

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to:	Executive Committee
Date:	16 March, 2015
Subject:	Childcare Sufficiency Assessment – Refresh 2015
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Ieuan Williams
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Local Members:	

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s
<p>It is a requirement of the Childcare Act 2006 that all Local Authorities in Wales:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the sufficiency of their childcare services; • Ensure they have sufficient childcare; • Provide information, advice and assistance to parents, prospective parents and those who have parental responsibility in relation to childcare; <p>In April 2008, formal guidance was issued to Local Authorities specifying their statutory obligations under the Act.</p> <p>We have to prepare a comprehensive assessment every 3 years (this was completed in 2014) with an annual refresh noting any changes</p> <p>Main findings 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a drop of 19% in the number of live births between 2012 and 2013. • There were fewer childminders than in 2014 but more nursery provision. • An increase in the number of after school clubs with new clubs opened in Gwalchmai, Rhoscolyn and Llangefni. • The Specialist Children’s Service (SCS) provides respite care for children within disabilities after school, during weekends and school holidays in their specialist facility in Llangefni. This care is tailored to the individual needs of the child and their family. • There is no change to the holiday provision. • There is generally sufficient childcare in Anglesey but there is a need to develop the number of childminders in rural areas.

Matters needing attention 2015-2017.

- Continue to work in partnership with childcare and early years organisations e.g. Mudiad Meithrin, Wales PPA, Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids Clubs, to develop and sustain childcare in Anglesey.
- Continue to provide a training plan for the sector.
- Undertake research with parents and families on the need for holiday childcare.
- Target rural areas for development of childminders, in particular Seiriol and Talybolion wards.
- Consult with employers / economic development department in order to produce projections of childcare needs for the future.

The Executive Committee is asked to accept the report as a refresh of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2014 and agree to the actions proposed.

B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

Approval is sought from the Executive Committee to approve the content of the report and forward the report to the Welsh Government in order to comply with the statutory requirement of the Childcare Act 2007 that the Council prepare a Childcare Sufficiency Assessment.

CH – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?

D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?

No budget decision required

DD – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Strategic Leadership Team (SLT)	
2	Finance / Section 151	No comments
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer	
4	Human Resources (HR)	No comments
5	Property	
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	
7	Scrutiny	
8	Local Members	
9	Other/s Head of Children’s Services	This report should be viewed in the context of the requirements of the Social Services and Welfare Act that will become operational in 2016. Local Authorities’ duties in relation to preventive and early intervention services will be emphasised along with to enabling families to meet their needs within community resources. It needs to be reflected in the assessment that this can influence the perception of the feasibility question to the future.

E – Risks and any mitigation (if relevant)	
1	Economic
2	Anti-poverty
3	Crime and Disorder
4	Environmental
5	Equalities
6	Outcome Agreements
7	Other

F - Appendices:
Childcare Sufficiency Assessment – Refresh 2015

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



CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

Refresh 2015

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1. Introduction

1.1 Each local authority in Wales has a legal duty under Section 26 of the Childcare Act to produce a Childcare Sufficiency Assessment every three years with an annual refresh. Isle of Anglesey County Council completed a full assessment in April 2014 this is the first annual refresh.

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment is a measurement of the nature and extent of the need for and the supply of childcare within the local authority.

Section 22 of the Childcare Act 2006 places a duty on Local Authorities to secure, as far as is reasonably practicable, provision of childcare that is sufficient to meet the requirements of parents in their area in order to enable them to work or undertake education or training leading to work.

Specific regard must be given to the needs of parents for:

- The provision of childcare in respect of which the child care element of the working tax credit is payable;
- The provision of childcare which is suitable for disabled children;
- The provision of childcare involving the use of the Welsh language.

1.2 This refresh will give an update on the supply of childcare in the Isle of Anglesey. Parent and provider surveys were undertaken in 2013 and have not been repeated for the purpose of this refresh.

1.3 Where new information is available, demographic data has been updated.

2. Demographic Data

2.1 Anglesey's population has seen a steady increase and Mid Year Estimates for June 2013 show there were an estimated 70,091 people living in Anglesey. There were 12,053 children and young people aged 0 – 15 living in Anglesey making up

17.2% of the county's population, down from 19.5% in 2001. This is in contrast to the over 65 age group which showed an increase of 1.3% to 23.7%

Projected population figures expect that the percentage of children living in Anglesey will remain relatively stable during the next ten year period. Projected figures for 2036 estimate the percentage of children up to 0 – 15 years living in Anglesey will have fallen to 15.9% and the over 65 population will have increased to 32.6%

In 2012, Anglesey had the highest Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in Wales with 935 live births. There was a significant drop in 2013 when 763 live births were recorded.

Children with Disabilities

The number of active caseloads within the Specialist Children's Service (figure for January 2015) is 118, the majority of whom are in the 5 – 7 year old age range, a decrease of 30 from 2014.. In 2013/14, there were 2045 children aged 3 – 18 with Special Educational Needs, an increase of 33 pupils on the previous year.

As of January 2015, there are 79 children aged 3 – 18 years attending the Local Authority's Special School, an increase of 4 since 2014. There are 18 children receiving specialist placement in schools outside the county, compared to 12 in 2014. There are 2 children with disabilities who receive home schooling.

3. The Childcare Market

Local Authorities are not obliged to meet the individual childcare needs of every working family, but to ensure that at a community level, the Local Authority is taking strategic action with its partners to address gaps in childcare. Local Authorities will be expected to support the development of childcare where there is sufficient parental demand that a childcare setting or a childminder could operate and be sustainable.

4. Childcare Provision

The supply of and the demand for childcare is constantly changing. As such the figures presented in this report represent the best estimates at the time (January 2015).

For the purpose of this assessment, Childcare is defined as provision that is reliable and regular and provides a safe place for children to be. This does not include ad hoc activities which may take place during school holidays and be used as childcare for specific days. In addition it does not include the many grandparents or other family members/friends who provide informal childcare for their family/friends.

The Isle of Anglesey has 48 local authority maintained primary schools, 1 independent school, 5 secondary schools and 1 special school. All the county's primary schools have a breakfast club facility between 8.15am and 9.00am. Whilst the Breakfast Clubs are not defined as childcare they have become an invaluable source of Childcare for parents and are generally well attended, 39% of parents of 4 – 10 year olds who responded to our childcare survey reported that they use free breakfast clubs provided at their child's school.

There has been a slight decrease in the number of registered childminders in Anglesey during the past year. However, 2 new day nurseries have opened during the past year - 1 in Holyhead offering 40 places and 1 in Llangefni offering 55 places. The new nursery in Llangefni can offer specialised care for children with disabilities.

There has also been an increase in the number of registered after school settings with 3 new settings opening at Ysgol Y Ffridd, Gwalchmai, Ysgol Rhoscolyn, and Ysgol Y Graig, Llangefni, each offering 16 childcare places.

Type of Provider	Providers		Places	
Childminders	58	43%	311	14%
Day Nurseries	13	10%	520	24%
Cylchoedd Meithrin	33	24%	631	29%
PPA Playgroups	8	6%	194	9%
After School Clubs (registered)	14	10%	336	15%
After School Clubs (non registered)	7	5%	126	6%
Holiday Clubs	3	2%	70	3
Total	136	100%	2188	100%

Despite the changes in the supply of childcare it remains the case that the most populated areas have the most childcare provision.

Ward	Area	Primary Schools	Day Nursery	Places	Child minder	Places
Aethwy	Llanfairpwll	Llanfairpwll	1	36	6	34
	Penmynydd					
	Menai Bridge	Porthaethwy	2	105	4	22
Bro Aberffraw	Aberffraw	Bodorgan			1	5
	Bodorgan	Niwbwrch			2	12
	Rhosyr	Dwyran				
Bro Rhosyr	Llanidan	Brynsiencyn				
	Llanfihangel Esceifiog	Esceifiog			1	6

	Llanddaniel Fab	Parc y Bont	1	70		
	Llangristiolus	Henblas				
		Llangaffo				
Caergybi	Holyhead Town	Y Parc	2	49	2	10
	London Road	Llaingoch				
	Morawelon	Llanfawr	1	28	1	5
	Porthyfelin	St. Mary's		40		
	Parc a'r Mynydd					
Canolbarth Môn	Bryngwran	Bryngwran				
	Bodffordd	Bodffordd	1	37		
	Llangefni	Y Graig	2	115	5	29
	Llangwyllog	Corn Hir				
	Tregaeon	Y Ffridd				
		Talwrn				
Lliffon	Llanfaelog	Pencarnisiog				
	Llanfair yn Neubwll	Rhosneigr				
	Valley	Y Tywyn	1	68	2	8
		Caergeiliog			2	11
		Valley				
Lligwy	Moelfre	Moelfre			1	5
	Llaneurgad	Goronwy Owen			3	14

	Llanfair M. E.	Pentraeth			5	29
	Pentraeth	Llanbedrgoch			1	5
	Llanfihangel Tre'r Beirdd					
Seiriol	Beaumaris	Biwmares			1	6
	Cwm Cadnant	Llandegfan				
	Llanddona	Llanddona				
	Llangoed					
	Llangoed	Llangoed				
Talybolion	Bodedern	Bodedern			2	10
	Cylch y Garn	Cylch y Garn				
	Llanerchymedd	Llanerchymedd				
	Llanfachraeth	Llanfachraeth				
	Llanfaethlu	Ffrwd Win				
	Mechell	Llanfechell				
	Tref Alaw	Cemaes			2	12
		Carreglefn				
Twrcelyn	Amlwch	Amlwch	1	32	8	41
	Llanbadrig	Cemaes			1	4
	Llaneilian	Penysarn			3	18
	Rhosybol	Rhosybol			2	11
Ynys Gybi	Trearddur	Thomas Ellis				
	Rhoscolyn	Rhoscolyn				

	Maes Hyfryd (Holyhead)	Morswyn				
	Kingsland (Holyhead)	Kingsland			3	14
			13	580	58	311

Part Time Education for 3 – 4 year olds

Early years education in Anglesey is delivered in some school settings from the September following the child's 3rd birthday and in the non-maintained sector in the term following the child's 3rd birthday..

There are 33 Mudiad Meithrin pre school settings and 8 Wales PPA settings in the county. These settings also offer playgroup sessions for 2 and a half to 3 year olds.

The number of settings and places available remains the same as in 2014.

Ward	Area	Cylch Meithrin	Places	Attending	PPA	Places	Attending
Aethwy	Llanfairpwll	2	40	38			
	Porthaethwy	1	24	16			
Bro Aberffraw	Bodorgan	2	34	6			
	Niwbwrch						
	Dwyran	1	14	8			
Bro Rhosyr	Brynsiencyn	1	18	7			
	Esceifiog	1	14	17			

	Parc y Bont						
	Henblas	1	12	12			
	Llangaffo						
Caergybi	Y Parc	1	20	9			
	Llaingoch	1	20	19			
	Llanfawr	1	16	20			
	St. Mary's				1	30	26
Canolbarth Môn	Bryngwran	1	13	7			
	Bodffordd	1	18	12			
	Y Graig	1	24	27			
	Corn Hir	1	26	30			
	Y Ffridd	1	16	9			
	Talwrn	1	16	8			
Lliffon	Pencarnisiog	1	16	10			
	Rhosneigr				1	12	7
	Y Tywyn				1	45	21
	Caergeiliog						
	Valley				1	12	5
Lligwy	Moelfre	1	18	10			
	Goronwy Owen	1	14	7	1	21	21
	Pentraeth	1	16	10			

	Llanbedrgoch						
Seiriol	Biwmares				1	24	14
	Llandegfan	1	22	15	1	22	15
	Llanddona						
	Llangoed						
Talybolion	Bodedern	1	16	16			
	Cylch y Garn						
	Llanerchymedd	1	19	12			
	Llanfachraeth						
	Ffrwd Win	1	18	14			
	Llanfechell	1	20	8			
	Cemaes	1	17	14			
	Carreglefn	1	12	7			
Twrcelyn	Amlwch	1	20	23	1	24	15
	Cemaes						
	Penysarn	1	20	14			
	Rhosybol	1	15	8			
Ynys Gybi	Thomas Ellis	1	40	14			
	Rhoscolyn				1	16	7
	Morswyn	1	24	19			

	Kingsland						
		33	632	446	9	206	126

After School Childcare

There are 14 registered after school clubs and 7 unregistered clubs offering after school childcare on or close to school premises. Of the 14 registered settings one nursery runs a registered after school club in premises separate to the nursery and a short walk from the primary school at Llanfairpwll. A further 3 nurseries offer after school care within the nursery setting. The remaining 10 settings are after school clubs on school premises. Childminders also offer after school care including pick up from schools.

In 2014, there were no registered after school clubs in four of Anglesey's Electoral Wards, Llifon, Lligwy, Talybolion and Ynys Gybi. By now Ynys Gybi have an after school club at Ysgol Rhoscolyn and Llifon ward has a registered setting at Ysgol Sefydliedig Caergeiliog. There are a number of childminders in Lligwy ward who are able to offer after school childcare. Talybolion ward remains an area of concern which will be an area for development in the 2015/16 financial year.

In the small rural communities the sustainability of after school clubs is an issue. There have been unsuccessful attempts in the past to establish clubs for children from 2 or more schools. The low numbers of children in the schools, distance between schools and the need for adequate transport for the children has proved to be a difficulty for schemes such as this. This is an area which should be explored further as the schools modernisation plan becomes a reality.

Holiday Childcare

There are 3 established Holiday Childcare settings operating on school grounds in Anglesey. Day nurseries also offer holiday provision for children up to 8yrs old.

Holiday childcare has historically been a difficult area to maintain. Although only 59% of parents surveyed reported they were satisfied with their childcare during

school holidays the take up of places in holiday clubs is low. The Local Authority has utilised the Welsh Government Out of School Childcare Grant (OSCG) to subsidise and advertise Holiday Clubs in strategic areas of the county but this has failed to increase the numbers attending.

295 parents responded to the question about the type of childcare they use during school holidays. Of these 223 said they use family and friends to care for their children and only 26 reported using holiday clubs. A further 20 say they use play/sport facilities during school holidays.

Demand for school holiday childcare needs further investigation to get a clearer understanding of the needs of families and children and to best utilise the facilities and resources available.

The Specialist Children's Service operates a specialised after school, weekend and holiday respite facility for children who are eligible to receive their service. This service is offered at their specialist unit in Llangefni. The respite packages are tailored to the needs of the individual child and their family and they may attend between 2 and 12 hours per week dependent upon their needs.

5. Demand for Childcare

The number of enquiries to the Family Information Services (FIS) has declined slightly during the past year.

Between April and December 2014 the FIS received 61 specific enquiries for childcare.

Of the 61 enquiries 5 were in relation to childcare for children with disabilities; 5 from families residing in areas where there is no registered childcare; 1 for childcare outside typical working hours.

All 61 of the enquiries resulted in the families obtaining suitable childcare for their children.

6. Gap Analysis

Geographical Gaps

In general, there is sufficient childcare in most geographical locations on the Island. Full day care nurseries are well located in areas of higher population and employment.

There are many rural areas such as Trearddur, Llanfaelog , Aberffraw to the West of the island and Seiriol Ward in the East and Talybolion ward who continue to have little or no childcare provision locally. There has been some improvement with the opening of new after school provision in Rhoscolyn, Gwalchmai and Llangejni. Lack of regular public transport in some of these rural areas also adds to the difficulty in accessing available childcare outside the urban areas.

Time Gaps

Parents were asked in 2014 about what would improve childcare in Anglesey. Of the 165 parents who responded to the question, 87% said earlier opening times, 89% later closing time and 85% said they would like weekend provision.

Newry Nursery in Holyhead is open on Saturdays. Some childminders also offer weekend provision.

All new/potential childminders are encouraged to consider offering atypical hours as a means of attracting clients and being competitive.

Age Gaps

Childcare settings are registered by CSSIW for children up to 8years old. It is difficult to establish the exact amount of childcare available for each age group, particularly among childminders, because of the ratios allowed by CSSIW. The numbers of available places for specific ages can vary enormously on a daily basis.

After school settings offer childcare to children up to 11 years old. There is no regular provision for young people 11 years and over within the secondary schools. There have been attempts in the past to establish after school provision for secondary age pupils, the numbers attending have meant that these settings have been unsustainable. Secondary Schools provide a range of activities supported by the 5 x 60 project and other organisations such as the Urdd.

Type Gaps

The main gap identified was after school provision in the rural areas of low population. A number of the after school settings currently operating are unregistered and offer less than 2 hours childcare per day. Parents who use unregistered settings are also unable to claim financial assistance for this childcare. Registration of the currently non registered settings would improve affordability for families in these areas.

In some of the areas identified as having no after school provision there is also a lack of full day care provision. The development of childminders in these areas would increase the availability of day care and after school childcare as childminders are able to pick children up from school.

Language Gaps

The 2014 provider questionnaire identified that all day nursery settings offer Welsh or bilingual childcare. The number childminders offering Welsh or bilingual childcare was 34 out of 63. This is still an area for development.

7. Conclusion

Whilst there have been some changes to the type and number of childcare places available in Anglesey, there is still generally sufficient childcare to meet demand. Consultation with employers/economic development department and with the planning department in order to form projections for future childcare needs will form a part of the 2016 refresh.

The closing/merging of schools over the coming years may well have an impact on childcare provision, particularly in the after school/holiday sector. It would be useful to bear in mind the need for childcare within the new schools infrastructure.

We also have to consider the changes that will take effect upon the implementation of the Social Services and Well Being Act which is effective from 2016. The Local Authority will have a duty to consider early intervention and provide preventive services thereby ensuring families meet their own needs within their community, and that we aspire to provide services that are also available for children with additional needs within the community.

There remain gaps in certain areas that require further development in accordance with the action plan produced in 2014.