

**CYNGOR GWYNEDD
CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE DECISION NOTICE**

(Section 100C of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020)

11 April, 2024

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Attendance:

COUNCILLORS:

Beth Lawton (Chair), Menna Baines, Jina Gwyrfai, R. Medwyn Hughes, Dewi Jones, Eryl Jones-Williams, Linda Morgan, Gwynfor Owen, Gareth Coj Parry, Rheinallt Puw, Meryl Roberts, Angela Russell and Einir Wyn Williams.

Officers present:

Llywela Haf Owain (Senior Language and Scrutiny Advisor) and Eirian Roberts (Democracy Services Officer).

Also in attendance:

Councillor Elin Walker Jones (Cabinet Member for Children and Families), Huw Dylan Owen (Statutory Director of Social Services), Marian Parry Hughes (Head of Children and Supporting Families Department) and Aled Gibbard (Assistant Head of Resources – Children and Supporting Families).

Present for item 5:

Councillor Dilwyn Morgan (Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Well-being), Rhion Glyn (Assistant Head – Adults, Health and Well-being) and Geraint Wyn Jones (Customer Care Officer – Adults, Health and Well-being).

Present for item 7:

Councillor Beca Brown (Cabinet Member for Education), Vera Jones (Democratic Services Manager), Delyth Gibbard (Senior Specialist Communication and Interaction Teacher), Lucy Hemmings (Autism Practice Lead) and Einir Wyn Peters (Senior Educational Psychologist).

Apologies:

Councillors Anwen Davies, Elwyn Jones and Linda Ann Jones.

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Date of the CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE meeting	11 April, 2024
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SUBJECT

**Item 5: COMPLAINTS, ENQUIRIES AND EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE
PROCEDURE FOR 2022-23 – CHILDREN AND SUPPORTING FAMILIES
DEPARTMENT AND THE ADULTS, HEALTH AND WELL-BEING DEPARTMENT**

DECISION

To accept the report, noting that it was nice to see the expressions of gratitude, and for the committee to scrutinise the Annual Report on the Complaints, Enquiries and Expressions of Gratitude Procedure for 2023-24 when it will be ready in the coming months.

THE RESULT OF THE VOTE

In favour	13
Against	0
Abstentions	0

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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SUBJECT

Item 6: SHORT BREAKS SERVICE (DERWEN INTERGRATED TEAM)

DECISION

To accept the report and to thank everyone who works in the Short Breaks Service, and express hope that the funding will be available to continue to offer the service for everyone who needs it as time goes by.

THE RESULT OF THE VOTE

In favour	13
Against	0
Abstentions	0

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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SUBJECT

Item 7: AUTISM PLAN TASK AND FINISH GROUP

DECISION

- a) Accept the findings of the Task and Finish Group.**
 - b) To ask the service:-**
 - **to undertake an audit of the situation regarding the professional training of staff who work in the field as a first step.**
 - **Then to consider setting a target for completing training with the aim to include it on the core training programme as follows:-**
 - a) staff who work or who come into contact with people with autism (by department and including schools) and**
 - b) raising awareness training amongst all Council staff.**
 - **to build on the training for staff in schools and surgeries regarding referring to the Neuro-Developmental Team in cases where they are not eligible.**
 - **to encourage all the Councillors to follow the Autism Awareness training e-module and attend open days across the County which enables everyone to experience the autism bus.**
 - c) It was recommended that the Scrutiny Committee in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Children and Families to contact the Cabinet Member for Housing and Property to secure input from the Additional Learning Needs Service to any development of a new school or any future adaptations to schools to make them suitable for individuals with autism e.g. quiet spaces, the ability to dim lighting etc. It would be beneficial to establish the principle of ensuring input from the Autism Team (Children and Adults Department) for any new development or adaptation to any other Council building.**
 - ch) Following concern that the plan was currently grant-funded, that the Care Scrutiny Committee asks for an update after a further 12 months of operating to ensure that progress is continuing, and request the input of Education and Health once again.**
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THE RESULT OF THE VOTE

In favour	13
Against	0
Abstentions	0

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS

Councillor Gwynfor Owen declared a personal interest as his son was autistic. He was of the opinion that it was a prejudicial interest, and he withdrew from the meeting during the discussion on the item.
