG Act: Children and young people conference	July 2018	 CYP conference
Our National Mission	December 2017	  170926-education-in-wales-en.pdf 171218-education-in-wales-key-dates-cak
Successful Futures	Ongoing	 151021-a-curriculum-for-wales-poster.pdf
Merthyr Tydfil Industrial Heritage – Design Charette Report	October 2017	https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/dcfw-cdn/DCFW_MerthyrCharrette_web.pdf
Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?		NO

Consultation has been undertaken with the Corporate Management Team in respect of each proposal(s) and recommendation(s) set out in this report.