

SUBJECT:	CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT 2019/2020
MEETING:	Children and Young People's Select Committee
DATE:	17th March 2020
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Children and Young People's Select Committee with an opportunity to review the Chief Officer's annual report ahead of its presentation to full Council on 2 April 2020.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 It is recommended that:

- Select members review the Chief Officer's report and consider its completeness and appropriate balance in reporting the outcomes of the last year.
- Scrutinise the various elements of performance set out in the Chief Officer's Report in doing so assuring themselves that the evaluation is:
 - Secure – robust and reliable
 - First-hand
 - Reliable – common, well understood criteria
 - Valid – accurate and reflects what has been achieved / provided
 - Free of bias – values equality of opportunity and diversity
 - Comprehensive – Covers all aspects
 - Corporate – incorporates views of staff and others

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 This year's annual report is the first since the changes to the accountability framework for schools' outcomes. These were discussed previously at the Select Committee and were reiterated at the meetings of 17 September 2019 (Foundation Phase to Key Stage 3) and 28 January 2020 (Key Stage 4 Outcomes).

- 3.2 The Communication from the Welsh Government, the WLGA and Estyn to Chairs of Scrutiny, Cabinet Members, Directors of Education, Chief Executive Officers, Managing Directors of Regional Education Consortia, stated that:

It is counter-productive for schools to be placed under disproportionate pressure on the basis of individual measures. It is not in the interest of school improvement and risks undermining the ongoing change in culture that we are working together to achieve. We expect local authorities and

regional consortia to support schools to make appropriate decisions about their curriculum to avoid narrowing choice for learners.

Collectively, we have agreed that this is the right approach to take and strongly advise you to use a broad range of un-aggregated data and information to enable you to discharge your duties when reporting on school performance. Evaluating the performance of individual schools rather than generating aggregated data at local authority level will be more helpful to supporting and challenging individual schools with their improvement.

- 3.3 In previous years the reporting of school-based outcomes has been aggregated to headline indicators and county level performance. We have also done this for specific groups. In this report, this will not happen. In the spirit of the guidance and new approach, we will also not name individual schools.
- 3.4 The Select reports that have been previously considered have reviewed all component parts of previous indicators. The Chief Officer's Report will include a narrative of emerging themes in each key stage and offer a view about the progress that learners make between stages of their learning. It will also contain a review of Estyn outcomes and categorisation outcomes.
- 3.4 The Report will also contain analysis of:
- i. Exclusions;
 - ii. Attendance;
 - iii. Leadership and staff wellbeing;
 - iv. The Financial Situation in Schools; and
 - v. Priorities for next year
- 3.5 Members should review these areas and consider the levels, trend data where available and any emergent risks. The Report will be made in the form of a presentation to the committee.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

- 4.1 This is not a report seeking a decision and therefore an evaluation of impact has not been undertaken.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

- 5.1 This is not applicable to this report.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 6.1 This is not applicable to this report.

7. REASONS:

7.1 The Chief Officer's report will be considered in full by the Council on 2 April 2020. The purpose of the discussion at Children and Young People Select Committee is to test the key aspects of the report.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

8.1 There are no additional resources associated with this report or savings identified.

9. CONSULTEES:

9.1 The following groups were consulted during the drafting of this report:

- Headteachers
- Directorate Management Team

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

11. AUTHOR:

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12. CONTACT DETAILS:

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