

LEARNING AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Decision Notice – Remote meeting, 7th October, 2024.

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

The recording of the meeting is available [here](#).

Present: Councillor R.R. Thomas (Chair); H.M. Payne (Vice-Chair), Councillors A. Asbrey, E.J. Goodjohn, E. Goodjohn, S.J. Haines, W.A. Hennessy, J. Lynch-Wilson and N.B. Marshallsea.

Co-Opted Members: M. Werrett (Church in Wales) and G. Van Der Burgt (Parent Governor – Secondary Sector).

Also Present: Councillors L. Burnett (Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources), R.M. Birch (Cabinet Member for Education, Arts and the Welsh Language), C.P. Franks, G. John (Cabinet Member for Leisure, Sport and Wellbeing) and E. Williams (Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health).

AGENDA ITEM 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

These were received from Councillors S. Campbell, W. Gilligan and N.P. Hodges; G. Scott (Welsh Medium Education); E. Woodfield and I. Da Silva (Vale Youth Council).

AGENDA ITEM 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

Councillor A. Asbrey declared a personal interest in relation to Agenda Item No. 3 – Summary of Estyn Inspection Outcomes for Summer Term 2024 and Update on Schools in Statutory Follow Up. The nature of the interest was that Councillor Asbrey was a Governor for Dinas Powys Primary School and she remained in the meeting for the duration of the item.

Councillor E.J. Goodjohn declared a personal interest in relation to Agenda Item No. 5 – Youth Service Update 2023-2024 and No. 7 – Youth Engagement and Progression Update. The nature of the interest was that the Councillor's youngest child was a member of the Vale Youth Council and was also part of the Rights Ambassador Programme. The nature of the interest meant that Councillor E.J. Goodjohn remained in the meeting for the duration of the items.

Councillor E. Goodjohn declared an interest in relation to Agenda Item 5 – Youth Service Update 2023-2024 and Agenda Item No. 7 – Youth Engagement and Progression Update. The nature of the interest was that the Councillor's family member was a member of the Vale Youth Council and was also part of the Council's Rights Ambassador Programme. The nature of the interest meant that Councillor E. Goodjohn remained in the meeting for the duration of the items.

Councillor W.A. Hennessy declared a personal interest in relation to Agenda Item No. 3 – Summary of Estyn Inspection Outcomes for Summer Term 2024 and Update on Schools in Statutory Follow Up. The nature of his interest was that Councillor Hennessy was a Local Authority Governor for Rhoose Primary School. Councillor Hennessy stated that he had received dispensation from the Standards Committee to speak and vote on related matters.

AGENDA ITEM 3. SUMMARY OF ESTYN INSPECTION OUTCOMES FOR SUMMER TERM 2024 AND UPDATE ON SCHOOLS IN STATUTORY FOLLOW UP (DLS) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the inspection outcomes of the four schools inspected during the Summer term be noted and congratulations be passed on to the schools as there was no follow up Estyn activity.
- (2) T H A T the progress of the two schools in special measures be noted.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) In order for Members to be aware of the progress of the two schools in special measures.

AGENDA ITEM 4. PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE UPDATE (DLS) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the contents of the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee receives a further progress update report in 12 months (September 2025) in order to evaluate progress made in relation to the overall attendance levels and the impact of the “Miss School Miss Out” campaign, the launch of the school attendance toolkit, the enhanced training and support for schools and any intervention pilot projects launched within schools.

Reason for recommendations

- (1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 5. YOUTH SERVICE UPDATE 2023-2024 (DLS) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the progress made by the Youth Service in the last 10 months be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee receives a further progress update report in December 2025 regarding delivery, awareness of grants and any potential risks post March 2025.

Reason for recommendations

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 6. EDUCATION OTHER THAN AT SCHOOL (EOTAS) AND PUPIL ENGAGEMENT SERVICE (DSL) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the developments made by the Pupil Engagement service and recognise the ongoing progress, opportunities, and risks for EOTAS learners within the Local Authority and the associated impact of the team's work be noted.
- (2) T H A T Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee receives a further progress update report regarding updated information (based on the EOTAS return for Welsh Government) and the impact of learning for those in EOTAS settings.

Reason for recommendations

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 7. YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND PROGRESSION UPDATE (DLS) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the progress made in the last eight months of the continued implementation of the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework (YEPF) aimed at reducing the number of young people classified as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) in the Vale of Glamorgan be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee receives a further progress update report in July 2025, moving the annual feedback to a more pertinent time in the annual cycle which would be a more timely update, following the official destination release in April each year.

Reason for recommendations

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 8. GOVERNOR TRAINING REPORT FOR THE 2023/24 ACADEMIC YEAR (DSL) –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the suggestions within paragraphs 2.10 to 2.17 of the report for future versions of the report be endorsed.

Reason for recommendation

To ensure that the report remains relevant going forward due to the changing circumstances highlighted within the report.

AGENDA ITEM 9. 1ST AND 2ND QUARTER RECOMMENDATION TRACKING 2024/25 AND UPDATED COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME SCHEDULE 2024/25 (DCR) –

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the status of the actions listed in Appendices A to C of the report be agreed.

(2) T H A T the updated Forward Work Programme Schedule for 2024/25 attached at Appendix D to the report be approved and uploaded to the Council's website.

Reason for recommendations

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

MATTER WHICH THE CHAIR HAD DECIDED WAS URGENT –

RESOLVED – T H A T the following matter which the Chair had decided was urgent for the reason given beneath the minute heading be considered.

AGENDA ITEM 10(i) PROGRESS UPDATE ON YSGOL LLYN DERW (DLS) –
(Urgent by need of Updating Members on the Status of the Ysgol Llyn Derw Development Programme Following its Contractors, ISG, Entering into Administration)

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the action being taken in response to the notification of ISG Limited entering into administration in relation to Ysgol Llyn Derw be noted.

Reason for recommendation

Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.