

Councillor Paxton Hood-Williams  
Convener of Child and Family Services  
Scrutiny Performance Panel

***Sent by email***

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*Our Ref:* LG/WN

*Your Ref:*

*Date:* 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022

Dear Councilor Hood-Williams

Thank you for the letter from the Child and Family Services Scrutiny Performance Panel held on 11<sup>th</sup> October.

It was positive to read your acknowledgements of the progress made with the development of the Child and Family Services monthly performance report, and how this is highlighting compliance with key statutory areas along with the challenges faced by the service.

Your suggestions and requests for additional information to be added will further enhance the continued evolution of the monthly report and its analysis of the effectiveness of Child and Family Services.

With regard to the queries raised at the Panel meeting, I can confirm that Teresa Mylan-Rees, the department's lead for development and practice, will connect with Danielle Lock, the training and safeguarding lead in SCVS, for more detail of what the need and enhancement would be. Currently SVCS is given access to all of our eLearning which includes safeguarding, and we continue to purchase additional licenses for this purpose. We are aware that Danielle at SVCS also delivers face to face training where e-learning is not appropriate.

The Early Help Hub Manager in Child and Family Services has confirmed the team is considering how to connect volunteers to the Early Help Hubs. Prior to lockdown, the Hubs did host volunteers and student placements, and also took volunteers from other agencies via a matrix arrangement.

The service is exploring how these arrangements can be re-established. The Early Help Hub Manager is part of a group that is developing the strategy for volunteers in the council. It is hoped that when this is completed, the hosting of volunteers will re-start. The service is keen to support volunteers and feel they will be able to offer a really exciting and diverse variety of opportunities.

I hope this provides sufficient information for the queries raised by Panel. If further detail is needed, I would be very happy to provide the Panel with updates at future meetings.

Yours sincerely



**Y Cyngorydd / Councillor Louise Gibbard**

Aelod y Cabinet dros y Gwasanaethau Gofal

Cabinet Member for Care Services

Aelod y Cyngor sy'n Hyrwyddo Menywod, Hawliau Dynol a Diogelu

Council Member Champion for Women, Human Rights and Safeguarding