



To:

**Councillor Hayley Gwilliam
Cabinet Member for Community (Support)**

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01 March 2024

BY EMAIL

cc Cabinet Members

Summary: This is a letter from the Adult Services Scrutiny Performance Panel to the Cabinet Member for Community following the meeting of the Panel on 30 January 2024. It covers Local Area Coordination. A formal written response is required by 22 March 2024.

Dear Cllr Gwilliam

The Panel met on 30 January 2024 and received a presentation on the impact of Local Area Coordination (LAC).

We would like to thank you, David Howes, Lee Cambule and Jon Franklin for attending to present this item and answer the Panel's questions. We appreciate your engagement and input.

We are writing to you to reflect on what we learned from the discussion, share the views of the Panel, and, where necessary, raise any issues or recommendations for your consideration and response.

Local Area Coordination

We received a presentation showing some examples of the impact Local Area Coordination (LAC) has made and heard a full impact report for 2023-24 has been drafted and the final version will be shared with Scrutiny at a later date.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY / TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU

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We expressed concern about the possible loss of LAC posts due to financial pressures and requested more information. We were informed the Service is currently out to consultation with staff due to the impact of funding of the LAC Team. We heard costs have increased and although there has been no cut to Council funding for 2024-25, it is flat, and grant funding which makes up 60% of the total funding has been reduced. We noted no decisions have been made yet and there are a number of things being considered, including criteria and geography.

We requested a breakdown of costs, including how the funding is distributed and where the funding comes from etc, and you agreed to provide this. We also requested data on the consequential impact of LAC. We feel there must be a way of measuring this and the negative impact there would have been on various services without it, and the huge cost saving that has been made and will be very helpful in providing evidence of the benefit of LAC. You stated two studies are being undertaken and you are awaiting the results. We agreed the evidence base about the cost impact as well as the social benefits of LAC are important.

We asked for a guarantee there will still be full coverage of LAC across the Swansea City Council area and were informed this is part of what must be considered.

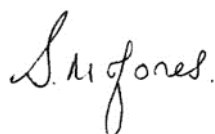
We feel LACs have been doing an excellent job and have made a huge difference and wish to emphasise that we are strongly against losing any LAC posts.

Your Response

We hope you find this letter useful and informative. We would welcome your comments on any of the issues raised, however in this instance, a formal written response is required by 22 March 2024 to the following:

- Breakdown of figures for Local Area Coordination, as stated above, to be provided to the Panel.

Yours sincerely



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