



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2ND DECEMBER 2024

CHILDREN'S SERVICES RESIDENTIAL TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to scrutinise the progress made regarding implementation of the Council's Children's Services Residential Transformation Strategy and the plans for developing services in line with the Council's duty to provide sufficient accommodation for looked after children in the context of the Welsh Government Policy ambition to remove profit from the provision of care for looked after children.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Acknowledge the information contained within the report.
- 2.2 Scrutinise and comment on the information provided.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Children's Services are transforming accommodation services for looked after children. The objective requires significant on-going change alongside consideration of on-going resource requirements as part of delivering Welsh Government's policy ambition in this area.

BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Children's Service Residential Transformation Strategy is part of an evidence based, evaluative system of transformation that incorporates the inter-related following priorities:

Transformation Priority	Vision
Right Help, Right time, Right Place	Providing information, advice and assessment, and early help system that helps prevent family problems getting worse by allowing people to make informed decisions, take independent measures to support their wellbeing, and where necessary receive support and interventions that ensure children and young people are protected from harm and abuse.
Children Looked After Prevention	Supporting children and families to stay together, providing evidence based risk-reducing support and intervention.
Residential Transformation Strategy	By 2027, all Rhondda Cynon Taf young people who need residential care are looked after close to home in high quality settings where they can thrive and are looked after by a skilful and well supported staff group.
Workforce Strategy	Rhondda Cynon Taf Children's Services workforce is motivated, engaged and valued; staff have the capacity, skills, competence and confidence to meet the needs of children and families.
Participation	A rights-based approach to hearing voices and involving experienced people in developing services.

4.2 In February 2023 Cabinet approved the Children's Services Residential Transformation Strategy which brings together work under:

- Foster Wales RCT – seeking to recruit and retain local authority foster carers
- Developing the Council's Children's Homes in line with a needs analysis.
- Placement Commissioning Strategy (PCS) – setting out our commissioning intention and informing work with providers.
- 16+ Strategy – working towards sufficient supply of suitable supported accommodation.

4.3 The Strategy has been implemented and monitored by a multi-disciplinary steering group of staff across Council Departments and this report seeks to update Members on progress made, and the current position in relation to the The Health and Social Care (Wales) Bill and proposed next steps.

5. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (WALES) BILL STAGE 1 UPDATE ON REMOVING PROFIT FROM THE CARE OF CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER

5.1 The Health and Social Care (Wales) Bill (the "Bill") was introduced on 20th May 2024. The Bill contains provisions to:

- restrict the making of profit by providers of children's homes services, secure accommodation services and fostering services for looked after children.

- require local authorities to submit a sufficiency plan to Welsh Ministers in respect of accommodation for looked after children, and to take all reasonable steps to secure sufficient accommodation provided by not-for-profit entities, either within or near to its areas to meet their needs.
- enable the introduction of Direct Payments for NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC); and
- make amendments to ensure that the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 ('the 2016 Act') and Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 ('the 2014 Act') are able to operate fully and effectively.

5.2 The Bill went through stage 1 of consideration by the Health and Social Care Committee in October 2024, resulting in 26 recommendations. The general principles of the Bill were supported with some key areas of work:

- Welsh Government to work with partners to explore business models that would promote the principles of social enterprise and meet not for profit requirements, closing any loopholes that enable the extraction of profit.
- There needs to be a clear commitment from Welsh Government to local authorities about the level of future funding to support the transition for at least the next five years.
- Mandatory registration of foster carers with Social Care Wales to be considered.
- Monitor each local authorities progress on the transition to a not for profit model including providers exiting the marketing and stability of placements as well as the number of new placements created.
- Ministerial approval required for supplementary placements cannot hold up local authorities meeting their duty to place a child but a report on supplementary placements will be published annually as this cannot become a default position.
- Provision to be made for communicating the Bill to children and young people and ensure they are given an active offer of advocacy in respect of care arrangements that may be affected by the Bill.

5.3 Stage 2 proceedings are timetabled to be completed by the 13th December 2024.

6. IMPLEMENTING THE RESIDENTIAL TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY

6.1 Phase 1 implementation was reviewed by the steering group in November 2023, and a report was subsequently brought to [Corporate Parenting Board](#) outlining that phase implementation progress and the plans for Phase 2 implementation.

6.2 The updated action plans for Phase 2 have been routinely monitored throughout the course of the year, and progress is set out in the paragraphs below. Progress towards eliminate profit and sufficiency has been made, but the pace and scale of change has been affected by operational pressures, resource requirements, and time. The availability of on-going Welsh Government funding, alongside Council resources, and a sufficiently skilled

workforce have a strong relationship with the feasibility of delivering national Policy goals in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Our Placement Commissioning Action Plan

- 6.3 The current placement commissioning action plan was finalised in 2023. A full refresh will take place in early 2025 with the benefit of insight from provider consultation; that work will supply the most recent insights into transition intentions for local and regional providers. This will be achieved as a collaboration between the Council's Children's Services, Finance and Performance Management Departments and 4Cs.
- 6.4 Rhondda Cynon Taf is forecasting a continuing need for externally commissioned provision after 31st March 2027, some more specific data is included below.
- 6.5 In the short term, the future shape of residential and foster care provision in Rhondda Cynon Taf will continue to be a mixed economy approach of externally commissioned services from providers with a range of business models, and internal provision to achieve sufficiency. We will continue to re-balance and reduce our reliance on externally commissioned 'for-profit' services, reviewing sufficiency as Rhondda Cynon Taf foster and residential services develop. However, when we have clearer information about 'for-profit providers' future business intentions, we will re-consider our next steps in this regard, hence the strategy review in early 2025.

The demand data – an update

- 6.6 The rate at which children become looked after in Rhondda Cynon Taf has reduced, and that reduction has been sustained¹. However, children in Rhondda Cynon Taf continue to need looked after services at a rate that is higher than many populations in Wales.
- 6.7 The 3 year Children Looked After (CLA) prevention strategy that was co-produced alongside an academic strategy partner has had impact, it will be reviewed in 2025, and we will take this work further.
- 6.8 During January 2023, Children's Services were inspected as part of Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) thematic Public Law Outline inspection. CIW found that:

Care and support planning is timely, meaningful and directed by the safety and wellbeing outcomes of the child. Examples of creative support were evidenced in care and support packages reviewed, and these resulted in services

¹ The number of Children Looked After admissions during the period July 2023 to June 2024 has decreased when compared to the same period in 2022/23, from 125 in 2022/23 to 113 in 2023/24, a 5% decrease in admissions.

providing bespoke responses to achieve individually tailored outcomes. We saw that care plans are reviewed regularly, and progress updates are included.

- 6.9 The resources available for preventative services both at early intervention and at the edge of care will need to be kept under on-going review and impacts evaluated as part of the Council’s medium term financial and service planning arrangements.
- 6.10 Subject to any unanticipated changes, and assuming that the current services and resources remain available, we can expect to gradually reduce the number of looked after children by 3-5% per year. We expect reduction in the number of under 1 year olds who need to become looked after but anticipate a short-term small increase in the number of 1–4 year olds, and older children with disabilities and complex trauma needs, including 16+ older young people needing to become looked after. Looking after older children who have experienced disruption, trauma and experience of all forms of exploitation is sadly expected in the short and mid-term. This means that we should anticipate increasing need for children’s homes, but we will seek to keep this to a minimum as far as possible through our model of practice and therapeutic approach. An increase in the number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children is also expected and incorporated in the supported accommodation forecast.

Children’s Homes and Residential Workforce Capability

- 6.11 The current internal residential portfolio in Rhondda Cynon Taf is provided in the table below:

Established Children’s Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bryndar (5 children) • Beddau (5 children) • Nantgwyn (Short Breaks) • Carn Ingli (2 children) Registered 2020 • Ty Brynna (1 child) Registered 2021
Embedding Registered Children’s Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willowford House (3 children) Registered 2023 No revenue budget following 31.3.25* • Cartref Mynydd (4 children) Registered 2024 No revenue budget following 31.3.25*
Awaiting Registration Children Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ty Ni (solo) No revenue budget following 31.3.25*
Sites in Refurbishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ystrad Fechan 3-5 children (previously registered children’s homes) No revenue budget following 31.3.25* • Four Seasons – 3 young people supported accommodation
Sites Awaiting Decisions about Future Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meadow View 3-4 bed • Land at Cartref Mynydd • Possible acquisition

* See Section 10 below for further information - there is currently no ongoing revenue funding in place to support the additional costs incurred in relation to the development of the above homes to support the implementation of Welsh Government's Eliminate Profit Policy

- 6.12 Development of a stable, skilled, and well supported residential workforce takes time. In many ways the development of the building is the easier to achieve, and workforce requires more time to recruit, appoint, train and settle-in new teams.
- 6.13 Some high-quality candidates have been appointed, and additional support has been made available for induction and training. In this context and owing to skill / experience level in the context of complexity, we experience unavoidable time-limited double funding e.g. new staff shadowing more experienced staff for a period of time.
- 6.14 On the whole, applicants are less experienced, and less well informed about the role than has previously been the case warranting increasing creativity in the way we inform, attract, induct and train new candidates. The residential workforce vacancy rate has increased to 32%, gaps in experienced staff in children's homes, and the pace of development has led to a need to increase staffing numbers of settings. This has resulted in an undesirable reliance on agency staff which represents a high cost and less stable approach.
- 6.15 We have learned that there is a development cycle with three slightly overlapping phases that require at least 12 to 24 months per setting, sometimes longer:
- a) Acquire and refurbish building to RISCA² standard and register home.
 - b) Recruit, induct and train staff team.
 - c) Embed, develop skills, and retain teams.
- 6.16 We have learned and re-learned lessons along the way about the significance of good practice in matching children to the setting. We can provide 2 types of case studies in developing children's homes, one where matching has worked well and the home has a good skill mix, and one where the limits have been tested, and children experience disruption, meanwhile the team is impacted by staff exits.
- 6.17 That said, the current picture, whilst some considerable distance from sufficiency, is improving, and young people's experiences in the new settings, as noted in quality-of-care reports is powerful:

I really like all the staff at the home and that they have lots of time for me and always listen to my opinions.

I love it here, the activities are great, and I go to a local swimming club.

Also, I have a new Hamster as a pet as I have always wanted one.

The staff at the home helped to get me back into my education as I was excluded from my last one, and I really like my new school. I get to go

² Regulation and Inspection of Social Care Act (Wales) 2016

on free time at my friends and sleep over night, as my friends are really important to me.

I love it here I don't want to move, I like the staff especially X.

- 6.18 Investment in psychology and therapist roles has facilitated a model of care that is rooted in the Trauma Recovery Model for staff, foster carers and children's homes. Therapeutic services are resourced either by local authority or regional integrated fund and provide psychology-led support for the purposes of designing care arrangements, and for personal support to develop staff resilience given the evident and significant impact of secondary trauma. This work has led to the development of Reflective Spaces³ and is integrated into our model of social work practice. Via Foster Wales, we are alert to local authorities developing step-down, and teen provisions, some of which have been previously trialled. Officers will remain alert to possible transferrable learning and application.

Commissioned Placements and Forecasting

- 6.19 When we concluded our PCS in 2023 supported by 4Cs, we arrived at the following forecast:

Foster Care	<p>External Gap: Between 100 – 120 placements in internal provision to meet demand for children with primary care and support plans for foster care.</p> <p>Existing local not for profit: In addition to the internal foster services there are 109 registered foster carers with independent agencies providing a maximum of 233 registered beds within our county borough. Effective use of existing local not for profit care, potentially reduces the gap as a direct result of the policy to 40-50 placements, or potentially 20-25 carers (making a presumption of no further losses to the internal service).</p> <p>Likely to transition: Private Equity providers have stated an intent to transition this builds capacity post policy implementation by a further 54 carers providing 115 placements. This potentially reduces any local capacity gap as a direct result of the policy and creates a surplus for placement choice and best match discussions.</p> <p>Remaining Gap: If other local authorities continue to commission provision within Rhondda Cynon Taf this reduces local sufficiency, and so we will continue to need to recruit supported by Foster Wales. In future local authorities will need to work together to consider improved use of local capacity, in</p>
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³ <https://youtu.be/Uojp3ITPkRM>

	<p>addition to the best match principle to meet individual children’s needs.</p> <p>The above detail will be used, alongside updated information, to inform the Council’s Medium Term Financial Planning (MTFP) arrangements.</p>
Residential Care	<p>External Gap: The gap for external commissioning is 40 – 45 beds.</p> <p>Likely to transition: This equates to 6 homes offering a maximum of 20 beds. These homes cover a range of models of care for a variety of needs profile.</p> <p>Remaining Gap: If the MSME Welsh providers are unable to transition business models this creates a potential local capacity (not competency) gap of 20-25 beds.</p> <p>The above detail will be used, alongside updated information, to inform the Council’s Medium Term Financial Planning (MTFP) arrangements.</p>

- 6.20 This is a moving picture, and things have changed since we concluded the PCS in 2023 and will change again ahead of our review planned for January 2025, hence the emphasis on the sensitive information in this document.
- 6.21 As of 30th June 2024, Rhondda Cynon Taf was commissioning 39 (under 16yrs⁴) residential places off 18 for-profit businesses who are yet to confirm their transition to an acceptable not-for-profit business model.
- 6.22 Children’s Services have a best interests’ cohort review process in place that focusses on reunification where appropriate. Teams are re-configuring to assist our ambition in this regard. Therefore, we can be confident that more children will return to family and step down to foster care. However, we do not yet have sufficient data from this work to develop a reliable assumption for forecasting, and the process is affected by insufficient supply of suitable step-down foster carers, and local supported accommodation.
- 6.23 As of 30th June 2024 Rhondda Cynon Taf commissioned 69 (under 16yrs) IFA places off 12 for- profit businesses who are yet to confirm their transition to an acceptable not-for-profit business model, but new information is emerging, hence the plan to carry out fuller review in January 2025.

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)

- 6.24 In Children’s Services, Officers are rightly proud of the asylum- seeking young people, and their work with them. Until 30th June 2024, all our UASC young

⁴ Not including x3 under 16 OWR, one of which is Ty Ni and soon to be registered

people are looked after in-county but at some considerable cost. The annual gross cost to the Council for its UASC placements is £646,434 of which £105,689 grant funding is received from the Home Office, presenting a net additional annual unfunded cost of £540,745. Delays in home office funding claims, and asylum application mean that the full burden of costs remain with the Authority.

Regional Working

- 6.25 The Cwm Taf Morgannwg Regional Partnership Board (RPB) has carried out a Market Stability Report and supplied accompanying information that outlines capital awards, the Regional Integrated Fund (RIF) grant funded developing services, and the proposed integrated regional complex needs home that will be developed⁵. Whilst we acknowledge that our 3 journeys towards not-for-profit, and sufficiency bear some differences in each local authority area, we are committed to collaborating on the RPB regional developments, sharing learning and, in the fullness of time, sharing placements via the inter-authority arrangements developed by 4Cs.

Foster Wales RCT

- 6.26 Insufficient supply of foster carers remains the number one challenge. All 22 local authorities, collectively as Foster Wales, have been taking steps towards recruiting more local authority foster carers and retaining the current local authority fostering population. Going forward Foster Wales will need to accelerate this work to significantly grow the numbers of foster carers fostering for their local authority, and to realise their collective ambition of placing more fostered children in local authority placements within their home area while reducing dependence on more costly options.
- 6.27 The long-term sustainability of grant funding for Foster Wales remains imperative to ensure that local authorities can build on this progress, continue the work already underway and achieve their aim to grow in house fostering provision.
- 6.28 Foster Wales RCT is showing promising signs of improving performance, but more time and resource is required to support an increase in the numbers of experienced foster carers within Rhondda Cynon Taf to achieve sufficiency. Latterly, targets have been met and, the following positive developments give rise to optimism:
- Overall, since April 2024, there have been 58 enquiries, 4 approvals, and 16 assessments underway, and looking positive. Notably, the Eisteddfod activity bump led to 26 additional new enquiries, and we will exceed our recruitment target of 13 new foster carers.
- 6.29 The table below demonstrates what Rhondda Cynon Taf needs to recruit to reach sufficiency over a 3-year period to 2026/27. This will also need to be

revised as part of the PCS update in January 2025 with the benefit of IFA transition confirmations and our up-to-date performance.

Placement type	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total
Short Term	11	12	12	35
11+	2	2	2	6
Children with complex needs	4	4	4	12
Sibling Groups	1	1	0	2
Parent and Child		1	1	2
Respite	2	2	2	6
UASC	2	2	2	6
Total	22	24	23	69

- 6.30 CIW inspected our fostering service in 2023, providing reasonable assurance and pointing to some areas for improvement for which additional resources will be required, albeit some improvement has been achieved in relation to statutory reviews.
- 6.31 The authority has ambitious plans for Foster Wales RCT, and opportunities are being explored to increase the resources and support available to fully implement aspects of the plan and develop the Fostering Service that we need to recruit and retain foster carers.

Supported Accommodation

- 6.32 The Accommodation and Support Strategy for Care Leavers aims to develop a sufficient supply of accommodation and support options to meet the needs of our young people leaving care.
- 6.33 Whilst too many young people experience delay and temporary accommodation, progress has been made. This is evidenced in a reduction in the number of care leavers experiencing periods of homelessness from 7.4% in December 2021 to 3.5% in June 2024.
- 6.34 The lack of social care housing and resources for support across Wales for adults is a pressure that is impacting on our care leavers. We are working with housing colleagues and Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) on planning for sufficiency, as we anticipate continued high demand for accommodation as 62% of our children looked after population are aged 10+ years (as 15th June 2024). The pattern has changed in recent years in favour of increasing numbers remaining with foster carers longer in line with our 'When I'm Ready' Scheme and may change again in line with our reunification expectation. In general, about a third of care leavers remain with foster carers, a third return to friends and family and a third per year will need supported accommodation.
- 6.35 We currently have in development three self-contained units of accommodation (with mentor support) for our care leavers, to alleviate some of the move on pressures being experienced. This will not be sufficient with predictive data

suggesting the following needs (in the table below) for independent support accommodation per annum. This anticipated need is being mapped to models of housing to assist the Council’s Housing Strategy Service’s development work with RSLs.

Year	Anticipated Supported Accommodation Needs
2025	21
2026	17
2027	14
2028	13

- 6.36 Based on the net increase in demand for supported accommodation (post aged 16) the Council anticipates further pressure to its budgets. It is difficult to predict the level of financial support at this time, that said, if it is assumed that 50% of the identified cohorts required an ongoing financial support package for an average of 3 years then the Council can expect additional costs of £1.9M over a 6 year period.⁶

Young Peoples’ well-being: Residential Review and best interests of individuals

- 6.37 A review of the plans for all young people in residential care setting is undertaken quarterly with a focus on reunification, step down to foster care and bringing young people from out of county placements back to in house residential care. The table below shows the children identified where it is in their best interest to be supported out of external residential placements over the following 6 to 18 months.

⁶ Total over 6 year period assuming average weekly cost of financial support to 16+ of £375 per week.

Plan	Age under 12	Age 12-15	Age 16+
Reunification to care of parent in less than of six month timescale	1	3	3
Reunification to care of parent in six months + timescale		12	2
Reunification to extended family member		2	
Step down to foster care	3	2	
Could be step down to foster care but concern about availability prevents plan from progressing	2	1	
Planned move to in house residential	2	2	

7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS or SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY

7.1 There are no equality and diversity or social-economic duty implications as a result of the recommendations of this report. However, an equality and diversity assessment has been previously carried out and identified positive and neutral impact, no negative impacts were identified.

8. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no Welsh Language implications as a result of the recommendations of this report. However, a Welsh language assessment has been previously carried out and identified positive and neutral impact, no negative impacts were identified.

9. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT

9.1 Consultation with stakeholders in the development of Strategy. In addition, young people's voices are regularly noted in Regulation 73 reports to Corporate Parenting Board, and they will be involved in as many aspects of implementation of the Strategy as possible.

- 9.2 The proposed strategy was pre-scrutinised by the Community Services Scrutiny Community in November 2022.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 10.1 The Council's duty to provide sufficient accommodation for looked after children in the context of the Welsh Government Policy ambition to remove profit from the provision of care for looked after children is a key part of Rhondda Cynon Taf Council's MTFP arrangements.
- 10.2 In this regard, Welsh Government has made available significant funding such as £68Million to transform children's services across Wales between 2022/23 and 2024/25. Rhondda Cynon Taf Council has been proactive in applying for and accessing such funding and demonstrating its effectiveness, for example, developing 4 new children's homes; developing the therapeutic model to support children, carers and effective trauma recovery practice; and enhancing reunification.
- 10.3 Notwithstanding the clear progress to date to support the implementation of Welsh Government's policy ambition and the associated positive impacts, for the current financial year the Council is projecting a full year overspend of £6.5Million as part of delivering this programme of work in respect of residential care provision; this position is as a result of operational and external market pressures and are being partially off-set by £5.4Million Eliminate Profit grant funding. For Members information, this position has been incorporated into the Council's latest Revenue Budget position for the 2024/25 financial year, as set out within the Quarter 2 Performance Report presented to Cabinet on [20th November 2024](#).
- 10.4 Following on, the Council is continuing its engagement and close working with Welsh Government, along with other Welsh local authorities, to reinforce the importance for funding to continue beyond the current financial year to ensure the necessary resources are in place to support service delivery in pursuance of the Welsh Government policy over the medium to long term. The outcome of this work will be incorporated into the Council's MTFP arrangements on an on-going basis.

11. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 11.1 This report and the related Strategy is specifically concerned with s.75 of the Social Services and Well-Being Act (Wales) 2014, and the duty to secure sufficient accommodation for looked after children in relation to residential care.
- 11.2 The role of a corporate parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes every good parent would want for their own children.
- 11.3 The Registration of Social Care and Inspection (Wales) Act 2016 sets out duties in relation to the registration and regulation of children's homes, and Section 5 of the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 states it is an offence to provide a regulated service or services in Wales without being registered to do so. It is in relation to this breach of law that the Council provides weekly Operating Without Registration (OWR) reports to CIW, seeking to ensure that young people are placed in suitable registered provision as soon as possible where OWR has become unavoidable.
- 11.4 An outline of progress with the Bill is included above in Section 5 of this report.

12. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT

- 12.1 Implementation of our Strategy contributes to the delivery of all 4 priorities of the People and Community Wellbeing Objective in the Council's Corporate Plan: Working with our Communities. It also supports the Council to contribute to all seven wellbeing goals:
- **A prosperous Wales:** children who receive the right care and support are better prepared for adulthood and achieving prosperous futures.
 - **A resilient Wales:** children who are given every opportunity to meet their developmental milestones and overcome barriers to developing skills are prepared with the space to grow and the tools to build resilience throughout life.
 - **A healthier Wales:** access to high quality local services supports children to meet their developmental milestones and develop social skills, enhancing their emotional wellbeing.

- **A more equal Wales:** by delivering a full range of residential care provision in all localities to meet the needs of children and parents ensures that children and families have access to high quality childcare irrespective of where they live.
- **A Wales of cohesive Communities:** access to services that are not restricted to particular communities promotes equality and harmony across communities and the means to share community resources in order to be responsive to need and build resilience.
- **A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language:** children who are given the potential to thrive learn to be tolerant and accepting, preparing them for a multi-racial, globalised adult world.
- **A globally responsible Wales:** children who have access to high quality care and support are afforded experiences that prepare them to be globally responsible.

13. STRATEGIC OR RELEVANT TO ELECTORAL WARDS

- 13.1 The document is strategic and is applicable to all electoral wards and residents of Rhondda Cynon Taf.

14. CONCLUSION

- 14.1 The Council has a duty to secure sufficient accommodation for looked after children under s.75 of the Social Services and Well-Being Act (Wales) 2014.
- 14.2 This is a significant on-going programme of work and will need to be developed further in line with the legislation to remove profit.
- 14.3 In parallel, phase 3 of the strategy will need to be developed to ensure progress towards achieving the Council's sufficiency duty.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2nd DECEMBER 2024

CHILDREN'S SERVICES RESIDENTIAL TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Background papers

None.

OFFICER TO CONTACT: Annabel Lloyd, Director of Children's Services