



## **EDUCATION SKILLS AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**10.00 am FRIDAY, 12 JANUARY 2018**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER - PORT TALBOT CIVIC CENTRE**

### **PART 1**

1. To receive any declarations of interest from Members
2. To receive the Minutes of the Education, Skills and Culture Scrutiny Committee held on 24th November 2017 (*Pages 3 - 10*)
3. To receive the Minutes of the Education, Skills and Culture Scrutiny Committee held on 7th December 2017 (*Pages 11 - 22*)
4. To receive the Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2017/18.  
(*Pages 23 - 26*)
5. To select appropriate items from the Cabinet Board Agenda for pre-scrutiny (Cabinet Board reports enclosed for Scrutiny Members).
6. Any urgent items (whether public or exempt) at the discretion of the Chairman pursuant to Section 100B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972

**S.Phillips**  
**Chief Executive**

**Civic Centre**  
**Port Talbot**

**Friday, 5 January, 2018**

## **Committee Membership:**

**Chairperson:** Councillor A.L.Thomas

**Vice Chairperson:** Councillor M.Crowley

**Councillors:** S. ap Dafydd, M.Ellis, S.Harris, N.T.Hunt, H.N.James, S.Miller, R.Mizen, J.D.Morgan, M.Protheroe, S.Renkes, R.L.Taylor, D.Whitelock and C.Williams

**\*Co-opted Voting Members** M.Caddick and A. Amor

**\*Co-opted Non Voting Members** A.Hughes and R.De Benedictis

### **Notes:**

- (1) *If Committee Members or non-Committee Members wish to have relevant items put on the agenda for future meetings, then please notify the Chief Executive/Chair eight days before the meeting.*
- (2) *If non-Committee Members wish to attend for an item of interest, then prior notification needs to be given (by 12.00 noon on the day before the meeting). Non-Committee Members may speak but not vote, or move or second any motion.*
- (3) *For pre scrutiny arrangements, the Chair will normally recommend forthcoming executive items for discussion/challenge. It is also open to Committee Members to request items to be raised - though Members are asked to be selective here in regard to important issues.*
- (4) *The relevant Cabinet Board Members will also be invited to be present at the meeting for Scrutiny/ Consultation purposes.*
- (5) *Would the Scrutiny Committee Members please bring the Cabinet Board papers with them to the meeting.*

## EDUCATION SKILLS AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

(Committee Rooms 1/2 - Port Talbot Civic Centre)

**Members Present:**

**24 November 2017**

**Chairperson:** Councillor A.L.Thomas

**Vice Chairperson:** Councillor M.Crowley

**Councillors:** S. ap Dafydd, S.Harris, H.N.James, R.Mizen, J.D.Morgan, S.Renkes, R.L.Taylor and D.Whitelock

**Co-opted Voting Members:** M.Caddick and A. Amor

**Officers In Attendance** A.Evans, A.Thomas and R.George

**Cabinet Invitees:** P.A. Rees, A.R. Lockyer

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### 1. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Members made declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting in relation to the undermentioned matters:-

Councillor Peter A. Rees

The report of the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning, the Head of Transformation and the Head of Participation re: consultation on Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Budget and Draft Savings 2018/19 as he currently represents the Leader of Council on the Education through Regional Working (ERW) Joint Council.

Councillor Sian Harris

The report of the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning, the Head of Transformation and the Head of Participation re: consultation on Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Budget and Draft Savings 2018/19 as she is a member of the organisation Friends of Cefn Coed Museum.

Co-opted Member Adam Amor

The report of the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning, the Head of Transformation and the Head of Participation re: consultation on Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Budget and Draft Savings 2018/19 as he is a Director of a film production and training company that provides services to some departments identified within the report.

## 2. **CONSULTATION ON BUDGET AND DRAFT SAVINGS FOR 2018/19**

Members received information around the current education, leisure and lifelong learning draft budget consultation exercise as contained within the circulated report.

The Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning and the Head of Transformation presented the report explaining to Members that it had been prepared to provide further information in relation to the budget setting process for the directorate, with a view to aiding the scrutiny of the proposals.

Providing a high level overview for Members the Corporate Director highlighted that the authority's net revenue budget for 2017/18 was £274.67million and together with grants and income this resulted in a gross budget of around £418million, with more than £50million invested annually through its capital programme.

As part of the annual budget setting process the Corporate Director reminded members that on, 8 November 2017, the Council's Cabinet approved to commence public consultation on its draft budget savings proposals for 2018/19 to 2019/20.

As part of this exercise it is projected that financial savings of £10.24million are required to set a balanced budget for the next financial year (2018/19) with a further £13million needed in the following financial year (2019/20), with the majority of financial savings being achieved via the non-delegated school budget(s).

Outlining the approach taken towards the current budget setting process the Corporate Director informed Members that three key principles have been adhered to. These were: to protect vulnerable learners; to protect services that the local authority has a statutory responsibility to maintain and to support areas that are subject to regulatory scrutiny.

The Corporate Director went on to point out that the office of Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales (Estyn) were shortly to undertake an inspection of the directorate, and while significant challenge would be likely inspectors remained sympathetic to the reality of the authority's budgetary position.

Following the conclusion of the Corporate Director's presentation the Head of Transformation provided Members with a brief overview of the specific budget saving proposals.

Members then proceeded to scrutinise specific proposals with the first questions being raised in relation to cost savings identified in relation to Disability Sport (ELLL 714), Outdoor Education (ELLL 801) and Celtic Leisure (ELLL 802).

In relation to these specific proposals, Members enquired as to how confident the Chief Officers were that such savings could be achieved. In addition, with regard to the specific proposal around disability sport Members queried whether this proposal had been equality impact assessed.

In responding to Members questions the Head of Transformation explained that the £15,000 saving identified regarding disability sport would be achieved through the withdrawal of match funding for the post of disability sports co-ordinator. It was also confirmed that the relevant equality impact assessment had been undertaken.

Turning to the budget proposals for Outdoor Education the Head of Transformation pointed out that the local authority currently has a contract in place with the Field Study Council (FSC) which is due to terminate in April 2019.

The Local Authority provides a management fee subsidy to the Field Study Council of £250,000. The proposal put forward is therefore to undertake negotiations with the FSC for them to provide a service to Neath Port Talbot schools but with no subsidy.

The Head of Transformation explained that to achieve this it is likely that the cost of NPT children attending the Discovery Centre at Margam Park will increase to be more in line with what children from outside NPT pay, and also what is charged by other providers of similar venues outside of Neath Port Talbot.

In addition, the Head of Transformation emphasised that every effort will be made to protect the most disadvantaged pupils from cost increases in line with the directorate's key principles.

With regard to the Celtic Leisure proposal the Head of Transformation made clear to Members that the company was currently operating at a surplus and over the past few years has become less reliant on the management fee provided by the local authority.

The Head of Transformation also explained to Members that the proposed management fee reduction would require the trust to secure even greater operating efficiencies and the generation of extra income.

In relation to the Celtic Leisure proposal the Corporate Director also pointed out to Members that the business sector which has seen the largest growth in recent years has been the fitness and leisure industry and due to the robust and consistent trading performance of Celtic Leisure he felt such savings were achievable and remained the least painful budget reductions for the directorate while generating considerable savings.

Members further enquired whether implementing these types of savings would result in the shut down or reduction of services. The Head of Transformation outlined that this was 'not on the table' and instead the directorate was looking to maximise efficiency savings as far as possible.

Furthermore, the Head of Transformation explained that Celtic Leisure held financial reserves and also had the ability to borrow money from a wide array of financial services enabling commercial opportunity for the company that needed to be further explored while also reducing the obligation on the local authority.

Members then continued to scrutinise other budget savings proposals including those for the Youth Service (ELLL 803), Music Service (ELLL 805), School Catering (ELLL 715), School Cleaning (ELLL 807) and Home to School Transport (ELLL 811).

With regard to the Youth Service, Members enquired what effect the budget saving would have to the service area.

The Head of Transformation highlighted that the proposal would result in a modest reduction in core funding which in turn may mean less capacity to support young people. However, he emphasised that every effort would be made to ensure that the most vulnerable children remained protected and that all grant funding opportunities would continue to be maximised.

Turning to the budget proposal for the Music Service Members asked whether it was possible to provide an assurance that the directorate would continue to support the provision of music for school pupils in Neath Port Talbot.

The Head of Transformation responded stating that the authority's music service was a well-respected service which trades directly with NPT schools. Nearly all schools purchase the service via a service level agreement. As such the proposed budget saving can be achieved either by increasing income above current levels or by cutting expenditure without affecting service provision.

The Head of Transformation pointed out that opportunities may also exist to offer services outside of Neath Port Talbot due to the reputation of the service and that the current proposal represents a 10% cut in current funding levels.

It was also highlighted that nearly all music services maintained by local authorities across Wales now operate without the provision of any subsidy at all.

Members then proceeded to move on to the budget proposals around school cleaning/catering and enquired why the budgetary saving for school catering was not the same as the saving proposed for school cleaning due to reduction/amalgamation in the number of maintained schools.

The Corporate Director outlined that the school catering saving would be achieved from the implementation of a new pay scale as a result of the review of catering arrangements.

In relation to school cleaning the proposal is to move towards a full cost recovery position over time by recovering greater costs from primary and special schools thereby increasing the cost of the service incrementally to each school.

The corporate director also highlighted to members that while the authority has a statutory duty to provide school meals there is no similar obligation in relation to the cleaning of schools.

In addition, the Corporate Director explained that the cost of maintaining in-house school cleaning services, as opposed to outsourcing, did result in higher costs compared to commercial operators providers. However, this was due to a higher level of encompassing service including the provision of Safeguarding and Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) employee checks which form part of the overarching NPT cleaning service arrangement.

Following this line of questioning Members then moved on to look at the proposals regarding Home to School transport. Members asked due to the programme of school closures and the extra travel expenses incurred due to pupils travelling further to Welsh medium schools whether this was causing an extra impact on the budget provision.

Responding the Corporate Director confirmed that due to efficient tendering and commissioning processes he remained confident that the outlined budget savings were achievable. Nevertheless, he made clear that it was likely that there would be specific pressures in relation to altered travelling arrangements for some pupils although this would be relieved overtime following the opening of Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera - Bro Dur (South Campus).

Following the various lines of questioning the Chair then informed the Committee that he had received a number of questions from a local



resident, received within the required period, in relation to the budget saving (ELLL810) Cefn Coed Museum.

The Corporate Director explained that this proposal required continued consultation and working with the friends of Cefn Coed Museum to make efficiency savings with a view to asset transfer.

The Chair then proceeded to read out the first question which asked when the last time a Cefn Coed Museum business plan was published.

The Corporate Director explained that no specific business plan had been published in relation to Cefn Coed Museum, although work was currently ongoing on a draft development plan which would look to maintain a more secure future for the museum.

In addition, the Corporate Director also highlighted that repair works to the Head Wheels, an iconic feature of the museum which were being undertaken and funded by Welsh Government supervised by the historic environment service Cadw, were taking far longer to repair than anticipated. The original estimate for carrying out the repair works was £200,000, however this had now risen to around £2 million.

Members were informed that Welsh Government have committed to completing the repair works but the final date of completion is not likely for another two-three years and is effectively mothballing a large part of the museum which is having a knock on effect on visitor numbers at the site.

The Chair then proceeded to read out the second question which enquired why there had been a greater emphasis on budget saving proposals at the visitor attraction as opposed to income generation targets.

The Corporate Director informed Members that work to establish online retail facilities for the Museum along with the ability to make online donations would be taken forward as part of proposals being considered by the Council's income generation group.

The Chair then moved on to the third and final question which asked whether officers could provide a guarantee that the head wheels would be reinstated to the visitor attraction.

The Corporate Director referred Members to his previous response and confirmed that the Welsh Government remained committed to completing the repair works with significant investment already having been spent to undertake the project.

Members were also informed by the Corporate Director that he would shortly be meeting with the Friends of Cefn Coed Museum to discuss various matters including legacy issues.

Concluding scrutiny of the budget proposals Members asked what impact the budget proposals would have on the directorate's workforce.

The Corporate Director confirmed that the workforce would be impacted by the reduction in budget funding available to run services. He explained that the proposals had been shared with trade unions and briefings scheduled with staff over the next few months.

Furthermore, the Corporate Director emphasised that the Council as a whole is determined to minimise compulsory redundancies and has launched its latest early retirement/voluntary redundancy scheme with staff leaving under this scheme assisting in delivering some of the financial savings required.

Following scrutiny, it was agreed that the report be noted.

## **CHAIRPERSON**

## EDUCATION SKILLS AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

(Council Chamber - Port Talbot Civic Centre)

**Members Present:**

**7 December 2017**

**Chairperson:** Councillor A.L.Thomas

**Councillors:** S.ap.Dafydd, S.Harris, N.T.Hunt, H.N.James, S.Miller, R.Mizen, J.D.Morgan, M.Protheroe, R.L.Taylor and D.Whitelock

**Officers In Attendance** A.Thomas, J.Haeney, J.Hodges, A.Harris, H.Lewis, A.Spooner-Cleverly, S.P.Williams and J.Woodman-Ralph

**Cabinet Invitees:** Councillors A.R.Lockyer and P.A.Rees

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1. **MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER, 2017.**

The Committee noted the minutes subject to the following amendment:

*Page 9 last paragraph should have read "Cymer Afan was ranked 6th of the top 10 schools in Wales" and not as stated in the minutes of the last meeting.*

2. **SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18.**

The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

3. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

The Committee chose to scrutinise the following Cabinet Board items:

3.1 **Internal arrangements for Families First Funded Services**

Members received an overview of the Internal arrangements for Families First Funded Services as detailed in the circulated report.

It was highlighted that following the Welsh Governments publication of the new Families First guidance in April 2017, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council has developed specifications for a number of new services with the intention to continue the arrangement to deliver some of these in-house. The services to be delivered in-house are the Youth Services, Parenting Support and the Team Around the Family with the addition of services for young carers, which is currently delivered by an external provider, be brought in-house and integrated into the Youth Services which would have a benefit for the young carer through greater support and access to additional services from the wider youth service.

- Members were pleased to see services being provided internally and that as a result Young Carers would benefit from an improved service and that any savings would be invested in the delivery of other services. It was queried what ranking was Neath Port Talbot in regard to the number of Young Carers?

Officers explained that Neath Port Talbot had the highest number of young carers in Wales and in the United Kingdom.

- Members were also pleased that staff effected by transferring the service in-house would be transferred under TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings Protection of Employees Regulations).

Officers explained that at present only one member of staff has been identified.

- Members asked would the monitoring of an internal service be as rigorous as an external service?

Officers explained that all providers whether internal or external have to meet the expectations contained within the Service Level Agreement and monitoring officers exercise the same rigorous inspection whether internal or external.

- Members asked what is the timescale for the new contracts?

Officers explained that the new contracts will be active from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 and an update report would be brought back to a future meeting of Education, Skills and Culture.

- Members asked was the savings of £50,000 achievable?

Officers explained that the savings were achievable and would be reinvested back into other services.

- Members asked in the report it states that a benefit would be greater support and access to additional services from the wider youth service – what would these be?

Officers explained that being part of the Youth Service young carers could access support services that are already available through the Youth Service and the partners they work with. In addition, due to the links with schools it would mean easier identification of young carers and the ability to have more contact with them and to ensure they receive the support they need. Also, 3 coordinators would be employed to work in the Youth Service to ensure that the links are made for young carers to receive the support they need.

Following scrutiny, the Committee were supportive of the proposals to be considered at Cabinet Board.

### 3.2 Admission to Community Schools:2019/2020

Members received an overview of the Admission to Community Schools 2019/2020 as detailed in the circulated report. In addition, Officers highlighted an error on Page 25 of the circulated report 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph should have read:

*To obtain Education, Skills and Culture Cabinet Board approval to consult* and not as stated in the circulated report.

Officers confirmed that the consultation document is the same as previous documents and has been subject to legal advice.

- Members asked how many instances of oversubscription had been received previously?

Officers said that only recently appeals had been received because previously schools had a large number of surplus places but as part of the Strategic Schools Improvement Programme the numbers of surplus places had been reduced which is part of the aim of the improvement work. Also, all of the appeals who were not successful with their first choice did receive their second preference of school. In addition, all children in school catchment areas were allocated places in those schools.

Following Scrutiny, the Committee was supportive of the proposals being considered by Cabinet Board.

### 3.3 Quarterly Performance Management Data 2017-2018 Quarter 2 Performance (1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 – 30 September 2017)

Members received an overview of the Quarter 2 Performance Management Data 2017-2018 as detailed in the circulated report.

- Members asked what was the reason for Neath Port Talbot being ranked 22 in Key Stage 2 and 3 and what mitigating measures were being put in place to rectify this. Also, was the teachers assessment that ranks out children at Key Stage 2 and 3 more rigorous than other local authorities.

Officers explained that teachers assessments within Neath Port Talbot are very accurate and give an accurate position of a child Educational needs entering Key Stage 4 with 47% at the expected level. Also investment has been made in providing additional primary and nursery school places which has a positive outcome on a child's educational outcomes throughout school. It was also highlighted that the Welsh Government are developing a new system for measuring teacher assessment to ensure consistency across all local authorities. Welsh Government are looking at moving away from data analysis and looking at pupil skills and as part of new system will be asking pupils how they find their educational experience.

- Members asked whether Estyn verify Key Stage 2 and 3?

Officers explained that this forms part of the self evaluation that is undertaken by schools and as part of that self evaluation teachers and children are asked how they rate their education experience.

Members asked that a report outlining the new Estyn Framework/criteria for undertaking inspections would be brought to a future for Members to gain a better understanding of the changes.

- Members queried whether there was any data available on the impact of children who attend a Flying Start provision prior to attending mainstream school.

Officers confirmed that the feedback from Headteachers was that children who attended a Flying Start provision are far better prepared for school, have better speech and language skills compared to children who do not. This is also reflected in All Wales data.

Officers confirmed that a report regarding Flying Start is scheduled to be considered by Education, Skills and Culture Cabinet Board in February 2018 and Officers will include comparison data in that report highlighting children's performance from Flying Start areas compared to non Flying Start areas.

- Members asked whether Officers had seen an increase in the numbers of children with additional learning support?

Officers explained that more than 50% of children are not where they should be educationally and those children need to be in a school setting as soon as possible where they can access early interventions for example literacy interventions. It was highlighted that the Head of Children and Young Peoples Services was looking at the impacts of poverty on children and developing a multi-agency approach based on the needs of the child.

Members asked that a report on the pilot scheme “Combating Poverty” would be brought for Members consideration to a future meeting.

- It was queried why was there a delay in issuing educational statements?

Officers explained that it can take up to 45 weeks to issue statements and the Welsh Government would only accept certain health criteria to have issue an educational statement. In addition, parents have to agree with the health advice before it can be issued and most prefer to wait until confirmation is received which is based on the child’s needs.

- It was asked why was there a decrease in the numbers of people using Libraries?

Officers explained that the member of staff who organised all the activities held in Libraries was absent due to illness which resulted in reduced numbers attending the library. Numbers had now increased with the return of the member of staff who has organised events in the libraries and there had been no further staff absences. In addition, some issues had arisen with the internet connection in one of the libraries which resulted in errors on the system.

- Members asked if Officers could investigate if any fines had been incurred by users of the library as a result of the technical problems with the I.T. system.
- It was also queried why there was a dip in pupils achieving 5 GCSEs at grades A+ to C and what mitigating measures are being put in place?

Officers explained that there had been a dip across Wales but because of the economic deprivation in Neath Port Talbot County Borough the impact was greater on the authority. It was highlighted that the lack of information to schools on the grade boundaries and the new curriculum had a negative effect on the results. Education through regional working had undertaken an analysis and put in additional support where needed going forward. Also, noted was that Neath Port Talbot schools had an



excellent track record of preparing children for their GCSEs.

- Members asked whether different indicators would be put in place in terms of the changes by Estyn?

Officers explained that Estyn are looking at a broader range of teaching skills and will be asking pupils how they felt their educational experience was. Estyn will also be looking for more evidence based information. In addition, Welsh Government are looking at developing new indicators to support these changes.

- Members asked if arrangements could be made for them to visit schools on an informal basis starting with Ysgol Bae Baglan.

Officers highlighted that the Cabinet Member and Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning regularly visit schools and discuss with pupils their learning experience.

- It was asked what would the implications of the Donaldson report have on Education?

Officers explained that the Donaldson's report would have a major impact on education but that its implementation has been delayed until 2022.

- Cabinet Member for Education asked all Members to keep highlighting the importance of school attendance in their role as school governors.

Following Scrutiny, the report be noted.

### 3.4 Ongoing delivery of the UK Governments Work Programme

Members received an overview of the current Work Programme Performance funded by UK Government as detailed in the circulated report.

Following Scrutiny, the report be noted.

### 3.5 Annual Report on NEETs 2017

Members received and overview of the outcomes and progress made with young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) or those young people who are at risk of becoming NEET and how new development may affect this area of work as detailed in the circulated report.

It was highlighted that the annual NEETs figure based on destinations of year 11 leavers for 2016 was ranked as the worst in Wales ranked at 22. But with improved collaboration between the Youth Service, Careers Wales, Schools and multi-agency working the aim is for the figure to reduce. This improved figure will not be available until April 2018.

- Members asked if there were any opportunities for early intervention at school to try to prevent children reaching this stage?

Officers explained that the difficulty has been in identifying the young people at an early stage. Youth Workers are based in schools on a 2 day a week basis who work with young peoples and their families. If young people continue to need support post 16 they are referred to the Post 16 Team.

- Members asked what the impact would be as a result of the withdrawal of the Communities First funding?

Officers explained that it is an ongoing challenge but cost efficiencies have been made in the service which has enable the service to go forward. In addition, the Legacy Fund would replace some of the funding from Communties First which would enable additional Youth Workers to be employed on a 2 year basis. A further report would be brought for Members information on the Legacy Fund.

- Members also asked if there were any other funding streams available?

Officers explained that they consistently look for additional funding but that short term funding does not give consistency to staff or the service when planning for future development. Views had been given to the Welsh

Government on the need to have funding over a longer period. It was highlighted that the Legacy Fund does allocate funding over a 2 year period.

Following Scrutiny, the report be noted.

### 3.6 Skills and Training Update

Members received an overview of the progress of Skills and Training in Neath Port Talbot as detailed in the circulated report.

It was highlighted that the Skills and Training delivers Welsh Government funded specialist programmes of learning and training offering Work-Based Learning opportunities and bespoke commercial training to meet the needs of local residents, employers and their employees. Funding has been secured from the Welsh Government until March 2019.

- Members asked that their appreciation of all the work undertaken by the team is cascaded to all the staff and requested that arrangements be made at a future date to visit the different schemes. It was also suggested that a prospectus of the different schemes be developed and circulated to secondary schools for them to be made aware of what is available for young people.

Following Scrutiny, the report be noted.

### 3.7 Youth Service Update 2017

Members received an update on the work carried out by Neath Port Talbot Youth Service as detailed in the circulated report.

- Members asked if the Youth Service has seen an increase in take-up in regard to the Duke of Edinburgh Awards?

Officers explained that across Wales numbers have remained static. One of the difficulties was that young participants who achieve Gold in the past have continue to teach new participants but now they go straight to University so they no longer are available to cascade their

learning to others. Officers are looking at how schools could help to take this forward in future.

- Members queried whether there were any options to extend the Youth Service to work in areas that are affected by the withdrawal of Communities First Funding? Also, are there any arrangements being made to replace the Youth Service provision in the areas where schools have been closed?

Officers explained that resources are limited but that a mapping exercise of what provision is available needs to be undertaken to identify the gaps in the service and what measures can be put in place to assist in those areas. Also, the Legacy Fund would provide monies to assist support the Youth Service. Officers confirmed that they would be happy to discuss with Members the needs in their wards.

- Members confirmed that a mapping exercise should take place and that Members were happy to identify what is available in their individual wards and if there are any partner organisations that could assist the Youth Service.

#### 4. **ACCESS TO MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED:** that pursuant to Section 10A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded for the following items of business which involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the above Act.

#### 5. **PRE-SCRUTINY**

The Committee chose to scrutinise the following Cabinet Board items:

- 5.1 Proposed Renewal of the Lease and Service Level Agreement to the Field Studies Council at Margam Discovery Centre and to agree variations to the current lease

Members received an overview of the private item in regard to the Proposed Renewal of the Lease and Service Level

Agreement to the Field Studies Council at Margam Discovery Centre and to agree variations to the current lease as detailed in the private circulated report.

Following Scrutiny, the Committee were supportive of the proposals to be considered by Cabinet Board.

## **CHAIRPERSON**

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**Education, Skills and Culture Cabinet Scrutiny Committee  
Forward Work Programme 2017/18**

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Officer
15 June 2017		
29 June 2017		
20 July 2017	School Funding Formula - presentation	
14 Sept 2017		

12 October 2017		
9 November 2017	Celtic Leisure Annual Report (Cabinet Paper)	Paul Walker
	Strategic Schools Improvement Programme	Andrew Thomas
7 December 2017		
12 January 2018		
25 January 2018	Numbers of Welsh pre-school places within Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (Report coming to Cabinet Board with the WESP in January 2018)	Aled Evans/Andrew Thomas



15 February 2018		
15 March 2018	Taxi Driver Training update	
	Report on the Educational Achievements of Looked After Children in Schools and Further Education (being considered initially by Corporate Parenting and then to ESC Scrutiny Committee.	Aled Evans/ Andrew Jarrett
12 April 2018	Review of Music Service following recent changes to service delivery	Chris Millis
3 May 2018	A report highlighting the successes of new school builds in terms of education and Lessons Learnt	Aled Evans
	Report on the results of the combating poverty pilot	Andrew Jarrett/ AledEvans
	Results of the Youth Service Mapping Exercise of the current provision.	Chris Millis/A.Spooner- Cleverly

\*\* Schools Budget