

# Agenda



## Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships

---

Date: Wednesday, 4 October 2017

Time: 5.00 pm

Venue: Committee Room 1 - Civic Centre

To: Councillors M Rahman (Chair), J Clarke, D Davies, R Hayat, M Linton, S Marshall, R Mogford, T Suller and K Whitehead

---

Item	Wards Affected
1	<u>Agenda in Welsh</u> (Pages 3 - 4)
2	<u>Apologies</u>
3	<u>Declarations of Interest</u>
4	<u>Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 July 2017</u> (Pages 5 - 10)
5	<u>Briefing - Educational Achievement Service (EAS)</u> (Pages 11 - 24)
6	<u>Briefing - Shared Resource Services (SRS)</u> (Pages 25 - 26)
7	<u>Forward Work Programme Update</u> (Pages 27 - 32)

This page is intentionally left blank



# Agenda

## Pwyllgor Craffu ar Berfformiad – Partneriaethau

---

Dyddiad: Dydd Lau, 4 Hydref 2017

Amser: 5 y.p.

Lleoliad: Ystafell Bwyllgora 1

Y Cynghorwyr: M Rahman (Cadeirydd), J Clarke, J Cleverly, D Davies, R Hayat, M Linton, S Marshall, R Mogford and T Suller

---

### Eitem

1. Agenda yn Gymraeg
2. Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb
3. Datganiadau o Fuddiant
4. Cofnodion y Cyfarfod a 26 Gorffennaf 2017
5. Briffio – Gwasanaeth Cyrhaeddiad Addysgol (EAS)
6. Briffio – Gwasanaethau Adnoddau a Rennir (SRS)
7. Y Diweddariad o'r Rhaglen Waith i'r Dyfodol

This page is intentionally left blank

# Minutes



## Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships

---

Date: 26 July 2017

Time: 4.00 pm

Present: Councillors M Rahman (Chair), J Clarke, J Cleverly, D Davies, R Hayat, M Linton, S Marshall, R Mogford and T Suller

In Attendance: R Cornwall (Head of People and Business Change), K Duffin (Head of Regeneration Investment and Housing), W Beer (Public Health Wales), Chief Inspector D Morgan (Gwent Police) Inspector R Jenkins (Gwent Police), V Self (Service Manager), S Calnon (Youth Service Manager), E Mulligan (Chief Democratic Services Officer, M Lawrence (Overview and Scrutiny Officer), N Barnett (Democratic Services Support Officer)

Apologies: None

---

### 1 **Declarations of Interest**

None.

### 2 **Public Services Board - Single Integrated Plan (SIP) Annual Report**

The Head of People and Business Change introduced the Single Integrated Plan (SIP) and the Theme leads to Members. The Committee were advised that each of the three SIP themes had previously been presented to the most relevant Scrutiny Committee, however since this Committee had been established for the purpose of meeting the statutory requirement to scrutinise the work of the whole Public Service Board (PSB) Partnership, the complete SIP was being presented to this Committee for consideration.

The theme lead from Public Health Wales presented the Health and Well-being theme to the Committee. Discussions included the following:

#### **Food & Nutrition**

- Progress had been made in promoting physical activity and trying to promote healthy nutrition in early years. Schools have been encouraging children to walk to school with the 'Mile a Day' campaign. This scheme would also impact on school run traffic congestion, to reduce the numbers of cars traveling to school.
- With regard to the new pilot scheme starting in September, where school nurses would record height and weight of children, and inform parents if their child is in a dangerous weight range. Members voiced concerns that this may lead to a backlash from parents

and asked if school nurses were being prepared for this. Members were assured that nurses had been trained in how to approach this with parents and that consideration had been given to the wording used in letters to parents, learning from the backlash against Public Health England when this initiative was launched there last year.

- The Committee queried whether the funding for breakfast, dinner time and after school clubs would cease when the Communities First funding ended, and were advised the impact of the ending of this funding would be considered by the PSB in September.

## **Smoking**

- The Committee were advised that the smoking rate in Newport was in line with the Welsh average, although not yet meeting the UK average. Members discussed the Just B programme aimed at reducing smoking related inequalities in health using strong peer networks to promote positive messages. NHS Stop Smoking services are being promoted and services being offered to help people to quit, and work being done with ASH Wales to stop smoking in school gates.
- The use of electronic cigarettes was discussed and the extent to which their use led to smoking tobacco. There were currently no targets relating to electronic cigarettes and it is not recommended as a substitute to pregnant smokers, as not enough was known about the effects, instead steering people towards supported smoking cessation programmes in place.
- Concern was raised about the impact of smoking shisha with no filter other than water and the impact of the substances upon young people and possible future addiction. It was asked if this could be looked into further in terms of future addiction. Committee were advised that currently there was no prevention work currently, but advised there is a group named Minority Ethnic Community Health Association for Newport: Initiating Change (MECHANIC) who have had conversations regarding providing support. The Health & Wellbeing Lead agreed this is something to look into and report findings back.

## **Mental Well-being**

- Concern was expressed at the increase of mental health issues for young people, and a Member questioned whether there were any distinguishable differences with planning for adult mental health. The Lead advised that most mental health issues are laid down in childhood and support needs to be available earlier. A meeting had been held with the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and now Youth Workers, School Nurses and GPs can make referrals to multi agency panels. He concluded that the support available needs to be coordinated to provide effective support.
- The Committee queried whether Autistic Spectrum Disorder was included in the above mentioned coordinated support arrangements, as there was still a stigma associated with this. Members suggested this was something that could be addressed in schools.

## **Alcohol and Drug Misuse**

- It was noted that whilst there was a reduction of the use of alcohol amongst young people, however, concerns were raised regarding the increase of solvent abuse amongst young people. The Committee were advised that Newport LIVE were running diversionary activities to help educate young people and that the PSB was looking at ways deal with preventative issues upstream.
- It was advised that there has been a data sharing agreement with the Licensing department across Gwent to target enforcement on problem premises which are selling cheap alcohol.

## **Economy and Skills**

The Head of Regeneration Investment and Housing introduced the Economy and Skills theme to the Committee, The Committee were advised of the key highlights for the year such as the City Deal for the Cardiff City Region, meetings with Virgin to extend the digital connectivity in the City, and the £14 million Vibrant and Viable Places development. The Committee were also advised that perceptions of people living in Newport had improved, rising from 24% last year to 70% this year.

The Newport Station footbridge work had been delayed due to lack of funding, although the Council were working close with Network Rail to restart the works.

The following was discussed:

- The Committee queried news story that all new petrol and diesel vehicles from 2040 will be abolished. Committee were advised that an Energy Manager has recently been appointed, and will be writing a strategy and implementing plan for Newport. It was also advised that there would be electric points at Civic Centre.
- A Member proposed that due to the imminent removal of the Severn Crossing tollgate barrier, there would be greater opportunity to work with Bristol. Members were advised that Great Western Cities was a great opportunity to work together and full advantage of the opportunity needs to be taken.
- Members praised the positive improvement in the City Centre including Friars Walk and new developments, but were concerned about homelessness in the city centre and enquired if it is a Council or Police issue. Members were advised that both need to work together to tackle the issue and that consideration was being given to applying for Purple Flag accreditation for the City Centre. A Homelessness Working Group has been set up and the Wallich were looking at funding and Health had set up additional services for Homeless people. Homelessness is a multi-agency issue and the answer is for all partners to work together on solutions.
- The Committee queried zero contract hours, and advised the vulnerable need help to get qualifications. The Committee were told that we want to help every young person possible. A contract has been signed with I-Tech to provided services for young people that are unique to any Council in Wales. All services working together have been reduced over the last four years.

- Concerns were raised about the accessibility issues with the Convention Centre. It was advised that key part is to connect the benefits from the Convention Centre with local communities. There was a need to make certain that local businesses are going to gain from the opportunity. Also advised that studies are being taken from Planning permission, some impact is expected but nothing significant. In relation to the community benefits of the new convention centre, it was asked if Celtic Manor could be invited discuss this with the Committee, particularly in relation to what this will bring to the community
- EU programmes were discussed and the Committee were advised that the funding was available until 2020, and there would be challenges to replace these when funding ends.
- Safety protocols on WIFI usage was queried in relation to cyber bullying and excesses. The Committee were advised that the public WIFI across the city has been a great success. It was open access but secure. Individual's ability to manage their data was a different issue however an authority we were safe. It was agreed that more needs to be done, and there was a suggestion to have a safety disclaimer link before using the WIFI, but did advise that work has been done in schools to make children safe.
- The Committee were advised that there would be a number of public sector apprenticeships across all partners. A Member mentioned that the free training offered by Trade Unions could be utilised as part of skills training. The Committee were advised that the Council are looking to work with any partner willing to work on this.
- It was asked if there are age limits on older people for apprenticeships. The Committee were advised that Government are only funding up to aged 24. The Committee also queried about City and Guilds training at Gwent colleges, stating qualification is not recognised and cannot take it onto site without a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) and Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) card. The Committee was advised that this could be explored with Coleg Gwent who were a partner on the Public Service Board.
- The Workplace Academy was discussed and it was explained that the process was centralised and the Department for Work and Pensions also have a database of those who are looking for work. At the jobs fair for the Convention Centre everyone on the database got contacted and that 80 of those people got a job.

### **Safe and Cohesive communities**

Chief Inspector David Morgan was introduced and presented the portfolio to the committee. The main highlights were the PSPO and praised the positive work from both Gwent Police and the Pill community.

The following comments and queries were discussed:

- The Committee were advised that hate crime figures in the report do not differentiate between the figures for LGBT, BME and Transgender. The Chief Inspector advised that hate crime has moved significantly in the last two years, and although we do not have a Newport Pride Event, it could be organised fairly easily. Any hate crimes were flagged up



immediately in the morning meetings and the Committee were also told that the Rainbow group are linked to the PSB.

- The Committee were pleased to see the link between shoplifting and drug dealing being made. Comment was made that food was most stole item, and were told that shops have encouraged to take more responsibility in providing CCTV evidence and writing reports to the Police due to it taking up a lot of resources.
- It was asked what kind of engagement could assist in building a rapport with young people, and that some youths congregate outside shops such as McDonalds to use the Wifi, which can intimidate people. The Committee were advised that specialist youth workers are working with young people in this area and that discussions had taken place with local businesses regarding free WiFi but they had refused to turn off the Wifi due to their customer usage.
- Query was made about reoffending and whether youth workers ask young people what help they need. It was advised that child's upbringing is looked at, and is subject to a mutli-agency approach and involving Social Workers, Police and probation. This had resulted in the reoffending rates having dropped substantially. It was also advised that Police and Fire Brigade make visits to schools.
- The Committee commented on city wide problem with off road bikers, used to use land at the SDR but now have nowhere to ride. Members asked if there was any land that bikers could use. The Police advised that the issue with purchasing land to create a track is the ongoing management of that land, and the associated Public Liability Insurance.
- The Committee also raised the issue of public noise nuisance and drug running. It was advised that this will be looked into and which agencies were able to contribute to help solve this.
- The recent incident at a mosque in London was mentioned and raised concerns of something similar happening in Newport. It was advised that there was more of an issue with right wing extremism than Islamic. The Police advised that inter-faith groups have been created and that the Police had visited and reviewed the security in every mosque in the city. It was agreed that the PREVENT agenda also tackles right wing extremism. The Police also advised that all Police probationers receive race awareness training in a mosque. The PREVENT training pack was offered to the Committee.
- It was advised that engagement from the public had increased to thousands on a regular basis. Link in information report was offered to be emailed to committee to access.

#### **Resolutions and Actions:**

The Committee agreed to receive the update on the Single Integrated Plan and note the progress being made by the Public Services Board. The questions raised and comments made by the Committee would be forwarded to the PSB.

The Committee agreed to nominate the Chair of the Committee to attend and observe the Public Services Board meetings on behalf of the Committee.

### 3 **Public Services Board - Local Well-being Assessment (Community Well-being Profiles)**

The Chief Democratic Services Officer advised the Committee that the Public Services Board were required to send a copy of the published Local Well-being Assessment to this Scrutiny Committee and indicated the link the report for Members information.

#### **Resolutions and Actions:**

The Committee received the Local Well-being Assessment.

### 4 **Annual Forward Work Programme**

The Chief Democratic Services Officer presented the Forward Work Programme to the Committee. In answer to a query about when the Briefing Sessions were to be programmed, the Overview and Scrutiny Officer explained that meeting the new statutory requirement to scrutinise the Public Service Board was the priority of the Committee's focus, before scrutinising other partnership working and advised that briefings upon the Shared Resource Services and the Education Achievement Services would be scheduled first for this Autumn / Winter, with briefings upon Norse and Newport LIVE to be scheduled for later the following year.

#### **Resolutions and Actions:**

The Committee:

- i. Approved its Annual Work Programme for 2017/18;
- ii. Approved the schedule of meetings for 2017/18;
- iii. Agreed to a start time of 5pm for its meetings, with a Committee only pre meeting at 4:30pm;
- iv. Requested that background reading links for papers are included for reference where possible in reports to the Committee.

The meeting concluded at 19:05.

# Scrutiny Report

## Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships

---

### Part 1

Date: 4 October 2017

### Subject - Educational Achievement Service (EAS) - Briefing

**Author** Overview and Scrutiny Officer

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

- Hayley Davies Edwards - Principle Challenge Advisor – EAS
- Ed Pryce – Challenge Advisor - EAS
- Sarah Morgan – Deputy Chief Education Officer - Newport City Council

### Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

#### 1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is receiving this briefing session for information.

#### 2 Context

- 2.1 The EAS is the school improvement service for the five Local Authorities in the consortium (Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen). The role of the EAS is to support, monitor and challenge schools with the purpose of raising education standards in South East Wales.
- 2.3 At its meeting on 26 July 2017, the Committee requested briefings on all of the partnerships within the remit of the Committee, to enable Members to have an understanding of the partnerships prior to any scrutiny being undertaken.
- 2.4 The EAS have been asked to provide a briefing to the Committee covering the following:
- What is EAS? What is its purpose, aims and objectives?
  - Who are the key partners within EAS?
  - What are the governance arrangements in place for EAS? How is progress monitored and reported on.
  - Who are the key contacts within EAS, and who will be attending the Committee when EAS items are considered?
  - Any other information that might be useful for the Committee – such as key documents that you produce, current projects / update on current work.
- 2.4 At its meeting on 26 July the Committee agreed to include items relating to the EAS on its work programme for the coming year.

Topic	Role	Statutory Status
Education Achievement Services Contribution – Financial Year 2017/18 and Value for Money Model for Commissioning Arrangements	Performance Scrutiny of the EAS Partnership - through Annual Monitoring of the local authorities Financial contribution to EAS and also the through consideration of the value for money model, and its potential use / implications for scrutiny of other partnerships.	Newport City Council makes an annual contribution to the commissioning of the EAS. This report would provide the Committee with detail of the financial contribution which the Council has made and the level of support which the EAS has provided to Newport over the financial year 2017/18.  EAS is one of a number of commissioned education services, and EAS were supporting work to develop a “Value For Money Model” so that the approach developed here could be applied more widely. It was suggested that this model could also be of interest to scrutiny in monitoring and assessing commissioned services.  <i>Timescale – February 2018</i>
Education Achievement Services – Governors Support	Performance Scrutiny – of the EAS Partnership – through a consideration of the level of support in place for Governors, responsibilities for funding this support and an assessment of the adequacy of resources for Governors.	No statutory obligation to scrutinise this area.  This is an area raised by the previous Scrutiny Committee. This would be a detailed look into a specific concern previously raised by the Scrutiny Committee that it felt warranted further investigation.  <i>Timescale – March / April 2018</i>

### 3 Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1 Attached as Appendix 1 is an introductory document giving a brief overview of the EAS. There will also be a presentation at the meeting by the lead Officers.

### 4 Suggested Areas of Focus

- 4.1 It is suggested that the Committee discuss the role of EAS with the Officers present, and gain an understanding of the partnership and how the Scrutiny Committee may be involved with scrutinising the work of the partnership in the future.

## Section B – Supporting Information

### 6 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

6.1 - Improvement Plan:

#### A Learning and Working City

5. Supporting young people into education, employment and training;
6. Ensuring the best educational outcomes for children

## 9 Background Papers

Learning, Care and Leisure Scrutiny Committee's last meeting details including Minutes, EAS Business Plan and Value for Money information. (22 March 2017)

Available from: <https://democracy.newport.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=6654>

Report Completed: 28 September 2017

This page is intentionally left blank

# INFORMATION FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

MAY 2017

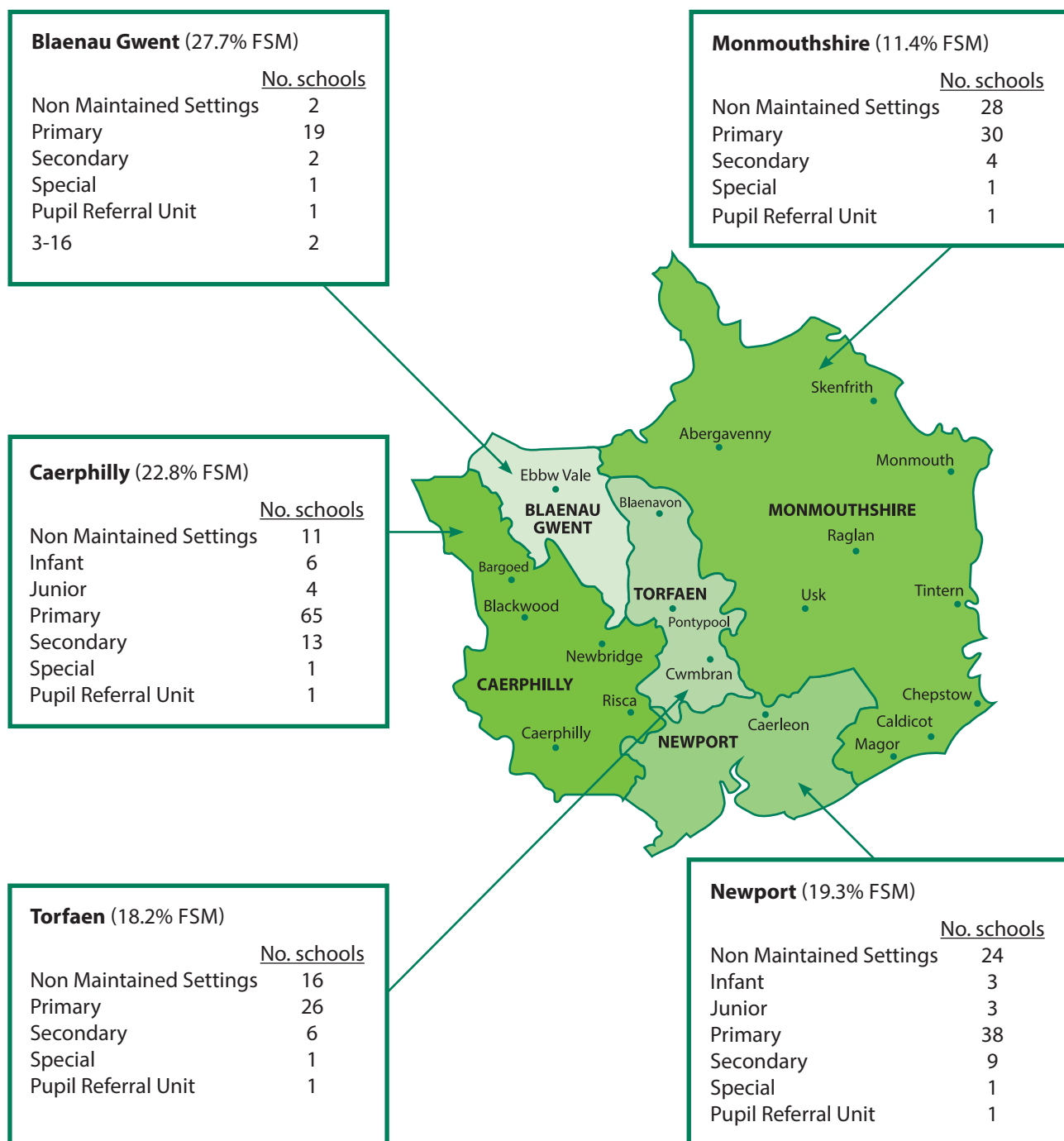
Serving the communities of Blaenau Gwent,  
 Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen



# What is the consortium?

The Education Achievement Service (EAS) is the school improvement service for the five local authorities in South East Wales: Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen.

There are 238 maintained schools in the region, 15% of all maintained schools in Wales. As of January 2016, these schools served 70,642 pupils of compulsory school age, which was 19% of all pupils in Wales. The percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals was 20.1%, which is higher than the national figure of 18.4%.





# What does the consortium do?

The region delivers school improvement based on the Welsh Government National Model for Regional Working.

## How the consortium operates and is funded

The core activities undertaken by the EAS on behalf of the Local Authorities are:

- Delivering school improvement – providing appropriate support and challenge, including data analysis, categorisation of schools, ensuring grant funding is used effectively
- Supporting the development of school leadership at all levels
- Supporting the development of Literacy and Numeracy
- Providing challenge to the performance and delivery of the Foundation Phase
- Providing support for appropriate learning pathways, for learners ages 14-19, including revised core GCSEs, the Welsh Baccalaureate, and the 'Seren' project to raise aspirations post-16.
- Supporting strategies for 21st Century Schools
- Enabling the aims of the Welsh Government's Welsh-medium Education Strategy
- Implementing Governor training and advice services including the requirements for mandatory training for governors
- Providing Specialist Human Resource support, advice and guidance
- Offering a comprehensive Professional Learning Office (PLO) to support the development of teaching and leadership

Further details on the model can be found on the Welsh Government Website:

<http://gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/140217-national-model-for-regional-working-en-v2.pdf>

The EAS operates a 3 year Business Plan, updated annually, which is the regional strategic plan for accelerating educational outcomes across the region. In addition to the main Business Plan each Local Authority has an Annex document that focuses specifically on the areas that require improvement in each Local Authority. The plans undergo robust consultation with key stakeholders and are agreed on an annual basis by each local authority Cabinet.



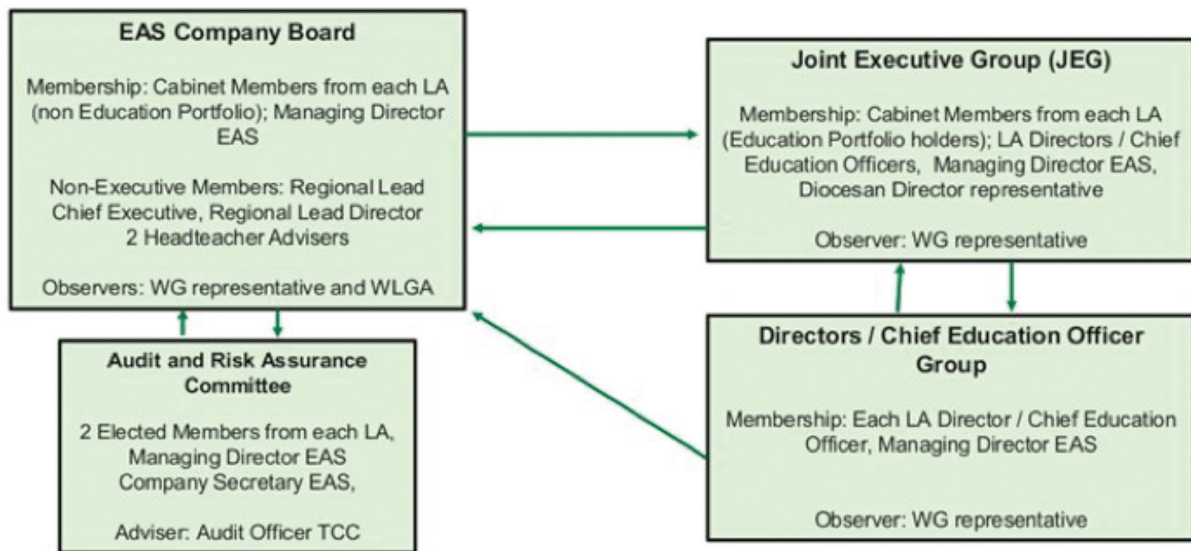
The Business Plan and all related documents can be found on the EAS website.

The EAS is funded by the five local authorities, a variety of Welsh Government grants and a small amount of traded services.

# How is the consortium governed and held to account?

## How is the consortium governed?

The EAS is a company owned jointly owned by the 5 local authorities. The service is accountable to you as elected members representing communities across the region. All minutes from the Company Board, Audit and Risk Assurance Committee and the Joint Executive Group are available on the EAS website. The Governance Structure is illustrated below.



In addition to the formal governance structures there are a broad range of consultative groups, these are illustrated below:



Further information on the current membership of the Governance Committees can be found on the EAS website.

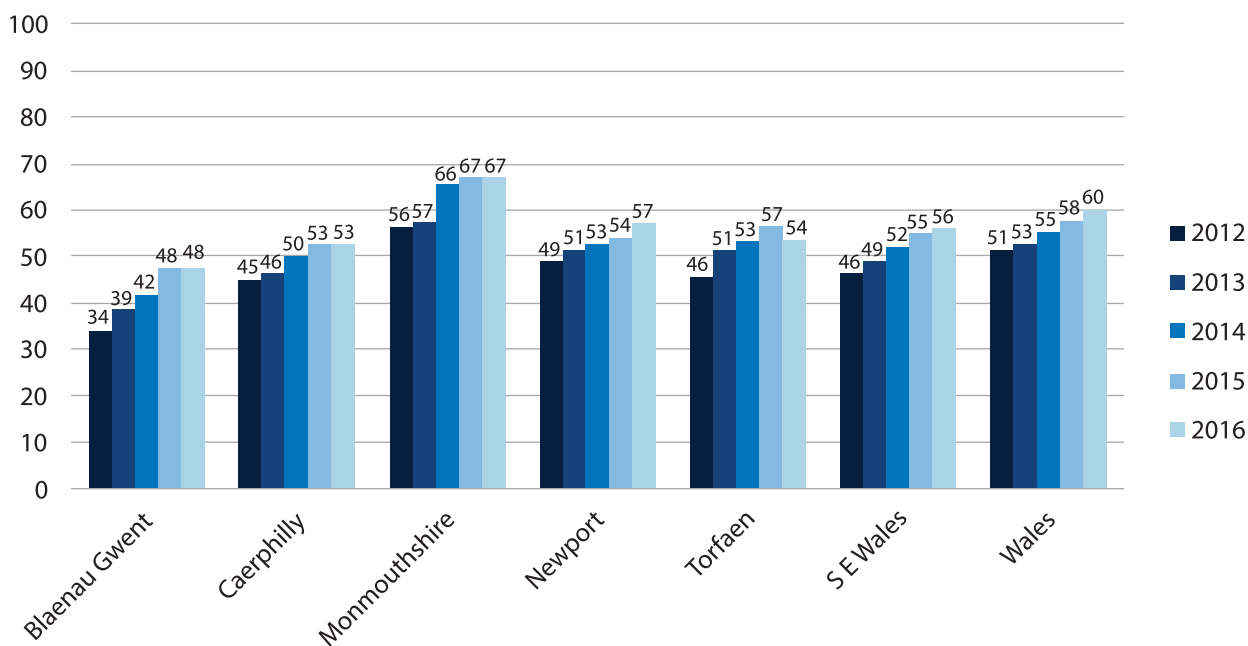
# What is the impact to date?

The impact of the work of the EAS is captured systematically through reviews of the Business Plan. A summary of the progress within Outcomes, Provision and Leadership is contained in the EAS Self Evaluation Report, this can be found on the EAS website. A summary is shown below:

## Progress in Outcomes:

- Teacher Assessment outcomes at the end of Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 remain above the national average. Teacher Assessment outcomes at the end of Key Stage 3 (KS3) are despite improvements below the national average and remain adequate.
- There is a regional four-year improving trend in Level 2 inclusive of English / Welsh and mathematics.
- The number of schools with fewer than 40% of pupils achieving the Level 2+ has reduced from twelve in 2012 to one in 2016.
- Performance at the Level 3 threshold in Key Stage 5 (KS5) in 2016 has improved by 2% to 97.6%.

## Key Stage 4 L2 inc E/W & M results 2012 - 2016



## Progress in Provision:

- The EAS has appropriate differentiated procedures for monitoring, challenging, supporting and intervening in schools which are applied more consistently and have resulted in the majority of schools making good progress.
- The region has made good progress in developing mechanisms to facilitate school to school support in key areas, including leadership, teaching, GCSE support programmes, 21st Century Learning, Post 16 and offers a wide range of professional learning opportunities that align to the Business Plan priorities.

- The EAS provides strong support for the implementation of WG initiatives such as the introduction of the new curriculum for Wales.
- Challenge advisers monitor diligently schools' plans for their use of the Pupil Deprivation Grant. They ensure that the plans meet requirements and focus appropriately on improving' outcomes for vulnerable learners. The provision for these pupils is beginning to improve their outcomes at each key stage.
- There are good arrangements to identify the overall development needs of governors which are effectively met in most cases through a centrally delivered training programme.

## Progress in Leadership:

- The EAS Business Plan appropriately sets out the regional strategic vision, aims and priorities aligned closely to WG guidance and key national, regional and local priorities. Through effective communication and consultation arrangements the EAS has shared its intentions and expected outcomes to all stakeholders.
- Self-evaluation and improvement planning processes are becoming increasingly accurate, evaluative and balanced.
- Strategic leadership and management is good with a clearer governance and communication structure which is increasingly effective and understood.

School strategic partnerships are good and continue to improve, in most cases professional relationships with headteachers and governors are good.

**The Estyn / Wales Audit Office Inspection**, 'A report on the quality of the school improvement services provided by the EAS Consortium' May 2016.

A summary of the findings from the full report is below.

Section	Grade
Support for school improvement	Good
Leadership	Good
Quality improvement	Good
Partnership working	Good
Resource management	Good

# Priorities for development

**The Business Plan** incorporates actions to address the recommendations of the Estyn / Wales Audit Office Inspection, May 2016, namely to:

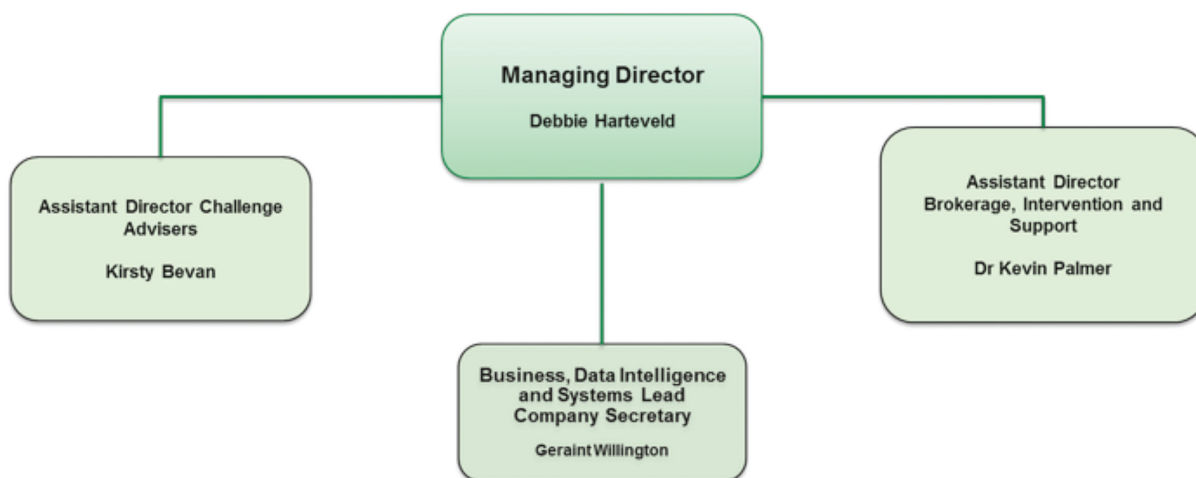
- R1: Consider the use of a wider range of performance indicators at school and regional level to ensure that the progress of all groups of learners is challenged and supported;
- R2: Improve consistency in the quality of evaluation of school improvement activities throughout the service; and
- R3: Identify and manage risks more effectively.

The key priorities for 2017-18 are:

- To raise aspiration, to improve pupil outcomes and reduce variance across schools and LAs, to improve the quality of teaching and leadership and accelerate the progress of those schools in amber and red support categories
- To implement a regional strategy and Professional Learning Offer that is focused on improving the well-being and accelerating outcomes for learners, particularly those facing the challenges of poverty
- To implement a regional strategy and Professional Learning Offer (including Governor Development) to improve the capacity and quality of teaching and leadership across the region
- To refine the Regional Strategy for literacy and numeracy in collaboration with key partners to accelerate outcomes at all key stages
- To lead, support and appropriately challenge schools to implement the Successful Futures agenda and changes to non-core GCSE specifications
- Rationalise the Regional Model for the delivery of the Self-Improving System
- To improve consistency in the quality of evaluation of school improvement activities throughout the service and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the service.

# Who are the key people in the EAS?

Full staffing structures can be found on the EAS website. The Senior Management Team is shown below:



## Our core values

Our core values guide everything we do in our day to day practices and interactions with our key partners, the wider educational community and our employees.

Our core values are:

<b>Excellence</b>	We aim for excellence in teaching, learning, leadership and in all that we do.
<b>Innovation</b>	We face the challenge of radical change with courage, reason and optimism.
<b>Integrity</b>	We act with honesty and transparency at all times and always in the best interests of all learners across our region.
<b>Collaboration</b>	We work in partnership so that, together, we can make a greater difference.
<b>Accountability</b>	We take collective ownership for the quality of our service and for pupil outcomes.

# How to obtain further useful Information

We are keen to ensure that we share as much information as possible with elected members.

We regularly provide reports for local authority scrutiny committees and can arrange members' briefings with local authority officers on relevant topics.

You can access further information:

- on our website:  [www.sewales.org.uk](http://www.sewales.org.uk)
- on our Twitter feed:  [www.twitter.com/sewalesEAS](https://www.twitter.com/sewalesEAS)
- on our Facebook page:  [www.facebook.com/sewalesEAS](https://www.facebook.com/sewalesEAS)

You can also contact us by:

- Telephone: 01633 415470 (Newport) - 01443 864963 (Tredomen)
- Email: [business.support@sewaleseas.org.uk](mailto:business.support@sewaleseas.org.uk)

If you are a school governor you can access information from our Governor Support Service at <https://sewales.org.uk/Governor-Support-Development.aspx>.

We also provide a weekly bulletin for all schools. Elected members can sign up for this by emailing [business.support@sewaleseas.org.uk](mailto:business.support@sewaleseas.org.uk) with 'bulletin sign up' as the subject line.

This page is intentionally left blank





# Scrutiny Report

## Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships

---

### Part 1

Date: 4 October 2017

### Subject – Shared Resource Services (SRS) briefing

**Author** Overview and Scrutiny Officer

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

- Rhys Cornwall – Head of People and Business Change
- Mark Bleazard – Information Development Manager
- Jo Evans (Digital Information Project Officer)
- Representative from SRS

## Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

### 1. Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is receiving this briefing session for information.

### 2. Context

- 2.1 The Shared Resource Service (SRS) is a collaborative ICT provision in South East Wales that comprises Gwent Police Authority, Monmouthshire County Council, Torfaen County Borough Council and Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council. The SRS is underpinned by a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that enables a single management structure across the board. The MoU was signed Jul 2011 and includes governance arrangements that allow new partners to join. In addition to the partners outlined, the SRS also has customers.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 26 July 2017, the Committee requested briefings on all of the partnerships within the remit of the Committee, to enable Members to have an understanding of the partnerships prior to any scrutiny being undertaken. Previously SRS have presented their Business Plan 2016 – 2019 to the Community, Planning and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

- 2.3 The SRS have been asked to provide a briefing to the Committee covering the following;
- What is SRS? A brief explanation of the background to how and why SRS was set up;
  - What is its purpose, aims and objectives?
  - Who are the key contacts for SRS? Who will be attending Scrutiny Committee when they consider reports on SRS?
  - How is the service provided through SRS reported on, and how is its performance monitored.
  - Any other information that might be useful for the Committee – such any detail on how performance is measured (PIs), current projects / update on current work.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 26 July the Committee agreed to include items relating to the EAS on its work programme for the coming year the table below outlines the Committee’s Forward Work Programmes reference to SRS:

Topic	Role	Statutory Status
Shared Resource Services	Performance Scrutiny – Effectiveness of Partnership Arrangements	<p>No statutory obligation to scrutinise this partnership.</p> <p>The previous Scrutiny Committee (Community, Planning and Development) reviewed the SRS arrangements. It was agreed that the Committee would review the arrangements 6 months after it was implemented.</p> <p><i>Timescale - November 2017</i></p>

### 3. Suggested Areas of Focus

- 3.1 It is suggested that the Committee discuss the role of EAS with the Officers present, and gain an understanding of the partnership and how the Scrutiny Committee may be involved with scrutinising the work of the partnership in the future.

The Committee will be receiving a presentation from the lead officers at the meeting.

## Section B – Supporting Information

### 4. Links to Council Policies and Priorities

Digital Strategy 2015  
Corporate Plan – Standing up for Newport

### 5. Background Papers

Report – Review of IT – Alternative Service Delivery: Scrutiny Recommendations ([March 2016](#))  
Cabinet minutes of Review of IT ([March 2016](#))

Report Completed: 28 September 2017

# Scrutiny Report

## Performance Scrutiny Committee - Partnerships

### Part 1

Date: 4 October 2017

### Subject: Forward Work Programme Update

**Author** Senior Overview and Scrutiny Officer

The following officers have been invited to attend for this item:  
Liz Blayney – Senior Overview and Scrutiny Officer

## Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

### 1. Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked to:

- (i) Endorse the proposed schedule for the next two Committee meetings;
- (ii) Confirm the topics to be considered, the invitees for each item, and indicate whether any additional information or research is required; and
- (iii) Note the list of reports that have been sent to the Committee for information over the last month.

### 2. Context

- 2.1 The purpose of a forward work programme is to help ensure Councillors achieve organisation and focus in the undertaking of enquiries through the Overview and Scrutiny function. Effective work programming is essential to ensure that the work of Overview and Scrutiny makes a positive impact upon the Council's delivery of services.
- 2.2 The Centre for Public Scrutiny's Good Scrutiny Guide recognises the importance of the forward work programme. In order to 'lead and own the process', it states that Councillors should have ownership of their Committee's work programme, and be involved in developing, monitoring and evaluating it. The Good Scrutiny Guide also states that, in order to make an impact, the scrutiny workload should be co-ordinated and integrated into corporate processes, to ensure that it contributes to the delivery of corporate objectives, and that work can be undertaken in a timely and well-planned manner.
- 2.3 Further information about the work programming process, including the procedures for referring new business to the programme, can be found in our Scrutiny Handbook on the Council's Scrutiny webpages ([www.newport.gov.uk/scrutiny](http://www.newport.gov.uk/scrutiny)).

### **3. Information Submitted to the Committee**

3.2 The following information is attached:

**Appendix 1:** The current Committee forward work programme;

**Appendix 2:** List of information Reports sent to the Committee over the last month.

## **Section B – Supporting Information**

### **4 Risk**

- 4.1 If proper work programming procedures are not put in place, the organisation and prioritisation of the work programme is put at risk. The work of Overview and Scrutiny could become disjointed from the work of the rest of the Council, which could undermine the positive contribution Overview and Scrutiny makes to service improvement through policy development.
- 4.2 This report is presented to each Committee every month in order to mitigate that risk. The specific risks associated with individual topics on the work programme will need to be addressed as part of the Committee's investigations.

### **5 Links to Council Policies and Priorities**

- 5.1 Having proper work programming procedures in place ensures that the work of Overview and Scrutiny makes a positive impact upon the Council's delivery of services, contributes to the delivery of corporate objectives, and ensures that work can be undertaken in a timely and well-planned manner.

### **6 Financial Implications**

- 6.1 There will be financial consequences for some of the reviews undertaken. These will be commented upon by the Head of Finance as the reports are presented. The preparing and monitoring of the work programme is done by existing staff for which budget provision is available.

## **Background Papers**

Scrutiny Handbook

List of Reports sent to the Committee for information  
Up to 28 September

<b>Name of Report</b>	<b>Date sent to Committee</b>	<b>Comments Received</b>
None	None	None.

This page is intentionally left blank

**Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships  
– Forward Work Programme**

<b>8 November 2017 at 5pm</b>		
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Invitees</b>	<b>Information Required/ Committee's Role</b>
SRS Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rhys Cornwall, Head of People and Business Change</li> <li>• Mark Bleazard – Information Development Manager</li> <li>• Representatives from SRS</li> </ul>	<p>Update on the IT shared services, 6 months following its implementation.</p> <p>Update on the partnership arrangements since its inception in April 2017.</p>
National Adoption Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sally Jenkins – Head of Children's Service</li> </ul>	<p>Consider principles for governance / structure of a regional fostering service prior to a Cabinet Member Decision.</p>

**Performance Scrutiny Committee – Partnerships  
– Forward Work Programme**

Wednesday 10 January 2018 at 5pm		
Topic	Invitees	Information Required/ Committee's Role
Draft Wellbeing Plan	TBC	Consultation on the draft Plan before it is adopted by the PSB, and forward any comments to the PSB
SIP - Quarter 2 Performance Update	<p>Rhys Cornwall – Head of People and Business Change</p> <p>Bev Owen – Strategic Director - Place (Economy and Skills Lead)</p> <p>William Beer, Public Health Wales (for the Health and Well-being section)</p> <p>CI David Morgan. Gwent Police (for the Safe and Cohesive section).</p>	To consider the progress towards the objectives outlined in the SIP.

<b><u>Information Reports</u></b>		
To be circulated to Members by email for comment and included in monthly Information Report section of Work Programme report.		
Name of Report	Date sent to Committee	Comments Received
None	-	None