

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template

Committee:	Corporate Scrutiny Committee
Date:	19 th April, 2023
Subject:	Committee Nomination – Social Services Scrutiny Panel / Corporate Parenting Panel
Purpose of Report:	To nominate one Elected Member from the Corporate Scrutiny Committee to serve on the Social Services Scrutiny Panel and Corporate Parenting Panel
Scrutiny Chair:	Cllr Robert Llewelyn Jones
Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr Alun Roberts, Portfolio Holder Adults' Services and Community Safety Cllr Gary Pritchard, Portfolio Holder Children, Youth and Housing Services Cllr Ieuan Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder Education and Welsh Language
Head of Service:	Lynn Ball, Director of Function (Council Business) / Monitoring Officer Fôn Roberts, Director of Social Services Arwel Owen, Head of Adult Services
Report Author: Tel: Email:	Anwen Davies, Scrutiny Manager 07971167198 AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk
Local Members:	Applicable to all Scrutiny Members

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1 - Recommendation/s

R1 The Corporate Scrutiny Committee is requested to nominate one Elected Member from the Scrutiny Committee to serve on the **Social Services Scrutiny Panel and Corporate Parenting Panel**.

2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

5 – Background / Context

1. Background

1.1 Members will be aware that consideration was given to a number of panels which require Scrutiny Member representation at a meeting of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee convened on 20th June 2022. Nominations were agreed in respect of all 3 Scrutiny Panels. This report discusses membership of the Social Services Scrutiny Panel / Corporate Parenting Panel.

1.2 The terms of reference pertaining to the Panels are attached (**Appendix 1 and 2**) in order to assist Members in the selection process.

2. Discussion

2.1 Membership of the Social Services Scrutiny Panel / Corporate Parenting Panel

Panel membership is not subject to political balance principles and rules¹. Core membership of the Panel includes:

- **Elected Members** – 4 Members from both Scrutiny Committees²
- **Portfolio Members for Social Services (Adults’ and Children’s Services)** – as observers with no vote
- **Officers** – Director of Social Services, Head of Adult Services, Scrutiny Manager.

2.2 Current Membership of the Social Services Scrutiny Panel / Corporate Parenting Panel

In light of deliberations by both Scrutiny Committees in June, 2022³, current membership of the Panel is as follows:

- **Corporate Scrutiny Committee (4 Members)**

¹ The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 sets out the main principles governing political balance of local authorities

² Corporate Scrutiny Committee and Partnership & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

³ Corporate Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 20th June, 2022 and Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee of 21st June, 2022

- i. Cllr Neville Evans
- ii. Cllr Jackie Lewis
- iii. Cllr Llio Angharad Owen
- iv. Cllr Alwen Watkin

- **Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee (4 Members)**

- i. Cllr Jeff Evans
- ii. Cllr John Ifan Jones
- iii. Cllr Euryyn Morris (Chair)
- iv. Cllr Pip O'Neill (Vice-chair).

2.3 One vacancy has arisen on the Social Services Scrutiny Panel / Corporate Parenting Panel as a result of Councillor Neville Evans' resignation - resulting from his recent appointment to the Executive. This vacancy is from the cohort of Elected Members representing the Corporate Scrutiny Committee on the Panel.

3. Issues for consideration

3.1 The Corporate Scrutiny is now requested to nominate one Elected Member to serve on the Social Services Scrutiny Panel / Corporate Parenting Panel.

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

6.1 Potential impacts on protected groups under the Equality Act 2010

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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

7 – Financial Implications

Not applicable.

8 – Appendices:

Terms of Reference – Social Services Scrutiny Panel

Terms of Reference – Social Services Scrutiny Panel (Corporate Parenting)

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

TERMS OF REFERENCE & *MODUS OPERANDI*
SOCIAL SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL - CORPORATE PARENTING

1. Purpose of the Corporate Parenting Panel

Looked after children as well as young people leaving care are 'our children'. As a Council, we are extremely ambitious for each individual child/young person we are responsible for, to reach his or her full potential.

A key priority for Anglesey Council is that it is a place where our children thrive. As corporate parents, both elected members and officers of the Council, with the support of colleagues within other statutory agencies, we have a duty to ensure that during our children's time in care, and subsequently as they leave care, their voice and experience is heard; that their needs are met and they are afforded the same life chances as any other child.

For this to be achieved, it will be necessary for:

- Elected members to champion the needs of our children
- Partners to have high expectations for our children
- The North Wales Safeguarding Partnership and Corporate Parenting Panel (CPP) to provide effective leadership and contribute significantly to the development of services, which are audited for effectiveness.

In exercising its duties, the panel will be mindful to promote the following for the children the Council is responsible for:

- Physical, mental and emotional wellbeing
- Protection from abuse and neglect
- Education, training and recreation
- Family and personal relationships
- Involvement in the local community
- Securing rights and entitlements, inclusive of not living in poverty
- Living in suitable accommodation.

The legislative context is S78 Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014, which places a duty upon councils to safeguard and promote the welfare of each child it looks after in addition to every care leaver.

2. Responsibilities of the Corporate Parenting Panel

1. To ensure that the Council's children's champions and children in care champions continue to advocate on behalf of our children
2. To receive and scrutinise reports in relation to services for our children

3. To rigorously monitor and challenge service improvement and the impact of social work practice upon improving outcomes for our children
4. To monitor and challenge the effectiveness of services in improving the educational attainment of our children
5. To monitor and challenge the effectiveness of services in improving the physical and emotional health of our children
6. Ensure that leisure and cultural opportunities are offered and taken up by our children
7. To raise members' awareness and understanding of our children, their needs and experiences both within the Council and across the wider community
8. Ensure that all elected members are able to fulfil their role as corporate parenting champions and advocates for our children by offering appropriate training and development opportunities
9. To be aspirational and ambitious in driving better outcomes for our children
10. To ensure that the voice and experience of the child is central to the work of the whole Council and to creatively consider ways in which the Corporate Parenting Panel (CPP) will hear and respond to the views of our children
11. To develop expertise in issues affecting our children
12. To provide the inter-agency strategic direction to achieve good outcomes for our children
13. To contribute to the development of the Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy; to challenge and hold to account for its delivery
14. To deliver the Council's 'pledge' to our children
15. To report to the Council annually outlining the work undertaken during the year and identifying a work programme for the following year.

3. Membership and Governance of the Corporate Parenting Panel

Meetings will take place on a quarterly basis preceded by an agenda setting meeting.

Membership

Chief Executive (Chair)

Elected Members

Cllr Euryrn Morris
 Cllr Pip O'Neill
 Cllr Neville Evans
 Cllr Llio Angharad Owen
 Cllr Jackie Owen
 Cllr Alwen Watkin
 Cllr John Ifan Jones
 Cllr Jeff Evans

Cllr Gary Pritchard
Cllr Ieuan Williams

Representatives from External Organisations

Member from Isle of Anglesey Foster Carers' Association
Member from Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
Member from Tros Gynnal

Officers

Director of Social Services
Director of Education, Skills and Young People
Head of Housing Services
Service Manager – Intensive Intervention
Service Manager - Education of Looked After Children, Youth and Wellbeing of Children and Young People
Service Manager - Safeguarding
Integrated Manager - Children with Disabilities
Independent Reviewing Officer
Senior Manager School Standards and Inclusion
LAC Health Officer
Team Manager - Child Placement Team

4. Responsibilities

The Director of Social Services is responsible for ensuring that the Panel has sufficient officer support to lead the Corporate Parenting Strategy.

The Service Manager for the Intensive Intervention Services will be the lead officer for the Panel with support from service leads for looked after children and care leavers, adoption & fostering and advocacy.

Democratic Services will provide the administrative arrangements and constitutional guidance to the Panel. Agenda and reports to be circulated one week in advance of the meeting.