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CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr Dylan J. Williams
Prif Weithredwr – Chief Executive
CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL
Swyddfeydd y Cyngor - Council Offices
LLANGFNI
Ynys Môn - Anglesey
LL77 7TW

Ffôn / tel (01248) 752500
Ffacs / fax (01248) 750839

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|--|---|
| RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD | NOTICE OF MEETING |
| PWYLLGOR SGRIWTINI PARTNERIAETH AC ADFYWIO | PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE |
| DYDD MAWRTH, 18 HYDREF, 2022 am 2.00 o'r gloch yp | Tuesday, 18 October 2022 at 2.00 pm |
| CYFARFOD HYBRID – YSTAFELL BWYLLGOR 1, SWYDDFEYDD Y CYNGOR, LLANGFNI AC YN RHITHIOL | HYBRID MEETING – VIRTUAL, AND IN COMMITTEE ROOM 1, COUNCIL OFFICES, LLANGFNI |
| Swyddog Pwyllgor | Mrs. Mairwen Hughes 01248 752516 Committee Officer |

AELODAU / MEMBERS

Cynghorwyr / Councillors:-

Y Grwp Annibynnol/ The Independent Group

Gwilym O Jones (Is-gadeirydd/Vice-Chair)

Plaid Cymru / The Party of Wales

Non Dafydd, Euryrn Morris, Trefor LI Hughes MBE, John I Jones, Dylan Rees (Cadeirydd/Chair), Margaret M Roberts, Ken Taylor

Annibynnwyr Môn/Anglesey Independents

Paul Ellis, Jeff Evans, Derek Owen

Llafur Cymru/Welsh Labour

Pip O'Neill

Aelodau Ychwanegol/Additional Members (gyda hawl pleidleisio ar faterion addysg/with voting rights in respect of educational matters) Sedd Wag/Vacant Seat (Yr Eglwys yng Nghymru/The Church in Wales), Sedd Wag/Vacant Seat (Rhiant Llywodraethwr – Sector Ysgolion Cynradd/Parent Governor – Primary Schools Sector), Mrs Llio Johnson-(Rhiant Llywodraethwyr – Sector Ysgolion Uwchradd ac ADY/Parent Governor – Secondary Schools Sector and ALN) Mr John Tierney (Yr Eglwys Babyddol Rufeinig/The Roman Catholic Church)

Aelod Cyfetholedig/Co-opted Member (Dim Hawl Pleidleisio/No Voting Rights)

Mr. Dafydd Gruffydd (Rheolwr Gyfarwyddwr/Managing Director - Menter Môn)

AGENDA

1 **APOLOGIES**

2 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

To receive any declaration of interest by any Member or Officer in respect of any item of business.

3 **MINUTES** (Pages 1 - 6)

To submit, for confirmation, the minutes of the meeting held on 26 September, 2022.

4 **ESTYN POST-INSPECTION OF THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY - ACTION PLAN**
(Pages 7 - 30)

To submit a report by the Director of Education, Skills and Young People.

5 **ARFOR PROGRAMME** (Pages 31 - 38)

To submit a report by the Head of Regulation and Economic Development.

6 **NORTH WALES REGIONAL EMERGENCY PLANNING SERVICES** (Pages 39 - 56)

To submit a report by the Chief Executive.

7 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 57 - 64)

To submit the Forward Work Programme.

PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on 26 September 2022

PRESENT: Councillor Dylan Rees (Chair)
Councillor Gwilym O Jones (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Nonn Dafydd, Paul Ellis, Jeff Evans, Derek Owen, Margaret Murley Roberts and Ken Taylor.

Mr John Tierney (The Roman Catholic Church)

Portfolio Members

Councillors Dafydd Rhys Thomas (Portfolio Member for Highways, Waste and Property); Alun Roberts (Portfolio Member for Adults' Services – Social Services); Ieuan Williams (Portfolio Member for Education and the Welsh Language).

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive,
Deputy Chief Executive,
Director of Social Services,
Director of Education, Skills and Young People,
Head of Adults' Services,
Scrutiny Manager (AD),
Committee Officer (MEH).

APOLOGIES: Councillors Trefor Lloyd Hughes MBE, John Ifan Jones, Euryrn Morris and Pip O'Neill.

Councillors Llinos Medi (Leader), Carwyn Jones (Portfolio Member for Economic Development, Leisure and Tourism); Gary Pritchard (Portfolio Member for Children – Social Services and Youth Services); Nicola Roberts (Portfolio Member for Planning).

ALSO PRESENT: Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board Programme Manager (for item 5).

Mr John R Jones (Chair of the Standards Committee)
Mrs Sharon Warnes (Member of the Standards Committee)

The Chair expressed his deepest sympathy to Mrs Mairwen Hughes, Committee Officer on the loss of her mother recently.

The Chair welcomed Mr John Tierney who will be representing the Roman Catholic Church on this Committee.

The Chair welcomed Mr Marc B Hughes, the newly appointed Director of Education, Skills and Young People, to his first meeting of this Committee.

The Chair also welcomed Mr John R Jones, Chair of the Standards Committee and Mrs Sharon Warnes a Member of the Standards Committee as observers to the meeting.

1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None received.

2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee held on 21 June, 2022 were confirmed as correct.

3 MARKET STABILITY REPORT (SOCIAL CARE)

Submitted – a report by the Director of Social Services in relation to the above.

The Head of Adults' Services reported that the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 introduced a new duty on local authorities and health boards to develop a joint assessment of the sufficiency and sustainability of the Social Care Market. The report enables the authority to understand the social care market in North Wales, so that the authority can effectively commission and support providers of health and social care services to meet the needs of the population effectively. However, local authorities must ensure that the market stability report also contains an assessment of the market for care and support within each local authority area as well as across the RPB area as a whole. The report will inform both regional and local decision making around commissioning care and support, feeding into the strategic plan for the RPB area and helping shape local and regional commissioning strategies. He noted that there is a strong link between the Market Stability Report and the Population Needs Assessment where the population needs assessment sets out current and projected need and demand for care and support, and the range and level of services that will be required to meet that demand. Both the Population Needs Assessment and Market Stability Report documents will be used to plan local and regional delivery plan and service development plans going forward.

He further reported that Home Care Service has seen an increase in demand for the service of 33% over recent years and the demand is projected to grow. There has been a fall in providers affording the Home Care service and it is concerning that recruitment into the Care Sector is decreasing and especially within the Home Care provision with the average age of Home Carers being over 50 years of age. He referred to Residential Care and concerns regarding the growth in the ageing population requiring these services and especially when individuals require specialist care; greater provision is required especially in Dementia Services.

The Head of Adults' Service further said that the demand for specialist care is also required within Children Services and the local authority has established the

Cartrefi Clyd provision on the Island. The Fostering and Adoption Services has seen an increase in Foster Carers with 80% of children in care being located on the Island which compares favourably with areas.

The Committee considered the report and made the following main points:-

- Questions were raised as to how the authority has attracted Foster Carers and whether they have been sourced through private companies. The Director of Social Services responded that the package afforded to Foster Carers has been improved and the authority has been able to attract 6 new Foster Carers every year over the last 3 years. He further said that prospective Foster Carers showed an interest whilst visiting the County Council's facility at the Anglesey Show recently. The Director of Social Services also referred to the Cartrefi Clyd facility afforded on Anglesey which allows children in care to be looked after within their communities;
- Questions were raised as to regional collaboration and as to how the authority ensure that local needs are addressed. The Director of Social Services responded that regional collaboration is undertaken as regards to specific project and it can be advantages to share information between local authorities. He further referred that due to the cost of living crisis and fuel costs, people will not travel to work from a distance and regional collaboration will not work as regards to this issue. The Authority is advertising for Care Staff on Councils vehicles so as to encourage the interest of prospective applicants for vacant posts with the local authority. The Portfolio Holder for Adults' Services – Social Services expressed that he considered that collaboration between the 6 North Wales local authorities needs to be undertaken and that one local authority should not decide not to participate with the other 5 local authorities. He further said that there is added value in regional collaboration between the local authorities but Anglesey should ensure that the best possible services are afforded to the residents. He noted that he has visited the Local Authority's Residential Care Homes recently and the provision and care the residents are afforded is of the highest quality. The Committee referred to the decision by the Isle of Anglesey County Council and Gwynedd Council to deviate from the regional model on Care Homes and questions raised as to whether this will cause problems in the future. The Head of Adult's Services responded that whilst accepting that there are advantages in working regionally within different services afforded through Social Services, some aspect needs to be balanced and this Authority wishes to target specialist services where there are shortfalls. The Chief Executive said that there is a commitment to continue to collaborate within a framework but it is acknowledged that there are local issues due to the geographical location of the Authority and different service needs of residents;
- Reference was made that the report refers to a number of gaps in the Care Market. Questions were raised as to how the Authority intends to prioritize the work that is required to address these gaps. The Head of Adults' Services responded that the Authority is currently preparing a work programme which is in response to the Market Stability Report (Social Care) and the need to address the Dementia Services, support for Unpaid Carers, Learning Disabilities and Recruitment of staff within the Care Facilities. He noted that the care needs of residents have changed over the years together with the ageing population of the Island;

- Questions were raised as to the difficulties of recruiting and the retention of staff within the Care Sector and the current staff expressing that they feel undervalued and overworked and the current wages are below other job opportunities. The Head of Adult's Services responded that a National solution is required to address the recruitment and retention of staff within the Care Sector. He said that financial recognition and the terms of conditions should be addressed as the work undertaken by domiciliary care staff is often more complex and they are expected to assist with a wider range of care needs. Further questions were raised as to the requirement of bilingual staff to undertake the work and especially within Residential Homes. The Head of Adult's Services responded that Care Sector staff are encouraged to learn Welsh. He specifically referred that it is important that people with Dementia are able to communicate with the staff in their first language;
- Questions were raised as to whether the Authority engage with schools, the local college and Bangor University to attract staff to work in the Care Sector and to attract specialist Therapist. The Director of Social Services responded that the services encourages young people to consider working in the Care Sector within the local schools and colleges. He noted that the Authority afford opportunities internally to staff within Social Services to train to become Social Workers and Occupational Therapist.

It was RESOLVED to accept the regional and local Market Stability Report (Social Care).

ACTION : As noted above.

4 EDUCATION SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS REPORT

Submitted – a report by the Scrutiny Manager in respect of the above.

The Chair of the Education Scrutiny Panel, Councillor G O Jones, gave an oversight of the work of the 3 scrutiny panels established. He noted that in terms of local context, the membership of the Education Scrutiny Committee comprises of Members newly elected in May. It will therefore be necessary for the Council to create the conditions for all Members to participate fully in the Panel's scrutiny work e.g. skills for effective scrutiny, effective questioning, understanding of the Education system, raise awareness of national education work streams etc. It is therefore the intention to make full use of the forward work programme to ensure appropriate and timely inputs to support members of the Education Scrutiny Panel. The Chair of the Education Scrutiny Panel said that it is an intention that the Education Scrutiny Panel shall meet monthly and report quarterly to the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee. The next meeting of the Panel will focus on the Estyn Inspection report on the Education Authority received in June, 2022 and the post inspection action plan. He noted that the Estyn Inspection report received by the Authority is highly commendable of the Education Service on Anglesey.

It was RESOLVED to note the initial progress to date regarding the work of the Education Scrutiny Panel.

ACTION : None

5 GWYNEDD AND YNYS MÔN PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

Submitted – a report by the Chief Executive in relation to the above.

The Chief Executive reported that the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) 2015 places a duty on public bodies to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The act is based on the principle of sustainable development and places a duty on public bodies to set and publish well-being objectives and to take all reasonable steps to achieve those objectives. The Act also established Public Service Boards with representation from key public bodies. Every five years the Public Services Boards must prepare and publish an assessment of the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in their areas and use this as the basis of the Well-being Plan for the following five years. He noted that working in partnership has focused on six key areas over the 2017-2022 Well-being Plan for Gwynedd and Anglesey i.e. The Welsh language, Homes for local people, the effect of poverty on the well-being of our communities, the impact of climate change on the well-being of communities, Health and Care of Adults and the Welfare and achievement of children and young people. The Chief Executive said that it is accepted that a monitoring framework is required to highlight that the Public Services Boards and the partnership working within the Boards add value in the main areas that the partnership has focused upon over the last 5 years.

The Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board Programme Manager reported on the membership of the Public Services Board. The work of the Public Services Board is subject to scrutiny by the designated Scrutiny Committees of both Gwynedd and Anglesey local authorities and a report is submitted twice yearly. She noted that with the support of the team at Co-production Wales, workshops have been held to enable the members of the Public Services Board to reflect on whether current priorities are still relevant and to review the role and purpose as a Board going forward. The Board members are eager to make a meaningful contribution to the partnership landscape without duplicating the work of other partnerships and so the next Well-being Plan will be clear about whether the Public Services Board has a leadership or delivery role in relation to the Well-being priorities. It is intended to publish the final Well-being Plan with detailed goals in May 2023.

The Committee considered the report and made the following main points:-

- Reference was made that previously it has been reported that the partner organisations have not been regularly attending the Public Services Board. Questions were raised as to whether the attendance at the Board has increased recently. The Programme Manager responded that there are statutory representatives that have to attend the Board meetings and it is intended to revisit the membership of the Board to ascertain whether other representatives from other organisations can be invited to attend. The Chief Executive said that both the Leader of the Isle of Anglesey County Council and

the Leader of Gwynedd Council attend the Board meetings and moving to virtual meetings has increased attendance at the Board meetings;

- Reference was made that the Public Services Board does not wish to duplicate the services provided by other organisations. Questions were raised as to the numerous other established organisations that publish strategic development plans and whether there is going to be added value in the Public Services Board publishing its own strategic development plans. The Chief Executive responded that the Public Services Boards should be viewed from a community perspective and the public services needed by the residents of the Island and Gwynedd. He said that he was confident that there is a focus by the Board to improve the well-being of residents of Anglesey and Gwynedd and the partnership working with the voluntary sector creates opportunities especially in the current climate of poverty and the costs of living crisis;
- Questions were raised as to the added value the Public Services Board gives to the residents of Anglesey. The Chief Executive responded that it is an intention by the Public Services Board whilst establishing the next Well-being Plan to measure the priorities and targets within both local authorities and to ensure that there is a framework to measure the impact the Board can achieve in the future.

It was RESOLVED to accept the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board Annual Report 2021/22.

ACTION : AS noted above.

6 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The report of the Scrutiny Manager setting out the Partnership and Regeneration Committee's indicative Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 was presented for consideration.

It was RESOLVED :-

- **To agree the current version of the Forward Work Programme for 2022/2023.**
- **To note the progress thus far in implementing the Forward Work Programme.**

The meeting concluded at 11.15 am

**COUNCILLOR DYLAN REES
CHAIR**

| ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template | |
|---|--|
| Committee: | Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee |
| Date: | 18.10.22 |
| Subject: | Post-inspection Action Plan |
| Purpose of Report: | Present the post-inspection action plan in response to the recommendations from the Estyn inspection. |
| Scrutiny Chair: | Councillor Dylan Rees |
| Portfolio Holder(s): | Councillor Ieuan Williams |
| Head of Service: | Marc B. Hughes, Director of Education, Skills and Young People |
| Report Author: Tel: Email: | Angharad Fflur Jones, Learning Service Performance and Business Manager 01248 752 341 angharadjones@ynysmon.llyw.cymru |
| Local Members: | Relevant to all Elected Members |

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| 1 - Recommendation/s |
|--|
| <p>The Committee is requested to:</p> <p>R1 Provide comments on the Estyn Post-inspection Action Plan, and be assured that this plan responds to the recommendations from the Estyn inspection in a reasonable and timely manner.</p> |

| 2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities |
|--|
| <p>The plan is linked to objective 3 in the Council Plan 2017-22:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long term potential. <p>The plan aligns with objective C in the Council’s Transitional Plan 2022-23:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining and modernising critical community services such as Care and Education across the island. |

3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members

To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-

- 3.1** Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [focus on customer/citizen]
- 3.2** A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [focus on value]
- 3.3** A look at any risks [focus on risk]
- 3.4** Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [focus on performance & quality]
- 3.5** Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:
- Long term
 - Prevention
 - Integration
 - Collaboration
 - Involvement
- [focus on wellbeing]
- 3.6** The potential impacts the decision would have on:
- protected groups under the Equality Act 2010
 - those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (when making strategic decisions)
 - opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language
- [focus on equality and the Welsh language]

4 - Key Scrutiny Questions

1. To what extent does the action plan respond fully to the recommendations from the recent inspection of the Education Authority by Estyn?
2. How will progress be monitored and reported? How achievable is the timescale?
3. Are there any omissions or areas that require further consideration?

5 – Background / Context

In June of this year, Isle of Anglesey Local Authority was reviewed by Estyn, i.e. Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales.

The inspection was conducted between the 6th and the 10th of June, and the report was issued on the 22nd of July 2022. The inspection looked at outcomes, teaching and learning and leadership and management, and identified successes and any areas for improvement.

The report was positive. It noted that the robust quality and effectiveness of the Learning Service leaders within Isle of Anglesey Authority contribute very effectively towards ensuring high quality education services. It was identified that a 'Team Môn' ethos and mindset has been developed, where everyone's co-operation and contribution are valued, nurtured and used for the benefit of the island's children and young people.

Two areas of good practice were identified. The Learning Service is preparing case studies on this coherent work of:

- protecting and improving the wellbeing of learners; and
- strengthening the Welsh language.

Two areas were noted as areas requiring improvement, and the following were noted as recommendations:

1. Strengthen processes for evaluating the effect of the Learning Service's work.
2. Develop and strengthen formal scrutiny arrangements.

Although it is not a statutory requirement by Estyn, the recommendations from the report have been collated into a Post-inspection Action Plan. This plan has already been presented to the Education Scrutiny Panel on the 22nd of September and to the Leadership Team on the 3rd of October.

This plan will be part of the Service Delivery Plan for the Learning Service, and will be monitored quarterly. Progress and any challenges will be regularly reported in the Learning Service's Portfolio Holder, Senior Leadership Team and the Education Scrutiny Panel.

6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]

6.1 Potential impacts on protected groups under the Equality Act 2010

6.2 Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (strategic decisions)

6.3 Potential impacts on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

7 – Financial Implications

8 – Appendices:

- Post-inspection Action Plan
- Report on Isle of Anglesey Local Authority – Estyn

9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):

A report on

**Isle of Anglesey Local Authority
Learning Services
Council Offices
Glanhwfa Road
Llangefni
Anglesey
LL77 7TW**

Date of inspection: June 2022

by

**Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education
and Training in Wales**

This report is also available in Welsh.

About Isle of Anglesey County Council

Isle of Anglesey County Council has a total population of approximately 70,000. The local authority maintains 45 mainstream schools. There are 40 primary schools and five secondary schools. The local authority also maintains one special school. The chief executive took office in March 2022 and the Director for Education, Skills and Young People was appointed in September 2019. The leader of the council has been in the role since 2017 and the main portfolio holder for learning services took office in May 2022. The local authority's last inspection was conducted in 2012. Isle of Anglesey County Council is one of six local authorities in the GwE regional consortium supporting its improvement to schools. In 2021-2022, the Council's net education budget is approximately £69,500,000. The delegated school budget per pupil in 2021-2022 is £5,022, which is higher than the average in Wales. Inspectors consider a wide range of information about the local population when evaluating the outcomes and quality of education services. They consider this information alongside information about the national population. Here is some of the most useful information about children and young people on the Isle of Anglesey:

- Over a three-year average, 17% of pupils aged 5 to 15 are eligible for free school meals, which is lower than the average in Wales of 20%
- 45% of pupils aged 5 and over are fluent in the Welsh language, which is higher than the average in Wales of 16%
- 4% of pupils aged 5 and over are from ethnic minorities, which is lower than the average in Wales of 12%
- 23% of pupils have special educational needs (SEN), which is higher than the average in Wales of 20%. (Please note that this data is from January 2021, before changes were made to the way in which SEN provision is allocated)
- 121 children per 10,000 were looked after by the local authority in 2021

Summary

The robust quality and effectiveness of the Learning Service leaders within Isle of Anglesey authority contribute very effectively towards ensuring high quality education services. They set high expectations, lead teams effectively and co-operate well to drive strategic priorities. They have developed the 'Team Môn' ethos and mindset where everyone's co-operation and contribution are valued, nurtured and used for the benefit of the island's children and young people.

The way in which the authority's leaders, officers and different departments consider the long term and work very closely with schools and external partners and each other is a strong feature. This contributes significantly to evident improvements in provision, for example in ensuring integrated experiences for learners at risk of disengagement; support for vulnerable learners; establishing hubs in schools and improving practitioners' understanding of the impact of trauma and adverse childhood experiences on pupils' achievement and well-being.

Education is a high priority for the Council. There is a clear vision in terms of improving the quality of education, and education budgets have been protected from cuts compared with other departments within the authority. Leaders and teams within the Learning Service have a sound understanding of what they need to achieve. Through open, regular and thorough self-evaluation processes, they have a good understanding of the education provision and identify sensibly the strengths and areas for improvement. However, there is room to strengthen the authority's use of this information in order to evaluate the effect of some of their activities.

Leaders, including elected members, are prepared to make difficult and timely decisions by changing and refining plans and priorities as circumstances require. For example, when making decisions about school modernisation or when responding to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis. Scrutiny arrangements are in place; however, there is room to strengthen these in order to offer better identification of, and public accountability for, the effectiveness of education provision.

The beneficial co-operation that exists between the authority and the North Wales school effectiveness and improvement service (GwE) contributes well to ensuring that they have a robust understanding of schools' needs. Together, they provide good support for Anglesey schools to improve the quality of teaching and leadership.

The work to strengthen Welsh-medium provision is ongoing, with a number of elements, such as support for latecomers, representing good practice within the authority.

Recommendations

R1 Strengthen processes for evaluating the effect of the Learning Service's work

R2 Develop and strengthen formal scrutiny arrangements

What happens next

Following publication of the inspection report, the local authority should update its plans in order to address the recommendations and consider the shortcomings identified by the inspection process. The local authority should update its plans within three months of publication of the inspection report.

Estyn will invite the provider to prepare case studies linked to its coordinated work to protect and improve the well-being of learners and in terms of their work to strengthen the Welsh language. These will be disseminated on Estyn's website.

Main findings

Outcomes

We cannot provide a full evaluation of outcomes. This is due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to the suspension of inspections of schools and most other education providers since March 2020. It is also due to the lack of data on outcomes that can be compared over time, since the pandemic changed the way in which qualifications were awarded, and affected most of the other data we consider when making evaluations, such as school attendance, school exclusions and the destinations of post-16 learners.

Any evaluations that follow provide context by reporting on outcomes before the pandemic or relate to more recent outcomes where the evidence base is valid and reliable.

Between September 2017 and March 2020, we inspected one secondary school, where we judged that standards were good. Over the same period, we inspected 16 primary schools, in which we judged that standards were good in 12 of them, excellent in two schools and adequate in two. One of those schools was placed in the statutory follow-up category and three were placed in the follow-up category review by Estyn. These schools managed to improve, and no longer require follow-up activity. We also inspected 12 non-maintained settings, in which we judged that standards were good in most of them. Three settings required monitoring by Estyn, but following appropriate progress, they are no longer in a category.

Overall standards at the end of key stage 4 in the three years before the pandemic were variable. Outcomes for Anglesey secondary pupils in a minority of schools were in line with expectations, but were below expectations in a few of the schools.

The performance of pupils eligible for free school meals over this period was generally higher than the national average. Overall, the rate of pupils achieving 5 A/A* grades or equivalent was lower than the national average.

The judgement on well-being and attitudes to learning was good or better in most inspections and settings in Anglesey during the latest inspection cycle since September 2017. Of the 17 schools inspected between 2017 and 2020, well-being and attitudes to learning were found to be good or better in almost all. Over the same period, attendance rates in Anglesey schools were similar to the national rates.

Children and young people within the authority have benefited greatly from the provision to support and promote their well-being during the period of the pandemic. The authority's current senior leadership team was established during the early stages of the pandemic at the beginning of 2020, and the Director of Education had been in office for just a few months. The team succeeded in maintaining services throughout the lockdown periods, providing effective support to help the well-being of Anglesey's children and young people. Detailed attention was also given to maintaining the well-being of the workforce.

Through co-operation between the Learning Services, the family support service and the youth service, the authority's staff have supported and promoted the well-being of children and young people successfully through a range of valuable activities and events. Pupils have benefited from regular engagement with youth officers established in their schools. A significant number of pupils benefited from enjoyable physical activities during the summer holidays that were aimed at promoting their awareness of keeping fit and healthy eating.

There is a wide range of opportunities for pupils to contribute to corporate decisions. For example, they have contributed to a 'have your say' survey, discussing their experience of living in Anglesey, and referring to aspects such as their employment hopes for the future. Representatives from among the island's pupils are taking part in research work to adapt and agree on menus for the revised catering service for schools.

Education services

Under Inspection Area 2, Estyn sets local inspection questions that are relevant to each local authority. Local inspection questions focus on education services that relate to the local authority's current strategic priorities or derive from information that Estyn has about education services in the local authority.

How well do the local authority and the regional service support schools to improve the quality of teaching and leadership?

Isle of Anglesey local authority has a close and productive working relationship with the North Wales regional schools effectiveness and improvement service (GwE). As partners, they have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities in school improvement processes. Over an extended period, there is a stable situation in terms of regional service staff working with the authority and its schools. This contributes to their thorough identification of schools' needs. There is a sense that everyone contributes to the work of 'Team Môn' and there is purposeful co-operation in order to ensure valuable support and appropriate challenge for schools. The local authority has worked closely with the region to provide valuable training and opportunities for school staff to develop their leadership skills. In addition, the work of supporting secondary schools and primary catchment areas to develop teaching is developing appropriately following the period of the pandemic.

During lockdown periods, co-operation between the local authority and the region contributed beneficially to providing training and resources to help schools to respond to the need to support pupils' well-being and provide virtual teaching. Improvement support advisers were in regular contact with school leaders and this strengthened the relationship between them. As schools returned to teaching pupils face-to-face, the region and the authority provided valuable support for schools to develop their provision in support of basic skills and pupils' well-being. Following the easing of pandemic restrictions, improvement support advisers use school visits beneficially to identify their support and training needs.

The region provides a comprehensive professional learning programme including support from advisers who specialise in core or key stage subjects. GwE facilitates co-operation beneficially between clusters of schools in order to develop teaching.

For example, work between primary schools to develop provision for improving pupils' oracy skills. In addition, the local authority works beneficially in partnership with GwE to offer specific services and training in response to the needs of individual schools and their priorities. For example, the early years team and the language centres team co-operate effectively with schools to support the common priority of Anglesey schools in developing the Welsh language and supporting newcomers to the language. Staff from these teams visit schools to train teachers and teaching assistants and model the use of immersion strategies in teaching. The authority recognises the need to evaluate more incisively the quality and effect of professional learning provision on pupils' outcomes.

The region and authority provide valuable opportunities for teachers and leaders to co-operate in networks including primary catchment areas and an alliance of secondary schools. This supports schools beneficially to respond to national priorities such as the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 and the Curriculum for Wales. The region and the local authority encourage schools to be learning organisations that take responsibility for their own improvement by researching and co-operating on common priorities. They facilitate valuable opportunities for schools to take increasing ownership and accountability for each other's improvement journey. For example, the secondary alliance has recently been co-operating to develop aspects of inclusion and attitudes to learning in response to a common priority following the pandemic. In facilitating this work, the supporting improvement advisers and school leaders model good practice and are beginning to validate schools' processes and findings. This supports schools to plan for improvement, but it is too early to measure the effect of this initiative on pupils' well-being and progress.

GwE offers a comprehensive range of development programmes for leaders including National Leadership Programme courses. The local authority and Anglesey schools place a clear priority on ensuring that staff attend these programmes to develop their leadership skills in order to ensure succession. The authority's CAMU group, a strategic group of secondary school leaders, which has been established for a number of years, has a positive effect on the quality of leadership. For example, individuals are given valuable opportunities to shadow experienced leaders and to lead specific networks or areas. The authority offers an appropriate programme of training for governors in order to support them in their role as a critical friend.

The authority's Education Quality Standards Board holds the region to account for its work in an appropriate manner. Multi-agency groups of senior officers, lead officers from relevant services and GwE staff meet regularly to share information and evidence about Anglesey's schools. This useful process allows the authority to identify schools that may cause concern and those with good practice that is worth sharing further. Thresholds and triggers are used to harmonise the procedure for identifying concerns in relation to standards, learning and teaching, assessment, leadership, inclusion, and management issues.

How effective is the local authority's provision for supporting vulnerable learners at risk of becoming disengaged?

Strong co-operation between different departments and agencies in seeking to provide a single integrated experience of support for learners at risk of becoming

disengaged, and their families, is a strong feature of the authority's work. The Learning Service co-operates productively with partners including social services and youth services to respond to the needs of vulnerable learners but also in order to work proactively to prevent problems.

The principle of preventative work is at the core of the authority's work. A clear aspect of this principle is the work to raise awareness of the impact of trauma on children and young people. All Learning Services' staff, staff in all schools on the island, and staff in other departments, such as children's services, have had access to purposeful training so that they understand what trauma is and its effect on children and young people. Another aspect of this preventative work is the 'Early Help Hub' which includes approximately 20 different agencies. They work together and plan together to support vulnerable learners and their families and to put strategies in place to tackle problems at an early stage.

There is a wide range of strategies, provision and panels to support vulnerable learners. These include welfare officers, a behaviour support service, provision to promote the emotional well-being of learners and the 'Stepping Up' course which helps vulnerable learners to progress between different stages in their educational life and into employment. It also currently includes the 'TRAC' programme, which supports pupils that are at risk of disengagement, but this programme is about to end, leaving a gap in provision. The authority has recognised the need for a clearer, more cohesive strategy for the work of supporting vulnerable learners, and this is part of the job description for a new manager who will have responsibility for youth services, children in care, and the well-being of children and young people.

The work of the youth service is a notable aspect of the support for vulnerable learners. There is a youth officer in every secondary school on the island. They offer a drop-in service for learners, support the school's personal and social education provision, and run youth clubs and evening activities in the community. A lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT+) group has been established by youth officers in each secondary school. The service also offers opportunities for learners at risk of disengagement to gain qualifications and experiences, such as employment preparation courses and the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The authority's officers collect a range of useful data about vulnerable learners. This includes attendance data, de-registrations and exclusions. They also collect information about pupils with individual development plans and track their progress appropriately against their targets. The authority has also formalised the process of identifying vulnerable learners at risk of disengagement by ensuring that their provision goes through the same process as the one for learners with additional learning needs. The current system for collecting and monitoring all this useful information is not sufficiently cohesive.

Learning Service officers have responded robustly and promptly to concerns about the number of exclusions over time and the number of pupils who do not continue in education in their schools until the end of key stage 4. They re-examined their arrangements for these vulnerable learners and worked with secondary schools and the children's service to put new arrangements in place. They are in the process of establishing a hub in every secondary school, which will enable learners to receive purposeful provision in the hub and provision within the mainstream, where

appropriate. In order to provide more complete support for these learners and their families, the hubs are staffed by teachers and staff from the children and families service who can work during evenings and at weekends. Since these hubs are a recent development, it is too early to evaluate their effect.

Leaders conduct continuous scrutiny on arrangements for pupils who receive their education outside the county. They work practically to ensure suitable provision within the local area, by opening children's homes. Where appropriate, they train the workforce within local schools to be able to re-admit pupils to continue their education within their communities.

How effective is the local authority's provision for promoting the well-being of all children and young people?

Senior leaders in the Learning Service place great emphasis on promoting the well-being of the island's children and young people. They co-operate closely and successfully with different departments within the authority. This facilitates the work of ensuring manageable and effective provision. A notable example of this is the co-operation between the senior well-being officer of the Learning Service and the head of the children and family services department, who also has responsibility for leading the social services department within the authority. The arrangements ensure that services within their departments operate smoothly and without any boundaries.

Leaders consult regularly with schools and settings in order to be able to adapt provision as necessary. For example, as a result of identifying the need to support elements of personal and social education more effectively, the healthy schools service organised training for youth workers so that they can offer elements of sex and relationships education in schools.

In co-operation with the children and families service, officers operate an 'Early Intervention Hub'. The Hub allows different agencies to work together to discuss and offer different options for supporting pupils. For example, they work together closely to develop and implement a cross-county strategy for responding actively to concerns about domestic violence.

The early years advisory team delivers a wide range of training that facilitates preparations in non-maintained settings for delivering the curriculum. They have delivered training focused on child development, and how to adapt planning methods so that they respond better to the interests and needs of the youngest children. A useful website has been set up to share information and provide guidance to practitioners on aspects of child development, including well-being.

The work of the Family Support Team contributes to the successful promotion of child development and well-being. An example of the effect of their work is the 'Taith i Saith' scheme which outlines the authority's plans for promoting the development and well-being of the youngest children. The authority offers a rich range of activities to promote health and well-being, including during school holidays. For example, they provide 'food and fun' activities to promote awareness among children and their families of the importance of taking part in physical activities and emphasising the importance of healthy eating. The authority recognises the important role of the youth service in maintaining the well-being of children and young people. During pandemic

lockdown periods, they used their close and supportive relationship with pupils and their families to give them additional beneficial support.

Leaders have established an extremely robust vision for developing the awareness of practitioners at all levels of the importance of being trauma-informed, and the impact of trauma on children and young people. Officers have worked very diligently to coordinate training at several levels for teachers and assistants in schools and settings. This succeeds in equipping them to be aware of the impact of adverse experiences on the development, self-image and confidence of individuals. There is effective interweaving with the work of educational psychologists within the authority's additional learning needs and inclusion service, since professional development of the workforce has built the capacity for schools to respond effectively to pupils' needs.

How effective is the local authority's approach towards modernising schools, including strengthening Welsh-medium provision?

There is a clear vision on the reorganisation and modernisation of schools, based on ensuring that schools are suitable for the 21st century and making the best use of modern technology. Prominent attention is given to developing provision for Welsh-medium and bilingual education within the modernisation strategy. Some elements of the vision are in place and having a positive effect, for example the expansion of provision of language centres and reducing surplus places in schools. Some aspects of the vision, for example the modernisation of post-16 education on the island, are in their early days.

Leaders and officers across the authority are working together successfully to implement the objectives of the education modernisation strategy. Leaders and officers now use a good range of sources of information, for example about the condition and size of buildings, the linguistic nature of different areas, and the services available to or needed by specific communities. They engage effectively with stakeholders including teachers, governors and parents to ascertain their views on school modernisation plans. This ensures that their voices are considered and offers beneficial opportunities for the authority to adapt its proposals as necessary. A positive feature of these engagement arrangements is the co-operation between the authority and specific groups such as the Anglesey Language Forum, Mudiad Meithrin and Flying Start, to ensure that provision matches the area's requirements. This work helps the authority to fulfil its aspiration of ensuring that schools are an integral part of their communities and help to meet local needs.

The authority has invested in a range of capital projects during the first stages of the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools programme. They are making good progress in ensuring suitable schools of the appropriate type in the appropriate locations to meet learners' needs. They have built three new schools, updated and extended two schools, and closed 11 schools. Although this has reduced the number of surplus places in schools across the county, the percentage remains relatively high in the secondary sector. The authority has appropriate plans to address this in the near future, although the timetable for the introduction of this programme has been delayed somewhat due to the pandemic.

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2022-32 interweaves appropriately with the vision, aims and objectives of the modernisation programme. There has been joint preparation for the plan with partners, local authority departments, schools and settings and also partners on a wider scale such as the regional consortium and Bangor University. There is a strong emphasis on offering beneficial opportunities for the children and young people of Anglesey to achieve the highest standards in order to maintain the Welsh language, culture and the economy in the area. The WESP includes an ambitious aspiration in terms of ensuring that all pupils are bilingual by the age of 16. The WESP builds successfully on existing good practice, such as the useful support available to latecomers through Welsh language immersion centres. Although this support is not directly available to secondary school pupils at present, leaders have recently made use of additional funding to support participating pupils in Years 7 and 8. The language centres also offer beneficial opportunities for teachers and practitioners to develop their linguistic skills and awareness of language immersion methods in their schools and settings. The use of digital technology together with close co-operation within and beyond the county is a notable element of the authority's work in terms of developing the Welsh language and bilingualism. For example, leaders co-operate successfully with the regional consortium and Bangor University to create digital resources and to support the development of pupils' oracy skills through an innovative project.

Leadership and management

The authority's Learning Service has taken great steps in the last three years under the leadership of a very effective director and management team. They have developed the ethos and mindset of 'Team Môn' where everyone's co-operation and contribution are valued, nurtured and implemented for the benefit of the island's children and young people. The director provides the Service with energetic and purposeful leadership and vision.

The Council leader is passionate about improving the quality of education and life for the island's residents and has a clear vision for doing so. She is prepared to take responsibility for difficult decisions and has a firm grasp of the Council's work across services.

The Chief Executive, although new to the role, was instrumental in guiding the vision in his previous role, and provides stability, continuity and a strong understanding of the challenges facing the island. The aim of developing a 'learning island with learning communities' is clear in the relevant strategic plans. That vision has been developed through informal and formal engagement at different levels across the Council and with partners. The quality of the Council's governance has developed effectively in recent times and relationships and the culture are now much more positive and mature.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, education leaders were energetic and effective in supporting schools. The local authority's supportive work during the pandemic has strengthened relationships with its learning communities and this has been beneficial in terms of building trust and confidence among stakeholders. Better engagement with partners has opened up opportunities to discuss and gather opinions on sensitive issues, for example on the reorganisation of schools in the Llangefni area, with discussions leading to a different proposal from the one put forward initially. The

authority's officers have a strong belief in developing relationships and building bridges where there is dispute.

The Learning Service co-operates effectively with a number of partners, for example GwE (the North Wales school effectiveness and improvement service). The relationship is robust and benefits from established staff who know the authority's schools well.

At their best, the Council's formal scrutiny processes are appropriate, and elected members are seen to own the reports and respond confidently to questioning. The Schools Progress Review Panel provides an informal scrutiny procedure in which representatives from specific schools are invited to present information, which often leads to purposeful inquiry in order to identify strengths and areas for development. School leaders are invited back if necessary, and purposeful visits are made to schools in order to reinforce the panel's understanding. There is good quality support for the panel, which focuses on developing the understanding of elected members, and members have opportunities to contribute to evaluation sessions on the panel's work and identifying further areas for focus. Since the pandemic, they have examined areas such as well-being, the Welsh language and distance learning. There is an opportunity to raise key issues with officers and service providers and to approve key issues to be presented in member briefing sessions.

Reports on the work of the Schools Progress Review Panel are presented to the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee. However, there are currently few opportunities for specific, formal and public scrutiny of the effectiveness of the work of education provision. In line with the desire for continuous improvement, the Council has recognised the need to strengthen and improve the scrutiny process with the intention of focusing on standards, quality of provision and leadership in education.

There is a strong corporate commitment to open, regular and thorough self-evaluation to support planning for improvement. This includes a decisive focus on evaluating the strategic priorities of the Learning Service. Leaders have a good understanding of education provision and recognise strengths and areas for improvement. The Learning Service's own evaluation of progress against its priorities is in line with most of the findings of this inspection, and plans and projects are ready to begin on many aspects where improvement is needed.

Overall, the authority engages well with stakeholders in steering, evaluating and planning education services. They have strengthened methods whereby stakeholders, especially those with links to schools such as governors and headteachers, can contribute their opinions. One of the authority's strengths is the way in which headteachers are included in various forums in order to ascertain their opinions, and to influence, shape and plan new provision, for example creating focused microsites for sharing information more efficiently following the pandemic. Although the learning service prioritised the strengthening of communication methods with stakeholders within their improvement plans last year, some parents have identified a lack of opportunities to convey their views in order to influence certain elements of provision.

Since the previous inspection by Estyn in 2012, there has been definite progress in the way in which the authority plans strategically for improvement. There is a strong culture of planning services which correspond well to the Well-being of Future Generations Act. By thinking about the long term and working effectively with people and partners, the authority continues to strengthen the way it works as an organisation on a day-to-day basis. Leaders tailor provision sensibly, such as officers' duties and new appointments, and as the authority's different departments work much more smoothly and efficiently together. This contributes well towards, for example, the authority's ability to work co-operatively to maintain and improve the well-being of the island's residents, including children and young people.

Following local elections a few weeks before the inspection, the Council's leader and senior officers are embarking on drawing up new objectives for the Council for the period from 2022 to 2027. The previous Council had a good reputation for putting sensible objectives in place and implementing them between 2017 and 2022. This includes decisive action by leaders in tailoring corporate plans to deliver a rapid response to the challenges of the pandemic. A transitional plan was put in place with a clear focus, for example, on maintaining well-being and ensuring that nearly all pupils completed their secondary school education up to the end of Year 11.

On the whole, there is clear consistency and coherence between the Council's 2017-2022 plan and the Learning Service's plans. Although tackling deprivation and poverty is a clear priority for the Council and the Learning Service, plans by the authority, such as the Anti-Poverty Strategy, do not highlight clearly enough the Learning Service's contribution to this work in order to evaluate the impact of provision.

Leaders and teams within the Learning Service have a sound understanding of what they need to achieve. The service improvement plan identifies relevant key priorities, including delivering strong support to sustain the emotional and mental well-being of children and young people. In addition, the archive service and Oriel Môn have specific objectives for action to support learning and the new curriculum in schools. Each priority has relevant progress indicators and clear steps for improvement, although there is room for some of these to be more measurable.

Performance management arrangements are robust. There is a range of processes in place throughout the year which ensure that education services are, for the most part, monitored carefully. The authority is aware of the need to tailor a number of performance indicators that were delayed due to the pandemic or where national data is no longer reported. The authority manages risks that affect education services well and escalates them to the corporate risk register if necessary.

The authority gives purposeful attention to promoting professional learning for its staff through a corporate training and development plan. Staff receive beneficial opportunities to discuss their personal professional learning needs at regular meetings with line managers and performance management reviews. This leads to professional learning opportunities such as attending courses, regional and national networks, and undertaking accredited courses. The authority gives careful consideration to succession within the service. Staff have beneficial mentoring and shadowing opportunities that are aimed at co-operation and developing their expertise. In addition, staff receive valuable opportunities to attend leadership

courses and to take responsibility for leading cross-departmental projects in order to develop their leadership skills and experience. Although there is a wide-ranging professional learning offer, leaders do not always consider the effect of professional learning on improving the quality of Learning Service provision.

The Learning Service conveys a strong culture of safeguarding and sets firm and high expectations across the workforce. At a strategic and operational level, the service has built productive and effective working relationships with all the services working with children and families across the Council. In addition, through sensible restructuring, the Learning Service's contribution to safeguarding the island's children and young people has strengthened over time.

The corporate safeguarding policy gives clear guidance to schools and settings on the implementation of their duties to protect pupils' well-being. A senior education officer operates as a designated safeguarding officer and the effect of her strategic and operational work on a wide range of the authority's procedures is notable. The officer chairs the Corporate Safeguarding Delivery Board. This means that education has a prominent voice in the Council's decisions regarding its strategy on protecting children and young people.

Safe employment arrangements are robust and clear, and Learning Service officers carry out an annual audit of staff appointment arrangements to ensure that safe recruitment procedures are followed. In addition, there are robust arrangements for monitoring school safeguarding processes through the scrutiny of annual safeguarding reports to governing bodies. These arrangements ensure that the authority has up-to-date information about safeguarding processes in schools and can submit detailed reports on these to the Corporate Safeguarding Panel.

Coherent leadership has resulted in a strong link between corporate priorities on well-being and the practical and preventative work undertaken in non-maintained settings and schools across the authority. For example, the corporate strategy of providing training to improve practitioners' understanding of the impact of trauma and adverse childhood experiences on pupils' achievement and well-being has a positive effect on the quality of provision. The Learning Service has invested significantly in strengthening safeguarding provision in all schools and settings by creating 'Safeguarding Champions' in each catchment area. Over the past three years, the work of the Safeguarding Champions has had a positive effect on the quality of child protection and safeguarding work. For example, the Champions group discusses and co-ordinates beneficial preventative work and considers and responds to relevant research when planning their well-being curriculum.

The Learning Service plays a leading role in local and national preventative work. For example, a few primary and secondary schools in Anglesey were part of a national pilot scheme to develop resources on the theme of hate crimes. In addition, the authority is part of a national task and finish group working on updating the relationships and sexuality policy to match new requirements within the Curriculum for Wales. Recently, the service contributed to important work on reviewing the Home Office's Prevent training resource.

The authority has a good understanding of its financial position within the Learning Service. Since 2018-19, the authority has increased its education budget from a low

starting point to a level that is closer to expectations. Its net education budget per pupil is in the highest quartile of Welsh authorities. The authority has funded school staff salary settlements in full, and education budgets have been protected from cuts compared to other departments within the authority. Following an overspend situation in 2018-19, learning services have been provided within budget over the past three years.

The authority is aware of current financial risks and those on the horizon. They recognise that it will be necessary to respond to increasing challenges, including potential increases in costs relating to staff, heating and electricity, transport, and repair and renewal. While there have been small changes to the school funding formula, it has not been fully revised since 2007, and there is an opportunity for the authority to assure itself that the formula remains appropriate, given the changes in the provision of education services.

School balances, as in other authorities, have increased significantly from £198k in 2019-20 to £7.9 million at the end of 2021-22. In 2019-20, 10 of the authority's 46 schools had a financial deficit, however, by 2020-21 many of these had a surplus. Plans are underway to address the three schools in deficit in 2021-22. The authority has received plans from schools indicating how they will use the additional balances and it is recognised that some plans need to be strengthened.

The authority and the schools budget forum engage effectively, openly and constructively with key issues affecting school funding and services provided by the authority to schools. School leaders appreciate the support they receive from the authority's finance and human resources team.

Almost all schools make use of a range of service level agreements that are available. The arrangements for placing and managing education contracts have been strengthened over the past three years, and it is intended to review them regularly, and also to seek opportunities to support schools with new purchasing. The authority is developing evaluation processes both for services commissioned externally and those provided internally, in order to provide assurance about their effectiveness.

Evidence base of the report

Before the inspection, inspectors:

- consulted the local authority on the local inspection questions to be used during the inspection, based on the authority's self-evaluation, strategic plans and relevant data held by Estyn
- analysed the outcomes from open questionnaires, including the views of learners, parents, school staff and governors, local authority staff, regional consortium staff, elected members and general public
- carried out a preliminary visit to the local authority to meet with a range of relevant partners to education services, such as learner representatives, headteachers and governors, and leaders from statutory and third sector agencies working with children and young people

During the inspection, inspectors:

- met with the leader of the council, elected members responsible for education services, elected members responsible for the scrutiny of education services, the chief executive, the director of education, other leaders and managers in education services, other relevant staff in the local authority, the managing director of the regional consortium for school improvement and other relevant staff from the regional consortium
- looked closely at the local authority's self-evaluation processes
- considered the local authority's strategic and operational plans for improvement
- scrutinised a variety of documents, including information on learner outcomes, information on the performance of schools and other education settings, including information from the regional consortium for school improvement, minutes from a range of meetings, reports presented to council or scrutiny, information relating to the safeguarding of learners and other information relevant to the local authority's education services held by Estyn

After the on-site inspection and before the publication of the report, Estyn:

- reviewed the findings of the inspection alongside the supporting evidence from the inspection team in order to validate, standardise and ensure the quality of the inspection
- provided a draft copy of the report for the local authority to note any concerns with factual accuracy, and made amendments where necessary

Copies of the report

Copies of this report are available from the local authority and from the Estyn website (www.estyn.gov.wales)

The report was produced in accordance with Section 38 of the Education Act 1997, the Children Act 2004 and the Learning and Skills Act 2000.

Every possible care has been taken to ensure that the information in this document is accurate at the time of publication. Any enquiries or comments regarding this document/publication should be addressed to:

Publications Section

Estyn

Anchor Court, Keen Road

Cardiff

CF24 5JW or by email to publications@estyn.gov.wales

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Publication date: 22/07/2022

Estyn Inspection Report – Isle of Anglesey County Council

Draft post inspection plan

Recommendation 1 - *Strengthen processes for evaluating the effect of the Learning Service's work*

The authority gives purposeful attention to promoting professional learning for its staff through a corporate training and development plan. Staff receive beneficial opportunities to discuss their personal professional learning needs at regular meetings with line managers and performance management reviews. This leads to professional learning opportunities such as attending courses, regional and national networks, and undertaking accredited courses. The authority gives careful consideration to succession within the service. Staff have beneficial mentoring and shadowing opportunities that are aimed at co-operation and developing their expertise. In addition, staff receive valuable opportunities to attend leadership courses and to take responsibility for leading cross-departmental projects in order to develop their leadership skills and experience. Although there is a wide-ranging professional learning offer, leaders do not always consider the effect of professional learning on improving the quality of Learning Service provision, nor the effect on outcomes for learners.

| Outcome | Action | Responsible Officer | Start Date | Date of Completion | Resources | Monitoring Status |
|--|--|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Robust processes for evaluating the effect of the Learning Service's work are operational | Identify needs and priorities for the service by engaging with stakeholders. | AffJ | September 2022 | November 2022 | Time | |
| | Create a training/professional development plan that aligns with the service's needs and priorities. | AffJ | November 2022 | January 2023 | Time and Human Resources input | |

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--|
| | Identify what central staff needs to attend what training during the annual appraisals. | UDA | February 2023 | February 2023 | | |
| | Approve the process/model for considering the effect of the professional learning. | UDA | February 2023 | February 2023 | | |
| | Identify and develop systems/materials/arrangements to implement the model. | AFfJ | March 2023 | March 2023 | Time of Business Team staff | |
| | Provide training for line managers and key individuals from outside the service, on the new review model. | AFfJ | March 2023 | March 2023 | | |
| | Use the systems/materials/arrangements to review the training. | UDA | April 2023 | January 2024 | SLT time | |
| | Review the model's suitability and effectiveness against the service's priorities and needs. | AFfJ | January 2024 | January 2024 | | |

| Outcome | Action | Responsible Officer | Start Date | Date of Completion | Resources | Monitoring Status |
|--|---|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Evaluate the effect of the Learning | Collaborate with consortia to identify effective methods of evaluating the quality and effect of professional learning on pupil outcomes. | ACE/OTD | September 2022 | July 2023 | | |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------|----------------|------------|--|--|
| Service's work on learners | Use the BAS meetings and the Business Plan to evaluate and challenge the quality and impact of professional learning on pupil outcomes. | ACE/AFfJ | December 2022 | July 2023 | | |
| | Collaborate with the Looked After Children Education, Youth and Wellbeing of Children and Young People Service Manager to create a more coherent strategy for the work of supporting vulnerable learners. | ACE/ShW | September 2022 | July 2023 | | |
| | Review and improve the system of gathering and monitoring information about vulnerable learners (de-registration, exclusions, attendance) to be more coherent. | ShW/GMH | December 2022 | July 2023 | | |
| | Establish a governing board for inclusion hubs to evaluate the effect of this intervention on vulnerable pupils, with the secondary schools contributing reports on the work. The board will report to the BAS and the Education Scrutiny Panel. | ACE/FEE | September 2022 | July 2023 | | |
| | Ensure that the Learning Service's Service Delivery Plan (SDP) considers the Council's strategies. | AFfJ | September 2022 | April 2023 | | |
| | Quarterly reports include information regarding contributions and the effect of the service's work on the Council's strategies. | AFfJ | September 2022 | April 2023 | | |

Recommendation 2 – Develop and strengthen formal scrutiny arrangements

Context from Estyn Inspection

Reports on the work of the Schools Progress Review Panel are presented to the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee. However, there are currently few opportunities for specific, formal and public scrutiny of the effectiveness of the work of education provision. In line with the desire for continuous improvement, the Council has recognised the need to strengthen and improve the scrutiny process with the intention of focusing on standards, quality of provision and leadership in education.

| Outcome | Action | Responsible Officer | Start Date | Date of Completion | Resources | Monitoring Status |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Robust scrutiny process in place to scrutinise the Learning Service's work. | Review the current process and establish a new scrutiny process | AD/ RHH | July 2022 | September 2022 | | |
| | Decide on membership for the scrutiny meetings and committees. | Elected Members | July 2022 | July 2022 | | |
| | Create terms of reference and confirm the purpose and frequency of meetings and committees. | AD | July 2022 | July 2022 | | |
| | Engage and agree on a work programme for the scrutiny panel | RHH/MBH and members of scrutiny panel | July 2022 | October 2022 | | |
| | Ensure that a forward programme is in place, with the input of the Learning Service's and Children's Services SLT and authorised by the Council's Leadership Team. | AD/MBH | July 2022 | October 2022 | | |
| | Ensure a process is in place that strengthens the ability of Elected Members to maximize, prioritise and then publicly scrutinise items of strategic importance in Education | AD/MBH | July 2022 | October 2022 | | |

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL
Scrutiny Report Template

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Committee: | Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee |
| Date: | 18 October 2022 |
| Subject: | Arfor Programme |
| Purpose of Report: | Review the delivery of the first Arfor phase on Anglesey and the proposal to deliver a second phase |
| Scrutiny Chair: | Cllr Dylan Rees |
| Portfolio Holder(s): | Cllr Carwyn Jones |
| Head of Service: | Christian Branch, Head of Regulation and Economic Development |
| Report Author: | Dewi G Lloyd, Regeneration Manager |
| Tel: | 01248 752483 |
| Email: | dewilloyd@ynysmon.gov.uk |
| Local Members: | Relevant to all members |

1 - Recommendation/s

The Committee is requested to:

R1 Review the delivery of the first phase of the Arfor Programme on Anglesey in 2019/20 and 2020/21

R2 Review the proposal to deliver a second phase up to March 2025

2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities

Delivery of the ARFOR programme is a specific sub-objective in the new Council Plan. It also contributes to other Council strategies and policies relating to supporting the economy, businesses and Welsh language.

3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members

To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-

3.1 Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [focus on customer/citizen]

3.2 A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [focus on value]

3.3 A look at any risks [focus on risk]

3.4 Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [focus on performance & quality]

3.5 Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:

- Long term
- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Involvement

[focus on wellbeing]

3.6 The potential impacts the decision would have on:

- protected groups under the Equality Act 2010
- those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (when making strategic decisions)
- opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

[focus on equality and the Welsh language]

4 - Key Scrutiny Questions

- 1) To what extent was the first phase of the Arfor Programme successfully planned and delivered on Anglesey?
- 2) In what ways are the proposals to deliver a second phase of the Programme suitable and appropriate?

5 – Background / Context

ARFOR 1 PROGRAMME (2019-21)

£2M in revenue funding was provided by the Welsh Government’s Economy Department in 2019/20 and 2020/21 to Gwynedd, Anglesey, Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire County Councils “*to pilot different approaches and projects which promote entrepreneurship, business growth and community resilience with a focus on promoting the use of the Welsh language... to facilitate new and innovative method to supporting economic development in the region.*”. Four targets were set by the Welsh Government – two relating to business / jobs and two relating to the Welsh language.

| | Targets set by the Welsh Government in the Offer Letter |
|---|--|
| 1 | Promote enterprise and support business growth in areas where there is a high percentage of Welsh speakers |
| 2 | Secure better and better paid jobs to retain local people in these areas and encourage those who have left to return |
| 3 | Promote the value of speaking Welsh and bilingualism in businesses |
| 4 | Encourage businesses and people who move to rural areas to appreciate and use the Welsh language |

The new programme was reported to the Executive Committee on the 15.07.2022 where it was agreed to support and deliver the Arfor Programme on Anglesey, and to authorise the Head of Regulation and Economic Development to :-

- a) accept the Arfor funding from the Welsh Government via Cyngor Gwynedd and use it for eligible purposes;
- b) work in partnership with Cyngor Gwynedd or other Arfor area councils to deliver the programme;
- c) work in partnership with Menter Mon to deliver the programme;
- d) operate a grants programme from Arfor funds for eligible projects.

On Anglesey, the following were realised with £468k of Arfor revenue funding:-

- Business Grants– advice and grants were given to 22 businesses who wanted to invest and establish or grow a business;
- Language in Business Grants – advice and small grants were given to 48 businesses to make more use of the Welsh language;
- ‘Llwyddo’n Lleol’ 2050 – 14 local young people were supported to test new business ideas with promotion for others to follow suit (jointly with Gwynedd);
- Funded a Welsh language promotion booklet and one specific to businesses, and prompted the creation of a new Welsh language section on the Council's website.

Anglesey also received a further £160k from the Welsh Government at the end of 2020/21 to provide a number of Arfor capital grants.

Gwynedd Council led the wider programme and there were some multi-county projects including some promotion under ‘Bwrlwm Arfor’. Programme governance was through an Arfor Board involving leaders and officers from the four counties, plus an Arfor Officer Group. Business grants were the main expenditure across Wales and on Anglesey, with a secondary focus on helping young people in business. Anglesey was the only county with a specific language use support grant for businesses.

Elements of the work on Anglesey were administered by Menter Mon. There was a grants panel including officers from the County Council, Business Wales, Hwb Menter, and Menter Iaith. Progress was also reported via the service project monitoring structures, and to the Anglesey Language Forum.

For Anglesey, a total of 75 grants were awarded to support: 42 existing businesses, 18 new businesses, 60.5 new jobs, 108.5 existing jobs, 36 new products or services, and £750k+ of private investment. These were the detailed outputs for Anglesey :-

| Measure | No. | Measure | No. |
|--------------------------|---|------------------------|-------|
| Arfor Business Grant | 22 | Work Placements | 8 |
| Arfor Language Grant | 48 | Increased Turnover | 42 |
| Other Arfor Grant | 12 | New Product | 36 |
| Arfor Grants Sum | £551,463 | Premises Upgraded | 36 |
| Total Projects Cost | £1,392,833 | Signage improved | 34 |
| Private Investment Total | £763,219 | Language use increased | 48 |
| Business Expansion | 42 | Language qualification | 5 |
| New Businesses | 18 | Other qualification | 3 |
| Jobs Created | 60.5 | Jobs Safeguarded | 108.5 |
| Other Outputs | Extend community radio coverage, Create TV studio on Anglesey, Extend scope of Wifi/ Lorawan scheme | | |

The implementation phase of the Programme was significantly disrupted by the Covid pandemic. Despite this and the modest budget, the programme evaluation reported that it had made a difference, supporting a significant number of new businesses and jobs, and establishing useful collaboration between the four counties.

ARFOR 2 PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

The Welsh Government has now announced a further £11 million to deliver a second phase of the Arfor Programme until March 2025. The identified annual profile is this : 2022/23: £3M, 2023/24: £4M, 2024/25: £4M.

In April 2022, the ARFOR Board (the Leaders of the four counties) submitted an 'Outline Proposal' for the second phase of the Programme to the Welsh Government setting out the rationale, purpose, strategic objectives and principles for ARFOR 2. The Outline Proposal is shown in Appendix 1. A desire to continue working together on the basis of the four counties was confirmed for the following purpose: "***To support the communities that are Welsh speaking heartlands to thrive through economic interventions that will also contribute to increasing opportunities to see and use the Welsh language on a daily basis.***"

In consultation with Welsh Government officials (Department for Economy and Welsh Language Unit), officials from the four counties have developed proposals for translating the strategic objectives into deliverable projects.

Proposed Main Components of Arfor 2

i) 'Llwyddo'n Lleol' 2050

An evolution of the previous project to support young people to venture within their communities in Gwynedd and Anglesey during the first phase of the ARFOR Programme. The scheme will continue to support young people to venture in business through a combination of advice and financial support but also extend this to supporting young families to stay or return to the area, along with seeking to change the perceptions of target groups about their ability to achieve their aspirations locally. The scheme will be operational across the four counties and will be realised regionally through a commission managed by the lead authority.

ii) Enterprising Communities

Build on the successful business support funds available from the four counties during the first phase the Arfor Programme by providing financial and practical support to commercial, social and community ventures to establish and develop. The activity will focus on initiatives that take advantage of the unique qualities of their communities (including the Welsh language) and/or circulate funds within their area to increase the amount of wealth kept locally. The scheme will be operational across the four counties but realised locally by the individual counties (albeit with an emphasis on co-ordination and harmonisation of provision) with a draft budget of £1.25M per county over the period.

iii) Arfor Challenge Fund

Establish a strategic fund to allow organisations (including the Councils) to secure resources to develop and pilot activities within the ARFOR area that will be contribute to the strategic objectives of the Programme. The Fund will respond to the recommendations of the evaluation of the first phase of the Arfor Programme that a wider range of organisations interested in the field need to be offered the opportunity to contribute, and allow new activity to be commissioned. The scheme will operate across

the four counties and be managed regionally by the lead authority with the input of all counties.

iv) Strengthening the identity of Arfor communities

The scheme will build on previous work to promote good practice and the use of the Welsh language. The work will promote the identity of communities with a high density of Welsh speakers and drive the loyalty of local residents by spreading positive messages about their area and Western Wales as a whole. The scheme will be operational across the four counties and will be realised regionally through a commission managed by the lead authority.

v) Learning from the Arfor Programme

A key aim of the Arfor Programme is to drive collaboration and cascade learning. The monitoring and evaluation of the Arfor results and impact are seen as central to the Programme along with ensuring that structures to share the lessons from the Programme and its activity are put in place from the outset. This will apply across the four counties and will be realised regionally through a commission managed by the lead authority.

Managing the Arfor 2 Programme

The second phase of the ARFOR Programme will continue to be led by a Board comprising the Leaders of the four counties. This will continue be supported by an Officers' Group comprising senior officers representing the four counties, along with representatives from the Welsh Government and the Welsh Local Government Association. The counties of Ynys Môn, Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire have agreed that Gwynedd Council should continue to co-ordinate / lead the programme on behalf of the four counties.

A legal agreement between the counties has already been created for the first phase of the ARFOR Programme, where most of the budget was spent by individual counties. Key differences with the second phase include the increased budget and the intention to jointly commission significant activities and much of the budget via the lead authority. There are potential risks when entering into such regional financial arrangements, but the probability of liabilities arising from these commissions is considered to be low. The new agreement and any joint commissions will need to be carefully reviewed to ensure that the risks are acceptable.

Gwynedd Council will appoint a Regional Manager for the overall programme. The proposal is for each county to be provided with a staffing budget allowing a 0.5 FTE officer for the period. Circa 5% of the county spend total budget was explained as being in line with the staffing cost allowed in other WG programmes, and whilst limited, it exceeds the Council staffing costs allowed under Arfor 1.

Next Steps

The Welsh Government announced the programme publicly on the 10th October 2022, and Cyngor Gwynedd intend to advertise the regional programme manager post; The Welsh Government will send a funding offer letter to Cyngor Gwynedd, and the latter will send an agreement with the offer letter included for the other counties to agree.

Work will take place to establish Anglesey's Enterprising Communities Grant and arrangements and capacity to administer it, with a view to launching the scheme within the current financial year.

There will also be opportunities for Anglesey to benefit from the regional funds, and there will be a role for the Council to ensure that e.g. promoting, identifying opportunities and providing guidance. Ynys Mon is likely to benefit substantially by being part of the new programme and receiving the relevant funding / benefits.

6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]

6.1 Potential impacts on protected groups under the Equality Act 2010

Negative impacts not predicted

6.2 Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (strategic decisions)

Negative impacts not predicted, and there may be positive impacts eg new jobs

6.3 Potential impacts on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

The Programme aims include the creation of positive impacts on the Welsh language

7 – Financial Implications

The Programme is funded by the Welsh Government. As with other grant funded schemes, the work of setting-up, managing, and closing down places some calls on Council staffing resources from within existing budgets.

8 – Appendices:

ARFOR Phase II (2022/23 – 2024/25)

OUTLINE PROPOSAL

[Rationale](#)

Carmarthenshire, Gwynedd, Ceredigion and Anglesey have the vast majority of communities with a high density of Welsh speakers. These communities are key to maintaining the vitality of the Welsh language and its survival as an everyday language.

The four counties' economic challenges – such as low wages, underemployment and a shrinking workforce – are common to many rural and marginalised areas in Wales and beyond; but the impact of these challenges on the Welsh language is unique and far-reaching.

The prosperity of Welsh speaking heartlands relies on more than work and pay, but it can be reasoned that the economy's inability to support residents to achieve their aspirations - and maintain prosperous places - is detrimental.

Purpose

Supporting the communities that are Welsh speaking heartlands to thrive through economic interventions that will also contribute to increasing opportunities to see and use the Welsh language on a daily basis.

Strategic objectives

1. **Create opportunities for young people and families (aged ≤ 35) to stay or return to their indigenous communities** – supporting them to succeed locally by venturing in business or developing a career and securing a livelihood that fulfils their aspirations.
2. **Creating enterprising communities within the ‘Fro Gymraeg’** - by supporting commercial and community enterprises that aim to preserve and increase local wealth while tapping into the unique identity and qualities of their areas.
3. **Maximizing the benefit of activity** through collaboration - by establishing a learning mindset by doing and continuous improvement, learning from activity within individual areas and then extending it, but with tailoring to local circumstances.
4. **Strengthening the identity of communities with a high density of Welsh speakers** – by supporting the use and visibility of the Welsh language, encouraging local loyalty and sense of place, as well as increasing awareness of what is common across the region.

Operating principles

- Collaborate, co-plan and share lessons.
- Increase understanding of the problem and continuously improve, building on what was achieved during the first phase of ARFOR.
- Ensure that evaluation is an integrated part of the programme.
- Add value and complement mainstream activities (linguistic development and economic development) and address gaps in delivery.
- Focus effort on a small number of core themes so that impact can be measured but continue to break new ground and pilot ideas.
- Operate on a four-county basis with a view to lessons for other areas and the scope to extend geographical boundaries in the future.
- Contribute positively to horizontal themes; reducing carbon footprint, skills, innovation and the use of technology.

9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):

Regional website www.rhaglenarfor.cymru

Arfor page on County Council website
www.anglesey.gov.wales/Business/Regeneration/Arfor-at-work

Welsh Government announcement on 10th October 2022
<https://gov.wales/11-million-arfor-2-programme-boost-economic-prosperity-welsh-speaking-communities>

Arfor 1 Programme Evaluation by Wavehill on www.rhaglenarfor.cymru

Anglesey Arfor 1 Programme evaluation by IoACC

| ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template | |
|---|--|
| Committee: | Partnership & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee |
| Date: | 18 October 2022 |
| Subject: | North Wales Council’s Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS) |
| Purpose of Report: | Annual Report 2021/22 |
| Scrutiny Chair: | Councillor Dylan Rees |
| Portfolio Holder(s): | Councillor Llinos Medi Huws |
| Head of Service: | Dylan Williams, Chief Executive |
| Report Author: | Helen Kilgannon, Regional Manager NWC-REPS Helen.Kilgannon@nwc-reps.org.uk Susan Owen Jones, Executive Manager (LT) SusanJones4@anglesey.wales.gov |
| Local Members: | Relevant to all members |

| 1 - Recommendation/s |
|--|
| 1.1 The Committee is asked to note the progress of the North Wales Council’s Regional Emergency Planning Service work 2021/22. |
| |

| 2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities |
|---|
| 2.1 The Council has responsibilities for emergency planning and response under the Civil Contingencies Acts 2004, the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001, and the Pipeline Safety Regulations 1996. |
| 2.2 The Council is a principal responder and meets its obligations by collaborating with the North Wales Local Authorities through the North Wales Councils Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS). |
| 2.3 The North Wales Council’s Regional Emergency Planning Service is required to report annually to this committee each year through an Annual Report. |

| 3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members |
|---|
| To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:- |
| 3.1 Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [focus on customer/citizen] |
| 3.2 A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [focus on value] |
| 3.3 A look at any risks [focus on risk] |

3.4 Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [focus on performance & quality]

3.5 Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:

- Long term
- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Involvement

[focus on wellbeing]

4 - Key Scrutiny Questions

4.1 To what extent did the regional service deliver its functions and key aims for 2021/2022?

4.2 What are the immediate key priorities for the service to support the Council and North Wales?

5 – Background / Context

5.1 The Council has duties for emergency planning and response under the Civil Contingencies Acts 2004, the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001, and the Pipeline Safety Regulations 1996.

5.2 The Council is a principal responder and meets its obligations by collaborating with the North Wales Local Authorities through the North Wales Councils Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS), for which Flintshire County Council is the host authority.

5.3 Following consultation and ratification through the political process in each Local Authority, Emergency Planning functions for all 6 local authorities in North Wales were amalgamated into one service under an inter-authority agreement hosted by Flintshire in 2014.

5.4 Within the Council, responsibilities for emergency planning and response are shared across services and nominated service representatives are identified within the Emergency Management Response Team structure.

5.5 Whilst much progress has been made, work is underway to further consolidate how the activities provided by the service are undertaken, particularly by strengthening performance management and training delivery. This will enable the service to more effectively prioritise areas of work and resource allocation but also ensure that councils benefit fully from the range of expertise held within the service.

Regional Activity

5.6 NWC-REPS provides the primary link between the Council and North Wales Local Resilience Forum (LRF), with contributions from service staff being fundamental to multi-agency groups, events, processes and plans.

5.7 Review and renewal of North Wales 4 x 4 Service Agreement. This is a formal agreement between the six authorities and the 4 x 4 Wales Service and describes the mechanisms to be followed should any authority need support in delivering services. The voluntary service has proved to be an invaluable partner in assisting in severe weather where they have assisted with evacuations during floods and transporting care staff to remote areas not accessible by car following heavy snowfall.

5.8 During the Covid-19 pandemic the service developed a range of E-learning modules to ensure information was available whilst the delivery of formal training was put on hold. A review of the Learning and Development Strategy is now required to identify the needs of the local authority staff. This will include greater NWC-REPS input into the LRF courses to reduce duplication whilst maintaining a Local Authority perspective.

5.9 NWC-REPS continues to provide out-of-hours support to the local authority and blue light services in response to queries and incidents 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. To test responses within local authorities NWC-REPS carry out Exercise Cooper quarterly to test both the contact details we hold and the out-of-hours availability of key staff.

5.10 The host Authority, Flintshire has recently purchased the in-phase performance management system and the service has obtained a licence to be able to use the system. This will allow the Manager and Senior Emergency Planning Officer increased oversight into the progress of work streams and provide improved reporting to the Executive Board and Local Authorities.

A report on progress to date with the system was presented to the Executive Board in August 2022 and this will be implemented in the service in November 2022.

Activity within the Council

5.11 The Emergency Management Response Team (EMRT) structure within the Council facilitates the coordination of incidents with Business Continuity implications for the authority. EMRT will coordinate the response on behalf of the Council to any multi-agency incidents.

5.12 The EMRT provides a robust mechanism for the delivery of planning and response functions. Teams meet regularly to review arrangements in place and identify future activities. Oversight is provided via the Leadership Team.

5.13 NWC-REPS supports the EMRT by representing the Local Authorities at the Local Resilience Forum and their sub-groups. In addition, NWC-REPS assists the authority by writing, exercising and testing emergency plans as detailed below:

5.14 A Regional Emergency Rest Centre Plan has been developed for the Council. This also supports mutual aid requests from other local authorities as the plan is now generic to all 6 North Wales Councils. At the start of the year, with a suspected influx of refugees

incoming from Ireland, a bespoke plan was created for Holyhead leisure centre ensuring that if a mass amount of people arrived, suitable accommodation was available. This was then tested in July with a rest centre exercise in Holyhead to understand staff's knowledge on how to open and manage a rest centre.

5.15 On Friday 18 February 2022, North Wales experienced travel disruption and school closures as high winds from one of the most serious storms in years, Storm Eunice pre-empted by Storm Dudley, impacted the region. Tidal flood warnings were issued by NRW and hundreds of schools and public buildings closed as a precautionary measure due to the amber weather warning issued by the Met Office. NWC-REPS along with the highways representative from Ynys Mon attended several multi-agency meetings to ensure appropriate measures were in place. Meetings were held by NRW in regards to specific flood areas and this assisted in effective emergency planning.

5.16 With the local authority's off-site emergency plans for the Wylfa site having been decommissioned before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the focus of the service during this period, turned primarily to maintaining stakeholder liaison activities for this workstream. The site operator, Magnox, leads two multi-agency site stakeholder groups which the service participates in. This allows the service to maintain oversight of any Magnox-led emergency planning and exercising activity, which may require local authority participation.

5.17 In April 2022, it was identified that Orthios Eco park in Holyhead had gone into liquidation. With the summer approaching, NRW identified a major fire risk due to the amount of waste that was on site without appropriate staff to manage it. In conjunction with NRW the multi-agency plan was updated to reflect this and shared with all emergency services in case of a major fire.

5.18, The service has developed several e-learning courses for Ynys Mon staff to enrol in. This includes several courses to support the recent centre plan and the role of the regional service.

5.19 At the beginning of the Pandemic, Business Continuity plans were implemented for the Council to identify and prioritise the critical services and work to ensure these were maintained. At the midpoint of the pandemic, NWC-REPS circulated a questionnaire to gain insight into the usage of the plans during the pandemic and also identify any improvements. Having Business Continuity plans in place is a statutory requirement of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. A corporate service template has now been completed and is in the final stages of review. This will be rolled out to all 6 local authorities by the end of the month.

5.20 Following the adoption of the Major Emergency Arrangements the regional service is developing a robust on-call pack for officers to provide greater support to local authority officers during any event we need to respond to.

5.21 A crucial element for the regional service to be successful is the embedding of the regional staff within the local authorities. Work is underway in ensuring staff spend one

day a week in their respective local authorities for visibility and greater awareness of the service. Further work is required to ensure local authorities fully utilise the service.

5.22 Last month, the Emergency Planning Officer Working Group was reestablished within the council, supported by NWC-REPS, this gives an avenue to better share relevant documents and risks across the Council. In the future, it is planned that documents and relevant training are more easily shared and can be disseminated to all staff via the Working Group and through a section on Monitor (Council intranet).

5.23 The Isle of Anglesey County Council's annual contribution to the service is £61,844. The contribution is based on a proportion of 10.472% towards the annual budget for the service.

| Local Authority | Annual Contribution % |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Isle of Anglesey County Council | 10.472% |
| Conwy County Borough Council | 16.940% |
| Denbighshire County Council | 14.865% |
| Flintshire County Council | 19.348% |
| Gwynedd Council | 17.979% |
| Wrexham County Borough Council | 20.396% |
| Total | 100% |
| | |

Fu

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|---|
| 6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language] |
| 6.1 Potential impacts on protected groups under the Equality Act 2010 |
| N/A |
| 6.2 Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (strategic decisions) |
| N/A |
| 6.3 Potential impacts on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language |
| N/A |
| 7 – Financial Implications |
| 7.1 The report does not identify any specific financial implications for the Council. |
| 7.2 The annual contribution to the service by the Council is £61,844. |

8 – Appendices:

North Wales Councils Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS) – Annual Report 2021/22.

9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):



Annual Report 2021/22

North Wales Councils Regional Emergency Planning Service

enquiries@nwc-reps.org.uk
01352 702124



North Wales Councils Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS).

Isle of Anglesey County Council, Gwynedd Council, Conwy County Borough Council, Denbighshire County Council, Flintshire County Council and Wrexham County Borough Council work together in a partnering relationship through the establishment in 2014 of a Regional Emergency Planning Service for North Wales. This Service undertakes the functions of the local authorities in respect of civil contingencies and is accountable to an Executive Board that comprises senior representatives of each Council. NWC-REPS provides a service to ensure the local authorities are compliant with the following legislation: -

- [Civil Contingencies Act, 2004](#)
- [Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations, 2015](#)
- [Pipeline Safety Regulations, 1996](#)
- [Radiation \(Emergency Preparedness and Public Information\) Regulations, 2019](#)

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This is the annual North Wales Councils - Regional Emergency Planning Service report for the year 2021-2022. It covers the work carried out by NWC-REPS across the six local authorities in the region, as well as multi-agency activities undertaken to support North Wales Local Resilience Forum.

The Service works to:

- Reduce duplication and repetition of tasks
- Improve the harmonisation of the work and resilience of teams
- Improve deployment of available resources by sharing specialist support and common tasks
- Improve consistency of response between authorities
- Improve communication channels between the North Wales Resilience Forum and local authorities



INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

NWC-REPS provides a 24/7 year-round Duty Officer to act as the initial point of contact for emergency response.

In 2021/22, NWC-REPS assisted in this role in the following ways: -

- Receiving and assessing 20 Community Flood Alerts, 91 Flood Alerts, 4 Community Flood Warnings, 55 Flood Warnings, 11 Early Warnings and 3 Severe Weather.
- Receiving, and assessing Weather Warnings:
 - Isle of Anglesey County Council = 45 warnings
 - Gwynedd Council = 54 warnings
 - Conwy County Borough Council = 49 warnings
 - Denbighshire County Council = 50 warnings
 - Wrexham County Borough Council = 47 warnings
 - Flintshire County Council = 49 warnings
- Receiving and responding to a number of incident reports that included: -
 - Fuel Shortage September 2021
 - Storm Arwen November 2021
 - Storm Dudley/Eunice February 2022
 - Sunken Vessel Anglesey June 2021
 - Covid Cruise Ship Holyhead July 2021
 - Avian Flu
 - Water outage due to burst water main
 - BCHUB Bomb Hoax
 - Establishing Ukrainian refugee emergency centre Holyhead March 2022
 - Large Fire in Sandycroft

Of these incidents, 2 required the opening of an Emergency Rest Centres by the relevant local authority with NWC-REPS support. We responded to other incidents but utilised hotels in favour of rest centres due to Covid restrictions and public safety. Over the course of the year, NWC-REPS represented and support local authorities at Multi-Agency Tactical Coordination Groups at a number of the incidents above.

2021 entailed ongoing activities around the multi-agency response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This required active redeployment of the team onto a range of work streams that included:-

- Supporting local authorities own internal emergency response arrangements
- Advising local authorities on Business/Service Continuity matters
- Supporting partners with solutions to their business continuity needs
- Participating on the multi-agency Strategic Coordination Group and Tactical Coordination Group work streams
- Coordinating the local distribution of data between Welsh Government and local authorities in relation to the Shielding scheme
- NWC-REPS staff continue to provide project support to COVID-19 Prevention & Surveillance groups as part of the authorities local statutory infectiousdisease compliance work streams;



- Chairing the North Wales Excess Deaths Group and
 1. Leading on proving a specific Covid-19 excess Deaths Response Plan
 2. Chairing a Funeral Directors Liaison sub group.
 3. Providing weekly information on body storage capacities
 4. Liaising with Welsh Government All Wales Excess Death Response Team
 5. Briefing the Strategic Coordination Group on the stand down of regional body storage resources

WORKING TOGETHER

Storm Eunice - February 2022

On Friday 18 February 2022, North Wales experienced travel disruption and school closures as high winds from one of the most serious storms in years, Storm Eunice, impacted the region. Tidal flood warnings were issued by NRW and hundreds of schools and public buildings closed as a precautionary measure due to the amber weather warning issued by the Met Office.

During the afternoon of Friday 18 February, whilst in the Strategic Coordination Centre (SCC) in Colwyn Bay, the NWC-REPS Regional Manager was made aware by North Wales Fire and Rescue Service that a roof had blown off a block of flats in Tywyn Gwynedd and a rest centre was required for 11 residents.

The NWC-REPS lead Emergency Planning Officer contacted the relevant Strategic Managers and Leisure Centre staff in Gwynedd Council to begin the process of opening a rest centre. Relaying information from the SCC to Gwynedd via Teams proved an affective and robust way to share intelligence quickly.

Multi Agency working proved essential, as transport for the displaced residents was provided by Mountain Rescue and coordinated via the SCC and NWC-REPS lead officer. Leisure Centre and Adult Services staff from Gwynedd Council, opened and managed the rest centre by retrieving the Emergency Resources box from the local Residential Home and provided care and reassurance to the displaced residents. The Rest Centre provided people with a safe refuge whilst alternative accommodation was sought.

Internal communication within Gwynedd Council ensured building inspections were carried out safely during daylight hours which meant residents were able to return quicker to their homes.



Isle of Anglesey County Council - Ukrainian Emergency Centre - March 2022

In March 2022, the conflict in Ukraine led to a large number of refugees arriving in Ireland. It was identified that a large number of migrants may arrive at Holyhead port with no accommodation. Border Force had notified that no person would be turned away. Work on identifying and establishing an Emergency Reception Centre in Holyhead leisure centre in the event of a large number of people arriving at the port. NWC-REPS staff attended the centre to assess its suitability for accommodating people.

NWC-REPS also assisted in:

- adapting the existing rest centre plan into a specific emergency centre plan
- organising multi-agency meetings for support
- adapting the existing rest centre plan into a specific emergency centre plan
- organising multi-agency meetings for support.

The centre has not been opened but is still suitable should the need arise given the increase in visas issued.

Community Resilience

Following the learning and organic resilience and response that developed across communities following the Covid-19 pandemic it was timely to undertake a full review and mapping exercise of community resilience across North Wales. As part of this review NWC-REPS has:

- Reviewed the current community resilience and business continuity strategy, work plan and guidance material, which has identified areas of development.
- Researched leading practice and explored what approach other emergency planning services take to raise awareness and build strong community resilience. One area of particular interest was Cumbria.
- Reviewed the community resilience pilot findings from 2019 as well as seek more recent feedback from a community in Wrexham who are developing their community resilience plan currently. This feedback has been invaluable in shaping how we can improve our guidance material in the future to ensure its fit for purpose and easy to use.
- Consulted and explored possible collaboration opportunities with other emergency services across North Wales where our work complements one another.
- Centralised all the existing community resilience and community flood plans in order to better understand what level of resilience is in place currently across North Wales and how we can support these communities going forward.

This review and mapping has supported the development of a new community resilience strategy for North Wales which will be presented to the NWLRF HAV Group for ratification. A rolling work programme will also be a product of this review which will guide our service priorities for community resilience over the next 3 years.

Embedding

As part of our continuous improvement, it was identified that our approach to embedding emergency planning across North Wales could be strengthened. As a result a small task and finish group was established to lead on the development of a new 'Embedding Guide' for NWC-REPS staff. This embedding guide, which has now been introduced, aims to develop consistent practice across North Wales, embed emergency planning as business as usual in local authorities and identify improvement areas locally.

Flood Partnership Groups

NWC-REPS are embedded in the Morfa Rhuddlan Community Flood Partnership Group and continue to maintain relationships with professional partners, elected Members and local Councillors in preparing for and responding to flood events. The Conwy Valley Flood Partnership Group has been re-invigorated and stakeholders are reviewing flood response arrangements.

Work is also ongoing alongside partners to develop a robust plan for Bangor on Dee. The team are continuing to work with professional partners, elected Members and local Councillors in preparing for and responding to flood events.

Conwy County Borough Council - CCSG and CCOG

NWC-REPS is represented in the Conwy County Borough Council Civil Contingencies Strategic and Operational Groups and works with key managers to horizon scan, support mitigation of identified risks, provide advice and guidance on related matters and review response plans. For example, assistance in the development of a robust emergency response structure and supplementary guidance, the introduction of Major Incident Response Arrangements and the adoption of the Business Continuity Policy. NWC-REPS action plans are aligned to compliment regional and local priorities.

Conwy County Borough Council - Protective Security and Preparedness Group (PSPG)

All Local Authorities have been tasked with delivering an integrated security approach that is consistent with the national guidance and standards, Conwy are identifying and delivering proportionate action to keep communities safe, particularly with regard to public accessible locations. NWC-REPS are an active member of the PSPG and also act as a conduit for the sharing of information and good practice between the Local Authorities. PSPG Groups are being set up in all Local Authority areas and are supported by NWC-REPS and multi-agency partners.



NUCLEAR AND PIPELINE WORK

Stakeholder liaison with North Wales Nuclear and Pipeline operators

A change to staff portfolios within the service has seen both these work areas now fall under the remit of the newly created Statutory Projects Emergency Planning Officer role - in addition to overseeing COMAH emergency planning and exercising, this role now focusses on maintaining local authority compliance with nuclear emergency planning (REPPiR 2019) and major pipeline emergency legislation (PSR 1996).

Nuclear Emergency Planning and Exercising

With the local authority off-site emergency plans for the Wylfa (Ynys Mon) and Trawsfynydd (Gwynedd) sites having been decommissioned before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the focus of the service during this reporting period, has turned primarily to maintaining stakeholder liaison activities for this workstream. The site operator, Magnox, leads two multi-agency site stakeholder groups which the service participates in. This allows us to maintain oversight of any Magnox led emergency planning and exercising activity, which may require local authority participation.

Pipeline Operators

The six local authorities collectively have a total of nine major accident hazard pipelines (MAHP) plans that have been created in association with NWLRF partners and the National Grid, Uniper, Wales & West Utilities, and ENI operators. The suite of plans are currently within regulatory scope, and do not require any significant revisions to be undertaken; periodic liaison with these operators is being undertaken on an ongoing basis throughout the reporting periods, to assess if any developments in their pipeline infrastructure or safety procedures, require any of the local authority plans to be reviewed and revised, or exercised.



LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

Elearning modules created and rolled out to 6 local authorities.

Modules currently available:

- NWC-REPS about us
- Statutory Legislation for local authorities
- Partnership Working
- Risks for local authorities
- What is a Rest Centre
- Humanitarian Response Coordinator
- Rest Centre Manager
- Rest Centre Staff and Volunteers

COMAH Exercise DRIFT (for Kronospan Ltd, Chirk)

Planning and exercising work to validate Wrexham County Borough Council's external emergency plan for the Chirk Upper Tier COMAH site began in February 2022; NWC-REPS coordinates the multi-agency work required in order to maintain and test the off-site emergency plan on behalf of the authority, for it to remain compliant under the COMAH 2015 legislation. Two exercise modules out of a series of four have been completed to date, and both involved participation by a wide range of multi-agency partners. The exercise schedule is due to complete in Q3 2022, and the authority is considered to be compliant with the legislation because an external emergency plan revision and an exercise have been conducted with the statutory three year cycle.

COMAH Exercise STAR (for Great Bear Distribution Ltd, Deeside)

The service continues to work with this new Upper Tier COMAH operator, and conducted a further multi-agency communications exercise in October 2021,

in order to validate the activation section of Flintshire County Council's External Emergency plan for the site. This operator moved into the Upper Tier threshold in Q3 2021, due to gaining approval for storing increased volumes of consumer grade bleach in their Deeside Distribution warehouse. The exercise schedule is due to complete in Q3 2022, and the authority is considered to be compliant with the legislation because an external emergency plan revision and an exercise have been conducted with the statutory three year cycle.



JESIP

NWC-REPS is a key member of the JESIP planning and delivery group and assist in facilitating the Operational and Tactical packages.

Development Activities in Planning

- Rest Centre Training for all 6 local authorities are planned during Q2 and Q3.
- Develop a new Business Continuity Plan for local authorities
- Develop a new Business Continuity Plan for the private and voluntary sector
- Refresh of our Standby Arrangements to improve our response protocol following lessons learnt

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Conwy County Borough Council

- Development and completion of Conwy Valley Flood Plan
- Introduction and adoption of BC Plans
- Continue review of Conwy County Borough Council response plans
- Development and completion of Severe Weather Plan
- Return to face to face training, development and exercise activities
- Further embedding of NWC-REPS into Conwy County Borough Council resilience activities

Development Activities in Planning

- Develop a new Performance Management and Quality Assurance Framework for the service, including the introduction of a new performance management system called 'InPhase'.
- Elearning modules for:
 - Members
 - Structures
 - Debriefs
 - Log Keeping
 - Recovery
 - Operational
 - Tactical
 - Strategic

Isle of Anglesey County Council

- Embed new Major Emergency Arrangements
- Embed new Rest Centre Plan
- Assist with reestablishing emergency planning working group
- Implement and test the new Business Continuity Plan
- Develop an internal web page regarding Emergency Planning for Ynys Mon staff



Wrexham County Borough Council

- EMRT exercise to test and embed the Major Emergency Arrangements
- Rest Centre visits to review suitability of venues
- Implement new Business/Service Continuity plan when available and exercises for Services
- Finalise and test the Flood Plan for Bangor on Dee.

Denbighshire County Council

- Roll out of new Business Continuity Plan once approved at Executive Board
- SEMT exercise to test and embed the Major Emergency Arrangements
- Rest Centre Exercise
- Loggist and storing logs procedure
- Attendance at Councillors induction

Gwynedd Council

- Establish 4 new sub groups and enrol membership - communications, operational, welfare and recovery
- Support the Pwllheli flood works and support relevant partners
- Hold 3 bespoke rest centre exercise and embed the new rest centre plan
- Embed new business continuity template

Flintshire County Council

- Validation and distribution of the councils Emergency Information document for local Members.
- Revisions of the emergency teams handbooks to enable embedding of response procedures.
- Embedding of the councils new Major Emergency Arrangements document with a view to exercising.
- Review of the councils rest centre volunteers in readiness for the 2022 rest centre plan walk exercise.



COMAH

Forward look for Kronospan Ltd, Chirk

August and September 2022 will see the completion of the on-site emergency control centre and virtual desktop exercises for this Upper Tier COMAH site. The exercises will be concluded with a multi-agency debrief report and a further revision of the external emergency plan in Q3 2022.

Forward look for Great Bear Distribution Ltd, Deeside

October and November 2022 will see completion of the on-site emergency control centre and virtual desktop exercises for this Upper Tier COMAH site. The exercise schedule will be concluded with a multi-agency debrief report and a further revision of the external emergency plan in Q4 2022.

Forward look for Warwick Chemicals, Mostyn

The service will conduct the statutory multi-agency planning and exercising work with this Upper Tier COMAH site between August and January to maintain compliance with the COMAH 2015 regulations. The operator will be subject to the standard off-site emergency planning and exercising schedule delivered by the service, which consists of one site familiarisation session, and three exercise modules designed to validate different sections of the authority's external emergency plan. The exercises will be concluded with a multi-agency debrief report and a further revision of the external emergency plan in Q4 2022.

NUCLEAR

In late July the service will be participating remotely in a major live play nuclear transport related exercise being run by the operator, in order to test the service's receipt and onward relay of a nuclear hazard major accident message from North Wales Police. Magnox will lead on the multi-agency debriefing for this exercise, and also the revision of their nuclear material transport emergency plan; NWC-REPS will participate in this process and ensure any learning outcomes having a bearing on local authority response procedures are modified accordingly, should there be a need to do so.



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| ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template | |
|---|---|
| Committee: | Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee |
| Date: | 18 th October, 2022 |
| Subject: | Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme |
| Purpose of Report: | Assist the Scrutiny Committee in considering, agreeing and reviewing its forward work programme for 2022/23 |
| Scrutiny Chair: | Cllr Dylan Rees |
| Portfolio Holder(s): | Not applicable |
| Head of Service: | Lynn Ball, Director of Function (Council Business) / Monitoring Officer |
| Report Author: | Anwen Davies, Scrutiny Manager |
| Tel: | 01248 752578 |
| Email: | AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk |
| Local Members: | Applicable to all Scrutiny Members |

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| 1 - Recommendation/s |
|---|
| The Committee is requested to: R1 agree the current version of the forward work programme for 2022/23 R2 note progress thus far in implementing the forward work programme. |

| 2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities |
|--|
| Effective work programming is the foundation of effective local government scrutiny. Our Scrutiny rolling forward work programmes are aligned with the corporate priorities of the Council and corporate transformation programmes – ensuring the role of Member scrutiny makes a tangible contribution to the Council’s improvement priorities. |

| 3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members |
|--|
| To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:- |
| 3.1 Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [focus on customer/citizen] |
| 3.2 A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [focus on value] |
| 3.3 A look at any risks [focus on risk] |
| 3.4 Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [focus on performance & quality] |
| 3.5 Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term • Prevention • Integration • Collaboration • Involvement [focus on wellbeing] |

3.6 The potential impacts the decision would have on:

- protected groups under the Equality Act 2010
- those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (when making strategic decisions)
- opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

[focus on equality and the Welsh language]

4 - Key Scrutiny Questions

5 – Background / Context

1. Background

1.1 Effective work programming is the bedrock of an effective local government scrutiny function¹. Done well, work programming can help lay the foundations for targeted and timely work on issues of local importance demonstrating where Member scrutiny can add value. Good practice advocates two key issues at the heart of the scrutiny forward work programme:

- i. Challenge around prioritising work streams
- ii. Need for a member-led approach and interface with officers.

1.2 Basic principles of good work programming²

- Work programming should not be a “start-stop” process
- Complementary work programmes for separate scrutiny committees
- Balance between different methods of work
- An effective process for reporting / escalating issues to the Executive
- Input and views of internal stakeholders
- Close working with the Executive
- Links with the Annual Scrutiny Report (evaluation and improvement tool).

2. Local context

2.1 There is now a well-established practice of forward work programming which are now rolling programmes focusing on the quality of scrutiny with fewer items, to add value. They are an important tool to assist Members in prioritising their work and are discussed with the Strategic Leadership Team and Heads of Service. Both committees review the content of their work programmes on a regular basis, to ensure that they remain relevant and keep abreast with local priorities. Our local forward planning arrangements now ensure greater focus on:

- Strategic aspects
- Citizen / other stakeholder engagement and outcomes
- Priorities of the Council Plan and transformation projects
- Risks and the work of inspection and regulation
- Matters on the forward work programme of the Executive.

¹ A Cuning Plan? Devising a scrutiny work programme, Centre for Public Scrutiny (March, 2011)

² A Cuning Plan? Devising a scrutiny work programme, Centre for Public Scrutiny (March, 2011)

Outcome: rolling work programmes for scrutiny committees which are aligned with corporate priorities.

2.2 Committee chairs lead on developing the forward work programmes and are submitted to the monthly Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-chairs Forum and for approval at each ordinary meeting of the scrutiny committees. The Forum is considered an important vehicle to oversee these programmes and jointly negotiate priorities.

2.3 **“Whole council” approach to Scrutiny:** our work programmes provide a strong foundation for our improvement programme, ensuring the role that Scrutiny plays in the Authority’s governance arrangements:

- i. Supports robust and effective decision-making
- ii. Makes a tangible contribution to the Council’s improvement priorities
- iii. Continues to evolve.

3. Issues for consideration

3.1 The Scrutiny Committee receives regular update reports on the implementation of its forward work programme. A copy of the current 2022/23 work programme is attached as **APPENDIX 1** to this report for reference and includes changes made to the work programme since the Committee last considered the document.³

3.2 Where appropriate, items may be added to the Committee’s forward work programme during the municipal year. Requests for additional matters to be considered for inclusion on the work programme can be submitted via the Members Request Form for an item to be considered for Scrutiny. Requests are initially considered by the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-chairs Forum, using the following criteria:

- the Council’s strategic objectives and priorities (as outlined in the Council Plan)
- the ability of the Committee to have influence and/or add value on the subject (A Scrutiny Test of Significance Form will be completed).

6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]

6.1 Potential impacts on protected groups under the Equality Act 2010

6.2 Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (strategic decisions)

6.3 Potential impacts on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

Not applicable for this overarching issue but will be considered as an integral part of preparing for specific proposals to be submitted for consideration by the Committee.

7 – Financial Implications

Not applicable.

8 – Appendices:

³ Meeting of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee convened on 26th September, 2022

Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2022/23

9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):

Anwen Davies, Scrutiny Manager, Isle of Anglesey, Council Offices, Llangefni. LL77 7TW

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR SCRUTINY → MAY, 2022 – APRIL, 2023
[Version dated 11/10/22]

Note for Stakeholders and the Public:

A [Protocol for Public Speaking at Scrutiny Committees](#) has been published by the Council.

Should you wish to speak on any specific item at a Scrutiny Committee then you should register your interest by submitting a written request using the form available as soon as possible and at least 3 clear working days prior to the specific Committee meeting. You can access information about the meeting and which items being discussed by reading this Forward Work Programme. Contact the Scrutiny Manager if you have any queries

[\[AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk\]](mailto:AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk)

| CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE |
|--|---|
| May, 2022 (31/05/22) | May, 2022 (31/05/22) |
| Election of Chair: 2022/23 | Election of Chair: 2022/23 |
| Election of Vice-chair: 2022/23 | Election of Vice-chair: 2022/23 |
| June, 2022 (20/06/22) | June, 2022 (21/06/22) |
| Performance Monitoring: Corporate Scorecard Qtr4: 2021/22 | Annual Report on the Welsh Standards: 2021/22 |
| Nomination of Scrutiny Members to Serve on Panels and Boards | Nomination of Scrutiny Members to Serve on Panels and Boards |
| | Update – for information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Wales Economic Ambition Board Qtr 4: 2021/22 Progress Report |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 |
| September, 2022 (26/09/22) – Q1 | September, 2022 (26/09/22) |
| Performance Monitoring: Corporate Scorecard Q1: 2022/23 | Market Stability Report (Social Care) |
| Progress Monitoring: Social Services Improvement Plan / Social Services Scrutiny Panel Progress Report | Education Scrutiny Panel Progress Report |
| Finance Scrutiny Panel Progress Report | Gwynedd & Ynys Môn Public Services Board Annual Report: 2021/22 |
| Nomination of Committee Member on the Waste Steering Group with WRAP Cymru | |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 |
| October, 2022 (19/10/22) | October, 2022 (18/10/22) |
| Poverty and Cost of Living Challenges | Estyn Inspection of the Local Education Authority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post Inspection Action Plan Feedback from the Education Scrutiny Panel |
| Annual Performance Report: 2021/22 | Arfor Programme |

| CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE |
|--|---|
| | Regional Emergency Planning Service Annual Report: 2021/22 |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 |
| November, 2022 (22/11/22) - Q2 | November, 2022 (23/11/22) |
| Monitoring Performance: Corporate Scorecard Q2: 2022/23 | Community Safety Partnership Annual Report: 2021/22 |
| Population Data: Census 2021 | Update - for information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Wales Economic Ambition Board Annual Report: 2021/22 • North Wales Economic Ambition Board Qtr 1 & 2: 2022/23 Progress Reports |
| | Update – for information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Services Board – Governance Arrangements (item to be confirmed) |
| | Annual Report North Wales Regional Partnership Board (Part 9): 2021/22 (item to be confirmed) |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 |
| January, 2023 (19/01/23) – 2023/24 Budget | January, 2023 (17/01/23) |
| 2023/24 Budget Setting (Revenue Budget) – initial budget proposals | Corporate Safeguarding |
| 2023/24 Budget Setting (Capital Budget) – initial budget proposals | |
| Finance Scrutiny Panel Progress Report | |
| Council Plan: 2023-2028 | |
| CIW Inspection: Post Performance Evaluation Inspection Action Plan (October, 2022) | |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 |
| February, 2023 (28/02/23) – 2023/24 Budget | February, 2023 (07/02/23) |
| Final Draft Budget Proposals for 2023/24 – revenue & capital | Key Stage 4 Results Report (Summer, 2022) |
| Finance Scrutiny Panel Progress Report | Education Scrutiny Panel Progress Report |
| | |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 |
| March, 2023 (14/03/23) - Q3 | March, 2023 (15/03/23) |
| Monitoring Performance: Corporate Scorecard Q3: 2022/23 | Annual Report on Equalities: 2021/22 |
| Housing Revenue Account Business Plan: 2023/24 | Public Services Board – scrutiny of progress and delivery of the Wellbeing Plan |

| CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE |
|--|--|
| Progress Monitoring: Social Services Improvement Plan / Social Services Scrutiny Panel Progress Report | Update – for information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Wales Economic Ambition Board Qtr 3: 2022/23 Progress Report |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 |
| April, 2023 (19/04/23) | April, 2023 (19/04/23) |
| | |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 |

Items to be scheduled:

| Corporate Scrutiny Committee | Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee |
|--|---|
| AONB Management Plan 2021/25 | Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board – Clinical Services Strategy |
| Service Asset Management Policy 2021/31 – Smallholdings Estate | North Wales Police & Crime Commissioner |
| Highways Asset Management Plan | North Wales Fire & Rescue Service |
| Corporate Asset Management Polisi 2021/26 | Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust |
| Census 2021 | Medrwn Môn |
| | Scrutiny of Partnerships |
| | Transformation of Learning Disabilities Day Opportunities |
| | Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment |
| | Destination Plan |
| | North Wales Economic Ambition Board Annual Report: 2021/22 |
| | Education Items of Strategic Significance – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools' Improvement – framework for evaluation, improvement and accountability Partnership working – GwE Annual Report: 2021/22 |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>Gwynedd & Ynys Môn Public Services Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progress report on work of the Board• Draft Wellbeing Plan 2023 and beyond |
|--|--|