

Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2022/23

Learning and LGES Scrutiny

APPENDIX 1

| Date / Timing | Overarching Item/Issue | Why is this on the work programme? | Cabinet Member & Officer | How will this be scrutinised? | Scrutiny Focus – What are we trying to achieve? |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|
| 29 th June 2022 | Draft Scrutiny Forward Work Programme (FWP) | Link to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-being Objective Best Start to Life Recovery, Transformation & Improvement (RTI) Plan Raising Aspirations Raising Standards (RARS) Strategy | Cabinet Member for Education Chair of Education Scrutiny | Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams Scrutiny Type: Scrutiny Meeting | Ensure FWP includes the 4 r's of scrutiny and add value through critical friend challenge and ensure the work programme is robust for the year ahead. |
| 12 th September 2022 | Community Focused Schools Workshop | Link to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-being Objectives Best Start to Life RTI Plan | Head of ALN and Inclusion Head of school planning and Improvement Head of Achievement and Wellbeing | Scrutiny Type: Workshop | Work in groups to undertake a SWOT Analysis and explore the impact on learners, the wider community and to use the information to feedback and ask questions at Scrutiny. |
| | Scrutiny Forward Work Programme (FWP) | Link to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-being Objectives Best Start to Life RTI Plan | Chair of Education Scrutiny | Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams Scrutiny Type: Scrutiny Meeting | Adding value through critical friend challenge and ensuring a robust work programme is in place. This will adhere to the 4 principles of scrutiny and 4R's model and enable |

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| 5 th December 2022 | Welsh Medium Secondary Provision | Links to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Start to Life • wellbeing | Cabinet Member for Education | Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams | Add value through robust challenge in relation to the plans and proposals to enhance the provision of Welsh Secondary Education in the Local Authority. |
| 5 th December 2022 | To consider pupils standards and wellbeing and links to the poverty agenda | RARS Strategy Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP) | Director of Education | Scrutiny Type: Workshop – Feedback in Scrutiny Meeting | Outcomes to be used to inform decision making and planning. |
| 5 th December 2022 | Impact of the changes to the Universal credit system and the Pupil Development Grant i.e., the impact on pupil eligibility and learning outcomes | Official recommendation made by Estyn to address the provision of Welsh medium learning at secondary level. Links to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellbeing Objectives • Best Start to Life • Living Well | Cabinet Member for Education | Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams | Joint workshop with Members of the Social Services Scrutiny, or potentially with all Scrutiny Members in relation to Wellbeing and Standards with specific links to the poverty agenda – opportunity to look at this in a workshop. |
| 5 th December 2022 | | RTI Plan RARS Strategy | Director of Education | Scrutiny Type: Joint Committee Social Services and Learning | |

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| 23 rd January 2023 | New Curriculum – Readiness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Response to legislative duties placed upon Local Authorities by Welsh Government. Part of the Local Authority’s challenge framework to hold Central South Consortium (CSC) to account for our schools’ preparation and readiness for the new curriculum. <p>Captured in the Operational risk register for Education</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Education</p> <p>Director of Education CSC Representative</p> | <p>Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams</p> <p>Scrutiny Type: Scrutiny Meeting and site visit(s).</p> <p>Site visits to take place in the Autumn Term - To meet school staff to have first-hand experience of the changes to the Curriculum and the impact on learners.</p> | <p>To hold CSC to account and provide critical friend challenge in relation to schools’ readiness to meet the requirements of the new curriculum.</p> <p>Outcome can be used to inform decisions regarding future challenge and monitoring.</p> |
| 6 th March 2023 | <p>ALN & Inclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on Attendance | <p>Link to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-being Objectives collaboration Best Start to Life Living Well <p>RTI Plan RARS Strategy</p> | <p>Cabinet Member for Education</p> <p>Director of Education Head of ALN and Inclusion</p> | <p>Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams</p> <p>Scrutiny Type: Scrutiny Meeting</p> | <p>Gain assurance that key requirements of the ALN Act are being met and to explore how resources are being used within the service to ensure there is sufficient capacity to comply with new duties set out in the Act.</p> <p>Examine and consider progress made against the targets identified in the Attendance Improvement</p> |

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| | | | | | Plan (previously shared)- Outcomes will be used to provide challenge and inform decisions going forward. |
| 8 th May 2023 | Self-evaluation (Corporate Framework) | Link to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-being Objectives cross-cutting across all wellbeing themes/Directorates. | Cabinet Member for Education Director of Education Head of ALN and Inclusion Head of school planning and Improvement Head of Achievement and Wellbeing | Venue: Council Chamber/MS Teams Scrutiny Type: Workshop(s) and feedback to Scrutiny Meeting – prior to this meeting, Members will be invited to a series of workshops on each question of the corporate framework for self-evaluation. | Provide critical friend challenge. Review and challenge self-evaluation outcomes and judgements to inform future plans to support continuous improvement. Secure assurance that these plans are robust, and judgements are appropriately evidenced. |

Additional Items for Consideration

- Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) Inspection Feedback – Inspection Postponed (no date confirmed) this item will be added to the Scrutiny Forward Work Programme (FWP) when further information is received.
- **Joint workshop with Members of the Social Services Scrutiny, or potentially with all Scrutiny Members in relation to Wellbeing and Standards with specific links to the poverty agenda – opportunity to look at this in a workshop.**
- Central South Consortia (CSC) Challenge framework: Cllr Mytton and Cllr Lewis to meet with their equivalents across all of CSC to explore how they are holding CSC to account. This can be used to inform this work going forward.

- **Tertiary Education: Potential to meet with Board of Directors of the College of Merthyr Tydfil to get an understanding of the work that is ongoing and the trends around transition, post education etc. Also, an opportunity to explore how scrutiny may be able to add value through robust challenge and engagement. This could be facilitated through an 'Inquiry Day'.**
- Whole school approach: Cross-cutting theme which links to our Living Well Objective, Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAHMS), wellbeing, school transport etc. (this could be a proposal to the Social Services Chair).
- Raising Aspirations Raising Strategy (RARS): To be added to Work Programme for next year – need another year of implementation to determine its effectiveness of delivery; additional time is also needed in order to evaluate the impact of objectives set out in the RARS. Critical Friend challenge addressing the 'so what' element of the RARS Strategy.
- Hold a series of workshops with Members from other scrutiny areas regarding self-evaluation under the corporate framework (linking into the Business Improvement Plans).