



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
MERTHYR TUDFUL  
MERTHYR TYDFIL  
County Borough Council

## MINUTES OF MEETING

# SCRUTINY : LEARNING AND LAESCYP MEETING

MONDAY, 15TH OCTOBER, 2018

**PRESENT:** Councillors H R Jones (Chair)  
C Davies

Councillors D Chaplin, L Davies, S Jago and S Thomas

**Cooptees:**

C Brown (Parent Governor-Primary) and A Rees (Public)

**Other Councillors in Attendance:**

L Mytton (Cabinet Member)

**Officers:**

S Walker (Chief Education Officer), S Jones (Head of Finance), S Bowen (Inclusion and Wellbeing Manager), J Colsey (Head of School Improvement), A Lewis (Head of School Planning Performance and Resource), L Beattie (School Improvement and Inclusion Officer) and A McCafferty (Performance and Scrutiny Officer)

**Outside Bodies:**

L Jones (ALN Transformation Lead Central South Region)

M Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
390	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from R Lazelle, K

		Phelan, A Roberts and M Symonds Co-opted Members.
391	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
392	The Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act	<p>The Chair welcomed Liz Jones ALN Transformation Lead Central South Region and the Officers to the Meeting.</p> <p>Liz Jones then led the Committee through 'The Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act' report and together with the Officers responded in detail to the following questions raised by the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parental involvement with the new Act</li> <li>• Request for a timescale in the Plan</li> <li>• At what point will the timeline be achieved</li> <li>• Assurance sought that good practice will be shared with other schools and the Consortium</li> <li>• Working with Parents and the Third Sector</li> <li>• Strategic impact and engagement with Health</li> <li>• Implementation of IDP's</li> <li>• How is the finance worked out for each Authority – How much is allocated to the Authority under each priority</li> <li>• New responsibilities under the Act – Ages 0 to 25 – Working with the Health Board</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The report be noted.</p>
393	Value for Money Report on Education Services	<p>The Chair welcomed Steve Jones to the Meeting.</p> <p>Steve Jones then led the Committee through the 'Value for Money' report and responded in detail to the following questions raised by the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paragraph 7.10 – Explanation requested of the £72</li> <li>• Deprivation from Local Authority to Local Authority - Impact on results</li> <li>• Variations with the data sets used – Difficult to make a comparator</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The report be noted.</p>
394	ESTYN Self Evaluation Reporting (SER) Framework (Inspection Areas 2)	<p>The Chair welcomed Joe Colsey to the Meeting.</p> <p>Joe Colsey then referred the Committee to the 'ESTYN Self Evaluation Reporting (SER) Framework (Inspection Area 2) report and together with Sue Walker responded in detail to the following questions raised by the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marketing Campaign – Parental attachment</li> <li>• Request for definition of SEBD</li> <li>• Training around non- attendance - What will this</li> </ul>

		<p>look like for schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paragraph 7.1 – How will this be translated into Actions, Outcomes and Deliverances</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The report be noted.</p>
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## **CLOSED SESSION**

### **Exempt**

#### **Resolved that:**

The public be excluded from the Meeting on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 16 under Part 4 of Schedule 12A Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

395	Presentation: Messages Education	Key from	<p>Sue Walker then made a Presentation to the Committee giving details on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key Messages</li> <li>• Context of Merthyr Tydfil</li> <li>• FSM</li> <li>• ALN</li> <li>• Key Stage 4</li> <li>• Attendance</li> <li>• Exclusions</li> <li>• Specific Concerns</li> </ul> <p>Questions were then raised by the Committee on the Presentation and were responded to in detail by Sue Walker.</p> <p>A Member then recommended that the Headteacher and Chair of Governors of Afon Taf and Cyfarthfa High Schools be invited to attend a future Committee Meeting.</p> <p>The Chair advised that he would meet with the Officers to discuss how to progress the issues raised in the Presentation.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Headteacher and Chair of Governors of Afon Taf and Cyfarthfa High Schools be invited to attend a Committee Meeting in the Spring of 2019.</p> <p>Councillor L Davies and A Rees Co-opted Member left the Meeting at 5.45 pm.</p>
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## **RE-OPENED SESSION**

396	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	There was no update on this item.
397	Scrutiny Committee Work Programme	The Committee considered and agreed the Work Programme.
398	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and the Committee discussed in detail the issues that had been considered in the Meeting.
399	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.