

## AGENDA ITEM NO.

<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL</b>	
<b>Report to</b>	Executive Committee
<b>Date</b>	15 April 2013
<b>Subject</b>	IFSS Sub–regional development: Gwynedd and Ynys Môn Councils
<b>Portfolio Holder(s)</b>	Cllr Ken Hughes,
<b>Lead Officer(s)</b>	Anwen Huws, Head of Children Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Glyn Hughes, Interim Operational Manager
<b>Nature and reason for reporting</b> To gain approval for the actions necessary to meet the the statutory requirement to establish the IFSS service as required by the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010.	

### **A – Introduction / Background / Issues**

The Integrated Family Support Services (IFSS) is a Welsh Assembly Government initiative. IFSS delivers family focused services to enable parents to achieve the necessary behavioural changes that will improve their parenting capacity. At the heart of the IFSS is the Integrated Family Support Team (IFST). In order to address and meet the needs of families with complex problems IFS Teams will be multi agency and multi- disciplinary, consisting of professionals with the skills and experience in working directly with children in need, their parents and adults with complex health and social care needs.

NWSSIC recommended to the Welsh Assembly Government that the £850,000 regional grant for IFSS be rolled out according to the RSG in line with stated WG policy intentions. The RSG allocation for Gwynedd and Môn is £161,605 and £88,116 respectively, creating a total allocation of £249,721.

### **B - Considerations**

Gwynedd and Ynys Môn undertook an appraisal options for configuring the potential sub-regional service. Three options were appraised and these are discussed in the report. The preferred option was to establish a sub-regional service configuration that will maximise the potential of available resources to develop the most effective service model for the benefit of both counties. By adopting this model the Board intends to take full advantage of the RSG allocation for each Authority, and deliver an affordable service to meet new statutory requirements. The governance of the integrated service hosted by Ynys Môn will be via a formal partnership arrangement, mitigating risks to the host authority and ensuring that partner contributions are clear. We currently have such models in place in a number of joint services – YJS, Out of Hours Services are two examples.

<b>C – Implications and Impacts</b>		
<b>1</b>	<b>Finance / Section 151</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Legal / Monitoring Officer</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Human Resources</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Property Services</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>5</b>	<b>Information and Communications Technology (ICT)</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Equality</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>7</b>	<b>Anti-poverty and Social</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>8</b>	<b>Communication</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>9</b>	<b>Consultation</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>10</b>	<b>Economic</b>	
<b>11</b>	<b>Environmental</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>12</b>	<b>Crime and Disorder</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>13</b>	<b>Outcome Agreements</b>	

### **CH - Summary**

In order to meet the statutory requirement it is recommended that we establish a single IFSS Team to operate across Gwynedd and Ynys Môn. Ynys Môn will act as the lead/host authority.

### **D - Recommendation**

1. Note the statutory requirement to establish the IFSS service
2. Approve the partnership approach to service development and delivery
3. Proceed to appoint the Consultant Social Worker who needs to have a strategic role in the development of the service (Ynys Môn) with a target “on line” date of October 2013.
4. Establish the Project Plan and Project Group encompassing the following elements:
  - Recruitment strategy and timeline
  - Office accommodation
  - Eligibility Criteria and gatekeeping arrangements
  - Administrative and on- costs identification
  - Protocols
  - Training requirements
  - Review requirements
  - Capacity projection (number of cases)
  - Governance arrangements
  - Development of the Quality Assurance framework
  - Information Technology requirements
  - Establishing core budget requirements

**Name of author of report Glyn Hughes,  
Job Title Interim Operational Manager  
Date 22.03.13**

### **Appendices:**

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### **Background papers**

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<b>CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN</b>	
<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	Executive Committee
<b>DATE:</b>	22 April, 2013
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	IFSS Sub–regional development: Gwynedd and Ynys Môn Councils
<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT:</b>	To gain approval for the actions necessary to meet the the statutory requirement to establish the IFSS service as required by the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010.
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY</b>

## 1.0 Background

Integrated Family Support Services (IFSS) is a Welsh Assembly Government Initiative. The model was piloted in Wrexham, Newport, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf local authority areas and is to be rolled out across all Areas of Wales in 2013. It is a new statutory responsibility outlined in the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010.

IFSS delivers family focused services to enable parents to achieve the necessary behavioural changes that will improve their parenting capacity.

At the heart of the IFSS is the Integrated Family Support Team (IFST). In order to address and meet the needs of families with complex problems IFS Teams will be multi agency and multi- disciplinary, consisting of professionals with the skills and experience in working directly with children in need, their parents and adults with complex health and social care needs.

IFSS is a multi- agency team comprising of Health and Social Care workers who have been trained in solution focussed therapy to work with families where children are deemed to be at risk of significant harm which is linked to parental substance misuse. Composition and functions of these teams are prescribed in Guidance and regulation and IFSS interventions are based on an initial, intensive six week programme followed by a less intensive phase of 12 months.

NWSSIC recommended to the Welsh Assembly Government that the £850,000 regional grant for IFSS be rolled out according to the RSG in line with stated WG policy intentions. At the North Wales Regional Workshop held on 26.11.12, it was decided that proposals for the development of 3 sub-regional IFSS teams would be further developed in planning for the implementation of Phase 4 of the IFSS Programme by October 2013. The RSG allocation for Gwynedd and Môn is £161,605 and £88,116 respectively, creating a total allocation of £249,721.

Gwynedd and Ynys Môn Councils have established a shadow IFSS Board since 2011, and it has been governed by our joint LSCB since early 2012. This is in anticipation of the statutory Regulations which will create the duty to establish the IFSS Boards when the Regulations are commenced.

It has been confirmed by letter in October 2012 that WG are only specifying a statutory mandate through Regulations in relation to parental substance misuse. NWSSIC has been informed that there will be no intention of fully implementing the 2010 Measure beyond this scope.

## **2.0 Options Appraisal**

Gwynedd and Ynys Môn undertook an appraisal options for configuring the potential sub-regional service. The IFSS Shadow Board commissioned a short piece of work appraising two options in relation to IFSS implementation at a sub-regional level. During September 2012, three options were appraised for the development of a sub-regional IFSS Team for Gwynedd and Ynys Môn:

These were:

- A single IFSS Team centrally located serving both Authorities.
- Two teams each aligned to the existing footprint of Children and SMS/Mental Health services, but sharing a Consultant Social Worker post.
- Two teams, independent in posts and management, but sharing a common governance arrangement and optimised development and training resources.

In designing and delivering an affordable service model, the following principles were adopted in scoping preferred service models:

- Maximising the opportunities for sharing and maximising the impact of limited resources for the benefit of both counties;
- Ensuring the delivery of IFSS on an equitable basis to serve the needs of families across a wide geographical area;
- Delivering an effective bilingual service to meet the linguistic and cultural needs of families across both Gwynedd and Ynys Môn;
- Maximising the opportunities for sharing and making the most effective use of governance arrangements for the joint management of the Service;
- Maximising the opportunity for making the most cost-effective use of resources in support of management and administrative arrangements for the operation of the IFSS Team across Gwynedd and Ynys Môn.

## **3.0 Preferred Option**

At its meeting on 21/02/2013 the shadow IFSS Board agreed on a sub-regional service configuration that will hopefully maximise the potential of available resources to develop the most effective service model for the benefit of both counties. By adopting this model the Board intends to take full advantage of the RSG allocation for each Authority, and deliver an affordable service to meet new statutory requirements. The governance of the integrated service hosted by Ynys Môn will be via a formal partnership arrangement, mitigating risks to the host authority and ensuring that partner contributions are clear. We currently have such models in place in a number of joint services – YJS, Out of Hours Services are two examples.

The model:

- Establishment of a single IFSS Team to operate across Gwynedd and Ynys Môn. Ynys Môn will act as the lead/host authority.
- A shared Consultant Social Worker post
- A shared Health worker post;
- 3 spearhead workers' be established on the basis of availability of resources through grant allocation and/or transfer of existing staffing resources.
- Shared administrative arrangements in support of the IFSS team;
- The implementation of clear eligibility criteria and gatekeeping arrangements based on need rather than geographical location.
- A joint Gwynedd and Ynys Môn IFSS Board maintained, on the principle of the strategic alliance of the Gwynedd and Ynys Môn LSCB.

### Cost profile for a joint Gwynedd and Ynys Môn sub-regional IFSS Team

Option 1	Cost profile IFSS				
	Shared services, central team covering Gwynedd and Ynys Môn				
			Max with on-costs	Cost+trav	Total
CSW grade	1. Consultant Social Worker	38-41	£ 44,688.44	£ 46,864.00	£ 46,864.00
	2. Health worker (Band 6)	Band 6	£ 41,550.00	£ 43,550.00	£ 43,550.00
	3 Other worker/ Professional grade	34-37	£ 39,822.05	£ 41,972.00	£ 125,916.00
	Admin	18-21	£ 24,460.00	£ 25,460.00	£ 25,460.00
	Office and training costs.				£ 7931.00
					£ 249,721.00

The Board should note that there are some concerns regarding the ability of both authorities to identify additional cost implications in respect of accommodation, on costs, training and Reviewing Officer capacity. These will need to be identified and addressed within the project plan.

In terms of location discussions have been held within both Authorities and the preferred option is locating the team at The YJS building at Y Felinheli.

Whilst other options need to be explored as part of the project plan, the service will be managed by the Principal Officer (Resources) located within Ynys Môn Children's Services. The IFSS Board will retain overall responsibility for the development and performance of the service.

In terms of developing eligibility criteria, intervention models, protocols and processes, job descriptions, training requirements etc. the model is highly prescriptive with much material already available for use and adaptation.

#### **4.0 Recommendations:**

- A1. Note the statutory requirement to establish the IFSS service
- A2. Approve the partnership approach to service development and delivery
- A3. Proceed to appoint the Consultant Social Worker who needs to have a strategic role in the development of the service (Ynys Môn) with a target "on line" date of October 2013.
- A4. Establish the Project Plan and Project Group encompassing the following elements:
  - Recruitment strategy and timeline
  - Office accommodation
  - Eligibility Criteria and gatekeeping arrangements
  - Administrative and on- costs identification
  - Protocols
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