



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

11th December 2024

**Report of the Head of Children and Young People Services –
Keri Warren**

Matter for Information

Wards Affected: All wards

Report Title:

CIW – Foster Wales Neath Port Talbot Inspection Report

Purpose of the Report:

For information purposes. To provide cabinet with the outcome inspection report from the Care Inspectorate Wales in respect of our Fostering Service, Foster Wales Neath Port Talbot.

Executive Summary:

Foster Wales Neath Port Talbot was inspected by Care Inspectorate Wales in July 2024, with their findings published in a report in October 2024. The full report is attached in Appendix 1.

The inspection framework for local authority fostering services, details that the primary focus of the inspection is consideration of the national well-being outcomes. The framework supports inspectors to consider evidence for how the service is enabling children it supports to achieve their well-being outcomes. The inspection framework maps the 2018 Regulations and associated code of practice under the three themes of 'Care and Support', 'Leadership and management' and 'the Environment'. It is based upon the principles set out within the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and specifically created using The Local Authority Fostering Services (Wales) Regulations 2018 and the associated code of practice.

Background:

Summary of the CIW report:

Foster Wales Neath Port Talbot is a regulated service provided by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council. The fostering team staff and managers are suitably qualified and experienced and registered with Social Care Wales. All evidence gathered at this inspection indicates the fostering service is well developed and effective in fulfilling its role in safeguarding children and promoting their well-being. Children are suitably placed and matched with foster carers who are trained, supported and committed to their roles. They are supported to be healthy, to attend school, to have fun, to develop relationships and to prepare for their futures. The adequacy of the arrangements for the staffing, management and oversight of the service is very good. Staff retention and staff motivation is very good, and all evidence indicates the staff and managers are skilled and effective in their roles. Systems to oversee the delivery and the ongoing development of the service are good. Some systems need to be better aligned with regulations and

guidance and some improvements are necessary to capture and understand the voice and the views of children and others, within written records to inform the ongoing development of the service.

Financial Impacts:

There are no identified financial impacts as a result of this inspection.

Integrated Impact Assessment:

An integrated impact assessment is not required as this is for information purposes only.

Valleys Communities Impacts:

There is no identified valleys communities impact noted.

Workforce Impacts:

The contents of this report do not have any impact on the Council's workforce.

Legal Impacts:

There are no legal implications associated with this item.

Risk Management Impacts:

There are no known risks associated with this item.

Consultation:

This paper is for information only. The service regularly consults with those both providing and receiving the service.

Scrutiny Observations:

This item is scheduled to go to post cabinet scrutiny in December 2024.

Recommendations:

This is for information purposes only

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

This is for information purposes only

Implementation of Decision:

This is for information purposes only.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: CIW Foster Wales Neath Port Talbot inspection report

List of Background Papers:

N/A

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