

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **LIFELONG LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER, 2014**

REPORT BY: **HOUSING & LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FACILITATOR**

SUBJECT: **QUARTER 2 IMPROVEMENT PLAN MONITORING REPORT**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To note and consider elements of the 2014/15 Improvement Plan Monitoring Report relevant to the Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The report covers the period July – September 2014.

1.02 To note the following:-

- The levels of progress and confidence in meeting the Council's Improvement Priorities and their impacts including the milestones achieved.
- The measures which evidence achievement and the baseline data, and targets.
- The baseline risk assessment for the strategic risks identified in the Improvement Plan and the arrangements to control them.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The new style Improvement Plan adopted by Council in June 2013 which is aligned to the new three year Outcome Agreement, focuses on the priorities which are expected to have the most impact during 2014/15.

2.02 In addition to the Improvement Plan Monitoring Report, bi-annually performance highlight reports will be presented from the Chief Officers. These will be similar to those previously produced for quarterly reporting.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The Improvement Plan Monitoring Report gives an explanation of the progress being made towards delivery of the impacts set out in the Improvement Plan. The narrative is supported by measures and/or milestones which evidence achievement. In addition, there is an assessment of the strategic risks and the level to which they are being controlled.

3.02 For the Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee the following Improvement Plan sub-priority reports are attached at Appendix 1 – 2:-

- Modernised and High Performing Education
- Apprenticeships and Training

3.03 Analysis of performance against the Improvement Plan measures is undertaken using the RAG (Red, Amber and Green) status. This is defined as follows:-

Performance

- RED – equates to a position of under-performance against target.
- AMBER – equates to a mid-position where improvement may have been made but performance has missed the target.
- GREEN – equates to a position of positive performance against target.

Outcome

- RED – equates to a forecast position of under-performance against target at year end.
- AMBER – equates to a forecast mid-position where improvement may have been made but performance will miss target at year end.
- GREEN – equates to a forecast position of positive performance against target at year end.

3.04 The high level (RED) risk area identified for the Lifelong Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee is:-

Priority: Skills and Learning (Modernised and High Performing Education)

Risk: Programme delivery capacity for the 21st Century Schools Programme

Work on the full business case was completed by the Welsh Government deadline of 10th October, although some final costs were not known by this date. A programme Coordinator was appointed on the 24th July who will lead/manage developments to the completion of major projects. However, the three project manager posts have yet to be recruited to.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That the Committee consider the 2014/15 Improvement Plan Monitoring Report, highlight concerns and feedback details of any challenge to the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee who are responsible for the overview and monitoring of performance.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 There are no specific financial implications for this report; however the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan is aligned to resource the priorities of the Improvement Plan.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 There are no specific anti poverty implications for this report, however poverty is a priority within the Improvement Plan 2014/15.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 There are no specific environmental implications for this report; however the environment is a priority within the Improvement Plan 2014/15.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 There are no equalities implications for this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 There are no personnel implications for this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 The Chief Officer Team and the Performance Leads from across the Authority have contributed to help shape the new approach to reporting.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1 – Modernised and High Performing Education
Appendix 2 – Apprenticeships and Training

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None.

Contact Officer: Ceri Owen
Telephone: 01352 702305
Email: ceri.owen@flintshire.gov.uk