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Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council

Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa,
Aberaeron, Ceredigion SA46 0PA
ceredigion.gov.uk

Dear Sir / Madam

I write to inform you that a Meeting of the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be held virtually on Wednesday, 6 October 2021 at 10.00 am for the transaction of the following business:

1. **Apologies**
2. **Disclosures of personal interest (including whipping declarations)**
Members are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and prejudicial interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Members Code of Conduct. In addition, Members must declare any prohibited party whip which the Member has been given in relation to the meeting as per the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.
3. **Update regarding recruitment of Welsh speaking Foster Carers in Ceredigion (Pages 3 - 4)**
4. **Domiciliary Care Provision (Pages 5 - 10)**
5. **Substance Misuse in Ceredigion and Service Provision (Pages 11 - 30)**
6. **Independent Reviewing Service Performance Management report, quarter 4, 2020-2021 (Pages 31 - 62)**
7. **Draft Forward Work Programme 2021-2022 (Pages 63 - 68)**
8. **Minutes of the 17 September 2021 Committee meeting and any matter arising therefrom (Pages 69 - 72)**

Members are reminded to sign the Attendance Register

A Translation Services will be provided at this meeting and those present are welcome to speak in Welsh or English at the meeting.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Edwards', written in a cursive style.

Miss Lowri Edwards
Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services

**To: Chairman and Members of Healthier Communities Overview and
Scrutiny Committee**

The remaining Members of the Council for information only.

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Healthier Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

DATE: 6 October 2021

LOCATION: Council Chamber, Penmorfa

TITLE: Update regarding of recruitment of Welsh speaking Foster Carers in Ceredigion

PURPOSE OF REPORT: To advise Committee Members of the current situation in relation to the recruitment of Foster Cares and specifically Welsh Speaking

REASON SCRUTINY HAS REQUESTED THE INFORMATION: Update requested by the committee members

BACKGROUND:

The Fostering Service in Ceredigion provides short and long term placements for the Looked after Children of Ceredigion. The age range for the service is from birth to 18 years of age. Currently Ceredigion County Council has 31 registered Foster Families.

There are also 16 Kinship carers (also known as family and friends) who have been identified and progressed through the same processes as mainstream Foster Carers and registered to provide care and support for specific Looked after child/ren as outlined in their individual registration. Ceredigion's Kinship carers are located all across the UK.

Current position

There are currently under 5 children within Ceredigion mainstream/Kinship Foster placement who are identified with Welsh as their preferred language of choice. However, there are children who do attend Welsh medium Education and the service recognises the importance of supporting and promoting the Welsh Language and Culture.

The following table provides an overview of the current position relating to foster carer ability of the Welsh language;

ALTE Level	Welsh Listening and Speaking (Number of carers)	Welsh Reading (Number of carers)	Welsh Writing (Number of carers)
0	6	11	14
1	9	9	5

2	5	1	2
3	2	0	1
4	0	1	0
5	1	1	1

Areas of further development for the service

Recruitment – Key element for the service moving forward is to work with National and Regional recruitment campaigns that will provide a range of specifically targeted opportunities utilising National resources including media e.g. S4C and ITV advertisements. This will be enhanced by a local County Engagement and Communication plan that will focus on targeting specific campaigns driven by the identified needs for our Looked after Children in Ceredigion e.g. engaging with Young Farmers, Merched y Wawr and wider community groups.

Language support – To provide Ceredigion Foster Carers with opportunities to improve their language skills through accessing training via opportunities provided through Porth Cymorth Cynnar.

Cultural support – To develop an annual social and integration plan maximising on the heritage and culture of Ceredigion providing the Foster Carers with the knowledge and access to the wealth of local heritage, natural environments and cultural activities available locally. The service will be working in conjunction with Porth Cymorth Cynnar, Education and 3rd sector organisations to enhance and celebrate the wealth of local provision available to Ceredigion Foster Carers.

RECOMMENDATION (S): To note the information contained within the report.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):

Contact Name: Donna Pritchard
Designation: CLO – Porth Gofal
Date of Report: 24.08.2021
Acronyms: None

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Healthier Communities Scrutiny Committee

DATE: 6 October 2021

LOCATION: Zoom

TITLE: Domiciliary Care Provision

PURPOSE OF REPORT: To update the committee on the current position re Domiciliary care and service developments.

REASON SCRUTINY HAVE REQUESTED THE INFORMATION: For update.

BACKGROUND:

In Ceredigion the domiciliary care provision has over a number of years continued to be met through the Commissioning Framework for Procurement for the provision of care to individual service users. This process is known as E Tender. All providers in Ceredigion are registered to the Framework having passed through a series of Procurement requirements and are then able to contract for services with Ceredigion County Council.

Once a social worker has identified eligible care needs following a Social Services and Wellbeing Act Assessment, a service request is made. Once confirmed the notice is placed on the E Tender Procurement Portal on Sell2Wales. The providers who are registered to deliver care within Ceredigion are then able to look at the packages of care that are required in the community and submit offers to deliver that care. These offers are made to the family and once accepted care will be arranged to commence. If a family refuse the offer (for example if care times do not meet their personal preference and a compromise is not possible), then the care request will remain on procurement pending an alternative offer. The care needs for a care and support package for highly complex care needs may require 2 care staff up to 4 times a day, 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year, and others care needs will also range throughout the spectrum of needs through to lower level interventions once or twice a week to assist with bathing/showering as an example. Care and Support at home has a focus on delivering skills to provide personal care and wellbeing needs.

Throughout the Covid 19 pandemic the Domiciliary Care Providers have worked tirelessly to sustain the care and support needs of our communities. Their staff continued to deliver to those vulnerable individuals in the face of increased risks to themselves and their families, in maintaining close contact care and support and their efforts have been and continue to be recognised as exceptional in unprecedented times.

To support that intensive high risk working environment, Ceredigion County Council established the PPE Hub (Personal Protective Equipment) Hub and throughout has been delivering the PPE directly to our Care Providers for their staff. Clear Protocols, Risk Assessments and Business Continuity Plans were put in place by each agency, supported by guidance and information from Ceredigion County Council, Hywel Dda University Health Board and Public Health Wales. Ceredigion County Council officers established a weekly “virtual” meeting hub using Teams and providers were encouraged to meet to collectively and collaboratively receive and share information as the pandemic unfolded. These meetings continue to play an important part in maintaining a clear understanding of the impacts and pressures the last 18 months have brought to bear on these frontline care providers. Providers also have daily phone calls from officers and they collect detailed data on their service pressures weekly.

Our in house Enablement Service has also played a hugely significant part in the last 18 months in supporting our providers, and indeed have been a core service in bridging many of those with long term care and support needs, increasing additional capacity in house to support discharges from Hospitals. This has been in addition to whenever capacity allowed, taking on additional cases in need of support where the dom care providers were struggling to free up capacity in the short term. All this in addition to maintaining the Enablement focus of supporting individuals to return to independence by the provision of short term 1-1 support and encouragement to build capability to undertake as much of their own care as their condition allows, a hugely successful model of care we need to maintain.

Targeted and Short Term Services instigated a Weekly Summary Overview Report of Domiciliary Care in September 2020 and this included Enablement from January 2021. This data breakdown has enabled us to track and analyse the collated sector waiting list and service delivery data week on week and is internally shared with key officers, and is valuable insight to inform daily discussions with Hywel Dda Health Board. A snapshot briefing is prepared for Sian Howys and Donna Pritchard every Friday afternoon and from June 2021 also with Peter Skitt and Jina Hawkes, County Management HDUHB. From August 2021, a weekly template is also completed with regional colleagues where we can provide the overview of numbers waiting for the provision of commissioned care at home, and identify the location of support they may be in receipt of in the interim i.e. short term residential placement, Enablement support at home, third sector support, family support etc. Additionally we report on the RAG status of each provider as to their capacity level. This is discussed every Monday regionally at the Integrated Executive Group (IEG) as to the overview of the region’s Dom Care sectors. Twice weekly an officers speak with each provider to review their “SitRep” report which reflects their self-assessment of their current workforce, Covid concerns, and capacity position as well as their PPE needs.

During the latter part of 2020, the Dom Care Task and Finish Group was reconvened to look at the evolving position of the market and the growing understanding of the impact of Covid 19 on the care sector, as well as considering its future recruitment and retention. Ceredigion

had also seen a number of providers identify in recent months that the sustainability of their business model within county was becoming significantly more challenging financially. To this background the Dom Care Task and Finish Group presented a report to Leadership Group identifying two key findings:

1. The Enablement Service had increasingly taken “bridging” care as a result of the fast turnaround WG “Discharge to Recover and Assess model, requiring rapid discharges to the community pre-assessment of ongoing care needs, with these needs and onward care support being identified and sourced only once already in the community. This had created a significant pressure point on the Enablement Service. The Report identified that an extension to the Enablement Service was crucial to both meet this demand, and to assess the increased pressures and demands post Covid 19 that were leading to a growing waiting list for commissioned domiciliary care at home. It was agreed that a further report would be developed under the Through Age Wellbeing model services transformation. This work to be led by Donna Pritchard, Heather West, Dawn James and Kirsty Jenkins, to include analysis of management structure, frontline staffing and costing options to be considered as a permanent extension and expansion of a long term care needs “bridging service” within the current Enablement Service as in house Integrated Care Service, allowing for additional capacity building.
2. In parallel, the Targeted and Short Term Service under which the Enablement Service and the Dom Care Co-ordination sits, developed and piloted a “hybrid” model of delivery, agreed on a voluntary short term basis with the staff. The Registered Manager divided the county into 4 patch based geographic areas each with a Care Coordinator. To achieve this two Dom Care Coordinators were brought across to join the Enablement Care Coordinators. Each Coordinator being responsible for the Enablement staff in their patch, the Discharge to Recover and Assess provision following hospital discharge, the liaison with the Dom Care providers delivering in that patch and the long term care “bridging” care needs of individuals assessed as a priority need. The Coordinator working with the Porth Gofal Triage Team continued to focus on discharges and referrals from the community in preparation for allocation to the patch Coordinators. A shared Coordinator providing a contact point for queries, concerns and issues for commissioned providers and maintaining the daily providers service reports throughout the Covid period. The Lead Dom Care Coordinator was then able to focus on the daily service requests, the tendering process, seeking providers for care needs advertised and monitoring hours delivered as well as facilitating updates on the waiting list.
3. The Enablement Service is also the LA host employer for the Ceredigion pilot of the Health and Social Care workers, for service users at Porth Gofal Triage, identifying suitable cases where a shared worker can support both social care and health care assistant tasks in one visit to the household over a short period of intervention. These staff are now undergoing intensive training and will deploy in September until the end of March in the first instance.
4. The Domiciliary Care Framework is due for re-tender and it was agreed that a specific workstream with corporate Commissioning would be undertaken, to be led by Arwyn

Morris and George Ryley with additional input from Duncan Hall, Ywain ap Dylan and a small Task and Finish Group. Further analysis of the dom care provider market to be undertaken to inform the development of the next service specification prior to re-tendering, taking account of the 2020 WG reports Rebalancing Care and Support, Cost of Care, Outcomes Commissioning in Domiciliary Care and wider Local Authority evidence across Wales.

CURRENT SITUATION:

1. The Domiciliary Care market position in Ceredigion worsened rapidly and significantly over the summer period. This is a picture replicated across the region, Wales and the UK. Dom Care Providers are all reporting loss of staff, impacting on the availability of a trained, qualified workforce. Providers are universally reporting that they face extensive recruitment challenges, and very low uptake to repeated recruitment campaigns. Longstanding staff are leaving the industry and new staff are not being attracted to the industry. Staff are reporting they are physically and mentally exhausted by the pandemic demands, the pressure on their families, the work life balance, the unsocial and isolating nature of the work, the prevailing terms and conditions and facing another long winter ahead.
2. As a result of these increasing pressures on the dom care providers, many reported being unable to take on new packages of care from the waiting list as they struggled to sustain existing commitments. Even when a care package comes to a natural end, providers have become reluctant to fill the gap, identifying the risks to delivery and business sustainability. Of those that do agree to accept additional care packages, it is only often as a result of moving visit times around to individuals to try to free up a gap for a new case to be fitted into a route, this is destabilising for service users, staff and families. It may also involve permanently handing back a package that needs greater input, or travel distances. As a consequence of more staff leaving across agencies, dom care providers are reviewing their geographic routes, the mileage and time distances, the frequency of calls, the number of staff required and the complexity of presenting physical and mental health care needs. Over the summer period there have been a significant number giving notice to Ceredigion County Council of intention to return care packages, these may be with 28 days' notice, but increasingly with the pressures on staff capacity they can be almost immediate. This is a significant and repeated picture across our neighbouring authorities.
3. In these instances, as soon as notice is received, a review of the care package and the contingency plan in the event of no replacement provider being found is undertaken. It is then re-advertised on E Tender and all providers are approached with a request to consider. In complex cases a cross department meeting will be held to consider all the available options for care at home, or for short term placement if care at home is not safely viable. This is a difficult decision for all concerned, but the safety of the individual remains paramount.

4. The Enablement Service will in all instances try to accommodate as many of these long term care “handbacks” for single handed care calls wherever capacity allows, whilst balancing the need to ensure the service can respond to the Enablement aspect, i.e. to work with individuals to return them to independence as quickly as possible following a period of ill health, as well as the fast response to discharges from the hospital. Enablement saw the caseload double in a matter of weeks in the summer, and the percentage of long term care now exceeds the number of core re-ablement cases.
5. The summer months has seen an unprecedented demand and level of waiting list for care at home, a relentless upward trend, care needs are increasing post Covid 19, people are generally more unwell or have coped alone for longer, and are presenting in need of increased support from within the community, and referrals for new cases are demonstrating higher end needs at the outset. The situation is being closely monitored and is reported weekly in county, regionally and nationally.
6. The Enablement Service option appraisal on the long term extension and expansion to the service will be completed in early Sept for consideration within the Through Age Wellbeing model transformation as planned.
7. In the short to medium interim period, as a result of the rapidly deteriorating position for providers, at the end of August, Leadership Group agreed to bring forward recruitment planning to seek to appoint additional Enablement staff during Sept- Nov to offset the impact and pressures on the existing team. To seek to mitigate downwards and aim to stabilise the growing waiting list numbers and demand for long term care support. This can only be addressed by building in additional incremental capacity in house during the forthcoming winter pressures.
8. The work to undertake analysis of each of the Dom Care Providers recruitment and retention challenges has commenced, in conjunction with the West Wales Care Partnership. This work will feed into the Dom Care Framework Task and Finish Group being reconvened.
9. Whilst individual counties face differing community provision pressures, the wider recruitment and retention challenges facing all dom care providers in the Covid Recovery period is now universal. It will require both rapid efforts and new initiatives across all sectors. A Ministerial statement is anticipated in the autumn.

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS:

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why

NO

Summary:

Long term:

Integration:

Collaboration:

Involvement:

Prevention:

RECOMMENDATION (S): For committee to receive the report for information

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S): Update on the current Domiciliary care provision was requested by the Chair and approval of the report.

**Contact Name: Donna
Pritchard**

**Designation: Corporate
Lead Officer Porth Gofal**

**Date of Report: 7th
September 2021**

Acronyms:

Substance Misuse in Ceredigion and service provision **Report to Healthier Communities Committee**

Date of meeting: 6 October 2021

Purpose

To provide an over view of the issues within Ceredigion, data from partner agencies and provision of services.

National Policy

The Welsh Government sets out a Substance Misuse Delivery Plan 2019-2022 (Revised in Response to Covid 19) with key aims that are reported on a quarterly basis and reported on a regional basis through the Area Planning Board.

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-01/substance-misuse-delivery-plan-2019-to-2022.pdf>

The focus of our work and the plan is:

- Preventing harm
- Support for those that misuse drugs and alcohol in order to improve their health and aid and maintain recovery
- Supporting and protecting families
- Tackling availability and protecting individuals and communities via enforcement activity.

National Picture

There is no definitive number of adults misusing substances however The Office for National Statistics Centre for Crime and Justice Year ending March 2020 drug use.

“Overall drug use continued to remain stable, with around **1 in 11 adults** aged 16 to 59 years having taken a drug in the past year (9.4%; approximately). However, there were differences between age groups. Drug use was much more common among younger adults although, again, the proportion of 16- to 24-year-olds taking drugs was similar to the previous year (21%; approximately).”

There is increasing recognition of the significant health harm that alcohol can cause. In Wales, 15 per cent of all hospital admissions are due to alcohol intoxication and most recent data on hospital admissions for Hywel Dda University Health Board (2016/17) show that over 14,000 bed days were taken up by patients where alcohol was a primary or contributory factor in their admittance at a cost to the Health Board of over £6.1 million per year in inpatient treatment alone.

Ceredigion Local Health data

Estimated prevalence of lifestyle behaviours, counts and percentage, all persons aged 16+ Hywel Dda UHB GP Clusters 2016-18

Cluster Name	Aged 16+population	Smoking	Drinking above guidelines	Healthy Weight	Physical Activity Guidelines	Consuming 5 a day
North Ceredigion	39,658	15.5%	19.9%	45.4%	57.2%	24.6%
South Ceredigion	40,927	17.2%	19.5%	37.9%	51.7%	22.7%

Services in Ceredigion

The main services within Ceredigion are Community Drug and Alcohol Team (CDAT) Hywel Dda, Alcohol Liaison Nurses Hywel Dda, Barod (Substance Misuse Charity that is funded to provide adult and young people services) and Ceredigion Council's Substance Misuse Service. All these teams work together meeting on a weekly basis to ensure support is co-ordinated and appropriate. We are very fortunate to have such strong partnership working between the different teams. There is also voluntary support groups Alcohol Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA).

Info Base Cymru- 2019-2020 Hywel Dda Ceredigion

Number of assessments for alcohol misuse	Number of individuals assessed for alcohol misuse	Rate of alcohol misuse per 100,000 people	Number of assessments for drug misuse	Number of individuals assessed for drug misuse	Rate of drug misuse per 100,000 people
382	289	398	355	270	371

Barod

Number of referrals			
Year	DDAS Generic	DDAS Criminal Justice	Choices (Young People)
2020 - 2021	431	143	41
2019 - 2020	520	157	100
2018 - 2019	491	131	62
2017 - 2018	472	106	52
2016 - 2017	442	95	55

Number of assessments (people actually attending)			
Year	DDAS Generic	DDAS CJ	Choices

2020 - 2021	311	87	30
2019 - 2020	387	109	83
2018 - 2019	366	71	53
2017 - 2018	339	62	44
2016 - 2017	299	60	45

Ceredigion Council Substance Misuse Service Cases

1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter	Total
• 2020/21 - 22	2020/21 - 17	2020/21 - 6	2020/21 - 17	62
• 2019/20 - 21	2019/20 - 24	2019/20 - 17	2019/20 - 25	87
• 2018/19 - 15	2018/19 - 19	2018/19 - 25	2018/19 - 15	74
• 2017/18 - 15	2017/18 - 21	2017/18 - 17	2017/18 - 22	74
• 2016/17 - 10	2016/17 - 22	2016/17 - 15	2016/17 - 32	79
• 2015/16 - 12	2015/16 - 20	2015/16 - 14	2015/16 - 25	71
• 2014/15 - 20	2014/15 - 25	2014/15 - 24	2014/15 - 25	94

Ceredigion Council funds services, provides the social care support for adults and assessments for placements in rehab.

Police- tackling supply

Dyfed Powys Police recorded 205 more drug offences in 2018-19 compared with the previous year. Possession volumes however during this period were lower than volumes recorded in 2014-15 and 2015-16 but higher compared to 2016-17. Drug trafficking offences were at their highest when compared to the previous 4 years.

The majority of overall offences were recorded within Carmarthenshire (34%), followed by Powys (25%), Pembrokeshire (25%) and Ceredigion (16%). This is unsurprising since these two areas have experienced the most impact from organised crime groups (OCGs) and drug gangs using county lines tactics with protracted operational activity focusing on these areas.

County Summary 2018-19 (Dyfed Powys Police, 2019)

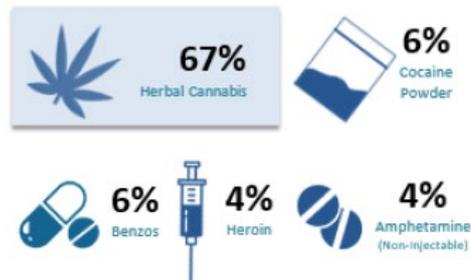
Territory	No. Offences	Per 1,000 Pop
Carmarthenshire	679	3.893
Ceredigion	309	3.122
Pembrokeshire	497	4.305
Powys	527	4.149
Total	2,012	3.900

Dyfed Powys Police Possession Offences Data

There were 1667 drug possession offences recorded by Dyfed Powys Police during 2018-19. The offenders were predominantly male (82%) with a median age of 29 years

of age. The main drug seized was herbal cannabis (67%) with cocaine and benzos each being seized 6% of the time. 65% of drugs were seized in a public place or on the highway, 28% were in a dwelling, 5% in public houses or nightclubs and 2% in educational establishments.

Types of drugs seized by Dyfed Powys Police 2018-19 (Dyfed Powys Police, 2019)



The largest volume of drug possession offences took place in Aberystwyth Central whilst Elli, Ammanford and Tysha wards also show high volume. Whilst some of these wards are significant areas of deprivation, some consideration should be given to the student population in Aberystwyth.

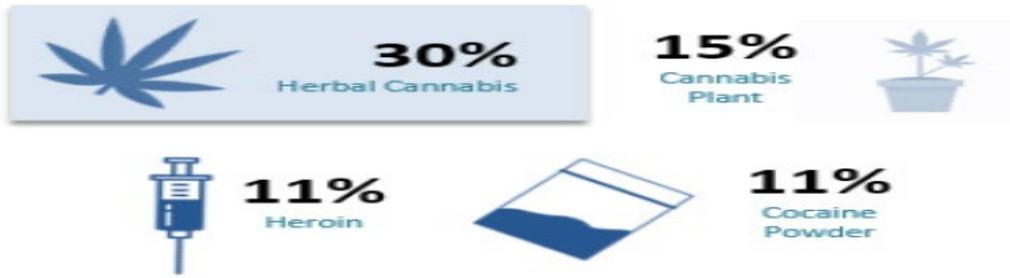
Drug possession offences – Top 5 wards (Dyfed Powys Police, 2019)

County	Beat	Vol.
Ceredigion	Aberystwyth Central	74
Carmarthenshire	Elli	65
Carmarthenshire	Ammanford	62
Carmarthenshire	Tyisha	44
Pembrokeshire	Priory	43

Dyfed Powys Police Drug Trafficking Offences Data

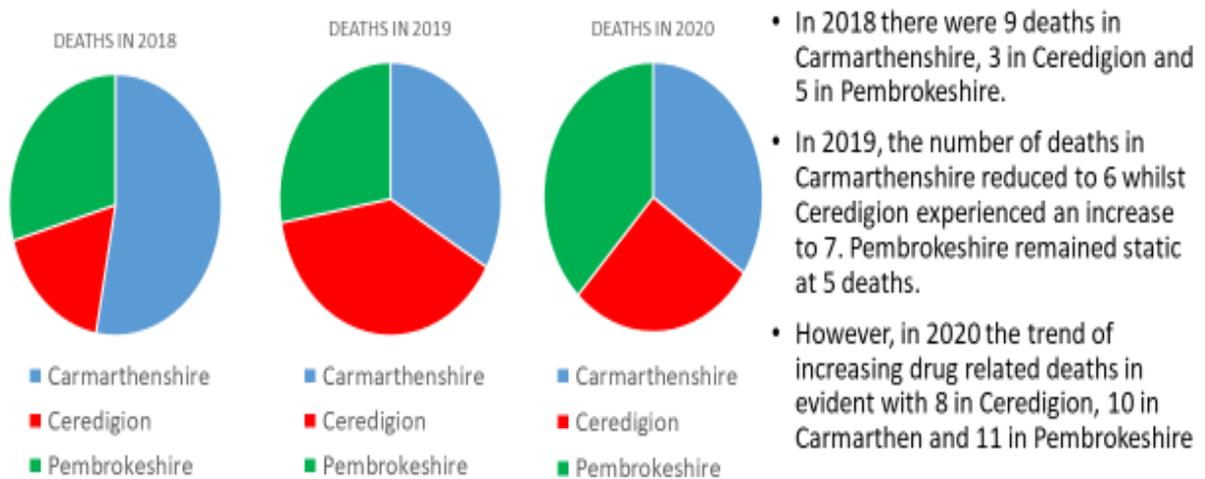
There were 345 drug trafficking offences in the Dyfed Powys area during 2018-19 which was an increase on previous years (243 in 2017-18, 207 in 2016-17). 84% of offenders were male with a median age of 25. Of the drugs that were being trafficked and seized by Dyfed Powys Police, 30% were herbal cannabis, 15% were cannabis plants whilst heroin and cocaine both constituted of 11% of seized drugs.

Types of drugs being trafficked and seized by Dyfed Powys Police 2018-19 (Dyfed Powys Police, 2019)



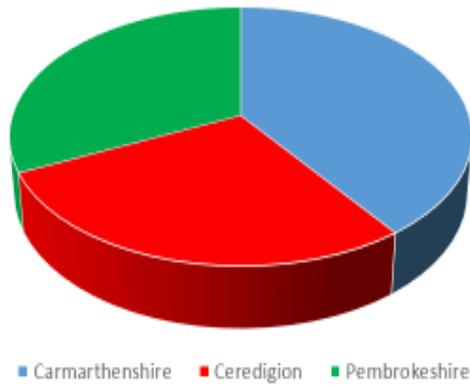
Drug Related Deaths by County

Figure 19. Geographical spread of drug related deaths in Hywel Dda 2018-2020



Non-Fatal Overdoses by County

Figure 21. Geographic Distribution of Non-Fatal Drug Overdoses, May 2020- April 2021



- There have been 50 non-fatal overdoses reported by DPP during this time
- Unlike the DRDs, there is a much more even spread across the three counties
- In Ceredigion there have been 14 non-fatal overdoses reported. This equates to 28% of all cases
- Pembrokeshire experienced 16 overdoses (32%)
- Carmarthenshire had the highest number of overdoses with 20 (40%)
- As previously discussed, these figures only include cases reported by DPP so the actual figure may be significantly higher
- This again emphasises the need for an ISP with regard to non-fatal overdoses

Substance Misuse in Ceredigion and service provision

John Callow
Corporate Manager
Substance Misuse



The Welsh Government sets out a Substance Misuse Delivery Plan 2019-2022 (Revised in Response to Covid 19)

The focus of our work and the plan is

- Preventing harm
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National Picture

The Office for National Statistics Centre for Crime and Justice
Year ending March 2020 drug use.

“Overall drug use continued to remain stable, with around **1 in 11 adults** aged 16 to 59 years having taken a drug in the past year (**9.4%; approximately**). However, there were differences between age groups. Drug use was much more common among younger adults although, again, the proportion of 16- to 24-year-olds taking drugs was similar to the previous year (**21%; approximately**).”

Alcohol

- **There is increasing recognition of the significant health harm that alcohol can cause.**
- **In Wales, 15 per cent of all hospital admissions are due to alcohol intoxication**
- **Hospital admissions for Hywel Dda University Health Board (2016/17) show that over 14,000 bed days were taken up by patients where alcohol was a primary or contributory factor**
- **At a cost to the Health Board of over £6.1 million per year in inpatient treatment alone.**

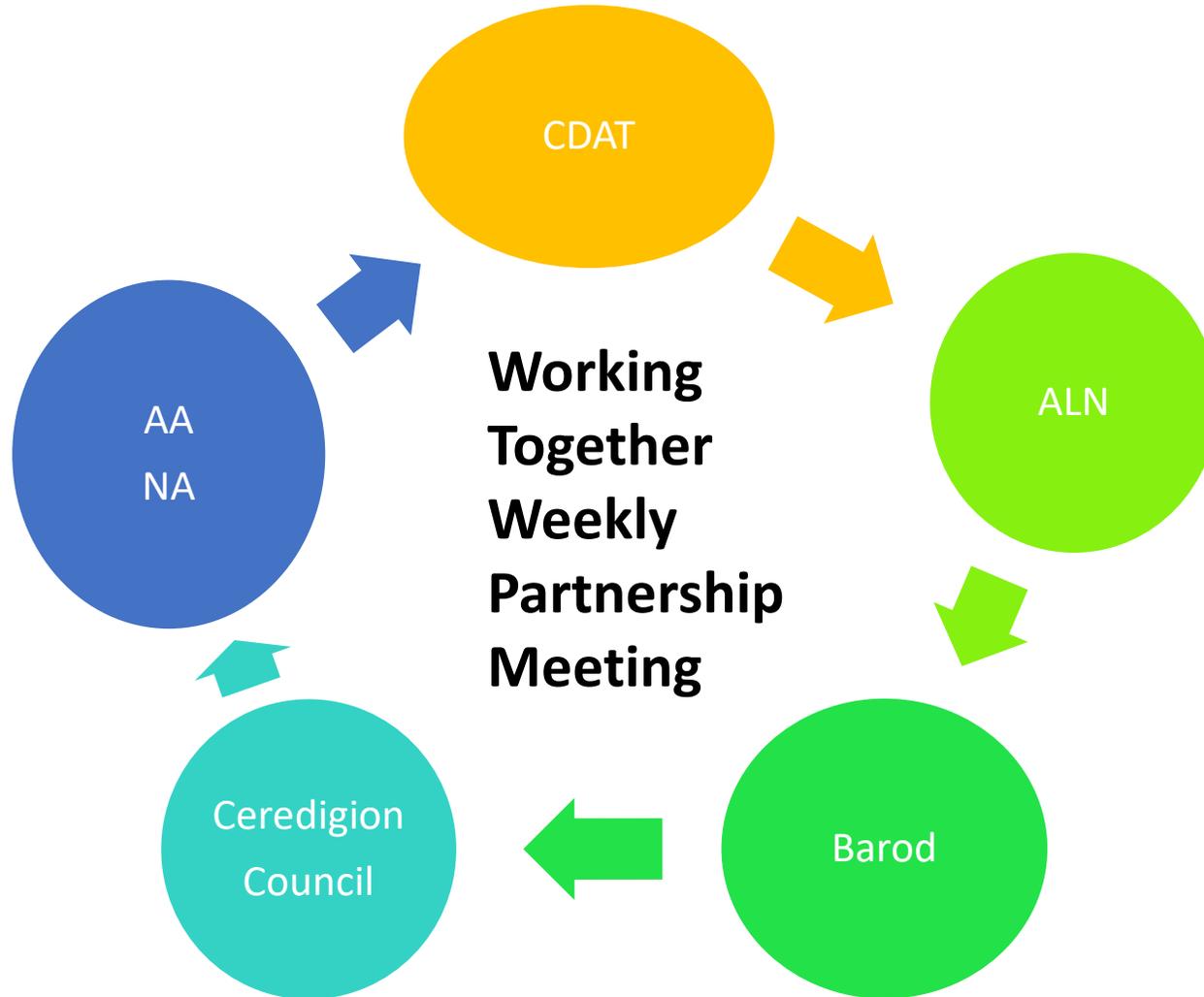
Ceredigion GP Stats

Estimated prevalence of lifestyle behaviours, counts and percentage, all persons aged 16+ Hywel Dda UHB GP Clusters 2016-18

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Services in Ceredigion

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Services are provided by Ceredigion County Council, Hywel Dda Health Authority and Dyfed Drug and Alcohol Service (DDAS), and all referrals to the Adult Substance Misuse services are via

DDAS - 0330 363 9997.

Info Base Cymru- 2019-2020 Hywel Dda Ceredigion

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Police- tackling supply

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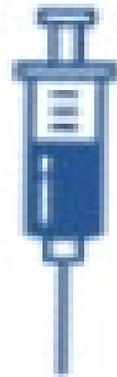
County Summary 2018-19 (Dyfed Powys Police, 2019)

- Dyfed Powys Police recorded 205 more drug offences in 2018-19 compared with the previous year. Possession volumes however during this period were lower than volumes recorded in 2014-15 and 2015-16 but higher compared to 2016-17. Drug trafficking offences were at their highest when compared to the previous 4 years.
- The majority of overall offences were recorded within Carmarthenshire (34%), followed by Powys (25%), Pembrokeshire (25%) and Ceredigion (16%). This is unsurprising since these two areas have experienced the most impact from organised crime groups (OCGs) and drug gangs using county lines tactics with protracted operational activity focusing on these areas.

Dyfed Powys Police Possession Offences Data



6%
Benzos



4%
Heroin



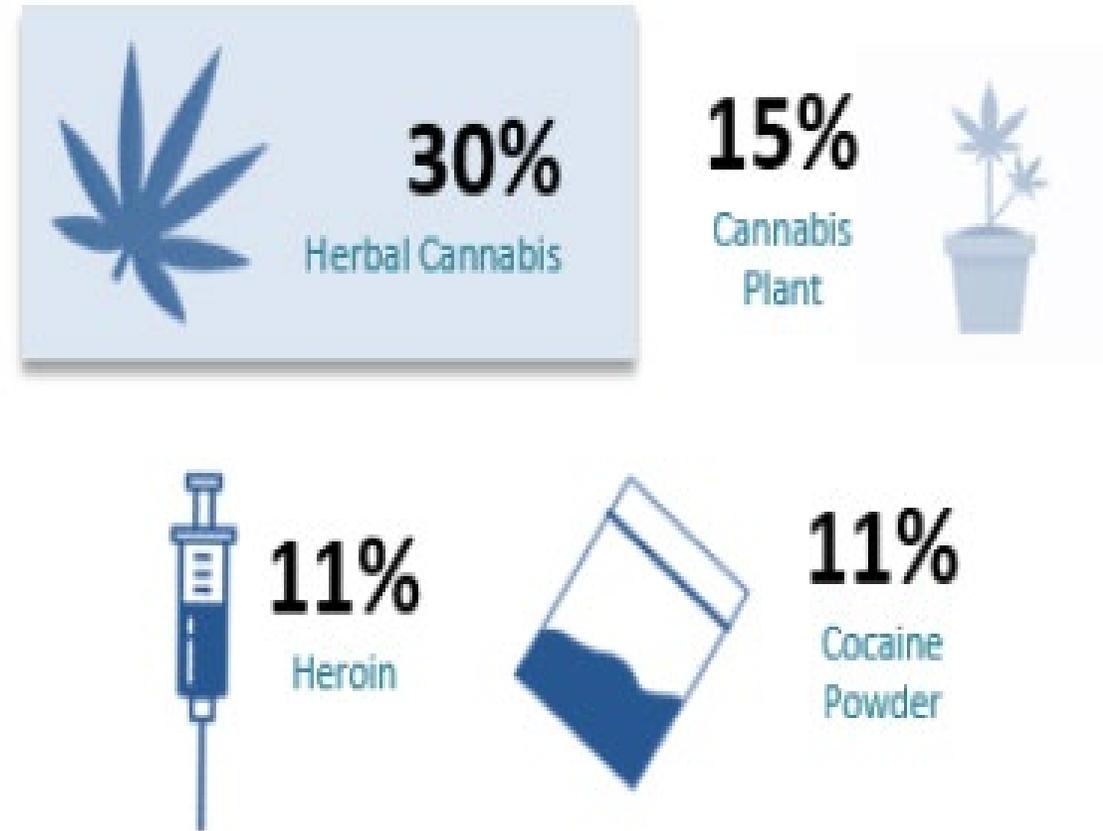
4%
Amphetamine
(Non-injectable)

Dyfed Powys Police Drug Trafficking Offences Data

There were 345 drug trafficking offences in the Dyfed Powys area during 2018-19

An increase on previous years (243 in 2017-18, 207 in 2016-17).

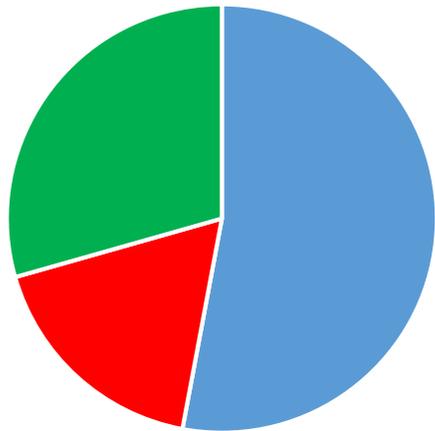
84% of offenders were male with a median age of 25.



Drug Related Deaths by County

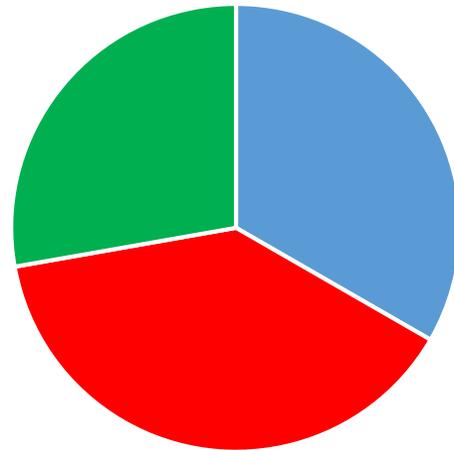
Figure 19. Geographical spread of drug related deaths in Hywel Dda 2018-2020

DEATHS IN 2018



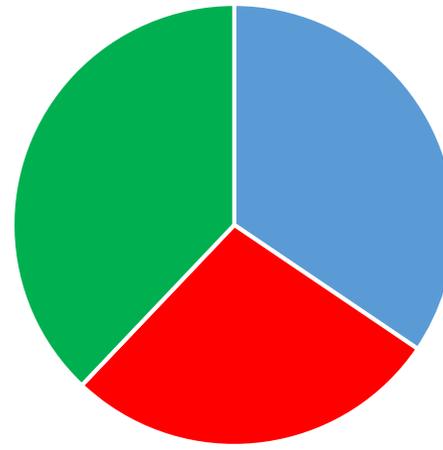
■ Carmarthenshire
■ Ceredigion
■ Pembrokeshire

DEATHS IN 2019



■ Carmarthenshire
■ Ceredigion
■ Pembrokeshire

DEATHS IN 2020

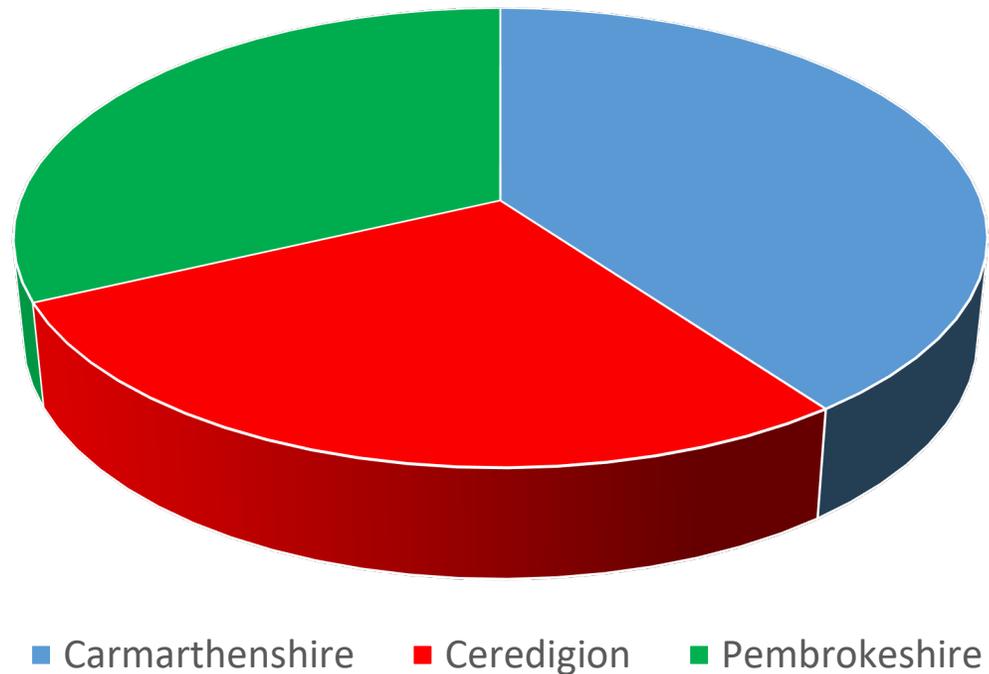


■ Carmarthenshire
■ Ceredigion
■ Pembrokeshire

- In 2018 there were 9 deaths in Carmarthenshire, 3 in Ceredigion and 5 in Pembrokeshire.
- In 2019, the number of deaths in Carmarthenshire reduced to 6 whilst Ceredigion experienced an increase to 7. Pembrokeshire remained static at 5 deaths.
- However, in 2020 the trend of increasing drug related deaths is evident with 8 in Ceredigion, 10 in Carmarthen and 11 in Pembrokeshire

Non-Fatal Overdoses by County

Figure 21. Geographic Distribution of Non-Fatal Drug Overdoses, May 2020- April 2021



- There have been 50 non-fatal overdoses reported by DPP during this time
- Unlike the DRDs, there is a much more even spread across the three counties
- In Ceredigion there have been 14 non-fatal overdoses reported. This equates to 28% of all cases
- Pembrokeshire experienced 16 overdoses (32%)
- Carmarthenshire had the highest number of overdoses with 20 (40%)
- As previously discussed, these figures only include cases reported by DPP so the actual figure may be significantly higher
- This again emphasises the need for an ISP with regard to non-fatal overdoses

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny

DATE: 6 October 2021

LOCATION: Council Chamber, Penmorfa

TITLE: Porth Cynnal Specialist Services (Children & Adults)

**INDEPENDENT REVIEWING SERVICE PERFORMANCE
MANAGEMENT REPORT
QTR 4 2020 - 2021**

PURPOSE OF REPORT: To monitor the progress of Looked After Children through Independent Reviewing Officers scrutiny of their plans and placements during the fourth quarter of 2020/2021. This information contributes to Members fulfilling their roles as Corporate Parents.

REASON SCRUTINY HAVE REQUESTED THE INFORMATION: To ensure that the Local Authority and Members can fulfill their duties as Corporate Parents

BACKGROUND:

Attached is the Independent Reviewing Service Report Quarter 4 2020/2021.

Quarterly reports are taken to the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee as part of an ongoing examination of the topic to ensure that the Local Authority fulfills its duties as the Corporate Parent.

This report includes national and local standards and targets used to measure outcomes for looked after children and care leavers at the time of their review meeting and includes Welsh Government Performance Indicators.

On the basis of the information available and the views expressed during the review meeting, the IRO makes a professional judgement about the effectiveness of a child/young person's care plan in meeting their needs and may recommend changes to the care plan.

During the review meeting the IRO considers whether the child/young person requires assistance to identify relevant other people to obtain legal advice/take proceedings on their behalf. This action was not deemed necessary by the IRO for any child in the period.

In addition, the IRO has regard as to whether the child/young person's human rights are being breached in any way and, if so, might make a referral to CAF/CASS Cymru. This action was not required at any of the review meetings in the period.

These reports are considered within Multi Agency LAC Quality Assurance Meetings which meet on a quarterly basis; these meetings provide an opportunity to identify and act upon performance and other issues in relation to this area of work.

These reports are also circulated and reviewed by Local Authority's Corporate Parenting Group which is Chaired by Cllr Alun Williams, Cabinet Member for Children Services and Culture these meetings take place on a quarterly basis.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS;

- At the end of this Quarter, Quarter 4, as of March 31st 2021, there were 85 children being looked after by the Local Authority. This is an increase in the number of children being looked after. At the end of Q3 there were 79 children being looked after.
- 58 children were reviewed in this quarter. 89.7 % were reviewed within the statutory timeframe.
- 1 child was returned home to family during this quarter, compared to 4 children in Q3.
- The placement provision for the children reviewed in this quarter ranged from 20 placed in Local Authority Foster Care Provision, 12 placed with family, 9 placed with parents, 8 in Independent Foster Care Provision, 3 in residential care and 3 with kinship carers.
- Of the children reviewed in this quarter, 87.9% of children received a statutory visit.
- 32 of children reviewed were the subjects of a Full Care Order, 16 were of an Interim Care Order, 1 of a Placement Order and 9 were under the legal status of a Section 76.
- 100% of the care and support plans were recorded as meeting the needs of the children/young people reviewed in this quarter.
- The number and percentage of children (of sufficient understanding) who were involved in or consulted about their review, was 100%.
- The number and percentage of children who were made aware of their right for an advocacy service, was 100%
- The percentage of young people who are eligible and have a Pathway Plan in place and a PA to support them is 100%.
- 25 Pathway Plan Reviews were completed in this quarter. 80% were completed within timescale.
- 96% of the Reviews undertaken evidenced that the Pathway Plans that were in place were meeting the needs of the young people.
- 80% of the Pathway Plan Reviews that had taken place had either the views of the person represented in the review or the young person attended their review.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why No

Summary:

This report is provided on an ongoing basis and demonstrate the continuing work that is undertaken with Looked after Children in Ceredigion

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS:

- Long term:** Balancing short term need with long term planning for the future
- Integration:** Positively impacting on people, economy, environment and culture and trying to benefit all three
- Collaboration:** Working together with other partners to deliver
- Involvement:** Involving those with an interest and seeking their views; stakeholder engagement and consultation
- Prevention:** Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse

RECOMMENDATION (S):

To note the contents of the report and the levels of activity with the Local Authority.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):

So that governance of the Local Authority activity and its partner agencies for Looked After Children are monitored

Contact Name: Siân Howys

Designation: Corporate Lead Officer: (Children & Families)

Date of Report: 24 June 2021

Acronyms:
IRO - Independent Reviewing Officer
LAC - Looked After Children
CAFCASS - The Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service
APR - Action and Progress Records
PEP - Personal Education Plan
PI - Performance Indicators
CAMHS - Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
NEET - Not in Education, Employment or Training
PRU - Pupil Referral Unit

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council
Safeguarding Service

Independent Reviewing Service Performance Management Report

Quarter 4: 1st January 2021 – 31st March 2021



...yn gofalu i wneud gwahaniaeth
...taking care to make a difference

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SECTION ONE: INTRODUCTION

This report provides information collated by the Quality Assurance and Independent Reviewing Service in order to monitor performance and quality assure services to looked after children, care leavers, children in residential placements and those children who receive respite care and short breaks. The information is based on the monitoring forms completed by the Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO) following each review meeting within this quarter along with other performance information held by the Children and Families Service.

BENCHMARKING

This report includes national and local measures and targets used to measure outcomes for looked after children and care leavers at the time of their review meeting.

On the basis of the information available and the views expressed during the review meeting, the IRO makes a professional judgement about the effectiveness of a child/young person's care plan in meeting their needs and the IRO will highlight to managers any poor practice.

During the review meeting the IRO considers whether the child/young person requires assistance to identify relevant other people to obtain legal advice/take proceedings on their behalf. This action was not deemed necessary by the IRO for any child in the period.

In addition, the IRO has regard as to whether the child/young person's human rights are being breached in any way and, if so, might make a referral to CAF/CASS Cymru. This action was not required at any of the review meetings in the period.

For any query or comment contact:

Elizabeth Upcott
Safeguarding Service
Penmorfa,
Aberaeron
SA46 0PA

SECTION TWO CARE PLANNING

1. Headline Figures for Q4:

Number of Looked After Children	Total
31 st December 2020	79
31 st March 2021	85

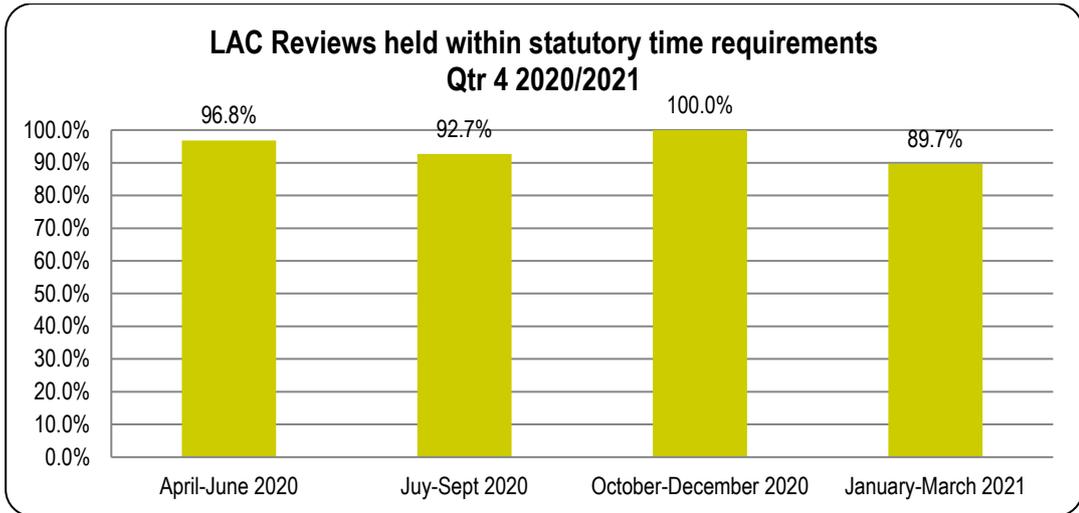
2. Number and percentage of Looked After Children Reviews undertaken within the statutory time requirement.

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 89.7%

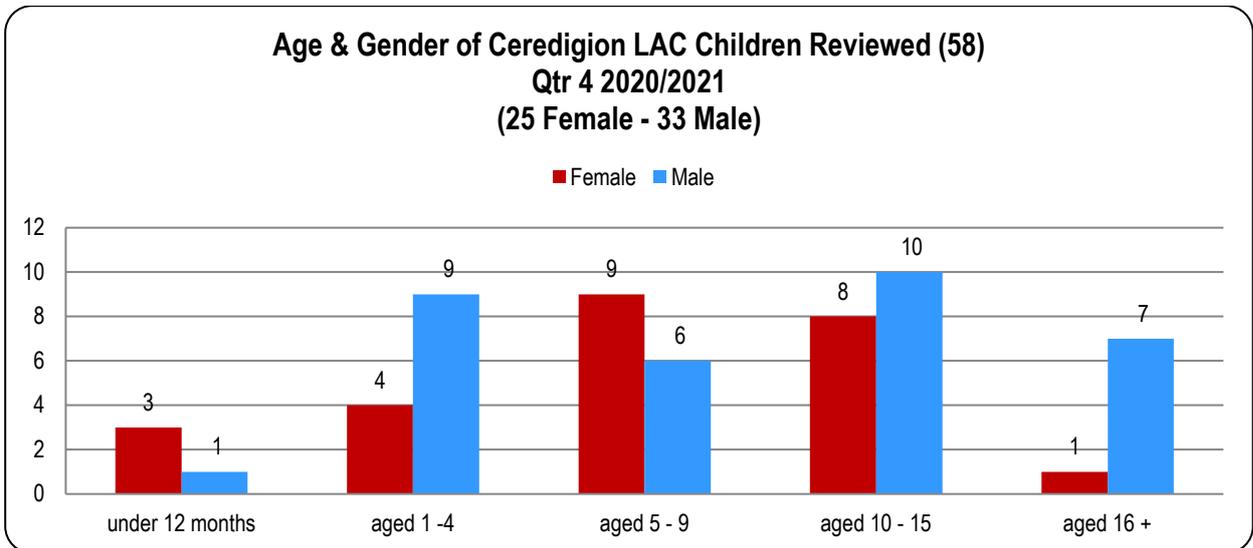
58 Children were reviewed within the Quarter.

- 52 (89.7%) LAC Review Meetings were undertaken within the statutory requirements.
- 6 (10.3%) LAC Review Meetings were held out of statutory requirements; reasons recorded were as follows: -
 - A sibling group of 3 children's Review was postponed due to the absence of an IRO.
 - 1 Other child's review was delayed due to Social worker availability.
 - There was delay in notifying that 2 further children had become Looked After.

	Jan- Mar 2021	Oct- Dec 2020	July- Sept 2020	April - June 2020	Jan - Mar 2020
Number of children reviewed in the quarter	58	60	41	62	48
Number of reviews held in timescale	52	60	38	60	47
Number of reviews held out of timescales	6	0	3	2	1

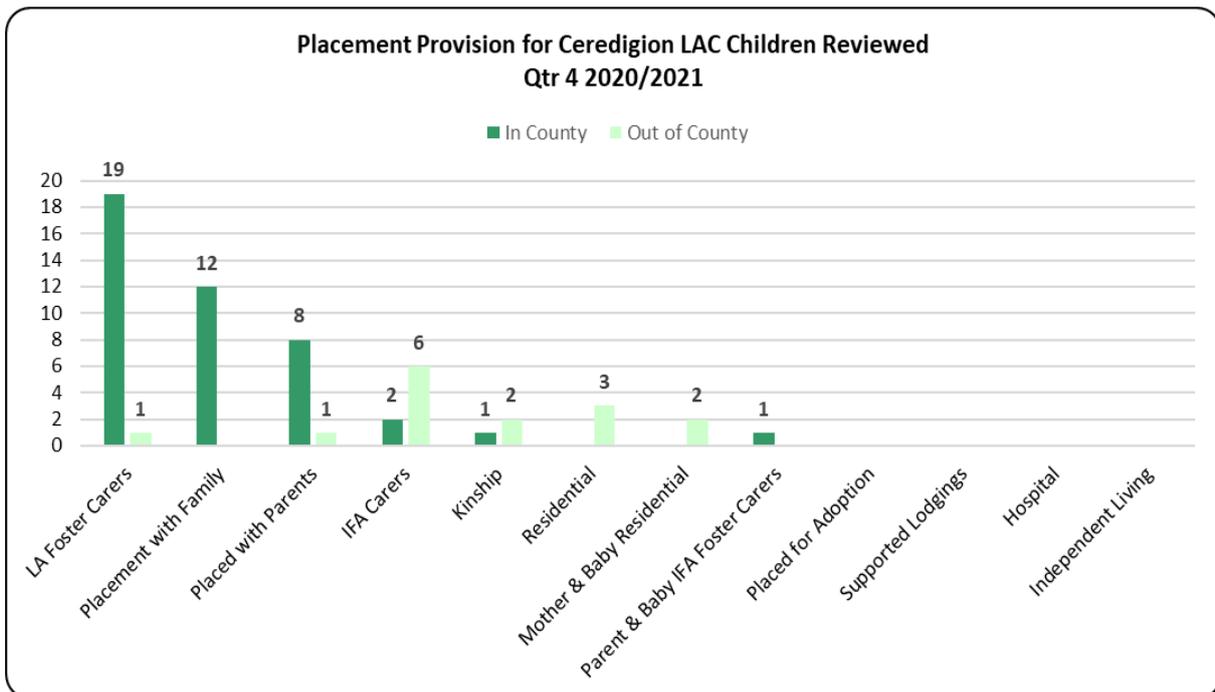


3. Age and Gender of the Children Reviewed in the Quarter:



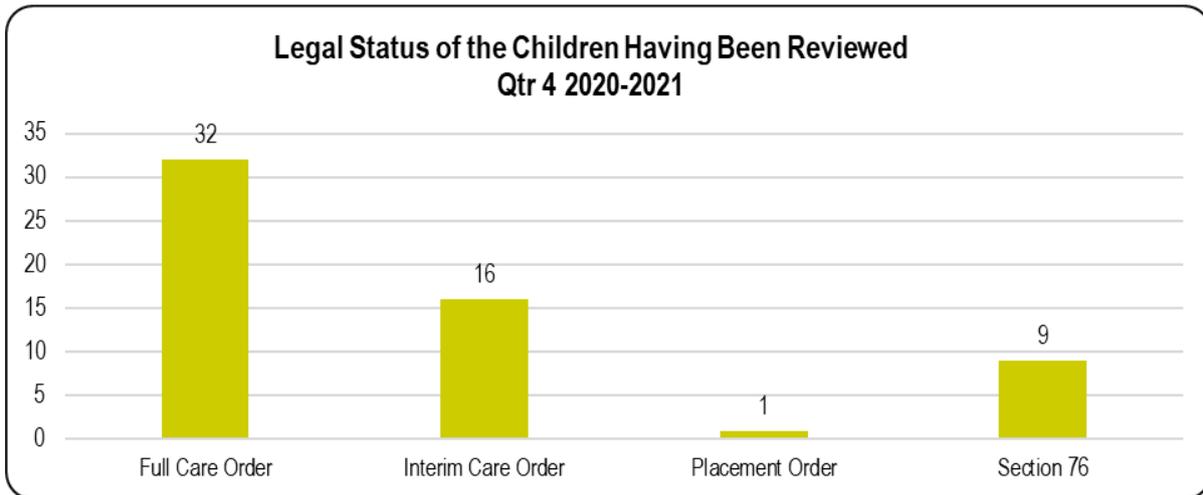
4. Nature of the Placement Provision of Children Reviewed in the Quarter:

Type of Placement	In County	Out of County	Total
LA Foster Carers	19	1	20
Placement with Family	12		12
Placed with Parents	8	1	9
IFA Carers	2	6	8
Kinship Carers	1	2	3
Residential		3	3
Mother & Baby Residential		2	2
Parent & Baby IFA Foster Carers	1		1
Adoption			
Supported Lodgings			
Hospital			
Independent Living			
	43	15	58



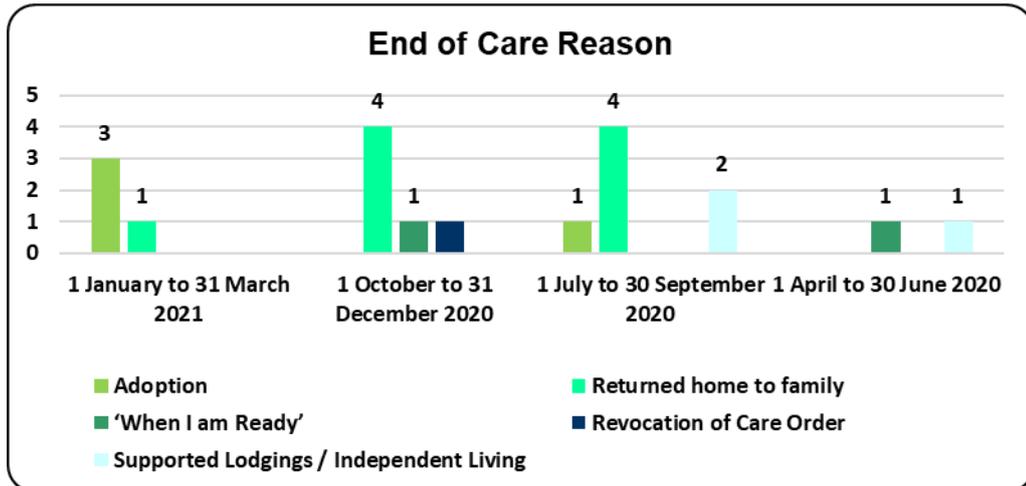
5. Legal Status of Children Reviewed in the Quarter:

Legal Status of the Children Having Been Reviewed	
Full Care Order	32
Interim Care Order	16
Placement Order	1
Section 76	9
Total	58



6. Reasons for End of Care of the Children Reviewed

Period	Number left care	End of Care Reason				
		Adoption	Returned home to family	'When I am Ready'	Revocation of Care Order	Supported Lodgings / Independent Living
1 January to 31 March 2021	4	3	1	-	-	-
1 October to 31 December 2020	6	0	4	1	1	-
1 July to 30 September 2020	7	1	4	-	-	2
1 April to 30 June 2020	2	0	0	1	0	1
Total	19	4	9	2	1	3



7. Number and percentage of Looked After Children who have an allocated Social Worker.

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 100.0%

- 58 (100.0%) LAC Reviews recorded that a qualified Social Worker was allocated and actively involved with the child.

8. Number and percentage of statutory visits undertaken to Looked After Children reviewed within the required timescales.

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 87.9%

- 51 (87.9%) Looked After Children received Social Worker visits in accordance with the statutory requirements.
- 7 (12.1%) Looked After Children did not receive Social Worker visits in accordance with the statutory requirements.

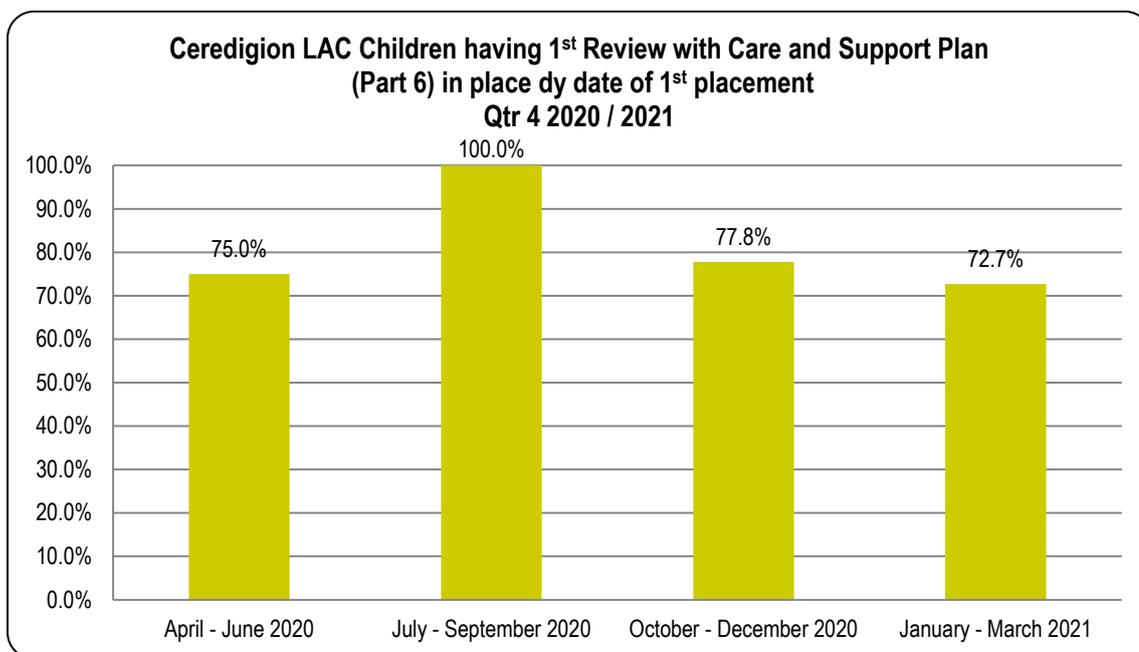


Comment: This is the percentage of visits that were undertaken where children were seen, however in 7 of the cases the stat visits were undertaken but not recorded on the system.

9. Number and Percentage of Care and Support Plans (Part 6) in place at the date of the first placement and of up to date plans available for the Review.

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 72.7%

- There were 11 new LAC placements made during this quarter; 8 (72.7%) Review meetings recorded that the child / young person had a Care and Support Plan (Part 6) in place by the date of his/her placement.
- For 1 child and a sibling group of 2 the Care and Support Plan was not in place by date of first placement; however the Care and Support Plan was in place at the time of the review for all 3 of the children / young persons.



- The IRO identified that updates were required to the Care and Support Plan records (Part 6) of 3 children.

Comment: It is now confirmed that the Care and Support Plan for all 3 children has been updated since the review.

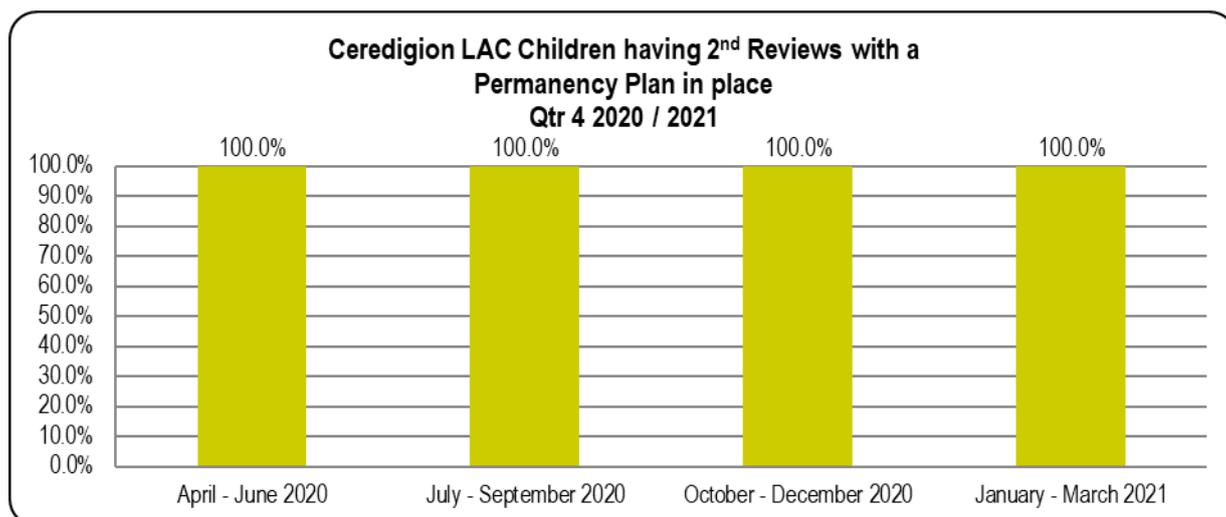
10. Number and percentage of Looked After Children who have a Permanency Plan by the second review if a return home has not been planned.

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 100.0%

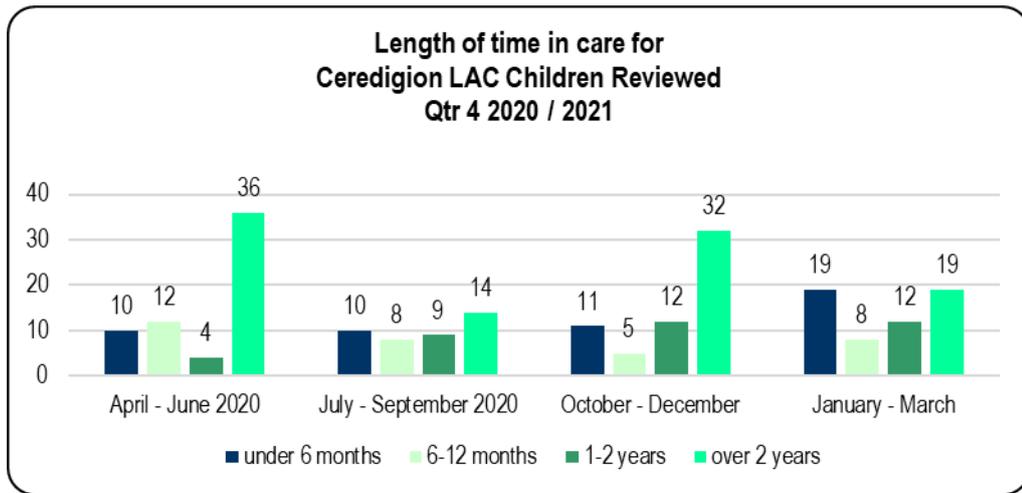
- There were 11 second reviews during this quarter, all 11 reviews (100.0%) recorded that a Permanency Plan had been agreed. This is consistent with the previous quarter.
- There was concerns recorded by the IRO in 4 (6.9%) reviews in this period regarding the progress of the Placement / Care and Support Plan / Permanency Plan.

The nature of the concerns was as follows: -

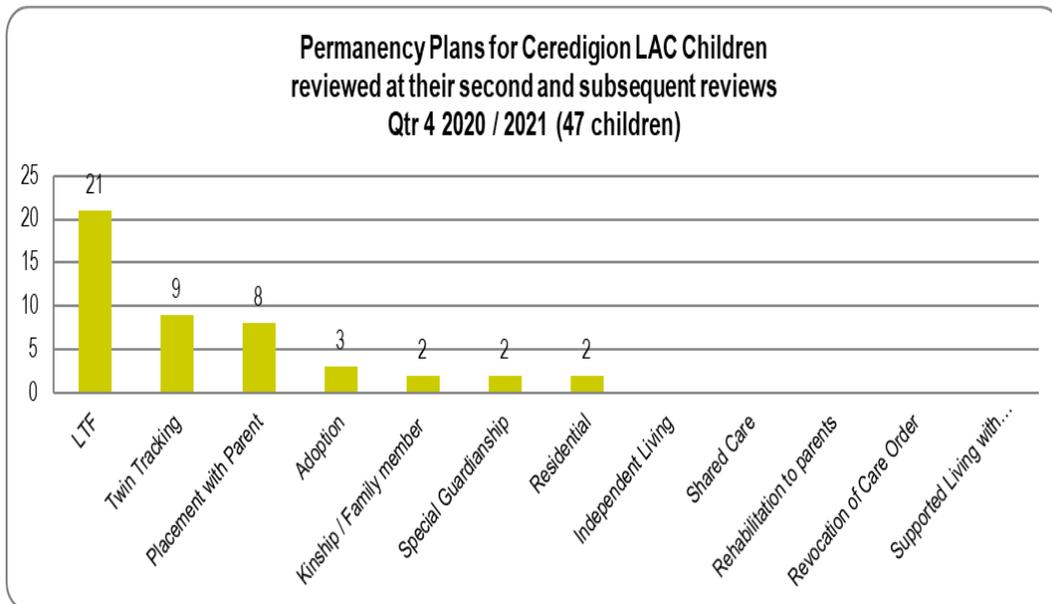
- Lack of resources due to the fact that a decision has been made that an alternative placement needs to be identified for 1 young person to allow him/her the opportunity to develop independence in the future.
- Delay in progressing a Special Guardianship for 1 young person.
- Lack of resources in progressing the plan of Adoption for 1 young person.
- Permanency Plan needing to be agreed for 1 further young person.



11. Length of Time in Care:



12: Nature of Permanency Plans:



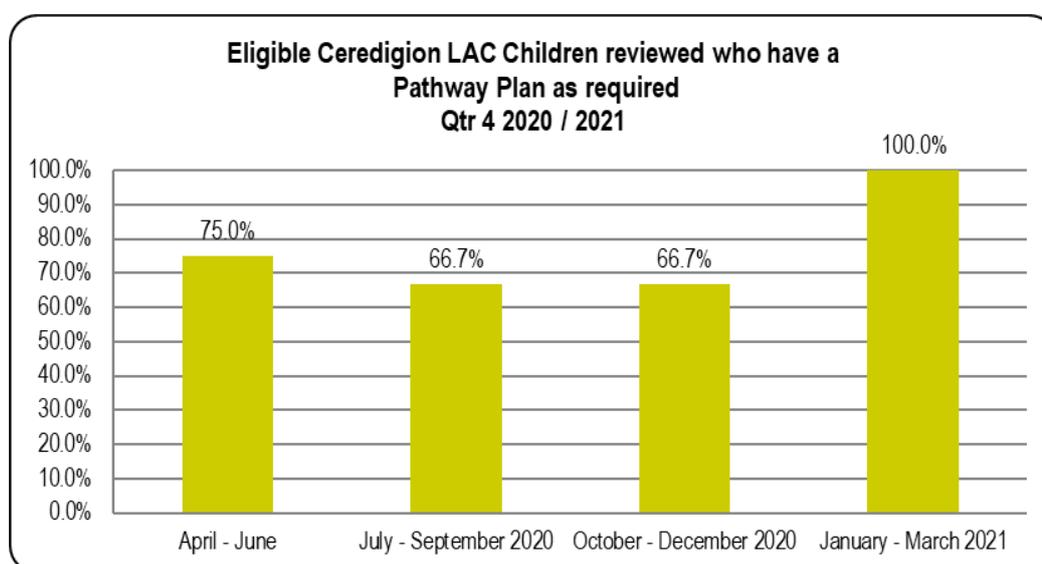
13. Number and percentage of Looked After Children receiving Respite Care away from Main Carers

- 0 (0.0%) LAC Reviews noted that the child / young persons were receiving respite care away from their main carers.

14. Number and percentage of eligible young people who have a Pathway Plan as required.

Target set: 100% Target Achieved 100.0%

- All 8 (100.0%) Young People recorded that there was a Pathway Plan in place and were allocated a Personal Advisor.



15. Number and percentage of Looked After Children (of appropriate age and level of understanding) who understand the reasons for them being looked after.

Target Set 100% -Target achieved 100.0%

- The data for this performance indicator relates to 39 children / young persons as 19 children / young persons were not considered to be of an appropriate age and level of understanding to comprehend the reasons for being looked after.
- 39 (100.0%) Of this group showed some level of understanding about why they were cared for away from their families, which compares to 96.2% in the previous quarter. It was reported that 1 Child needed to be provided with further clarification.

16. Number and percentage of Looked After Children (of appropriate age and level of understanding) understand their Care and Support Plan.

The data for this performance indicator relates to 41 children / young persons as 17 children / young persons were not considered to be of an appropriate age and level of understanding and were therefore not included in the figures.

- 40 (97.6%) of this group showed a level of understanding as to the nature of their Care and Support Plan (part 6).
- 1 (2.4%) Review recorded that this was unclear and a piece of work that needed to be undertaken with the young person.

17. National Measure 33: Number and percentage of moves for Looked after Children.

- 11 (19.0%) LAC Reviews reported that there was a change in a child's/young person's placement during this quarter; this compares to 15.0% in the previous quarter.

The reasons for the changes in Placement were as follows:

- 1 Young person moved from a Parent and Child Together placement (PACT) to a Mother & Baby Foster Care Placement for further assessment.
- 2 Siblings moved from a Mother & Baby Foster Care Placement to a Residential Parent & Child Together Placement (PACT) for assessment.
- 2 Siblings moved from a short term foster placement to a long term foster placement.
- 2 Siblings moved from a short term foster placement to a long term placement with family.
- 1 Young person moved from a Mother & Baby Foster Placement to a Placement with Parent.
- 1 Young person moved from an emergency placement to a short term foster placement.
- 1 Young person moved from a short term placement that was unsuitable to another short term placement.
- 1 Young person moved from a residential placement to another residential placement offering Therapeutic Care.

18 Number and percentage of placement plans (including education and health provision) that are assessed as meeting the needs of Looked after Children.

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 100.0%

- 58 (100.0%) Placement/care and support plans were recorded as meeting the needs of the children / young people; this is consistent with the previous quarter. 6 Reviews however noted the following: -
 - It became apparent during the review for a group of 2 siblings that the Contract of expectations was not being adhered to in respect of transport arrangement, this will be followed up with Management.
 - Placement meeting needs to a degree; however a further placement now identified for young person to promote self-care and life skills within a therapeutic setting.
 - Young person spending more time with other parent as parent working long hours.
 - Although the placement is meeting the needs, a further long term foster placement needs to be identified which will offer a solo placement or have much older teenage children in line as suitability for young person's identified ongoing placement requirements.
 - Young person is still presenting with concerning behaviour which continuous to be discussed at monthly placement review meetings.

19. Number and percentage of Safeguarding Concerns identified for Looked After Children during this quarter

- 5 (8.6%) LAC Reviews identified safeguarding concerns for the young person; it was confirmed that the concerns were being addressed.

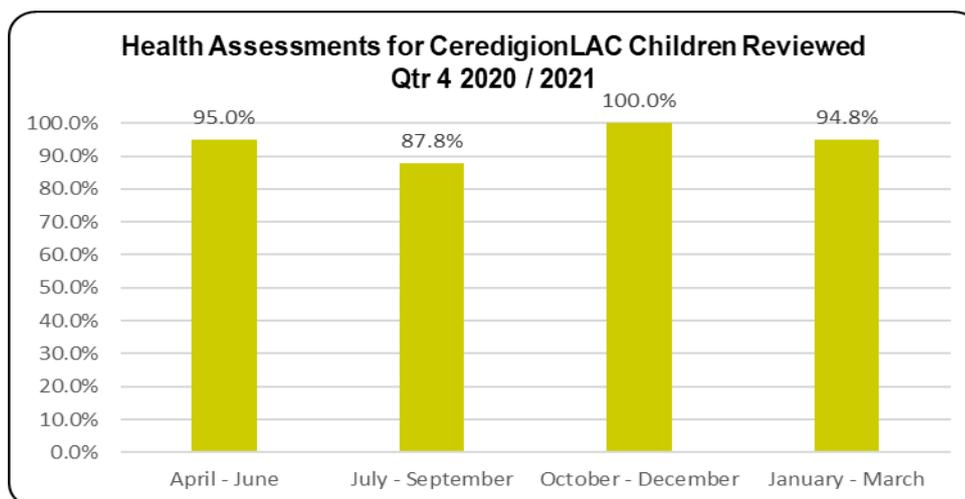
20. Number of Looked After Children's names on the Child Protection Register.

- 10 (17.2%) Reviews confirmed that the young person's name was included on the Child Protection Register.

21. Number and percentage of Looked After Children who received Health Assessments in accordance with statutory requirements

Target Set 100%- Target achieved 94.8%

- 55 (94.8%) Children/Young People Looked After had an up to date health assessment reported at their review, which compares to 100.0% in the previous quarter.



Comment: All 3 children had a health assessment completed by 19th March 2021. One was outside of statutory timescales due to host LAC health team and 2 were due to late notification of becoming LAC.

22. The percentage of children registered with a dentist within 20 working days of becoming looked after

Target set: 100% Target Achieved 81.8%

Registered with a dentist

The data for registering a child / young person with a dentist within 20 days of start of placement relates to 11 children / young persons.

- 9 (81.8%) Reviews recorded that the child / young person was registered with a dental practitioner within 20 working days of the start of placement.
- 2 (18.2%) reviews recorded that the child / young person wasn't registered with a dental practitioner within 20 days of start of placement

Comment: 2 children are not currently registered with the dentist and will be referred to Community Dental Service once they return to area.

Registered with a dentist

The data for this performance indicator relates to 47 Children / Young persons as 11 Children / Young persons having a first LAC Review were taken out of the above equation to coincide with National Measure requirements.

- 41 (87.2%) Children and young people were registered with a dentist. This compares to 94.1% in the previous quarter.

- 6 (12.8%) Children and young people had not been registered with the dentist, all of these children were under 2 years old.

Comments: 6 children were not registered at their review however 4 have subsequently been registered and the other 2 will be registered with the Community Dental Service once they return to area.

23. National Measure 30: Number and percentage of Looked After Children who have had their teeth checked by a dentist within 3 months of becoming Looked After.

Seen by a dentist

The data for being seen by a dentist within 3 months of becoming looked after relates to 10 children.

- 6 (60.00%) Review recorded that the child / young person had been seen by a registered dentist within 3 months of becoming LAC.
- 4 (40.0%) Children and young people were recorded as not having had dental checks within 3 months of becoming LAC.

Comment: Ongoing Covid19 pandemic. Routine appointments not occurring. 3 Registered with private dentists, not Community Dental Service and 1 living out of area.

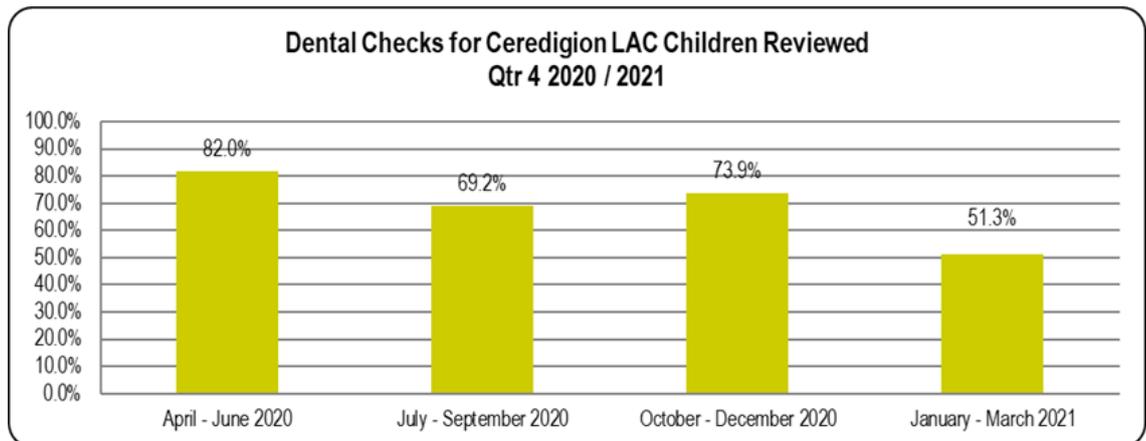
Seen by a dentist

Target Set 90% - Target achieved 51.3%

The data for this performance indicator relates to 39 Children / young persons as 19 Children / Young persons were under 2 years of age and / or having their first LAC Reviews and were taken out of the above equation to coincide with National Measures requirements.

- 20 (51.3%) Children and young people were recorded as having a dental check during the preceding 12 months, which compares to 73.9% in the previous quarter.
- 19 (48.7%) Children and young people were recorded as not having had dental checks.

Comment: Ongoing Covid19 pandemic. LAC Health Team contacted Service Manager for Community Dental Service to raise concern that looked after children have not had routine appointments for in excess of 12 months. Response from Community Dental Services is that Welsh Government guidelines stipulates that they don't carry out routine appointments, although it does say if any treatment is deemed necessary then they can carry it out. They stated that if it is required that a LAC child be seen then the clinic can be contacted. All staff will be informed that if they receive a phone call and the child is LAC then to book them in to the appropriate clinic.



24. National Measure 31: Percentage of children looked after who were registered with a GP within 10 working days of the start of their placement

- 17 (89.5%) Reviews recorded that the child was registered with a provider of general medical services within 10 working days of the start of placement.
- 2 Reviews reported that this action remained outstanding, this was an agreed action from the Review.

Comment: LAC Health Nurse has advised that these 2 children have subsequently registered with a GP in the area of their placement. They did have GP registration at the time of the review, but not local to placement.

25. Number and percentage of children looked after who were registered with a GP

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 100.0%

- All 58 (100.0%) children and young people were registered with a GP, which is consistent with the previous quarter.
- 54 (94.7%) Children had their immunisations up to date.

Quarter 4 - 1/1/21-31/3/21 - Quality Assurance & Independent Reviewing Service Report

- 3 (5.3%) Children were late in receiving their immunisations; the reasons recorded were: -
 - 2 Reviews reported that outstanding immunisations would be undertaken via school nurse/GP.
 - 1 Review reported that the immunisations needed to be completed.

1 Review was taken out of the equation as the parent was refusing to allow the child to have an immunisation.

Comment: We have received a recent update form LAC Nurse; one person has now had outstanding immunisations, one is refusing them and one young person has partially received.

26. Number and percentage of Looked After Children assessed as requiring CAMHS services that are referred and receive an assessment /service.

Target: 50%

Actual Performance

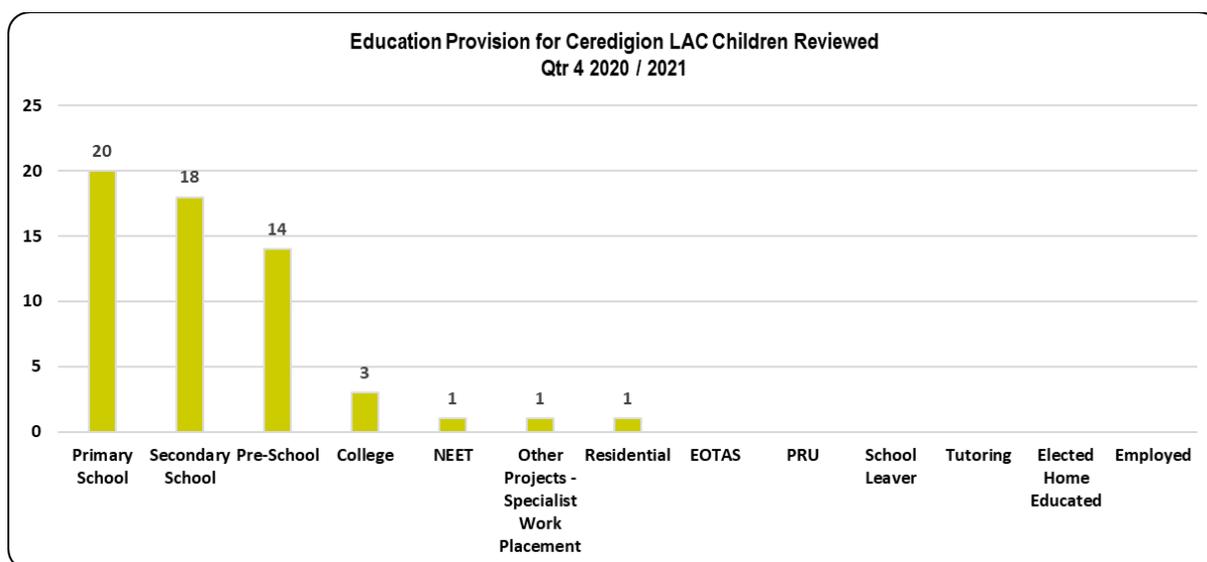
- 8 (13.8%) LAC Reviews recorded that a child/young person had been referred to CAMHS, it was confirmed at 7 Reviews that the referral had been accepted for the child/young person. 1 Review confirmed that the referral had not been accepted.
- 52 (100.0%) LAC Reviews recorded that children/young people's mental/emotional health had been considered during the Health Assessment and/or during discussions in the meeting.

6 reviews recorded that the child / young person was too young, these were therefore taken out of the equation.

27. Nature of Education Provision:

During this quarter the children and young people reviewed were in the following educational provision.

Education Provision	
Primary school pupils	20
Secondary school pupil	18
Pre-school children	14
College	3
NEET	1
Residential	1
Other Projects-Specialist Work Placement	1
PRU	
EOTAS	
School Leaver	
Tutoring	
Elected Home Educated	
Employed	
Total	58



28. Number and percentage of Looked After Children of school age who had a Personal Education Plan within 20 school days of entering care or joining a new school.

Target Set 70% - Target achieved 94.1%

The data for this performance indicator relates to 34 children / young persons who were of compulsory school age and therefore eligible for a Personal Education Plan.

- 32 (94.1%) Children and young people of statutory school age had an up to date Personal Education Plan.
 - 12 (85.7%) Reviews recorded that the PEP had been completed within 20 school working days of becoming Looked After or 20 working days of a change in school as required.
 - 20 (100.0%) Reviews recorded that the young person had an up to date Personal Education Plan.
 - 2 (14.3%) Reviews recorded that the young person's PEP was not completed within 20 days; however the PEP was in place for both these young people soon after.
- ***
- 9 (25.0%) Children and young people attending school/college were identified as having a recognised additional learning need.
- ***
- 9 (26.5%) Reviews deemed that the children / young persons attending school/college were underachieving educationally. All 9 (100.0%) Reviews recorded that the young people were receiving support.
- ***
- 17 (100.0%) Reviews identified that the educational provision had been put in place at the start of the placement.
- None of the Reviews identified that there had been a period whereby the child / young person had been out of education awaiting a school placement.

29. National Measure 32: Percentage of Looked After Children who have changed schools and outside of transitional arrangements

Target Set 0% - Target achieved 5.9%

- 2 (5.9%) Reviews recorded a change of school which was not transitional, which compares to 0.0% in the previous quarter.

30. Number and percentage of Looked After Children who were excluded from school

Target Set 12% fixed term exclusion – Target achieved 0.0%

Target Set 1% permanent exclusion – Target achieved 0.0%

- 0 (0.0%) Reviews reported that the young person had been excluded on a fixed term basis during the review period. This compares to 2.5% in the previous quarter.
- 0 (0.0%) Reviews reported that the young person had been excluded from school permanently, which is consistent with the previous quarter.

There were no exclusions during this period but there were child care hubs.

Quarter 4 - 1/1/21-31/3/21 - Quality Assurance & Independent Reviewing Service Report

SECTION THREE

CONSULTATION AND PARTICIPATION

1. Local Performance Indicator: Number and percentage of Looked After Children of age and understanding consulted by the Social Worker or attended their review

Target Set 100% – Target achieved 100.0%

The data for this performance indicator relates to 42 reviews as 6 reviews recorded that the children / young persons were not of an age and level of understanding to be included in the consultation process although 5 of these children / young people attended the review.

- 42 (100.0%) Reviews recorded that consultation had taken place

Breakdown of consultation

18 Children / young people attended their review via Teams.

24 Children / young people completed consultation papers or/and had their views represented by professionals, parents, carers or advocates.

- The IRO had no direct contact with any children / young people during the review period outside of the review meeting.

2. Local Performance Indicator: Number and percentage of Children who were aware of their right for an Advocacy Service / Independent Visitor Scheme

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 100.0%

The data for this performance indicator relates to 41 reviews as 17 reviews recorded that the children / young people reviewed were not of an age and understanding to be informed about their right for Advocacy / Independent Visitor Scheme and were therefore taken out of the equation.

- All 41 (100.0%) Children / young persons were informed of their right for an Advocacy / Independent Visitor Scheme and a referral made. 1 Further child under 5 years old was also referred to the service.

3 **Local Performance Indicator: Number and percentage of Children informed about the Complaints Procedure**

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 97.2%

The data for this performance indicator relates to 36 reviews as 2 reviews recorded that the children / young people were not of the age / level of understanding and were therefore taken out of this equation.

- 35 (97.2%) Children / young people knew about the complaints process, which compares to 97.4% in the previous quarter.
- 1 (2.8%) Child / young person needed to be advised by their Social Worker about the complaints procedure.

4 **Local Performance Indicator: Number and percentage of Parents consulted by the Social Worker before the review or who attended the review**

Target Set 80% - Target achieved 100.0%

The data for this performance indicator relates to 51 reviews as 8 reviews recorded that the parents were not involved in the statutory review process and these were therefore taken out of the above equation.

- 51 (100.0%) Parents completed consultation papers or met with / spoke with the IRO prior and / or after the review or / and attended the review themselves or / and had their views represented by a professional.

Breakdown of consultation

Consultation Papers were sent out for 50 reviews, the IRO telephoned the parent for 1 other review.

39 Reviews confirmed that the parents were present, or spoke to the IRO by phone prior and/or after the review.

5 **Local Performance Indicator: Number and percentage of Foster Carers consulted by the social worker or attends the Child's Review**

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 100.0%

The data for this performance indicator relates to 50 reviews as 8 reviews recorded that the child was placed with a parent or living independently, these reviews were therefore taken out of the equation.

- 50 (100.0%) Foster Carers completed consultation papers or / and attended the reviews during this period.

6 Local Performance Indicator: Number and percentage of Health Representative attending the Review or Sending a Report

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 86.2%

- 50 (86.2%) Reviews confirmed that information regarding health was available for the meeting.
- 8 (13.8%) Reviews confirmed that there was no health information available for the meeting.

Comments: 3 placed out of area. School Nurses have been redeployed on an ongoing basis due to Covid19 pandemic vaccine programme.

7. Local Performance Indicator: Number and percentage of a School Representatives attending a Review or Sending a Report

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 100.0%

- 42 (100.0%) LAC Reviews had a school representative attend or provided a written report, which is consistent with the previous quarter.

8. Local performance Indicator: Number and percentage of LAC Review Documents completed by the Social Worker prior to the review

Target Set 100% - Target achieved 72.4%

- 42 (72.4%) LAC Reviews confirmed that the LAC Review document had been completed by the Social Worker prior to the review, this compares to 68.3% in the previous quarter.
- 16 (27.6%) LAC Reviews confirmed that the LAC Review document had not been completed by the Social Worker prior to the review; 4 of these documents remain uncompleted.

Comment: The performance with regards the completion of LAC Paperwork in a timely manner continues to be a cause of concern. This is due to staffing issues within the Social Work Teams, which continues to have an impact on the improvement of this performance. However, good practice in this area of performance still needs to be a priority.

**SECTION FOUR:
ISSUE RESOLUTION PROTOCOL**

The Issue Resolution Protocol was not initiated during this period for any child by the IRO.

Although it was noted that Mid-Point reviews were not taking place, where needed, IRO were bringing reviews forward when there were concerns.

**SECTION FIVE
EVALUATION**

This information was unavailable for this quarter

SECTION SIX

PATHWAY PLANNING

For over 16 years old and not LAC / over 18 year old care leavers

25 Pathway Plan Reviews were held during the quarter.

- 1. Performance Indicator: Percentage of Pathway Plan Review held within timescales**
 - 20 (80.0%) Pathway Plan Reviews were held within timescales, which is consistent with the previous quarter.
 - 5 (20.0%) Pathway plan reviews were held out of timescales. The reasons recorded were the absence of an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO); an agency IRO was appointed in early February.
- 2. Performance Indicator: Percentage of Young Persons with allocated Personal Advisor / Social Worker**
 - It was identified at all 25 (100%) reviews that all the young persons had an allocated Social Worker or/and Personal Advisor.
- 3. Performance Indicator: Percentage of Pathway Plan Review Record Completed for the Meeting**
 - The review record had been completed for the meeting for 25 (100%) Pathway Plan reviews, which compares to 90% in the previous quarter.
- 4. Performance indicator: Percentage of Young People Consulted for the Review Meeting**
 - 20 (80%) Reviews confirmed that the young person had his / her views represented at the review or / and attended the review.
 - 5 (20%) Reviews documented that the views of the young person were not represented at the meeting.

5. Performance indicator: Percentage of Young People attending their Review Meeting

- 7 (28%) Reviews recorded that the young person attended their review, 1 further review recorded that the young person attended very briefly.
- 17 (68%) Reviews recorded that the young persons had not attended their review.

6. Performance Indicator: Percentage of Pathway Plan meeting young person's needs

- 24 (96%) Reviews confirmed that the Pathway Plan was meeting the young person's needs.
- 1 (4%) Review recorded that the Pathway Plan was not meeting the young person's needs.

7. Performance Indicator: Percentage of Pathway Plans updated prior to Leaving Care/18th Birthday

- There were no young people in the category of needing to have their Pathway Plan updated prior to the young person leaving care/18th Birthday.

8. Evaluation This information was unavailable for this quarter

SECTION SEVEN

RESIDENTIAL NON LAC

There were no Residential Non LAC Reviews held during this period.

SECTION EIGHT

REGULAR RESPITE

There were no Regular Respite Reviews held during the quarter.

SECTION NINE

SHORT BREAKS

There were no Short Break Reviews held during this period

SECTION TEN

FOSTER CARER REVIEWS

2 Foster Carer Reviews were undertaken during this period

1 Performance Indicator: Number and percentage of Foster Carer Reviews undertaken within the statutory timescales

- Neither of the reviews were held within timescales; this was due to absent Independent Chair.

2 Performance indicator: Percentage of consultation received from LAC Social Worker

- 1 (50%) Foster Carer Review confirmed that consultation had been provided by the LAC Social Worker.

3 Performance Indicator: Percentage of Consultation received from children

- There was no consultation received from children.

4 Performance Indicator: Percentage of Supervising Social Workers' Reports Received

- Supervising Social Workers' reports were received for both (100%) reviews.

5 Performance Indicator: Percentage of Reviews able to carry out its purpose

- Both reviews (100.0%) confirmed that the review was able to carry out its purpose.

6 Performance Indicator: Percentage of Level of Satisfaction from Family Placement Service

- Both reviews (100%) identified that the Foster Carers were 'very satisfied' with the service from the Family Placement Service

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Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

DATE: 6 October 2021

LOCATION: Virtual meeting

TITLE: Draft Forward Work Programme 2021/22

PURPOSE OF REPORT: Review the current work programme of the Committee

REASON SCRUTINY HAVE REQUESTED THE INFORMATION: The forward work programme of the Committee is reviewed and updated at each meeting

BACKGROUND:

Overview and Scrutiny Committees oversee the work of the Council to make sure that it delivers services in the best way and for the benefit of the local community.

The role of Overview and Scrutiny is to look at the services and issues that affect people in Ceredigion. The process provides the opportunity for Councillors to examine the various functions of the council, to ask questions on how decisions have been made, to consider whether service improvements can be put in place and to make recommendations to this effect.

Scrutiny plays an essential role in promoting accountability, efficiency and effectiveness in the Council's decision making process and the way in which it delivers services.

The main roles of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees:

- Holding the cabinet and officers as decision-makers to account
- Being a 'critical friend', through questioning how decisions have been made to provide a 'check and balance' to decision makers, adding legitimacy to the decision making process
- Undertaking reviews of council services and policy
- Undertaking reviews to develop council services and policies
- Considering any other matter that affects the county
- Ensuring that Ceredigion is performing to the best of its ability and delivering high quality services to its citizens
- Assessing the impact of the Council's policies on local communities and recommending improvement
- Engaging with the public to develop citizen centred policies and services

Effective Overview and Scrutiny can lead to:

- Better decision making
- Improved Service Delivery and Performance
- Robust Policy Development arising from public consultation and input of independent expertise
- Enhanced Democracy, Inclusiveness, Community Leadership and Engagement
- Adds a clear dimension of transparency and accountability to the political workings of the Council
- Provides an opportunity for all Members to develop specialist skills and knowledge that can benefit future policy making and performance monitoring processes
- Creates a culture of evidence based self-challenge

CURRENT SITUATION:

Questions to consider when choosing topics

- Is there a clear objective for examining this topic?
- Are you likely to achieve a desired outcome?
- What are the likely benefits to the Council and the citizens of Ceredigion?
- Is the issue significant?
- Are there links to the Corporate Strategy
- Is it a key issue to the public?
- Have the issues been raised by external audit?
- Is it a poor performing service?

Choosing topics

Overview and Scrutiny Committees should consider information from the Corporate Strategy, Improvement Plan, Strategic Plan, Service Plans, the Corporate Risk Register, budget savings – proposals and impact, Quarterly Corporate Performance Management panel meetings and departmental input in choosing topics and designing their Forward Work Programmes, as well as any continuing work.

RECOMMENDATION (S):

To review and update the current Forward Work Programme.

Contact Name:	Dwynwen Jones
Designation:	Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Date of Report:	23 September 2021
Acronyms:	FWP – Forward Work Programme

Committee	Item (description/title)	Invited Speakers	Purpose i.e. monitoring, policy, recommendation
Healthier Communities			
24 June	<p>IRO</p> <p>Update from the Committee Chairman on the May 2021 Mid Wales Joint Committee meeting</p>	Sian Howys	Monitoring
17 September Special Meeting Invitation to be extended to Members of the Learning Communities Committee 2pm	<p>Through Age and Wellbeing Strategy</p> <p>Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) – Assurance Check 2021: Ceredigion County Council</p>	<p>Caroline Lewis</p> <p>Sian Howys</p>	Pre-Cabinet
22 September Special meeting	<p>Fly Tipping – Explanation of the procedure</p> <p>Pest Control</p> <p>Update on Wellbeing Centres and developments in Lampeter Wellbeing Centre</p> <p>Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities involving Animals) (Wales) Regulation 2021</p>	<p>Heddwyn Evans</p> <p>Anne Louise</p> <p>Elen James & Carwyn Young</p> <p>Heddwyn Evans</p>	<p>Request</p> <p>Request</p> <p>Request by Officer</p> <p>Pre-Cabinet</p>

Budget Preparation 9:30am			
16 March	Pest Control update		
Future Items	Statutory Director of Social Services Annual Report	Sian Howys Donna Pritchard	Monitoring

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Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (with Members of the Learning Communities invited to attend), held remotely via video-conferencing on Friday, 17th September 2021

Present: Councillors Bryan Davies, Gethin Davies, Marc Davies, Elaine Evans, Hag Harris, Alun Lloyd-Jones, Lyndon Lloyd MBE, Dan Potter, John Roberts, Lynford Thomas and Ivor Williams.

Present from the Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee:
Wyn Thomas, Endaf Edwards, Gwyn James

Cabinet Members Present: Councillors Rhodri Evans, Catherine Hughes, Gareth Lloyd, Catrin Miles, Ray Quant, and Alun Williams

2.00pm – 3.35pm

1 Apologies

Councillor Paul Hinge apologised for his inability to attend the meeting due to being on other Council business. Councillor Odwyn Davies, Keith Evans and Mark Strong apologised for his inability to attend the meeting.

2 Disclosure of Personal / Prejudicial Interests (including Whipping declarations)

None

3 Through Age & Wellbeing Strategy 2021 – 2027 and Action Plan

The Corporate Director delivered a presentation and video on the Through Age & Wellbeing Strategy 2021 – 2027 and Action Plan.

It was explained that this strategy is a key part of the Ceredigion County Council Corporate Strategy that illustrates the main priorities for the Council. The priorities aim to enable the delivery of services that will enhance the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being for the people of Ceredigion. Providing support for all ages and needs is a significant challenge for the Council with limited resources. The profile of society and demographics have changed considerably over the last decade with a significant increase in the prevalence and impact of substance misuse, poor mental health and domestic abuse and older age groups living in Ceredigion. As a consequence, demand for certain services has increased placing a greater financial pressure on those service areas. In addition, the unemployment levels coupled with the low income levels has placed increased difficulties on the ability of people to access safe, affordable housing.

The Committee noted that it was agreed in 2017 that a systematic review of all structures and service areas should be undertaken to ensure that services across the Council have the capacity and capability to meet the priorities of the Corporate Plans and Objectives.

The transformation of services has progressed well with the final major change being the integration of social care and lifelong learning into the three services Porth Cymorth Cynnar, Porth Gofal and Porth Cynnal who along with Customer Contact make up the 4 main areas that fall within the Through Age & Wellbeing Programme of change.

Formal restructuring of these services started in late 2019 with the implementation of the Corporate Manager structure across the services. The pandemic then delayed progress during 2020 but this was then further progressed from September 2020 onwards. It was recognised that a clear strategy was required to drive and communicate the need for change and how this would be achieved. Updates and workshops with members have taken place throughout the period of change. Staff and Trade Unions have been engaged and consulted during each part of the process.

At the outset of the programme a vision was created that reflected the ambitious programme of change:

‘To ensure every child, young person and adult in Ceredigion will be able to reach their full potential. To ensure fair access for all to excellent universal and targeted services that supports the health and wellbeing of all citizens. To develop skills and resilience that will last a lifetime and enable individuals to cope well with the challenges and pressures that they may face.’

The Through-age & Wellbeing Strategy clarifies the vision and plans for the implementation. The Through Age and Wellbeing strategy sets out the vision and associated approaches that will be taken to transform how the wellbeing and safety of the people of Ceredigion is supported. Giving a timeline of 2021-2027 to achieve the changes.

The strategy describes the journey the Council will take, alongside its partners, to transform its way of working. It provides the strategic context to drive future commissioning, operational service delivery, care management and the Councils role in the integration of services. The strategy sets out how we will:

- Put in place a new Through Age and Wellbeing Model of delivery
- Reduce demand on managed care and support and focus resources on those who most need them
- Support our workforce to develop a new approach to supporting individuals within Ceredigion
- Focus on preventative services which help people to remain independent or regain the independence they want and value
- Provide services within budget
- Work with partners to provide a more joined up health, wellbeing and social care system

The Strategy highlights 5 key objectives, these are underpinned by 12 focused areas of need that look at the root causes of why families and individuals may need information, advice, support and/or care.

The purpose of the Action Plan is to clearly outline what is required over the next three years (and to signal what is likely in the years beyond that) to address the root causes in order to meet the 5 key objectives of the Strategy and, alongside our partners, rebalance the care and support to provide sustainable services within Ceredigion.

A member highlighted the importance of ensuring that dementia care remains a priority and that the local authority work closely with health to ensure care remains within County.

Concerns were raised that improved communication is needed between the services and CLIC to ensure that Councillors and residents receive feedback as to when matters raised with CLIC are resolved. It was noted that 'an update on CLIC Customer Services' is an agenda item scheduled to be presented to the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on the 14th October 2021. Members agreed that all CLIC staff should be praised for their commitment and hard work.

Investment in early intervention and prevention was highlighted as a key element as there is likely to be an increased demand on young peoples' mental health services following the disruptions caused by covid-19.

Following questions by the Members of the Committee it was agreed to recommend the Through Age and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2027 and Action Plan for Cabinet approval, subject to consideration of the following recommendation:

- That there is improved communication between Local Authority Services and the CLIC service in future.

The Chairman thanked the Officer for attending and presenting in a clear, concise manner.

4 Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) Assurance Check 2021

The Corporate Lead Officer – Porth Cynnal and Statutory Director of Social Services informed the Committee that a letter had been received from Care Inspectorate Wales ('CIW') on 2nd July 2021 following the Health Assurance Check carried out during May 2021. The letter summarises the findings of the assurance check on 10 May to 14 May 2021. They focused their key lines of enquiry within the four principles of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and have recorded their judgements and findings aligned to these: People - Voice and Control, Prevention, Partnerships and Integration, Well-being. The summary of findings and priorities for improvement were outlined to the Committee.

Following discussion, Members agreed to note the contents of the letter and praised all Social Services staff for their hard work and commitment to their roles prior to and during the pandemic.

Members wished to note that staff and the service are under increased pressure and are doing the best they can having to work within the current service pressures .

Confirmed at the meeting of the Committee held on xxxx 2021

Chairman: