



The Education Inclusion Inquiry Panel is to reconvene again on the 16 February to look at the action plan arising from the independent review. The Panel will then consider whether / what further scrutiny activity is required. Any specific proposals will be reported back to the committee for agreement.

e) **Corporate Culture** (convener: Cllr Andrew Jones)

Key Question: How can the City and County of Swansea ensure that service delivery is always supported by a can do culture?

Progress Bar:

Scoping				Evidence Gathering				Draft Final Report			

The Panel will meet with the Cabinet Member for Transformation and Performance and with the Councils Temporary Commercial Manager at their meeting on the 11 February. The Panel will then review the results of their survey of Councillors on the 25 February.

Projected End Date: May 2015

## 2. Pre-Inquiry Working Groups:

a) **School Governance** (convener: tbc)

The initial meeting has been arranged for 18 February. The Cabinet Member for Education will attend along with the Manager of the School Governors' Unit. Members will be presented with a service overview and will look at how the effectiveness of school governance can be improved.

This will enable them to evaluate whether further work on this issue is required. If so, an in-depth inquiry will commence. Councillor Fiona Gordon has volunteered to act as convener – to be confirmed by the committee.

## 3. Follow Up on Completed Inquiries:

Follow-ups of inquiries will consider both the implementation of scrutiny recommendations and wider impact / difference made. Inquiry Panels are reconvened between 6-12 months after cabinet decision on Inquiry reports.

Inquiry	Cabinet Decision	Recommendations			Follow Up Panel Meeting
		Agreed	Partly	Rejected	
Services for Looked After Children	17 Sep 2013	14	1	0	(1) 15 Jul 2014 (2) tba

Public Transport	12 Nov 2013	13	1	0	(1) 20 Oct 2014 (2) 20 Apr 2015
Affordable Housing	3 Dec 2013	7	2	4	3 Dec 2014 (Follow up complete)
Tourism	14 Jan 2014	14	0	0	17 Nov 2014 (Follow up complete)
Economic Inactivity	3 Jun 2014	7	0	0	tba
Attainment & Wellbeing	1 Jul 2014	11	0	0	April 2015
Inward investment	20 Jan 2015	10	0	2	tba

#### 4. Performance Panels:

##### a) Service Improvement & Finance (convener: Cllr Mary Jones)

See separate report in item 7 of the agenda.

##### b) Schools Performance (convener: Cllr Fiona Gordon)

The Schools Performance Panel will meet on the 19 February with the Hub Head of the School Improvement Service to discuss the categorisation of schools in Swansea and comparisons with elsewhere in Wales and at how Pupil Deprivation Grants are being spent by schools.

##### c) Local Service Board (convener: Cllr Mary Jones)

The Panel has completed its development phase and is now planning its work for the next few months. It has decided to select one of the LSB's 8 annual priorities for 2014/15 to look at in depth in order to extrapolate findings and conclusions on the effectiveness of the LSB. The Panel has selected "Older People's Independence" and will develop a work plan around this.

A letter will be sent to the Chair of the LSB to advise him of the Panel's planned approach. The next meeting of the Panel will take place on 23 March, where they will be consulted on the development of the revised draft of the One Swansea Plan and will agree their work plan.

##### d) Child & Family Services (convener: Paxton Hood-Williams)

The panel met on 19<sup>th</sup> January and discussed the implication of the independent review into child sexual exploitation (CSE) in Rotherham. Their discussions covered partnership working in this area, the western bay action plan, performance data reporting and ensuring consistency across the region, training developed by Western Bay for professionals

and risk factors. The panel felt that reporting on CSE should form part of its work plan and requested that CSE data be added to the Child & Family Services monthly performance report. The panel also agreed that the CSE Prevention Plan should be added to its work plan and it recommended to the Cabinet Member that councillors should have access to the CSE training developed by the Western Bay Safeguarding Board.

## **5. Other Panels / Working Groups:**

A number of topics have been identified which will be dealt with through one-off Panels / Working Groups.

### **a) Transformation of Adult Social Services (convener: Bob Clay)**

The panel met on 2<sup>nd</sup> February to discuss its work on support for carers. The panel is intending to co-opt Tony Beddow because of his academic and practical experience in the health and social services sector. The panel agreed to look at carers as its first priority. The panel discussed and agreed the evidence it would like to gather and who it would like to invite to a focus group for carers as part of its work. The panel is aware that the Cabinet Advisory Committee is also looking at support for carers and efforts will be made to avoid any duplication.

### **b) Planning Services (convener: Cllr David Cole)**

Following the Scrutiny Programme Committee's agreement that an additional meeting of this working group can take place for further scrutiny of performance in relation to planning enforcement, a meeting has been arranged for 19 March. The Cabinet Member for Enterprise, Development & Regeneration will attend along with the Head of Economic & Strategic Development and the Development, Conservation & Design Manager.

### **c) Car Parking (convener: Cllr Tony Colburn)**

The Working Group met on 22 September and on 6 November to discuss car parks provision across Swansea, service performance, and plans for improvement. The group made a number of recommendations to the Cabinet member including for example developing a signage strategy for car parks, having a more flexible pricing policy and finding a different use for the four lower floors of High Street multi storey car park. The letter sent to the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport, and his response, are included in the agenda papers.

### **d) Local Flood Risk Management (convener: Cllr Susan Jones)**

The Scrutiny Programme Committee has agreed that an additional meeting of this working group can take place to participate in the consultation process draft Flood Risk Management Plan for Swansea.

The relevant officers have been contacted to arrange a suitable meeting date. It is likely to take place in March.

e) **Sustainability** (convener: Cllr Mary Jones)

A meeting has been arranged for 9 March. The relevant cabinet member / officer will be requested to provide an assessment on current plans, priorities, activities and achievements. This will enable questions on how this work is impacting on policies, service delivery and planning, and whether the authority is planning longer term / being preventative / considering future generations, taking account of specific future risks e.g. food security, climate change, energy supply.

f) the following Working Groups have also been identified and will be convened in the future as time and resources allow:

- **Target Areas** (convener / membership tbc) – the relevant cabinet member / officer will be requested to provide an assessment on progress with target areas work. This will enable questions about achievements and the impact of the new approach.
- **Roads / Highway Maintenance** (convener / membership tbc) – the relevant cabinet member / officer will be requested to provide a report covering service practices and procedures (e.g. dealing with pot holes), use of resources, prospects for improvement. This will enable questions about the quality and effectiveness of highway maintenance and repair, and also issues relating to the relationship with utilities and strategic planning / co-ordination of works to minimise disruption to major access roads
- **Young Carers** (convener / membership tbc) – the relevant cabinet member / officer will be requested to provide a report on young carers. This will enable questions about the support available to young carers to minimise the impact on their personal development, education, employment and training.
- **Civic Events** (convener / membership tbc) – this was identified at the committee meeting in December. The Working Group will consider the organisation, support for and management of civic events.
- **Welsh Housing Quality Standard** (convener / membership tbc) – this was identified at the committee meeting in December following a request from the Affordable Housing Scrutiny Inquiry Panel. The Working Group will consider the Council's progress towards achieving the Welsh Housing Quality Standard within its social housing stock