Providing Council with Written Responses to Questions at Council 14 December 2017

1. Mr D Davies

In relation to Minute 113 "Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020". "Page 146. "Cenedl Heb laith, Cenedl Heb Galon" (A Nation without Language, A Nation without Heart).

Welsh is essentially a spoken language, a tongue of oratory and poetry but it is a great advance that WESP has such a challenge ahead for our schools from many who oppose such a concentration on Cymraeg.

Am I right in saying that examination results in English and Welsh Language Schools are better than in English only establishments? Do you have any statistics on this?"

Response of the Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Lifelong Learning

A fair comparison between all English and Welsh medium schools at the local level is not possible due to widely differing contextual factors between schools. Those factors being:

- Size of cohorts (secondary) 90% in EM, 10% in WM
- Free school meals 20.0% English medium, 7.9% Welsh medium.
- Additional learning needs 25.7% English medium, 21.5% Welsh medium.
- English as an additional language 12.6% English medium, 0.2% Welsh medium.
- In-year pupil mobility 5.7% English medium, 1.0% Welsh medium

2. Councillor P M Black

In relation to Minute 113 "Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020". What evidence is there that 'Outcome 1: More seven year old children being taught through the medium of Welsh' is actually being met.

Response of the Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Lifelong Learning

The table in Appendix 1 (copy below) of the WESP shows the actual increase in numbers and percentage of seven-year-old children (Y2) being taught in Welsh-medium education. Each year when the WESP is updated, the table is also updated with the latest figures.

The number and percentage of pupils in Welsh-medium primary schools since 2007:

2007.						
Year	All pupils in Y2	Y2 pupils in Welsh-medium				
		No.	%			
2007	2525	247	9.78			
2008	2446	267	10.92			
2009	2369	275	11.61			
2010	2460	320	13.01			
2011	2472	297	12.01			
2012	2441	332	13.6			
2013	2546	366	14.4			
2014	2603	369	14.8			

2015	2822	413	14.6
2016	2650	404	15.2
2017	2692	422	15.7

3. Councillor P M Black

In relation to Minute 118 "Councillors Questions" – Question 2 - At a recent Adult Services Performance Panel it was revealed that the number of continuing care assessments were in decline. This seems counterproductive in the light of the increasing elderly population with complex needs. Would the Cabinet Member say what representations have been made to the LHB about this trend and whether he believes it is related to the financial implications of the Supreme Court judgement.

Response of the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing

There is evidence that the number of older people and adults or children with complex needs being identified as having a primary health care need which should then be met by the health board is decreasing.

Where there are concerns about individual cases these are raised with the health board through established case management processes.

The Western Bay Leadership team have commissioned a review of the effectiveness of the current arrangements for agreeing joint funding of care packages between health and social care to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.