



# CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

Dinas A Sir Abertawe

Councillor Mark Child  
Cabinet Member, Well Being  
Civic Centre  
Oystermouth Road  
SWANSEA  
SA1 3SN

*Please ask for:  
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**Overview &  
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*Date  
Dyddiad:*

**6 March 2014**

Dear Councillor Child

## **Well Being Performance Panel on 3 March 2014**

The Panel met on 3 March 2014 to consider the development of the Permanence Service for children and young people meeting with Dave Howes and Hayden Nelson the principal officer Permanence.

### **Cabinet Member Letter, 22 January**

The Panel would like to speak to you further about the issues raised in the Conveners letter arising from Panel meeting on 20 January around supporting older people and the transformation of Adult Social Care and will therefore invite you to a meeting before the end of April as your diary allows.

### **Permanence Service**

The panel recognised that there is now a need to review services around permanence and were keen to ensure that these service arrangements fit the needs of children and young people better. After reviewing the report provided and discussing the issues with the principal officer for permanence, the panel wished to highlight that:

- it is vital that the service structure for children and young people services going forward is fit for purpose and that it reflects the spirit of the Social Services Wales Bill
- the panel had some concerns around Guardianship orders and whether we have sufficient facilities/structures available to support this fairly recent way of placing children and young people.

Overview & Scrutiny / Trosolwg a chraffu

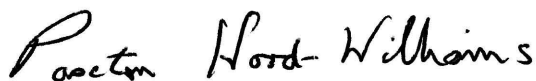
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- the panel were pleased to hear that we now have post adoption support through the use of Post Adoption Support Plans
- it is important to think more flexibly about how to best meet the needs of each child and this will include being more engaged with parents and carers.
- It is important to address the way we support and plan for young people through their transition into adulthood and independence and the panel were pleased to see this addressed in the 'When I am Ready' Planning Transition to Adulthood for Care Leavers consultation document.
- The Panel raised some concerns around those children with critical and substantial needs, as well as those with more moderate needs. The panel were informed that the amalgamation of transition teams for adult and children's services was currently in progress and that this should help to ensure a smoother transition for all Looked After Children into adulthood.

The Panel understands that proposals are being prepared to provide a permanence service and we recognise the need to ensure that the necessary structures and processes are put in place to properly deliver this service. Accordingly there will be implementation plan and we ask that this be brought back to us as soon as it is available.

I hope you find this letter useful and informative.

**Yours sincerely**



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**CC: CABINET MEMBER**  
**DAVE HOWES – HEAD OF CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES**  
**CAROL REA – HEAD OF ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES**