

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Children, Young People & Education Cabinet Board 30th June 2016**

### **Report of the Head of Participation – Chris Millis**

#### **Matter for information**

**Wards Affected:** Aberavon, Blaengwrach, Briton Ferry East, Briton Ferry West, Bryn and Cwmavon, Coedffranc Central, Cymmer, Glyncoirwg, Glynneath, Gwaun Cae Gurwen, Gwynfi, Neath North, Neath South, Pontardawe, Sandfields East, Sandfields West, Taibach, Ystalyfera

#### **Flying Start Progress and Budget Report 2015-2016**

##### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform Members of the progress of the Flying Start programme and budget. This programme is funded via a Welsh Government grant and is being delivered to 0-4 year olds living within the Flying Start postcodes. Current funding runs until March 2017.

##### **Background**

2. The programme has been operating since 2006 and consists of four key elements:
  - Free quality, part-time childcare for 2-3 year olds
  - An enhanced Health Visiting service
  - Access to Parenting Programmes
  - Speech, Language and Communication

3. The Phase 1 eligibility was based on school catchment areas with a free school meal take up of 45% and above. The Flying Start programme has since expanded to cover a larger area of Neath Port Talbot (NPT), exceeding the target cap of 1845 children benefitting, with the number of actual children engaging with the programme during 2015/16 reaching 2408. The programme is operating within the allowed "10% over target number" but the teams and budget are coping within the current scope.
4. The team consists of both Council and Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board (ABMU) staff. Health Visitors (HV's) with a maximum caseload of 110 children provide an enhanced Health Visiting service to families, Community Nursery Nurses (CNN's) support these HV's by providing 10 week programmes with families that include but are not limited to; weaning, healthy diet, toilet training, behaviour. A total of 2534 one to one contacts took place by the CNN's this year.
5. The small team of Midwives deliver a specific antenatal and postnatal service to vulnerable mothers, mainly aged 25 years and under. Work includes nurture group and face to face work, weight management, attachment, smoking cessation, initiation of breast feeding, contraception and early parenting advice. During the year, 347 postnatal and 320 antenatal one to one contacts took place.
6. The Parenting team has recently increased to nine staff and now includes a Dad's Worker. The Team delivers Parenting courses within Flying Start communities that include both ten and four week Family Link Nurture courses. 32 structured courses were successfully delivered this year.
7. The Parenting Team are also trained to deliver one to one sessions within the home and this helps to include harder to reach families. 967 one to one sessions took place this year by the parenting team. Ultimately the aim is to get these parents to attend a group as this allows them to interact with other parents, learn from them and realise other families have similar issues with parenting their children. The team run 12 Flying Start Parent and Toddler Groups aiming services at the under two's. 245 parenting drop-in sessions were incorporated into the groups this year, providing a wide range of support to parents and their families.

8. The Speech and Language (SAL) element of the project is delivered by ABMU seconded Therapists and Assistants who attend Parent and Toddler Groups and the Flying Start Childcare settings. They identify very early any issues with children and encourage parents to help their children with speech development. 971 one to one sessions took place with families within the home this year, with a specific focus on improving children's SAL. The Team deliver Baby Massage sessions which are also a way to encourage communication between babies and parents.
9. Educational Psychologists work on early identification and intervention of additional needs and work closely with childcare settings and with aiding transition into nursery schools. They visit families at home when necessary and at present there are 2.5 fte operating. They currently work with childcare settings on strategies to assist development of children and can agree to provide the child with additional support from a dedicated childcare worker placed within the setting.
10. For 2015/2016, 34 childcare settings delivered Flying Start funded, high quality childcare to 999 children, for two and a half hours a day, 5 days a week of 42 weeks of the year. Children take up a place from their second birthday until they start nursery school at three. Childcare attendance has risen again this year from 84% (2014/2015) to 87.5% for 2015/16. This is great first step for encouraging high attendance in early education.
11. Due to delivery problems in the Upper Afan Valley, the Flying Start team and the Early Years and Childcare Development team have been working in partnership with the local community, Afan Valley Communities First and NPT CVS to support a newly formed Community interest Company to deliver the childcare with locally qualified people.
12. A new childcare setting in Cymer Afan Primary, Afan Playgroup, was opened and is now well established with 20 children attending. Afan Playgroup benefited from capital investment to the Cymer Afan Primary building.
13. This year, a new childcare development of a portable classroom at Blaengwrach has been complete using Capital from Flying Start. The provision will house childcare, parent and toddler and support services. While CSSIW registration is in process, childcare is being delivered from Resolven Building Blocks.

14. Recent changes to the Flying Start Childcare Support Team have resulted in a Transition and Training Officer post being implemented to great effect. Smooth transition to school and a robust and in-depth training programme have been developed and delivered to core staff and childcare setting staff in order to keep the quality of the childcare rising.
15. A small element of outreach provision is still available to high need families outside of the Flying Start areas. A strong policy and procedure is in place to support those in need, with referrals coming in from HV's and Team around the Family.

### **Financial Impact**

16. The work delivered is fully funded by a Welsh Government grant until 31st March 2017.

Revenue Funding See Appendix 1 for full financial overview

Capital See Appendix 1 for full financial overview

Blaengwrach (new Flying Start Childcare demountable)  
Demountable Childcare Classroom delivery, groundwork, drainage, fencing installation complete.

Ffrwdwyllt House (Outbuilding Refurbishments) Refurbish  
Outbuildings, repair interior and exterior walls, new roof, new doors/windows, remove waste.

Cymer Afan (Afan Flying Start Playgroup) child and adult toilets  
repair and refurb, yard area repair, replace radiator, new External door, relocate door to gain courtyard access.

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

17. Having considered the Council's screening assessment guidance produced to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010 it has been determined that the proposal within this report does not require an equalities impact assessment.

## **Workforce Impacts**

18. There are no direct workforce or staffing issues in relation to this report.

## **Legal Impacts**

19. There is no legal impact in relation to this report.

## **Risk Management**

20. There is no identified risk to this report.

## **Consultation**

21. Not applicable.

## **Recommendations**

22. The report be noted.

## **Implementation of Decision**

23. Not applicable.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Flying Start Budget Overview 2015/16

Appendix 2 – Flying Start Key Statistics 2015/2016

Appendix 3 – The Story Behind the Statistics: Flying Start Case Studies

## **Officer Contact**

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## Appendix 1 - Flying Start Budget Overview 2015/16

<b>2015/16 Flying Start Budget Overview</b>	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Actual Spend</b>	<b>Underspend Declared</b>
<b>Total Revenue Allocation</b>	£3,843,102	£3,785,483	£57,619
<b>Profiled Running Costs</b>	£479,629	£490,805	
<b>(Core team element of Running costs)</b>	(£229,091)	(£219,170)	
<b>( Project Running Costs)</b>	(£250,538)	(£271,635)	
<b>Childcare</b>	£1,480,614	£1,486,754	
<b>Health Team (HV's, MW's, CNN's)</b>	£1,340,039	£1,351,423	
<b>Parenting</b>	£376,239	£304,175	
<b>Speech Language and Communication</b>	£166,583	£152,327	
<b>Total Capital Allocation</b>	71,447	71,433.72	£13.28

<b>New Childcare Building – Blaengwrach Primary</b>	£45,000	£44,986.72
<b>Ffwrddwyllt House Storage</b>	£16,770	£16,770
<b>Afan Playgroup – Cymer Afan Primary</b>	£9677	£9677

## Appendix 2: 2015/16 Flying Start Key Statistics

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	TOTAL
Amount of children attending childcare				999
Average Childcare places over year				501
Sessions attended for childcare	24110	23673	17128	64911
Parenting 1:1	357	293	317	967
Structured Parenting Course Delivered	12	11	9	32
Unstructured Parenting Course Delivered	0	39	28	67
Parent & Toddler Drop-In Sessions	56	88	101	245
CAP (maximum number of children set by WG)				1845
Actual Children see in Year				2408



<b>Speech and Language 1:1</b>	300	421	250	971
<b>Unstructured SALT Courses</b>	35	31	6	72
<b>Structured SALT Courses</b>	0	1	1	2
<b>SALT Drop-in Sessions</b>	21	20	5	46
<b>Other Unstructured Courses Delivered</b>	13	16	26	55
<b>Other Drop-In Courses</b>	160	131	57	348
<b>Educational Psychology 1:1</b>	298	791	553	1642
<b>Midwifery (Post Natal 1:1)</b>	41	128	178	347
<b>Midwifery (Ante Natal 1:1)</b>	117	121	82	320
<b>HV 1:1</b>	1467	1993	2445	5905
<b>HV Drop-In Sessions</b>	3	119	27	149
<b>CNN 1:1</b>	1092	861	581	2534
<b>CNN Courses</b>	74	53	93	220

## Appendix 3 – The Story behind the statistics: Flying Start Case Studies

N.B: All names used are pseudonyms to protect identities.

### Community Nursery Nurse - Case study 1:

I supported a lone mother with her child's toilet training for a period of 6 weeks. Mum was very nervous and defensive on my first visit and didn't really want to engage. Her little boy who was 3 needed some toileting support because he needed to access school due to a speech and language delay. Upon my first visit the house appeared dirty with old food on the work tops and nappies that were not in the bin and just left on the floor.

I engaged mum by talking about her and her history and family which she really enjoyed saying "nobody really wants to talk to me when they come over its all about him" we talked for ages over the weeks of support about her ambitions and how she wanted to get off the benefits and into a job. So I decided to support her with this, we agreed that if she followed my guidance on toilet training I would help her get a job and help with the application and job interview. If her little boy mastered to art of using the toilet this would enable her to be able to go out to a job during school hours. She agreed and appeared more confident, happier and was ready to go.

Over the weeks mum used all my advice and sticker charts, cleaning the house and looking for jobs and eventually this little boy mastered the toilet and was able to go to school. I helped mum find a job using application ideas and mock interviews before finding a temp position with a factory during the Christmas period and she really enjoyed having the job and would tell me every time I saw her how well she was doing. Eventually mum secured a permanent position which enabled her to get off the benefit and lead a life independently with her family. She is now in college studying as well as securing a job.

Through a simple referral for toileting enabled me to support the whole family to achieve and it really has been one of my greatest successes.

## Educational Psychology Involvement Case Study 2:

Child X is a child who moved into the area at age 2 years 6 months. She attended a Flying Start Playgroup. Child X did not speak and could not walk. The EP was asked for advice on the way to proceed. Developmental Assessment showed severe delay in all areas. There was a positive family history of learning difficulties. Additional Support was given to the Playgroup to support Child X with her mobility and implement her Individual Play Plan. Statutory Assessment procedures were initiated. Child X's mother was invited to a parenting group but she did not attend. The input we were able to afford was purely through the Playgroup.

Child X made rapid progress. She was an outgoing little girl and she soon made friends. Speech and language improved through the '9 week programme' and we soon managed to get her walking rather than walking on her knees.

Upon transfer to nursery school she had made so much progress that Statutory Assessment was ceased. During nursery the only difference from her peers was her mobility. She now attends school regularly and is in a year 1 group. She receives SEN support (School Action) and functions in the lower group of her class. She is at School Action Plus for physical medical difficulties. . She is now a confident little girl who is thriving in her environment, taking a full part in school including concerts etc.

This is an example where Flying Start has reduced the need for a Statement of Special Educational Need and the child is functioning well within a mainstream school from its delegated resources. Without the intervention of Flying Start this child would have been in a Learning Support Centre for moderate learning difficulties.

## Parenting Case Study 3:

"Dan and Anne" are both working parents who live in a Flying Start area. Dan and Anne began attending a Flying Start Baby Massage class with their baby daughter "Brooke" when she was 5 weeks old. As new parents they were both nervous and worried that they were not interacting with Brooke properly, they loved attending the classes as it helped them to learn more about communication and bonding and it gave them confidence to know that they were doing things right. Dan and

Anne then began attending a baby group where the parents were able to engage in play and singing with their daughter, during a session Dan said he was pleased to learn nursery rhymes and songs because until then they had only been singing rock and pop songs to Brooke at night.

The family continued to attend the groups together, they attended a weaning party when Brooke was turning 6 months as they requested some support and advice on this matter.

When Anne returned to work Dan still attended the groups with Brooke so that she could continue having interaction with other babies and also give her the experiences that we can offer within flying start. Dan works his shifts so that he can bring Brooke to our Parent and toddler group every week. Dan and Brooke have recently begun attending our Dads Baby and Toddler group, Dan is a positive role model to the other Dads who attend and offers the good advice and support. Dan is working in partnership with the Parenting Team and is about to complete an accreditation in The Nurturing Programme, to help him become an official Dads mentor. Dan quotes "Without The Flying Start Parenting Team, we would not be the parents we are today".