

RECOVERY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 15 th July, 2021
Report Subject	Education and Youth Portfolio Recovery Business Plan
Cabinet Member	Collective Cabinet
Report Author	Chief Executive and Chief Officer (Education and Youth)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Portfolio Recovery Business Plans were developed for exiting the first response phase to the pandemic in 2020.

This Committee will oversee the Recovery Business Plans for all five service portfolios in sequence. Presented today is the Education and Integrated Youth Services Portfolio Recovery Business Plan.

Each plan covers the following:

- Scope and Purpose
- Key Personnel and Roles and Responsibilities
- Business Continuity Plan – Recovery Planning
- Resource Management
- Performance Management
- Risk Management
- Communications and Engagement
- Forward Planning

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To review the Education and Youth Portfolio Recovery Business Plan summary for assurance, and to refer any further and specific risk management work to the respective Overview and Scrutiny Committees as is necessary.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE PORTFOLIO RECOVERY BUSINESS PLAN
1.01	<p>Service portfolios have been working to Portfolio Recovery Business Plans following the response phase to the pandemic emergency situation. Recovery is a natural transition from the response phase which lasted from mid-March until the end of July 2020, and again from the end of December until April 2021.</p> <p>The plans are built upon risk management actions and performance management objectives.</p>
1.02	<p>The recovery objectives, performance targets, risks and issues have been reviewed and updated. The following sections are being shared with the Recovery Committee for assurance.</p>
1.03	<p><u>Recovery Objectives</u></p> <p><u>Service Delivery</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To repurpose schools including funded settings back to the provision of statutory education Schools and funded settings have been reopened fully since the Easter break, operating in accordance with Welsh Government and Public Health Wales guidance.• To meet statutory requirements for Youth Service and Youth Homelessness Prevention Services Revised digital delivery operating model for Youth Services functioning well and being adapted weekly. Targeted online performance, group and team coaching of all Youth Services and play staff teams by qualified coach to ensure the wellbeing and engagement of this staff group. All statutory requirements are being performed and adapted to a digital or blended provision.• To meet statutory National Standards for Youth Justice A Youth Justice Service Recovery Plan is in place which details the gradual 'blended' approach to re-opening of face to face service delivery and is led by service user need. A Red, Amber and Green (RAG) based risk system to evaluate any urgent need for face to face interventions is functioning, it is robust and has been approved by the Youth Justice Executive Board.• Ensure young people reintegrate back into education, health and substance misuse services and maintain contact The Youth Justice and Sorted Service are working through phase 2 of their recovery plan which provides face to face contact for new assessment and high risk cases and virtual contacts are utilised for other cases . Home visits are only used as a last resort for purposes of engagement, safeguarding or risk management in the most critical cases but meetings are fully risk assessed.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To deliver targeted interventions and support to children, families and schools Teams are working in collaboration with schools and families to maintain engagement. Wellbeing/equipment packs were provided to families/young people and the Education Welfare Service is making home visits where necessary. Education and Health professionals developed ways in which they could meet their responsibilities in relation to the statutory assessment process for children with Special Educational Needs to ensure the Council is able to make specialist placement decisions. The return to full schooling and the ability of education officers to visit schools to work with pupils is enable these processes to continue at pace. • To comply with the statutory duties within the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice for Wales During the school closure period alternative assessment models were developed to support appropriate engagement. The subsequent reopening of schools is now facilitating these processes. • To re-open Flintshire Record Office to the public The Records Office has opened and is operating in accordance with Public Health Wales operational guidance and guidance from The National Archives. <p><u>Workforce</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to deliver services with minimal disruption with staff working from home Office based staff continue to work from home maintaining service delivery. Sickness levels have remained low during the period.
1.04	<p><u>Performance Targets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All schools to complete Risk Assessments in advance of opening All schools have appropriate and regularly reviewed risk assessments in place. These have been developed in line with Welsh Government operational guidance and have been quality assured through a process agreed between the Education Portfolio and the Corporate Health and Safety Team • Availability of PPE equipment for key staff All task specific risk assessments have been carried out for the requirement of PPE for the core portfolio and in schools • Health & safety risk assessments completed for portfolio offices to ensure Covid-safe premises Review of buildings risk assessments to ensure that the workforce can return to their office space within County Hall and Ty Dewi Sant in a safe and managed manner at the appropriate time. This will be

	<p>a longer process with more officers in critical services returning before those who can still perform their duties at home.</p>
1.05	<p><u>Risk Management</u></p> <p><u>The following recovery risks have been closed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inability of schools to reopen safely to deliver statutory education due to reductions in workforce, availability of sufficient PPE and infrastructure (catering/transport) Schools have safely re-opened from April 2021 and staff absence continues to remain low. <p><u>The following risks are still open and are being actively managed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in young people subject to intervention by the Youth Justice Services due to the impact of school closures and /or revised service delivery models Risk Rating: YELLOW, Risk Trend: No Change A new Education Officer within the Youth Justice Service is now in post and with the reopening of schools the number of young people subject to intervention by the service remains stable. • Young people in the Youth Justice Service not accessing minimum statutory education offer due to lack of pupil engagement Risk Rating: AMBER, Risk Trend: No Change The service has recommenced its regular cross portfolio meetings to monitor the engagement with this cohort. • Failure to make statutory provision for learners with Special Educational Needs (SEN) due to resource availability Risk Rating: AMBER, Risk Trend: No Change Officers are working with schools and parents/carers to negotiate the continuation of existing additional provision. The subsequent reopening of schools is now facilitating these processes. • Insufficient local education provision to support learners with mental health needs Risk Rating: YELLOW, Risk Trend: Reducing The new build of Plas Derwen Pupil Referral Unit which will open in September 2021 has additional capacity and will support a small increase in the level of local provision available to meet the needs of those with mental health needs. Schools have been offered training to support them to maintain existing pupil placements. • Increased number of Special Educational Needs Tribunals due to an inability to meet the statutory assessment process requirements and accurately identify individual needs Risk Rating: GREEN, Risk Trend: No Change The number of appeals made to the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Tribunal has remained very low. Professionals are working with parents/carers to address any delays in process brought about

	by the pandemic and identify the provision required by children and young people. Managers continue to monitor and review the situation.
1.06	<p><u>Issue Management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Rising Covid case numbers in schools The rising Covid case numbers in schools are leading to increased numbers of classes isolating. There is also the urgent need for updated operational guidance for schools from Wales Government in readiness for the start of next term.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	None specifically.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT														
3.01	<p>This report specifically covers recovery from the pandemic emergency situation and is based upon a framework of risk management.</p> <p>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td rowspan="5">Throughout all Portfolio Recovery Business Plans there are demonstrable actions and activities which relate to all of the Sustainable Development Principles.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Collaboration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Involvement</td> </tr> </table> <p>Well-being Goals Impact</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Prosperous Wales</td> <td rowspan="7">Throughout all Portfolio Recovery Business Plans there are demonstrable actions and activities which relate to all of the Well-being Goal.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resilient Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Healthier Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>More equal Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cohesive Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vibrant Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Globally responsible Wales</td> </tr> </table>	Long-term	Throughout all Portfolio Recovery Business Plans there are demonstrable actions and activities which relate to all of the Sustainable Development Principles.	Prevention	Integration	Collaboration	Involvement	Prosperous Wales	Throughout all Portfolio Recovery Business Plans there are demonstrable actions and activities which relate to all of the Well-being Goal.	Resilient Wales	Healthier Wales	More equal Wales	Cohesive Wales	Vibrant Wales	Globally responsible Wales
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4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	The plans have been developed with wide consultation with officers within and across portfolios.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.
7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Jay Davies Telephone: 01352 702744 E-mail: jay.davies@flintshire.gov.uk</p>
8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>Risk Management: the process of identifying risks, evaluating their potential consequences (impact) and managing them. The aim is to reduce the frequency (likelihood) of risk events occurring (wherever this is possible) and minimise the severity of their consequences (impact) if they occur. Threats are managed by a process of controlling, transferring or retaining the risk. Opportunities are managed by identifying strategies to maximise the opportunity or reward for the organisation.</p>