

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.**

**COUNTY COUNCIL BOARD**

**2<sup>nd</sup> February 2010**

**REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Melanie Tunnicliffe  
Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People  
Head of Children's Services – Amanda Lewis**

**SUBJECT: Self Assessment Tool for Children and Young People's  
Partnerships**

---

**REPORT FOR: Decision**

---

**1 Summary**

1.1 To seek approval for Powys CYPP to express an interest in taking part in the development process for a Self Assessment and Improvement Tool (SAIT) for Children and Young People's Partnerships.

**2 Background**

2.1 The Welsh Assembly Government has written to Local Authorities and the Children and Young People's Partnerships to seek expressions of interest to take part in a developmental pilot process for a CYPP SAIT.

2.2 The overall purpose of the SAIT is to enable Partnerships to:

- develop a consistent and detailed understanding of their role and purpose;
- define clearly and deliver the desired outcomes of partnership working;
- strengthen their collaborative working; and
- evaluate their effectiveness.

2.3 The SAIT will provide information about the operation of the Partnership. It will focus on practice, including leadership style, results of strategic collaboration, interpretation and prioritisation of responsibilities. It will also enable you to benchmark Partnership performance against common standards across Wales and inform the future development of Partnerships nationally. The SAIT therefore provides for a consistency of approach and standards across Wales and for evaluation of partnership working. Data provided by the SAIT, with second CYP Plans, will form the basis for joint inspections of the Partnerships and Plans during 2012-13.

2.4 Agreement to establish a collaborative approach to evaluating CYP Partnerships and Plans has been reached across the relevant inspection regimes; CSSIW, HIW, Estyn, HMIP, HMIC and WAO. The process will take place for the first time in 2012-13, based on data gathered from the SAIT and each Partnership's second CYP Plan that is due for publication March 2011. It is proposed that this information will be collected from all Partnerships and a sample will be inspected more fully.

2.5 To be considered in the pilot study, pilot Partnerships need to have agreement of the Local

Authority, consequently we are seeking agreement from Members for us to take part if Powys is chosen. It will be essential that there is strategic sign up to this process in order for it to work and that PCC Members and Officers involved with the CYPP are active participants and provide strong leadership.

### **3 Rational**

- 3.1 In September 2008 the Powys CYPP commissioned a CYPP Review which enabled partners both at CYPP and Officer Group level to comment via a confidential questionnaire that focused on the '*Components of Effective Teamworking*<sup>1</sup>'.
- 3.2 The exercise was timely in the sense that the first single Powys Children and Young People's Plan had just been launched and the results helped us to refine the way the CYPP works to ensure outcomes were being achieved.
- 3.3 The evaluation exercise was repeated in September 2009 and the results illustrate clear improvements scores in all areas, for example:
  - For the CYPP 53 (84%) out of 63 question areas had improved scores from the previous year.
  - For the Officers Group 63 (98%) out of 64 question areas had improved scores from the previous year
- 3.4 We believe this process puts us in a good position to become a pilot authority and due to the fact that the SAIT is likely to be more strategic in nature will provide Powys CYPP with the next stage of development and a bench mark against other authorities rather than the current insular self assessment process we have in place.
- 3.5 In addition, the process will help to develop learning within the Local Service Board and other Thematic Partnerships and may provide the basis for a consistent approach across all partnerships in the near future.
- 3.6 The timetable for finalising the SAIT comprises:
  - Five pilot Partnerships together with two reserves attend briefing workshop 15 March 2010 Cardiff City Hall.
  - Half day SAIT version 1 completion event to be held by each pilot Partnership April - October 2010.
  - Preparation of SAIT version 2 November 2010 - March 2011. Analyse data from completion of pilot SAIT and develop benchmarks.
  - Seminar to consult on version 2 with representatives of Partnership lead directors, coordinators and inspectorates. May 2011
  - Production of final SAIT early June 2011.
  - National Launch end June 2011.
  - Training day for Partnership SAIT Facilitators September 2011.
- 3.7 Other than the timetable above and the investment of time of the CYPP membership it is unclear as to whether there is likely to be any further resource implications beyond that which we would expect to be investing as part of the CYPP's ongoing development, for which we currently have resources. As outlined above the expectation for the medium term is that the SAIT will be a requirement anyway.

### **4 Proposal**

- 4.1 WAG are seeking expressions of interest by 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010 and to do so we must provide the following:-

---

<sup>1</sup> ©HR Insight Company Limited

- confirmation of your interest in being considered;
- membership and structure of your Partnership including arrangements for an Executive Board, wider Partnership and details of subgroups; and
- name of the Partnership chair.

4.2 In order to meet the Welsh Assembly deadlines members of the CYPP Officer Group and the full CYPP were consulted on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> January respectively. In addition it is proposed that it be discussed at the LSB and Partnership Network to ensure a broad awareness and understanding across other agencies and Thematic Partnerships The CYPP Team will prepare the submission.

4.3 We are therefore seeking Boards permission to become a pilot authority, if it is not agreed we will simply withdraw our expression interest.

## **5 Corporate Improvement Plan**

5.1 The CYPP Plan together with the introduction of the specific processes outlined here will help to support meeting the needs of children, young people and their families in relation to 3 of the corporate improvement priorities:-

- Promoting Health, Social Care and Wellbeing
- Ensuring Learning Opportunities for All
- Supporting Economic and Social Development

It could be argued that if supported strategically across the Council and within the Local Service Board it could support the last of the four improvement priorities too.

- Enhancing the Natural and Built Environment

5.2 The SAIT will also support the work of the LSB and other Thematic Partnerships and to develop a consistent framework for a single plan approach.

## **6 Options Considered / Available**

6.1 To not submit an expression of interest.

## **7 Preferred Choice and Reasons**

7.1 Not to submit an expression of interest would not be in the best interest of Powys as a leading authority in Wales.

## **8 Sustainability and Environmental Issues / Equalities / Crime and Disorder / Other Policies**

8.1 The CYPP Plan is designed to meet need and improve access to services with a view to *'improving the quality of life and wellbeing<sup>2</sup>'* of children, young people and their families *'especially those in our less well off communities<sup>3</sup>'* It is also designed to underpin the 7 Core Aims and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child which is a fundamental aspect of *'promot[ing] social justice and equality of opportunity<sup>4</sup>'*.

It will also support other aspect of sustainable development by:

<sup>2</sup> One Wales: One Planet (page 11)

<sup>3</sup> One Wales: One Planet (page 11)

<sup>4</sup> One Wales : One Planet (page 8)

- Achieving a sustainable economy and long term thinking by - supporting early intervention and prevention with a view to minimising escalating risk and cost and by improving the long term outcomes for all children and young people.
- Living within environmental limits by - improving delivery and access to services within local delivery areas thus reducing the need to travel.
- Promoting good governance by – empowering frontline service delivery providers to integrate their practice, share information and to work in creative and flexible ways to meet their community’s needs. It will also promote a bottom up approach to strategy development by providing evidence of outcomes and helping to identify gaps in service delivery.
- Promoting participation by – engaging with children, young people and families throughout the process and enhancing their capacity and understanding about their own needs and how to work as part of a team to address them.

8.2 The SAIT will help to improve and bench mark the way in which the CYPP operates thus making its work more relevant and sustainable.

## 9 **Comments of Local Member(s)**

9.1 Councillor Melanie Tunnicliffe is the Joint Chair of the Children and Young Peoples Partnership and has therefore been involved in the consideration and endorsement of this proposal.

## 10 **Other Consultations Undertaken**

10.1 As outlined in the Report.

Members are invited to consider the future status of this report and whether it can be made available to:

- (a) All Members;
- (b) the press and public.

Either following the meeting or at some specified point in the future.

The view of the Head of Legal, Scrutiny and Democratic Services is that:

“ “

<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Reason for Recommendation:</b>
To note the contents of the report and approve the proposal.	As outlined in the detail of the report.

<b>Relevant Policy (ies):</b>	CYPP / Community Strategy		
<b>Within Policy:</b>	Y	<b>Within Budget:</b>	Y

<b>Relevant Local Member(s):</b>	<b>Cllr Melanie Tunnicliffe</b>
----------------------------------	---------------------------------

<b>Person(s) To Implement Decision:</b>	<b>Dominique Jones</b>
<b>Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:</b>	<b>Immediately</b>

<b>Contact Officer Name:</b>	<b>Tel:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
Dominique Jones	01597 826058	01597 826243	Dominique.jones@powys.gov.uk

**Background Papers used to prepare Report:**

WAG letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> January 2010

**F:\wlegal\Clarence\Reports\Report Template**