

# CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

## NOTICE OF MEETING

### EDUCATION AND YOUNG PEOPLE CABINET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**At:** Committee Room 4, Guildhall, Swansea

**On:** Wednesday, 4 November 2015

**Time:** 4.00 pm

## AGENDA

Page No.

- 1 **Apologies for Absence.**
- 2 **Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.** 1 - 2
- 3 **Minutes.** 3 - 4  
To agree and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting.
- 4 **Feedback from Scoping Exercise on NEET's.** 5 - 6
- 5 **Workplan Discussion.**

### **Date of Next Meeting.**

Wednesday 2 December 2015 – 4.00pm



**Patrick Arran**  
**Head of Legal and Democratic Services**  
**Thursday, 29 October 2015**

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**Contact: Democratic Services - 636824**

## EDUCATION AND YOUNG PEOPLE CABINET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Labour Councillors: 9

J P Curtice	R V Smith ( <b>Vice Chair</b> )
C R Doyle	C Thomas
C R Evans	D W W Thomas ( <b>Chair</b> )
F M Gordon	L V Walton
H M Morris	

### Liberal Democrat Councillors: 2

### Independent Councillor: 1

### Conservative Councillor: 1

### Officers & Relevant Cabinet Members:

Councillor J Raynor	Cabinet Member for Education (For Info)
Councillor C Richards	Cabinet Member for Opportunities for Children & Young People (For Info)
Chris Sivers	Director of People
Lindsey Harvey	Chief Education Officer
Vacancy	Head of Service Education Inclusion
Brian Roles	Education Planning & Resources
Helen Morgan-Rees	Education Improvement
Lee Wenham	Head of Marketing, Communications & Scrutiny
Archives	
Democratic Services	

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### Total Copies Needed:

22
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## Disclosures of Interest

To receive Disclosures of Interest from Councillors and Officers

### Councillors

**Councillors Interests are made** in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea. You must disclose orally to the meeting the existence and nature of that interest.

**NOTE:** You are requested to identify the Agenda Item / Minute No. / Planning Application No. and Subject Matter to which that interest relates and to enter all declared interests on the sheet provided for that purpose at the meeting.

1. If you have a **Personal Interest** as set out in **Paragraph 10** of the Code, you **MAY STAY, SPEAK AND VOTE** unless it is also a Prejudicial Interest.
2. If you have a Personal Interest which is also a **Prejudicial Interest** as set out in **Paragraph 12** of the Code, then subject to point 3 below, you **MUST WITHDRAW** from the meeting (unless you have obtained a dispensation from the Authority's Standards Committee)
3. Where you have a Prejudicial Interest you may attend the meeting but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the business, **provided** that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise. In such a case, you **must withdraw from the meeting immediately after the period for making representations, answering questions, or giving evidence relating to the business has ended**, and in any event before further consideration of the business begins, whether or not the public are allowed to remain in attendance for such consideration (**Paragraph 14** of the Code).
4. Where you have agreement from the Monitoring Officer that the information relating to your Personal Interest is **sensitive information**, as set out in **Paragraph 16** of the Code of Conduct, your obligation to disclose such information is replaced with an obligation to disclose the existence of a personal interest and to confirm that the Monitoring Officer has agreed that the nature of such personal interest is sensitive information.
5. If you are relying on a **grant of a dispensation** by the Standards Committee, you must, before the matter is under consideration:
  - i) Disclose orally both the interest concerned and the existence of the dispensation; and
  - ii) Before or immediately after the close of the meeting give written notification to the Authority containing:



## CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

### MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION AND YOUNG PEOPLE CABINET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM 5, GUILDHALL, SWANSEA ON  
WEDNESDAY, 7 OCTOBER 2015 AT 11.00 AM

**PRESENT:** Councillor D W W Thomas (Chair) presided.

<b>Councillor(s)</b>	<b>Councillor(s)</b>	<b>Councillor(s)</b>
J P Curtice C R Doyle	C R Evans R V Smith	C Thomas

Also Present: Councillor J A Raynor – Cabinet Member for Education

Officer: G Borsden – Democratic Services

Apologies: Councillor H M Morris

1 **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2015-2016  
MUNICIPAL YEAR.**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor R V Smith be elected Vice Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea, no interests were declared.

3 **TERMS OF REFERENCE. (FOR INFORMATION)**

The Terms of Reference for the Committee were noted.

4 **WORK PLAN DISCUSSIONS.**

The Chair welcomed Councillor J A Raynor, Cabinet Member for Education to the first Meeting of the CAC.

Councillor Raynor indicated that following discussions with Councillor C Richards, Cabinet Member for Services for Children & Young People who's Portfolios both fall within the remit of this Committee, they had identified the potential topic area of NEETS for review and investigation.

Members of the Committee discussed the matter which covers a wide ranging area of responsibility and service delivery, points and issues raised during the discussion contained the following:

- Current Policy and Service Operation
- Current CCS Education Department spend and per pupil spend compared to other Welsh Authorities
- Relationship with Gower College Swansea
- Amount of young people in the NEETS system
- Ongoing EOTA's review
- Need for much earlier identification of young people's problems and needs
- Use of alternative curriculum in schools
- Validity and added value of some of the current courses and programmes that young people attend
- The need to better prepare young people for the change from school life to further education and the labour market and make them "ready for work"
- Impact of the disbanding of the Children & Young People Partnership
- Comparative CCS and Welsh Government data on NEETS
- Problems associated with the learning gap/loss of routine around young people leaving school in May and college course not starting until the Autumn

The Cabinet Member indicated that she would share with the CAC information reported to Cabinet Members on NEETS in the summer and the current list of companies providing courses for young people.

Members discussed the benefits of holding a scoping exercise before inviting relevant officers from the Education Department to attend meetings and provide relevant information that the Committee will require during its review. They also discussed the timings of future meetings of the Committee.

**RESOLVED** that

- 1) an informal meeting of the CAC to facilitate a scoping exercise looking at the whole issue around NEETS be held at 9.30am on 21 October 2015.

The meeting ended at 12.10 pm

**CHAIR**

## Education & Young People Cabinet Advisory Committee

Wednesday 4 November 2015

### **Scope: Readiness for work, further education or training**

#### **Intended Contribution of the Work**

- Key issues and proposals that the Cabinet Member can use to inform policy
- Improved councillor awareness and understanding of issues
- Views of key stakeholders captured for policy development
- Identification of good practice

#### **Question** (from Cabinet Member)

*How do we ensure that all of our children are ready for training, further education or work by the age of 16?*

(there are 200+ children in this position)

#### **Lines of Inquiry**

1. The Committee wants to check that there is a widely shared definition of what it means for a child to be 'ready for training, further education or work'. Is there a definition? If not what should it be?
2. What data is collected about 'readiness for training, further education or work'? What does it tell us?
3. Children who are excluded from school or who are at risk of being excluded from school, are no doubt most likely to become NEET. What extra steps are being taking to prepare these children for life after school? What will be the impact of the current changes around education inclusion on this?
4. The Committee suspects that many children who are unready for life after school are those 'under the radar' who do not present challenging behaviours. Is this correct? If it is right how is/should the issue be addressed?
5. The Committee is concerned that there is too much emphasis on academic rather than vocational education in schools. Is this right? What should be done about it?
6. Some schools will be dealing with this issue better than others. What Swansea schools can be described as good practice? What do they do that other schools can learn from? How should the Council promote the take up of good practice in all schools?
7. Do other Councils have policies to address this issue? What do they do that is different to what we do? What good practice elsewhere could we learn from?

## **Proposed Evidence Gathering**

Evidence to be gathered through Committee meetings although there maybe opportunities for seeking written evidence or undertaking visits as opportunities / resources allow.

### *Committee Meetings:*

1. **Education Chief Officer, Head of Education Improvement, Cabinet Members for Education and Services for Children and Young People.** Purpose is to refine the scope and get an overview/current position of the policy area.
2. **Other councils:** Officers from others in ERW region perhaps to find out what they do on this issue
3. **Gower college / training / business representatives.** To learn from their experiences / perceptions of 'readiness for training, further education or work' and ideas for how things might be improved
4. **Good Practice Schools:** Discussion with schools doing good work in this area to see what can be learnt and their ideas for how the council can support good practice
5. **Wrap up and agreement of key points / proposals.** Review of the previous meetings and had over of issues to the Cabinet Member