

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL <u>Scrutiny Report Template</u>	
Committee:	Corporate Scrutiny Committee
Date:	20.10.2020
Subject:	Corporate Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy
Purpose of Report:	Present an overview of the proposed Corporate Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy and the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> timeframe for implementation
Scrutiny Chair:	Cllr Aled Morris Jones
Portfolio Holder(s):	All
Head of Service:	Fôn Roberts, Interim Director of Social Services
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Local Members:	N/A

1 - Recommendation/s
<p>The Corporate Scrutiny Committee is requested to recommend to the Executive approval of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the Corporate Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy b. the proposed Action Plan

2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities
<p>Prevention and early intervention has an integral role to play in reducing demand upon statutory, frontline provision, thus reducing costs and ensuring that the all citizens including some of the most vulnerable receive timely interventions to meet their diverse needs.</p> <p>Our Corporate Early Intervention and Prevention Action Strategy will focus on an Authority wide approach, as outlined in the Action Plan, and will be implemented in parallel with our Corporate Council Plan as we continuously work towards achieving our 3 core Corporate aims of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating the conditions for everyone to achieve their long term potential Support vulnerable adults and families and keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible Work in partnership with our communities to ensure they can cope effectively with change and development, whilst protecting our national our national environment

The strategy and accompanying Action Plan will also embrace the five ways of working underpinning the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015, by ensuring focus on:

- Long term sustainability
- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Involvement of Service users, partner stakeholders and citizens

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 How is it proposed to promote and develop a council wide approach which will take ownership of the prevention and early intervention agenda? ; and

4.2 How will the Council monitor a shift from traditional models of service delivery, which has historically placed the emphasis on Social Services, Housing and Education?

4.3 Are there any financial implications to the Local Authority? If so, how it is proposed that this is addressed?

5 – Background / Context

Introduction

The Isle of Anglesey County Council's Early Intervention and Prevention Strategy (see Appendix 1) sets out the Council's corporate vision, ambition and development in relation to the commissioning and direct provision of service and activity in this area.

Led by the Welsh Government, Local Authorities across Wales have adopted a pro-active approach in our public services, focused on improving outcomes and building the assets and resilience of people and communities, through prevention and early intervention based actions.

Preventative action can be defined as 'the adoption of approaches which build on the active participation of service users and communities to ensure improved outcomes and contribute significantly to making the best possible use of money and other assets'. These approaches help to eradicate duplication and waste, whilst critically reduce demand from the system over the longer term.

The main benefits of preventative approaches include identifying and promoting protective factors that can prevent negative outcomes at an early stage, supporting people to maximise their potential, and enjoy a better quality of life

Preventative approaches are often 'enabling': equipping individuals and communities with the tools to succeed, rather than interventions being imposed upon them. Asset based approaches, have long been established in the Seiriol area of Anglesey and have successfully, fostered self-reliance and resilience rather than dependency.

In comparison 'Early interventions' are considered as actions that can address the underlying causes of social problems, which are often interlinked and deep-rooted, thus stopping the onset of multiple related problems, helping to stop entrenched cycles of deprivation, and reduce inequality. Problems are generally easiest to tackle in their early stages, before they become entrenched, and by addressing them, we can create the conditions for a more equal society which will impact positively across a range of outcomes. Both approaches can also achieve significant cost savings for the public sector by reducing the need for expensive multiple and acute interventions over the long term, enabling people and communities to realise their potential, thereby reducing reliance on the state and Public Services in general.

Governance and Accountability

Day to day operational management of the Specific Prevention / Early Intervention Programmes, listed above will remain with the respective Programme Managers / Lead Officers and their teams. However, all Programme Managers / Lead Officers will be required to report to the Corporate Prevention and Early Intervention Board, chaired by the Interim Statutory Director of Social Services on the following matters

- Expenditure (overspend / underspend);

- Progress against key targets, as shown in the Corporate Prevention / Early Intervention Action Plan;
- Outcome based measures, where applicable;
- Procurement;
- Issues of concern / Good Practice.

The Corporate Prevention / Early Intervention Board, shall subsequently via its Chairperson (Statutory Director of Social Services) report to the Senior Leadership Team, on all key strategic decisions, and shall submit progress reports, at least twice annually, in accordance with the above arrangements.

In accordance with Welsh Government requirements, the governance arrangements for Housing Support Grant shall remain unchanged, with initial accountability served via the IoA Local Planning Group, which contains senior and middle management representation from Housing, Adult and Children Services, Service Providers, BCUHB, and North Wales Probation Service. The inclusion of Health and NW Probation is a mandatory requirement contained in the Programme's terms and conditions, issued by Welsh Government.

The Housing Support Grant's Principal Development Officer and the Housing Policy, Commissioning and Strategy Service Manager, will however provide a quarterly update to the Corporate Prevention / Early Intervention Board, in relation to the matters listed above.

Implementing the Corporate Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy and Action Plan.

Key Drivers

Our Corporate Early Intervention and Prevention Action Plan will focus on an Authority wide approach as outlined in the Action Plan, and will be implemented in parallel with our Corporate Council Plan as we continuously work towards achieving our 3 core Corporate aims of:

- Creating the conditions for everyone to achieve their long term potential
- Support vulnerable adults and families and keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible
- Work in partnership with our communities to ensure they can cope effectively with change and development, whilst protecting our national our national environment

It is proposed that the main drivers to promoting a more equal and fair society in Anglesey, and thereby tackling inequalities, should be applied through the adoption and promotion of prevention and early intervention approaches and shall be based on the following key headings and population outcomes:

- Generic
- Partnership Working
- Provide the best possible start for Children in Life
- Create the best possible educational environment to enable all our citizens to learn effectively
- Create appropriate opportunities for seeking employment
- Ensure our citizens are health, safe and independent

- Ensure sufficient availability of accommodation for our population

Individual Actions that can be contained at relevant service level are not included, as they will be reflected in the service plan, and monitored thus.

Furthermore, the action plan will contain 8 themes, which will be factored into the population outcome headings, identified above shall be contained within, assisting a co-ordinated approach to delivery across the Local Authority.

- Governance
- Communication
- Promote and Develop Partnership Working
- Reducing Poverty
- Wellbeing / Community Resilience
- Place Setting
- Promote Employment / Training / Educational Opportunities
- Safeguarding

Anglesey County Council recognises that it needs to develop a stronger corporate approach in delivering services to its citizens. It is therefore essential that we continue to build stronger relationships both within the Council and with partners, communities and residents, in order to find new ways of working and delivering services to address local needs.

Successful implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan will be based on the following examples of good practice, at local level

- a) **Demand management:** stopping people entering the statutory system or reducing the length of time they are in the system.
- b) **Prevention at every level:** to build resilience in individuals and prevent needs merging and taking action to stop them escalating if they do;
- c) **Outcomes Based**– the approach will focus on clear and measurable outcomes across all prevention / early intervention services based upon the Council's Corporate Outcomes Framework in accordance with Welsh Government Guidance. This is currently under development.
- d) **Targeted Early Help & Early Intervention for the most Vulnerable** – the strategy encompasses the development of an approach that integrates support that is provided to enable growth and development of children in their early years (e.g. Flying Start) with targeted interventions that are designed to stop emergent concerns from becoming acute or entrenched (e.g. IFSS, Family Group Conference, Therapeutic interventions). Likewise the same can be applied to a person who is at risk of eviction and subsequent homelessness – early intervention measures and support can be delivered to provide budgeting, financial control skills via the Housing Support Gant to ensure the tenant can avoid eviction and present as homeless.

e) Commissioning & Research Methodology – the approach will be developed on the basis of the IPC commissioning cycle.



f) Evidence Based Practice – the development of new initiatives or the re-targeting of resources will be based on robustly evaluated evidence of ‘what works’.

g) Partnership Approach– Partnership commitment to re-targeting available partner resources in favour of reducing demand or de-escalating intervention to the lowest point necessary will be critical to the success of the Strategy. Key characteristics of effective integrated working that need to be in place everywhere include having a shared vision, clear understanding of needs and identification of gaps, sharp focus on improving outcomes for all Ynys Môn citizens, clear and consistent messages communicated to staff and citizens, and an underpinning integrated workforce development strategy. Time needs to be invested to build trust, strong relationships and, ultimately, to secure buy-in from all Council Departments and external agencies. It is also essential that we develop a strength based approach and in so doing utilise untapped potential of the community and their assets, via a co-produced approach.

h) Effective Workforce Development -. Continuing investment in developing workforce skills and capacity is essential to effectively engage with all our citizens, from the provision of universal services such as schools and transport infrastructure, targeted support such as early intervention via Multi Agency Hubs for disaffected and vulnerable young people continuing through to statutory intervention such as care home assessments.

Sustainable Development – Future Provision

The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015 provides the required framework to ensure public bodies such as Local Authorities lead on ensuring that the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales is improved.

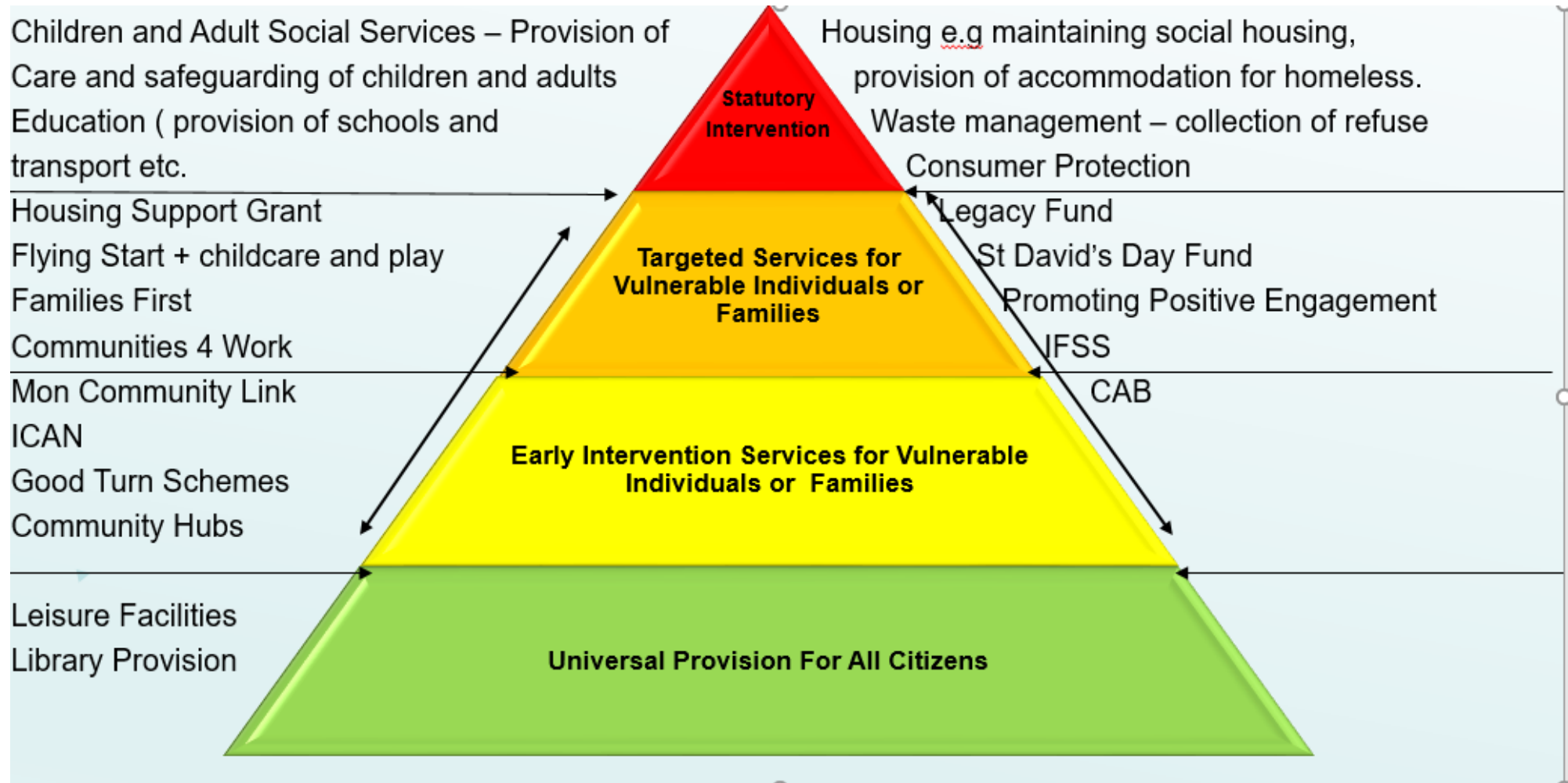
Public bodies such as the IoACC need to make sure that when decisions are made thought is given to how it will affect people living in Wales in the future. This means being sustainable where all future provision. To ensure this is achieved we will need to consider the following on a continuous basis.

- **The long term** - The importance of balancing short-term needs with the needs to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs
- **Prevention** - How to stop problems in the first place
- **How to work together with others** – Integration and Collaboration
- **How to involve people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the Council and other public bodies serve** – Involvement

Prevention and early intervention are therefore seen as key priority areas in ensuring that as IoACC achieve each of 7 goals identified within the Act, these being:

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of Cohesive Communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language
- A globally responsible Wales.

Future Provision and Tiers of Prevention and Intervention



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

Equality Impact Assessments are undertaken as part of the identified programmes within the Prevention and Early Intervention Agenda i.e. Housing Support, Flying Start, Families First will all have their individual EQIA's to complement their respective delivery Plans

7 – Financial Implications

There is a need for a corporate approach and ownership which includes both financial and staff time to across all Council Departments if we are to fully achieve the aims of the Corporate Prevention and Early intervention Strategy.

As yet financial commitment has not yet been identified. This will be identified over the forthcoming 18 months to 2 years, as needs and priorities become clearer.

The bulk of the funding will continue to be provided via Welsh Government Funded Programmes as outlined in the report.

8 – Appendices:

1. Corporate Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy Document
2. Corporate Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy Action Plan
3. Table of all Welsh Government Funded Prevention and Early Intervention Programmes
4. Outcomes and Goals Table - Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) 2016

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

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Corporate Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy Document



Corporate
Prevention and Earl

Appendix 2 - Corporate Prevention and And Early Intervention Strategy Action Plan



Appendix 2 - Action
Plan.docx

Appendix 3 - Table of Prevention and Early Intervention Programme Grants – funding details and aims and objectives



Appendix 3 - Table
of Grant Programme

Appendix 4 – Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Outcomes and Goals



Appendix 4
Outcomes and Goal