

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

DATE: 27 March 2025

LOCATION: Hybrid

TITLE: Update from the Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Workstreams

PURPOSE OF REPORT: To provide feedback on the work of the workstreams

REASON SCRUTINY HAVE REQUESTED THE INFORMATION:

BACKGROUND:

On 11 October 2012 as part of the forward work programme planning process, the Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee established four workstreams for raising awareness, training purposes, exploring topics in greater detail and for identifying aspects which require further scrutiny. The workstreams have been reviewed and updated during 2022. The members of the Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee are divided between the workstreams, and the Chairman and Vice Chair attends and contributes to all three.

Ensure that local and national priorities are delivered effectively	Ensure equity for all pupils	Ensure an effective and efficient infrastructure to meet our priorities
Councillor: Chris James Caryl Roberts Euros Davies Rhodri Davies Elizabeth Evans Ann Bowen Morgan	Councillor: Chris James Caryl Roberts Marc Davies Amanda Edwards Mark Strong Ann Bowen Morgan	Councillor: Chris James Caryl Roberts Meirion Davies Endaf Edwards Gareth Lloyd

CURRENT SITUATION:

Ensure equity for all pupils

The 'Ensure Equity for all Pupils' workstream met on 19th October 2024 to visit Canolfan Padarn, Aberystwyth. This was an opportunity for Members to visit the 'Camu Mlaen' provision for post-16 pupils. Members were able to talk to staff about the provision, qualifications and experiences available to Ceredigion pupils who, at one point, had to leave the authority to attend residential colleges.

Camu Mlaen is a person centred approach that offers post 16 specialist education provision for young people with severe or complex needs. The local authority works in partnership with Adult Learning Wales and appropriate agencies to deliver a unique integrated provision, ensuring that young people receive the holistic support and opportunities they require, whilst being able to remain closer to home and to thrive and mature and build a future within their local community.

Camu Mlaen offers:

- Pre-entry educational provision (3 days a week)
- Local day centre services (2 days a week)

A person centred approach is adopted to ensure that the provision meets the needs of the young person whilst supporting them in moving towards their future goals. Targets identified are shared by all partners ensuring a cohesive approach with planned opportunities to develop and practice skills needed to thrive and prepare with confidence for adult life.

The Camu Mlaen model incorporated a supported and planned transition pathway from school to adult life. The course is designed for learners who may require significant support throughout their programme of study to enable them to make progress and ensure their wellbeing and safety. There is plenty of opportunity to practice skills in different environments and situations, which was observed by members of the workstream.

Ensure that local and national priorities are delivered effectively

Ensure an effective and efficient infrastructure to meet our priorities

Ensure Equity for all pupils

The workstreams arranged a visit to the new Ysgol Dyffryn Aeron school on the 19th of February 2025. An invitation was extended to all Councillors. 13 Members were in attendance.

A presentation was received from the Headmistress, Mrs Nia Thomas, providing information on the journey so far and the preparations undertaken when they welcomed some 180 children to the school in January 2025 (which she informed

will increase to 188 for the summer term). The area school amalgamated Ciliau Parc School, Dihewyd School and Felinfach School.

Members then had the opportunity to walk around the school. The classrooms were well equipped with desks, chairs, and teaching aids. Each classroom had a teacher who was actively engaged in teaching and interacting with the pupils providing modern, state of the art learning facilities for pupils. They used a variety of teaching methods to engage the pupils.

The facilities inside and outside were excellent, which included, large outdoor areas with outdoor play and learning areas. Ysgol Dyffryn Aeron has a range of modern amenities such as a 3G astro turf pitch as well as a Multi-Use Games Area.

Calon Aeron (ALN Centre) is equipped with the latest facilities to support pupils with Special Educational Needs, ensuring an inclusive and supportive environment for all pupils.

It was evident and reassuring to Members that the school are committed to providing the pupils with a holistic education. Members were extremely grateful to Mrs Elen James, Mrs Nia Thomas and all staff members and pupils for the opportunity to visit.

Wellbeing of Future

Generations:

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

No

Summary of Integrated Impact Assessment:

Long term: N/A

Collaboration: N/A

Involvement: N/A

Prevention: N/A

Integration: N/A

RECOMMENDATION (S):

To note the work of the workstream

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):

Contact Name: Lisa Evans
Designation: Scrutiny and Standards Officer
Date of Report: 1/03/25
Acronyms: