

Scrutiny Report



Performance Scrutiny Committee – People

Part 1

Date: 19 February 2019

Subject Estyn inspection report

Author Overview and Scrutiny Officer

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

| Invitee: | Area / Role / Subject |
|-----------------------|---|
| Councillor Gail Giles | Cabinet Member for Education and Skills |
| Sarah Morgan | Chief Education Officer |
| Andrew Powles | Deputy Chief Education Officer |

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked to:

1. Acknowledge the recommendations and comments made in the Estyn Inspection report.
2. Question and challenge the Officers and Cabinet Member on the action and improvement plans in place to remedy the areas highlighted in the recommendations.
3. Decide if it wishes to make any comments and recommendations to the Cabinet Member.

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 Estyn's mission is to achieve excellence for all learners in Wales by providing independent, high quality inspection and advice services. Estyn inspects schools and local authority central education departments at least once in a seven-year period.

The aim is to provide the public accountability to service users on the quality and standards of education and training provision in Wales. Estyn carries out its inspections in line with primary legislation and associated regulations.

The report contains a number of recommendations and comments for service area improvement. It is the responsibility of scrutiny to ensure that the Education department take appropriate action to address these recommendations and actions and to monitor the continued application of, and achieving of, the recommendations and comments.

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

3.1 **Appendix 1** – Newport City Council – Estyn Inspection report.

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

Role of the Committee

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

- Discuss the recommendations with the Officers and Cabinet Members and establish whether adequate improvement/actions plans have been devised to sufficiently deal with the recommendations and comments;
- The Committee might wish to assess and make comment on the Education Departments action plans for the five recommendations individually:
 1. Improve the overall performance of secondary schools.
 2. Establish a coherent strategy across all relevant services to improve the outcomes of pupils eligible for free school meals.
 3. Ensure that self-evaluation activities focus on the impact the services have on outcomes and their value for money.
 4. Strengthen opportunities at a local authority level for children and young people to influence decisions that affect them.
 5. Deliver the strategic plans to develop welsh medium education further.
- Conclusions:
 - What was the overall conclusion on the information contained within the reports?
 - Is the Committee satisfied that it has had all of the relevant information to base a conclusion on the performance of the Service Area?
 - Do any areas require a more in-depth review by the Committee?
 - Do the Committee wish to make any Comments / Recommendations to the Cabinet?

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Supporting Information

5.1 The following reports might provide insight into the information contained in the report:

- [Estyn Annual Plan 2018 -2019](#)
- [Education Act 1997](#)

6 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

- The Estyn Inspection report directly links with the Education and Skills Well-being Objective and the Aspirational People Corporate Plan Commitment:

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| Well-being Objectives | Promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment | Improve skills, educational outcomes & employment opportunities | Enable people to be healthy, independent & resilient | Build cohesive & sustainable communities |
| Corporate Plan Commitments | Thriving City | Aspirational People | | Resilient Communities |
| Supporting Function | Modernised Council | | | |

7 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

| 5 Ways of Working | Types of Questions to consider: |
|--|---|
| <p>Long-term The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.</p> | <p>Have you identified anything on the horizon that would impact your ability to carry out the recommendations and comments?</p> <p>How will the needs of your service users potentially change in the future?</p> |
| <p>Prevention Prevent problems occurring or getting worse.</p> | <p>What are you able to put in place to prevent these recommendations from being an issue in the future?</p> <p>How are you addressing these issues to prevent a future problem?</p> |
| <p>Integration Considering how public bodies' wellbeing objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.</p> | <p>Are there any other organisations providing similar / complementary services?</p> <p>How does the Council's performance within this service area impact upon the services of other public bodies and their objectives?</p> |
| <p>Collaboration Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the organisation itself).</p> | <p>Who could you work with to deliver these recommendations?</p> <p>How are you co-working with other sectors?</p> <p>How are you using the knowledge / information / good practice of others to inform / influence the Council's work?</p> |
| <p>Involvement The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.</p> | <p>How have you sought the views of those who are impacted by your service area?</p> <p>How have you taken into account the diverse communities in your decision making?</p> |

8. Background Papers

Include all additional documents that are referenced in the report, and those that you have used as background reading. Hyperlink to online versions of them if available.

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan](#)
- [Estyn Annual Plan 2018 -2019](#)
- [Education Act 1997](#)

Report Completed: February 2019