

Councillor Mary Jones
Chair
Scrutiny Programme Committee

BY EMAIL

Please ask for: Councillor Mark Child
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Our Ref: MC/CM
Your Ref:
Date: 23rd January 2018

Dear Councillor Jones

CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS

In reply to your letter dated 1st December 2017 please see my responses below and attached.

The agreed set of standards with ABMU Health Board around discharge from hospital / care plans and case escalation process are attached.

The list of Local Area Co-ordinators and the areas they cover is

- Fiona Hughes (Uplands / Brynmill / St Helens / Ffynone)
- Emma Shears (Manselton / Brynhyfryd / Cwmbwrla / Cwmdu / Gendros)
- Anne Robinson (Gowerton / Loughor / Penllergaer)
- Dan Garnell (City Centre South).
- Ronan Ruddy – Gorseinon
- Richard Davies – Pontarddulais, Pontlliw, Tircoed, Penllergaer, Garnswllt, Felindre, Waun Gron, Grovesend and Penyrheol
- Dan Morris - St Thomas, Bonymaen, SA1 Waterfront.
- Claire Jones - City Centre, Sandfields, Brunswick, Dyfatty, Mount Pleasant, Marina

Townhill and Sketty are also due to be covered soon.

You requested a method of regular feedback from Local Area Co-ordination to Councillors. I am not sure I would agree with a regular report from individual LACs to Councillors in the areas they were working, we do not do this for any other staff and there may well be issues of confidentiality which I would have to take advice on.

Similarly for the manager of LACs to produce a regular report to all Councillors on their work would also be highly unusual as no other part of the Council does this.

May I suggest that the report given to the LAC Leadership Group by individual LACs each time it meets is suitable for wider circulation. I have attached the last two for your information. Is it your request that this goes to all Councillors, those on the Scrutiny Programme Committee or those on the Adult's Services Performance Panel?

I am happy that at the Adult Services Performance Panel a report on LAC is tables as frequently as desired.

You ask how Flying Start has been affected by financial cuts?

To date the Flying Start Programme has continued to operate within the allocated budget. The WG budget provided has been at a standstill for over 3 years despite rising costs and emerging pressures. As the Programme is evidence based and prescribed there are constraints on the options available for budget reductions.

In order to remain within budget a number of measures have been applied across the Programme including:

- efficiencies across all entitlements
- maximising the childcare staffing within and between settings to delay the need for recruitment
- as staff leave reducing capacity of childcare settings where numbers are predicted to remain low – however adjustments to numbers, both increases and decreases, is fluid
- development of the early language pathway informed by an opportunities costing exercise to evidence efficiencies and
- reducing the capacity of staffing at management and co-ordination level.

Looking to the future the Programme will continue to apply effective management and monitoring to identify opportunities as they arise and to apply these good practice measures so that service provision can be maintained as close to possible at current levels.

However it is a very tight situation and as costs continue to rise and increased needs are identified, such as relating to young children with emerging or diagnosed additional learning needs, then it will become very difficult for the Programme to continue to benefit all current areas and expected numbers of children as set by WG.

Yours Sincerely



Councillor Mark Child
Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing