



Performance Progress Report – Appendix 1 – Learning Council

Flintshire County Council



Print Date: 29-Jan-2019

3 Learning Council

Actions

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.1.1.1 Provide effective learning opportunities and quality opportunities and quality learning environments for all pupils aged 3-18 to achieve their potential and high levels of educational attainment	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	In Progress	01-Apr-2017	31-Mar-2019	75.00%	 GREEN	 GREEN
<p>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS:</p> <p>The methodology for reporting on pupil data has changed from 2018 in response to the Welsh Government's decision not to publish comparative data below the national average. No benchmarking data is now available. Teacher assessment data for learner outcomes in summer 2018 at Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 are above the national average at the expected and higher than expected levels. Key Stage 3 data also confirms that Flintshire is performing well, matching but in many cases, exceeding national averages. Learner outcomes for Key Stages 4 and 5 are still provisional until December but Key Stage 4 unverified data does demonstrate that Flintshire learners are performing above the national and regional averages and that there was improvement on many indicators from 2017. Performance in mathematics and numeracy was particularly strong. Performance in English dropped by approximately 3% but this has been the subject of significant challenge across the North Wales region to Qualifications Wales because of issues with changing grade boundaries and timings of examination entries. Performance on the main indicator at Key Stage 5 also improved from 2017. Performance at the highest grades A*-A has improved at both GCSE and A level.</p> <p>Last Updated: 10-Jan-2019</p>							

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.1.1.2 Provide effective support to schools identified as causing concern to quickly re-establish good educational standards	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	In Progress	01-Apr-2017	31-Mar-2019	75.00%	 GREEN	 GREEN
<p>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS:</p> <p>Every school has a dedicated Support Improvement Adviser (SIA) through GwE who provides the support and challenge on performance, self-evaluation and school improvement planning processes through bespoke packages. These SIAs are overseen by the 2 core lead officers from GwE for Flintshire who report regularly to the Chief Officer/Senior Manager for School Improvement(CO/SMSI). Support plans for schools causing concern are regularly reviewed and appropriate interventions identified. Progress against these plans are then discussed with the CO/SMSI and regularly reported on through the Local Quality Board which includes the Cabinet Member and Chair of Scrutiny. Schools in the more serious categories of concern are subject to the LA's School Performance Monitoring Group and are reviewed a minimum of twice a year and the panel includes a number of elected members. In the most serious cases of concern, the LA has used its statutory powers of intervention to effect change e.g. introduction of Interim Executive Boards, leadership solutions. As a result, the number of schools in the LA in categories of serious concern have reduced from 3 to 1 and the number of schools in Estyn Review are low - just 2.</p> <p>Last Updated: 10-Jan-2019</p>							

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.1.1.3 Prepare for national reforms on curriculum and inclusion	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression	In Progress	01-Apr-2017	31-Mar-2019	75.00%	 GREEN	 GREEN

ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS:

Officers are working in collaboration with Welsh Government and the regional school improvement service GwE to prepare for the curriculum and inclusion reforms. A local action plan is in development alongside a regional transformation plan focusing on the implementation of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (ALNET) Act 2018 which will map out the key actions needed to ensure the local authority and its schools are prepared for the implementation in 2020. Awareness raising sessions are underway with regard to the revised curriculum with a number of Flintshire schools taking on lead developmental roles as Pioneer Schools. The publication of two key draft documents is planned for this academic year namely the code of Practice for ALN (December 2018) and the proposed curriculum and assessment model (April 2019) which includes the National Approach to Professional Learning that will support the profession to meet the challenges of the new curriculum. Once these are published, planning can continue in earnest as the operational detail required will be available. Following the publication of the draft Code of Practice for ALN in December 2018, a Transformation Plan has been developed for the authority. This maps out the transformation programme for the period up to the implementation date (September 2020). Welsh Government have initiated a period of consultation around the Code and this will form a key part of the targeted activity over the Spring Term.

Last Updated: 16-Jan-2019

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.1.1.4 Continue substantial investment in the school estate through the School Modernisation Strategy, maximising use of Welsh Government funding streams e.g. 21st Century Schools Programme, Welsh Medium Education Grant, Infant Class Size Grant and to support the Early years and Childcare Service with the WG Childcare Grant (named as Early Years Grant in previous iterations) . To continue with a programme of repairs and maintenance across Flintshire schools.	Damian Hughes - Senior Manager, School Planning & Provision	In Progress	01-Apr-2017	31-Mar-2019	30.00%	 GREEN	 GREEN

ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS:

The third project of Band A is Connah's Quay High School Project (Phase 1) – Construction started on site July 2017 with the anticipated completion date December 2018. Demolition of the former John Summers High school started in April 2018 and was completed in December 2018. Penyffordd CP - Construction started on site April 2018 with anticipated completion of the new school building July 2019 (phase 1) and the remainder of external works (phase 2) anticipated to be complete during November 2019. School Modernisation - Brynford and Lixwm Area Review – In June 2018, Cabinet determined not to proceed with the proposed statutory amalgamation of the two schools. Nercwys VA and Nannerch VC governors have determined to consult with key stakeholders on federation. Consultation documents were published 23rd October 2018 and ran till 30th October 2018, governors from both schools will meet in February 2019 to consider the responses to the consultation and determine whether to proceed. 21st Century Schools Programme (Band B -2019 -2025) The Council's Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) estimated at £85.4m, has been approved by WG in principle. April 2018, Cabinet approved Connah's Quay High School project (Phase 2) prior to the start of Band B. This took advantage of the WG initiative and drew down funding prior to the start of Band B. WG Infants Class Size Grant (100% WG funded) - WG have approved the £1.3m grant for Ysgol Glan Aber, Bagillt under this funding scheme. This allows the larger £2.7m project to proceed as £997K has been approved through the Council's capital programme. WG Welsh Medium Grant (100% WG funded) – WG have approved the £3m business case for capital investment in the Ysgol Glanrafon Site. The Council's R&M programme for schools continues on an annual basis.

Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.1.1.5 Maintain low levels of young people/adults 'Not in Education, Employment or Training' and support opportunities for apprenticeship and employment	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression	In Progress	01-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2019	85.00%	 GREEN	 GREEN

ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS:

Multi-agency meetings continue to be held in schools to identify pupils at risk of disengagement. This has facilitated the identification and implementation of suitable interventions; a number of pilot courses are being trialled focusing on developing confidence and motivation to further increase the range of provision available. In addition to this a pilot pre-vocational course for KS4 learners is being trialled in partnership with Coleg Cambria. This offers an accredited Catering & Hospitality course in conjunction with core GCSEs. Through the regular monitoring meetings, learners in need of support for transition into further education are being identified and the Summer intervention programmes have proved largely successful in maintaining engagement. The ADTRAC project is now live and working with 16-24 year olds who have disengaged. The programme of Adult & Community Learning opportunities across Flintshire is being reviewed and updated in response to need and the revised Welsh Government Strategy.

Last Updated: 21-Jan-2019

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.1.1.6 Fully embed Flintshire's Youth Council to ensure that young people across the authority are involved in the evaluation and delivery of services that impact on them	Ann Roberts - Senior Manager - Integrated Youth Provision	In Progress	01-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2019	60.00%	 GREEN	 GREEN

ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS:

The Flintshire Youth Council has been recruited to with consideration of diversity of the membership. Young people volunteer to engage. Two meetings with the political leadership have taken place. The members have appointed shadowing roles. The group is already being very active and proactive e.g. in offering views and being a critical friend to Chief Officers with responsibility for producing inspection self-assessments or policy. The Chief Executive is planning to work with the Youth Council to give consideration to the voting age agenda. Excellent and meaningful progress to date.

Last Updated: 19-Dec-2018

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.2.1.1 Increase the number of apprenticeships which result in a positive outcome	Sharon Carney - Lead HR Business Partner	Not Started	01-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2019	N/A	N/A	N/A

ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS:

Measured at the end of the year.

Last Updated: 08-Nov-2018

Performance Indicators

KPI Title	Pre. Year Period Actual	Period Actual	Period Target	Perf. RAG	Perf. Indicator Trend	YTD Actual	YTD Target	Outcome RAG
IP3.1.2.1 M01 The number of schools in an Estyn statutory category of concern	3	1	1	 GREEN	↑	1	1	 GREEN
<p>Lead Officer: Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems Reporting Officer: Claire Homard - Senior Manager - School Improvement Aspirational Target: 1.00 Progress Comment: Currently have only 1 school in an Estyn statutory category of concern, down from 3 last year.</p> <p>Last Updated: 21-Jan-2019</p>								

KPI Title	Pre. Year Period Actual	Period Actual	Period Target	Perf. RAG	Perf. Indicator Trend	YTD Actual	YTD Target	Outcome RAG
IP3.1.3.1 M01 All schools to have completed their initial assessment of readiness for the new curriculum by 1st October 2018 on the G6 dashboard	No Data	No Data	100	N/A	N/A	No Data	100	N/A
<p>Lead Officer: Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems Reporting Officer: Claire Homard - Senior Manager - School Improvement Aspirational Target: Progress Comment: Currently unable to comment as dependant on details available on GwE database and as yet unable to access.</p> <p>Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019</p>								

KPI Title	Pre. Year Period Actual	Period Actual	Period Target	Perf. RAG	Perf. Indicator Trend	YTD Actual	YTD Target	Outcome RAG
IP3.1.3.2 M02 All schools to have eliminated any red indicators against their readiness for the new curriculum by 31st March 2019 on the G6 dashboard	No Data	No Data	100	N/A	N/A	No Data	100	N/A
<p>Lead Officer: Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems Reporting Officer: Claire Homard - Senior Manager - School Improvement Aspirational Target: Progress Comment: Currently unable to comment as dependant on details available on GwE database and as yet unable to access.</p> <p>Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019</p>								

KPI Title	Pre. Year Period Actual	Period Actual	Period Target	Perf. RAG	Perf. Indicator Trend	YTD Actual	YTD Target	Outcome RAG
IP3.1.5.2 M02 The percentage of young people aged 16 – 18 in the youth justice system offered education, training or employment	53	54	53	 GREEN	↑	54	53	 GREEN
<p>Lead Officer: James Warr - Operations Manager Reporting Officer: Louisa Greenly - Performance Management & Information Officer Aspirational Target: 80.00 Progress Comment: The Youth Justice Service assesses young people who commence a prevention or statutory intervention with the Youth Justice Service in the period. Those who are above statutory school age should be undertaking at least 16 hours per week of education, training or employment. 6 young people completed Agored vocational qualifications in health and safety, first aid and construction skills. The Education Coordinator seconded to the Youth justice Service supports young people back into further education, by maintaining close links with local colleges and other training providers. Education remains a key priority for the service as it is seen as a strong desistance factor in offending and re-offending..</p> <p>Last Updated: 18-Dec-2018</p>								

KPI Title	Pre. Year Period Actual	Period Actual	Period Target	Perf. RAG	Perf. Indicator Trend	YTD Actual	YTD Target	Outcome RAG
IP3.1.6.1 M01 Number of new pupils engaging with the TRAC programme	No Data	125	120	 GREEN	N/A	125	120	 GREEN

Lead Officer: Ann Roberts - Senior Manager - Integrated Youth Provision

Reporting Officer: Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression

Aspirational Target:

Progress Comment: The target number of pupils engaging with TRAC has been exceeded for the quarter. This is due to factors such as the team being fully staffed and the promotion of the programme on offer through a range of multi-agency forums .

Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019

RISKS

Strategic Risk

RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Those schools who do not recognise their need for improvement and external support	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression				Open
<p>Potential Effect: Downturn in school performance and under achievement . Increase in the number of schools in Estyn category of concern/need of significant improvement</p> <p>Management Controls: The Council will work with schools through the Schools Standards Monitoring Group. Challenge and support will be provided through the regional school improvement partner GwE</p> <p>Progress Comment: Monitoring processes indicate that all schools have engaged appropriately with their Support Improvement Advisers during the first quarter of the year and are accessing support to implement their improvement plans. Evidence through pupil outcome data shows that improvement plans are being effective in most areas with Flintshire schools performance above national averages in nearly all key indicators across all phases. 2 targeted schools who are in category of Estyn Review have made strong progress and the LA is recommending to Estyn that they be removed from follow up - Estyn confirmation pending.</p> <p>Last Updated: 21-Jan-2019</p>						

RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Leadership capacity does not match school needs	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression				Open
<p>Potential Effect: Reduced stakeholder confidence in Education services. Downturn in school performance and under achievement . Increase in the number of schools in Estyn category of concern/need of significant improvement</p> <p>Management Controls: The Council will work with schools through the Schools Standards Monitoring Group. Leadership development will be provided through the regional school improvement partner GwE for leadership across the system at all levels. School Governor development programme. Schools collaborate and federate Bespoke Leadership development programme in place for schools through the Regional School Improvement Service - for current and aspiring leaders at all levels.</p> <p>Progress Comment: The number of schools in statutory categories has reduced. We do not have any issues with schools failing to engage with GwE in relation to their support priorities. Flintshire has one of the highest take ups on the professional development programme around middle leadership and National Professional Qualification for Headship securing leaders for the future – whilst secondary Headteachers have reported anecdotally that staff don't want to take the roles on in schools in some subjects, there is no school where a lack of capacity, particularly in core subjects is putting the school's performance at risk.</p> <p>Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019</p>						

RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Impact of Additional Learning Needs reforms	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems				Open

Potential Effect: Schools and the Local Authority are unable to meet the requirements placed on them by the forthcoming Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Bill resulting in the need for additional resource in terms of specialist services and provision.

Management Controls: Portfolio Strategy 2016/17 to map out progress of the legislative reforms and facilitate a timely response.

Use of Welsh Government Innovation Project funding to develop awareness and skills of key school-based staff and Local Authority Officers ahead of the implementation of the Bill.

Progress Comment: The Bill received Royal Assent in January 2018 and became the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018. The implementation date has been revised to September 2020, with 2019 being the publication date for the draft Code of Practice. An audit tool has been generated for local authorities to complete; this will give greater insight into the risks posed by the Act across the intervening two year period prior to implementation in 2020. The audit tool has been completed and this highlighted the need for a Lead officer to be allocated within the Local Authority. This action has been completed, supported by access to Welsh Government Transformation Funding.

A Transition Action Plan for Flintshire will now be developed to ensure that a comprehensive transformation programme is developed in conjunction with the regional plan for North Wales.

The draft Code of Practice has now been published. Officers are in the process of reading the document and identifying the implications for schools and the authority. These will be collated and shared via Committee reports.

Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019

RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Local employers and learning providers do not work closely enough to identify and meet the skills based needs of the future	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Niall Waller - Service Manager - Enterprise and Regeneration				Open

Potential Effect: Employers will increasingly struggle to fill vacancies and may leave the area. Young people will not be able to benefit from the growth of the local economy and may need to move away to secure employment that matches their skills. If the skills base fails to match employer needs in the future then the area will struggle to compete for investment.

Management Controls: Encourage links between schools and local companies. Develop initiatives both locally and regionally to reduce the gap between young peoples' aspirations and the labour market, especially in Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM) topics and enterprise.

Progress Comment: In addition to current work to link schools, learners and employers there are a number of proposals for further work being developed as part of the North Wales Growth Deal including an enhanced careers offer and further STEM support for schools. In addition, learning provision is guided by the Regional Skills Strategy which sets out the needs of the economy.

Last Updated: 10-Jan-2019

RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Sustainability of funding streams	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Red	Red	↔	Open

Potential Effect: Reduced capacity to deliver targeted support to schools.

Management Controls: Intelligence on grant regime

Progress Comment: The sustainability of grant funding for education continues to pose a significant and live risk in a number of areas:

A lack of clarity about the funding of the Teachers' Pay Award for 2019-20 remains. Through RSG and the Teachers Pay Grant from Welsh Government the schools budget will be funded for 1% of the impact of the pay award implemented in September 2018. The balance of 1.2% of the pay award is a cost pressure which will have to be absorbed by schools. Further it can be assumed that there will be a Teachers' Pay Award from September 2019 which unless national funding is made available will be an additional cost pressure which will need to be absorbed by schools.

The increase in the teachers' employers' pensions costs remains a significant risk. From September 2019 the employers' contributions will increase from 16.48% to 23.6%. The impact of this on Flintshire schools will be £2.026m. The Chancellor announced £4.7 billion nationally to cover public sector increased pension costs but at this stage there is no indication of whether there will be a consequential for Welsh Government.

The recently announced £15m grant for schools across Wales appears to have been ring-fenced by the Cabinet Secretary for Education to support professional learning in advance of the introduction of the new curriculum, but distribution methodology and terms and conditions are not yet known.

The MEAG (Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant) was not reinstated in full and there remains a lack of clarity about a new regional model for delivery of these services and the funding attached to them.

There are grants which are only short term to support Ministerial key priorities e.g. Infant Class Sizes; Small and Rural Schools etc but the grant conditions are often complex which makes them difficult to administer and their short term nature does not allow for proper strategic planning to maximise impact.

Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019

RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Numbers of school places not matching the changing demographics	Damian Hughes - Senior Manager, School Planning & Provision	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Red	Red	↔	Open

Potential Effect: Higher teacher ratios, unfilled places, backlog maintenance pressures, inefficient estate

Management Controls: Continuation of school modernisation programme, will reduce unfilled places, reduce backlog maintenance, remove unwanted fixed costs and infrastructure

Progress Comment: Reducing unfilled school places via school organisation change is an ongoing process. School change projects can take between three and five years from inception to delivery before reductions of unfilled places can be realised. This continues to be an ongoing process linked to the school modernisation programme. To supplement this the Council will continue to work closely with schools to consider innovative ways for reduction in capacity on a school by school basis (i.e. alternative use of school facilities by other groups) with the objective of meeting national targets of circa 10% unfilled places in all school sectors.

Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019

RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Limited funding to address the backlog of known repair and maintenance works in Education & Youth assets	Damian Hughes - Senior Manager, School Planning & Provision	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Red	Red	↔	Open
<p>Potential Effect: The fabric of Education and Youth buildings will continue to decline</p> <p>Management Controls: Continuation of School Modernisation Programme, Continuation of Repairs & Maintenance planned maintenance programme, Capital Business Cases for School improvement, implementation of Band A and Band B 21st Century Schools programmes and any other external funding which becomes available.</p> <p>Progress Comment: Continuation of the School Modernisation programme is one of the strategic options available to address the repair and maintenance backlog. The programme continuation will also i) Support a reduction of unfilled places ii) Provide a more efficient school estate and concentrate resources on teaching by removal of unwanted fixed costs in infrastructure and leadership iii) Ensure that the condition and suitability of the school estate is improved. Additionally, in future years capital business cases will be submitted through the Council process to supplement the 21st Century Schools investment programme.</p> <p>Last Updated: 23-Jan-2019</p>						