

Councillor Paxton Hood-Williams
Convener – Child & Family Services
Scrutiny Panel

BY EMAIL

Please ask for: Councillor Elliott King
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Our Ref: EK/KH
Your Ref:
Date: 5 November 2019

Dear Cllr Hood-Williams

Thank you for your letter dated 27th September, 2019 and for the interest and challenge that the Child and Family Services Scrutiny panel offer.

Performance monitoring

I would agree that generally performance is good and consistently stable across all areas. There has been some additional information added, particularly around the front door or IAA (Information, Advice and Assistance Team). This forms part of the preparation work prior to moving to the new Early Help Hub model, with a view to tracking performance across the continuum of need.

I can confirm that the additional information in relation to missing children will be added to the CFS (Child and Family Service) monthly performance report in November.

The total number of Independent Children's Homes in Swansea is currently twelve (not including child disability short breaks) and Swansea use seven of these on a relatively regular basis. The total number of Swansea children placed in these homes currently amounts to five.

Staff absenteeism data will be added to the October 2019 report, and a glossary of acronyms contained within the monthly report will be provided to October's Scrutiny Panel. Scrutiny may wish to focus on the newly added signs of safety metrics going forward, to ensure progress is made in this area.

Feedback on Care Inspectorate Wales Inspection Report – update on action plan

I would agree that there has been some slippage in terms of timescales but progress is being made and feedback from CIW has not raised concerns.

The link to the CFS newsletter is below for your information.

<https://www.swansea.gov.uk/staffnet/article/53030/Your-latest-news>

Care Inspectorate Wales Local Authority performance review.

In terms of succession planning and creating a stable workforce I can advise that a paper is to be presented to CMT away day on October 16th. I would be agreeable to providing feedback to Scrutiny as to the recommendations of this meeting as appropriate.

Finally CIW undertook a focused activity inspection within the Independent Reviewing Service on the 26th/27th September 2019 which centred on the voice of the child. Once feedback has been received I suggest a report is scheduled into the Scrutiny work plan.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Elliott King', written in a cursive style.

**COUNCILLOR ELLIOTT KING
CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES**