

Annual Report to Council on Effectiveness of Social Services by Chief Officer, Social Care and Housing as ‘Statutory Director of Social Services’

Report Submitted by: *Keith Rutherford, Chief Officer Social Care and Housing*

Report Written by: *Eunice Jones, Group Manager Commissioning & Service Transformation*

1. Area Affected

County Borough wide.

2. Purpose of Report

2.1 To advise members of the content of the report of the Chief Officer, Social Care and Housing, as Statutory Director of Social Services, on the effectiveness of social services for 2018/19, prior to publication in August 2019.

3. Recommendation

3.1 It is recommended that Members:

- note the content of the report attached as Appendix 1 and
- support the publication of this report promoting general awareness of its content.

4. Background

4.1 Under the requirements of the Statutory role of the Director of Social Services we are required to prepare reports that reflect on Social Care performance for the year that has just ended. This is the eleventh such report that has been prepared in Torfaen and reflects performance for the 2018/19 financial year.

4.2 As we discussed in previous years this process is intended to integrate the interests of:

- The public as the key consumers who both receive and define the support they need
- Politicians at local and national level as accountable decision-makers on standards and priorities
- CSSIW as regulators, inspectors and service improvers
- ADSSC/WLGA/SSIA as support for, and leadership of, social care services in Wales
- Partner agencies and key stakeholders who have an interest in the delivery of social care.

4.3 The process requires us to involve all our key partner organisations, front-line staff, users and carers, peers, other Local Authorities and Elected Members. Therefore it is essential that everyone understands the messages in the report and acknowledges that they are the Director’s professional views, based on an assessment of all the available evidence and that these views may vary from

those of service users, citizens, elected members, partners and the wider public.

5. 2018/19 Reporting

- 5.1 Appendix 1 of this report contains the current draft of the formal report of the Director of Social Services for Torfaen for the year 2018/19. This is the third year we are adopting the Social Services & Wellbeing Act (2014) template for the Director's report.
- 5.2 Once again, in 2018/19, due to the serious financial situation facing the public sector in Wales, Torfaen Council has had to find significant savings in order to deliver our corporate responsibility for a balanced budget. The council has recognised the vital role Social Care plays in protecting those who are most vulnerable.
- 5.3 We know going forward that the financial situation will continue to be difficult and we recognise that we need to continue to seek efficiencies and enter into collaborations with neighbouring councils where it adds value.
- 5.4 As has been the case in previous years, we have not arranged specific "Challenge" events for partner agencies but relied on other mechanisms to consult e.g. attending groups and partnership boards to present key findings of this report.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1 It is recommended that Members:
- note the content of the report attached as Appendix 1 and
 - support the publication of this report promoting general awareness of its content.

Appendices	1 Report of Chief Officer, Social Care and Housing as Statutory Director of Social Services, 2018/19
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Background Papers	2018/19 Annual Performance Framework which includes service area service planning and evidence which will be stored within the W Community Care Information System (WCCIS) for access by our Inspectorate. Previous reports for 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17 AND 2017/18
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For a copy of the background papers or for further information about this report, please telephone: Eunice Jones 01495 742825