

IMPROVEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY BOARD

Minutes of the meeting held on 27th June, 2013 (11:00 am)

- PRESENT:** Councillor Ieuan Williams (Chair)
Chief Executive
- Executive : Councillors R.Dew, K.P.Hughes, H.Eifion Jones,
Alwyn Rowlands.
- Scrutiny Chairs : Councillor R.Meirion Jones.
Deputy Chief Executive; Director of Sustainable Development;
Head of Function (Resources); Head of Service (Community
Support); Children Service Improvement Programme Manager
(JD); Programme and Business Planning Manager (GM)
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Committee Services Manager.
- ALSO PRESENT:** Mr.Huw Lloyd Jones (Wales Audit Office);
Ms.Tanis Cannick (Project Manager for the
Anglesey Education Recovery Board); Mr.Gareth Williams
(External Educational Advisor)
- APOLOGIES:** Councillors A.Morris Jones, J.Arwel Roberts,
Director of Community; Director of Lifelong Learning, Mr.Andy
Bruce (Wales Audit Office). Mr.Mark Roberts (Local Authority
Inspector, CSSIW). Professor Mel Ainscow (Chair of the
Anglesey Education Recovery Board). Ms. Lisa Hughes (Welsh
Government).

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None to declare

2. APOLOGIES

As above.

3. MINUTES

Submitted and confirmed as a true record, the minutes of the meeting of the Improvement and Sustainability Board held on 25th April, 2013.

4. UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ANGLESEY EDUCATION RECOVERY BOARD.

(a) Reported by the Project Manager – That the Chair of the Anglesey Education Recovery Board would provide a more detailed report in September but this report highlighted the progress that had been achieved to date.

The School Improvement on Anglesey report had been presented by the Director to the Recovery Board in May to demonstrate how core staff were working in partnership with schools to drive on the school improvement agenda. Board members provided advice and support which strengthened this key strategic plan. The External Educational Advisor provided this meeting with a brief synopsis of the contents of the document.

The Board had also discussed the report prepared by the Director entitled 'Transforming Education on Anglesey – Modernisation of Schools' and noted that this was a key area in terms of school improvement and which the Authority must address as a priority.

Local Authority colleagues had met with Welsh Government officials in May to seek approval from the Minister to resubmit the Strategic Outline Plan, which outlined the key areas that would need to be addressed in order for the Council to access a greater percentage of the 21st century schools funding than was currently the case.

Board members had also met with key Headteachers and Deputy Headteachers to gather evidence on their commitment and progress on delivering the key recommendations of the Estyn report.

The local authority had also presented the Recovery Board with an overview of the expected end of key stage achievements for 2013. This data provided a very positive view and was evidence of the significant improvement that the authority had made. The overview formed part of the report of the Director of Lifelong Learning later in this agenda.

Details were also provided within the report of revised Board membership and support staff.

The Improvement and Sustainability Board noted and welcomed the contents of the report.

(b) Submitted – A report by Mr. Gareth Williams (External Educational Advisor) on behalf of the Director of Lifelong Learning, drawing attention to the work that had been undertaken since the Estyn inspection and highlighting at Appendix 1, the ongoing progress made in relation to the expected outcomes noted in the post-inspection action plan (PIAP). Appendix 2 of the report drew attention to the possible improvements in end of key stage assessments. Foundation phase, KS2 and KS3 assessments had been collected from schools and analysed. The overall performance had been compared with 2012 benchmarks. Absolute performance at all three key stages had improved as had the probable performance in comparison with FSM benchmarks.

The Improvement and Sustainability Board noted that pleasing progress was continuing to be made in relation to all recommendations.

5. UPDATE ON PROGRESS IN CHILDREN'S SERVICES.

Submitted – A progress report by the Service Improvement Manager against the Service Delivery Plan.

Reported – That the focus for 2013-14 was to consolidate and embed the improvements made and take forward the review and modernisation of the Service in both the management and operation of both front line provision and the back office function. There was a new Business Plan in place and detailed planning was ongoing to ensure that the effective implementation of this was being managed to meet Service objectives.

Details of notable progress made were referred to at Para 2 of the report and remaining areas of concern and challenges were referred to at Para 3 of the report.

The progress of last year had set a new benchmark and set of expectations for the Service which, along with the injection of new staff and managers, had helped stimulate a more optimistic and positive view of the Service and its capability to manage and improve further. Key elements within this were the growing recognition of the importance of performance management and awareness of addressing the assurance and enhancement of quality of what was being delivered.

There were significant challenges for the Service as the Department looked to the implications of new and changing legislation and continuing budgetary pressures, together in the face of patterns of demand that showed no sign of decreasing. Whilst these can have a positive impact in terms of driving change and efficiency there remained concern that the ability to deliver services to meet statutory obligations would be stretched. Thus over the coming year, the Service would be making the argument on an invest to save basis for additional (albeit mostly temporary) capacity to make the required changes.

The Portfolio Holder thanked the Service for their work in this respect and congratulated them upon the progress and substantial improvement that had taken place. It was important however, that this progress be maintained and bettered wherever possible.

The Improvement and Sustainability Board noted the contents of the report and welcomed the progress being made.

6. PROGRAMME BOARDS' PROGRESS REPORT

Submitted – A joint report by the Corporate Directors on developments as regards the Transformation Programme Boards.

Reported by the Director of Sustainable Development – That the Transformation Plan identified three Programme Boards to oversee and drive change programmes and projects within the Council and with external collaborators. These were to be known as the Island Enterprise, Service Excellence and Business Transformation Programme Boards. Details of their remit was provided at paragraphs 1.1 – 1.3 of the report.

All three Boards would provide oversight, direction and make recommendations to the Executive on funding change programmes and projects. This would give confidence that anticipated benefits to the Council and communities on Anglesey were being realised and ensure that activities were delivered in accordance with Anglesey's corporate objectives and transformation culture themes.

Details of the first two establishing meetings of the Programme Boards which took place in April and the end of May/June 2013 were detailed at paragraph 2 of the report together with outputs at paragraph 2.1.

The next meetings would take place at the end of June/early July with full membership. These meetings would be briefing sessions and would close the establishing stage of the Boards. The September meetings would begin the work of the Boards, monitoring all programmes and projects within their portfolio, meeting with the leads and Managers on a rolling programme basis.

The Chief Executive mentioned that an invitation would be extended in due course to partners and regulators to attend meetings of the Programme Boards.

The Improvement and Sustainability Board noted the contents of the report and the progress being made.

7. DRAFT ANNUAL STATUTORY REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES.

Reported – That the aim of the annual report was to provide the Council and the people living in Anglesey with an overview of how well the Authority was delivering its social care responsibilities. The report presented a personal view by the Director of Social Services on the Isle of Anglesey and captured her experience of engaging with the transformational journey for Anglesey Council.

The process involves the critical appraisal of all service areas using analysis grids which identified what it is the Authority was trying to do, how well we are doing it and what the outcome had been for the service user. A constructive challenge session was held on 22nd March 2013 with our partners, with services reporting on their business plans and end of year performance. The Director considered that there was a sound platform from which to move forward, but that the task was considerable and would require the ongoing engagement, learning and commitment to continual improvement which characterised the work programme adopted by the Service and Council during 2012-13. The report would be presented for information to Council on 15th July, 2013.

The Improvement and Sustainability Board noted the contents of the report.

The meeting concluded at 12:30 p.m.

**COUNCILLOR IEUAN WILLIAMS
CHAIR**