

EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 17 th November 2016
Report Subject	Person Centred Planning
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Welsh Government is undergoing a period of transformation with regard to the education of children and young people with additional learning needs. It is understood that Person-Centred Planning will form an integral part of the reforms and this report provides an overview of the process and an update regarding the training offered to prepare schools and pupil referral units in Flintshire.

RECOMMENDATION

1	Members promote the use of Person-Centred Planning through their links with schools and the portfolio pupil referral units.
---	---

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING PERSON CENTRED PLANNING
1.01	<p>The Welsh Government (WG) has undertaken to transform the system for supporting children and young people in Wales with additional learning needs (ALN). The ALN Transformation Programme will create a unified system for supporting learners from 0 to 25 with ALN.</p> <p>The proposed system has clear defined aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ensure that all learners with ALN are supported to overcome barriers to learning and can achieve their full potential;• improve the planning and delivery of support for learners from 0 to 25 with ALN, placing learners' needs, views, wishes and feelings at the heart of the process;• focus on the importance of identifying needs early and putting in place timely and effective interventions which are monitored and adapted to ensure they deliver the desired outcomes. <p>WG has indicated that The Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Bill will be introduced to the National Assembly for Wales before Christmas 2016.</p>
1.02	<p>Work is underway to develop and finalise the Code of Practice which will provide guidance to all stakeholders regarding the implementation of the legislation. Whilst there is still a level of unknown detail regarding the new procedures, WG has given a clear indication that person-centred planning will form a core part of future processes.</p>
1.03	<p>Person-centred planning (PCP) can be summed up as a holistic approach which provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a way of helping children and young people and their families think about what is important to and for them now and in the future;• a continual process of listening and learning;• a collection of tools based on shared values that can be used to plan with a child or young person not for them. <p>The proposal is that the information captured through the use of PCP will be used to identify an individual's needs and support the agencies involved to design effective and bespoke interventions in partnership with the child and family. The detail from the process will be recorded in an Individual Development Plan which will replace Statements of Special Educational Need in the future.</p>
1.04	<p>To support a national understanding of PCP, Welsh Government has provided a training grant of £13k to each local authority for the last two financial years. In Flintshire, this has been used to provide access for two staff from each school and Pupil Referral Unit to attend a two-day training programme. It was recommended that a senior member of staff attend along with a more operational practitioner to support an appropriate breadth of understanding to then support and drive implementation within each establishment.</p>

	The second phase of the training has been to identify and support Beacon Schools who have embraced PCP and are developing extensive expertise which can be shared with other establishments.
1.05	The Welsh Government has worked in collaboration with Helen Sanderson Associates to generate a range of resources for schools and local authorities to raise awareness and up skill practitioners. These have been promoted as part of the training and are accessible on the Learning Wales website.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Effective person-centred planning relies on trained staff who have the skills and time to work with individuals, family members and associated professionals. WG has established specialist work stream forums to further explore the potential impact of this on schools and other educational providers.
2.02	WG has recently made additional funding available to the four consortia across Wales to facilitate the further exploration/development of practices relating to the reforms. The North Wales Consortium regional bid has included the proposal to review the role of the Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo) and other staff including the impact of adopting and embedding a PCP methodology. It is envisaged that this piece of work will lead to a greater understanding and appreciation of the resource implications likely to result from this aspect of the proposed reforms.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	None required as a result of this report.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	There are no identified risks at the current time.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None attached.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Welsh Government Person-Centred Planning Guidance</p> <p>Contact Officer: Jeanette Rock Senior Manager – Inclusion & Progression</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 704017</p> <p>E-mail: jeanette.rock@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Portfolio Pupil Referral Units: Specialist provision delivered by the local authority across a number of different centres for children with a range of complex needs associated with behavioural, emotional and/or social difficulties.
7.02	Additional Learning Needs (ALN): The Bill replaces the current terms 'special educational needs' (SEN) and 'learning difficulties and/or disabilities' (LDD) with the one term ALN.
7.03	Education Tribunal: An independent process that deals with appeals against local authority decisions about a child or young person and their education and also discrimination claims of unfair treatment in schools related to a disability.
7.04	Code of Practice: WG guidance outlining the statutory requirements and recommended practice in relation to systems and provision for ALN.
7.05	Beacon Schools: Flintshire term given to the education establishments identified as lead practitioners in relation to PCP.
7.06	North Wales Consortium: The six local authorities located in North Wales, covered by the regional school improvement service GwE.