

Summary of Key Issues / Responses to the Consultation with Overview & Scrutiny Committees

Lifelong Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 15 May 2014

Issue / Response to Consultation	Responses to issues raised
Revised plan for 2014/15 welcomed by Members as were the examples of good progress against the 2013/14 Improvement Plan.	N/A
Sub-priority - Modernised & High Performing Education	
Concern raised about using the measure – ‘percentage of learners achieving 5 or more A* - C passes at GCSE or vocational equivalent’.	It was explained that this is a national measure set by Welsh Government.
General concern regarding the level of importance attached to performance measures and particularly the use of measures relating to free school meals (FMS).	It was advised that the range of data is vast and not just about the recent outcomes for learning but also about bringing enjoyment, confidence, and well-being to all pupils.
Concern raised that the target for surplus places may not be achievable.	It was confirmed that the target is a Welsh Government target set for all authorities.
Request that the activity relating to educational achievements of children in a position of disadvantage including looked after children (LAC), be reworded to reflect that the authority is ensuring equal opportunity to access education for all children.	It was agreed that the wording would be revisited, although it would not be possible to deviate too far from the original wording as this is a national priority.

Community Profile & Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 9 June 2014

Issue / Response to Consultation	Responses to issues raised
Revised plan for 2014/15 welcomed by Members as were the examples of good progress against the 2013/14 Improvement Plan.	N/A
Sub-priority - Community Safety	
Query raised as to whether a plan is in existence for CCTV provision across the county.	A separate report is to be made to the committee concerning arrangements for future CCTV provision.

Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 10 June 2014

Issue / Response to Consultation	Responses to issues raised
Revised plan for 2014/15 welcomed by Members as were the examples of good progress against the 2013/14 Improvement Plan.	N/A
Sub-priority – Extra Care Housing	
The planned extension of extra care housing to include additional units in Flint and Holywell was welcomed.	N/A
Sub-priority – Modern, Efficient and Adapted Homes	
Query raised as to whether the team for the new housing company is in place yet.	It was confirmed that the Board is in place and that the committee would receive regular reports, the first being in the autumn.
The target for empty homes brought back into use was queried.	It was confirmed that the target of 30 for 2014/15 relates to the private sector and that work is on-going in relation to council homes.
Sub-priority – Achieve the Wales Housing Quality Standard	
Continued investment was welcomed.	N/A
Query raised regarding the locations of the new council homes to be built.	It was confirmed that potential sites had been identified but that no formal plans were in place yet.
Query raised in relation to the 'right to buy' for occupiers of the new council homes to be built.	It was confirmed that the terms of the Welsh Government suspension policy are currently being looked at.
Sub-priority – Welfare Reform	
Query raised regarding the implementation of Universal Credit and the effect that it is having on increased debt within the County.	<p>It was confirmed that: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a phased approach is being taken to implementation over the next 2 – 3 years; and • it is too early to see the impacts on debt levels but a report will be made to the next meeting of the committee concerning this matter.

Sub-priority – Fuel Poverty	
Query raised as to whether the council would promote the opportunities of the Governments 2 nd phase of the 'Green Deal'.	It was confirmed that local citizens are referred to the opportunities which will best suit their circumstances.