

GWYNEDD COUNCIL – Report to Gwynedd Council's Cabinet

Item title:	Quarterly Report – Chair of the Response Plan Programme Board (July 2025)
Aelod Cabinet:	Cllr. Nia Jeffreys, Leader of the Council
Relevant officer:	Dafydd Gibbard, Chief Executive
Date of meeting:	8 July 2025

1. Resolution Sought:

The Cabinet is asked to accept the report which is a quarterly report from the Chair of the Response Plan Programme Board.

2. What is the reason why the Cabinet needs to make the decision:

A Response Plan was adopted by Gwynedd Council's Cabinet in January 2025 to collate all support, reviews, audits and other workstreams relating to the response to crime by the Head Teacher, Neil Foden.

There was a pledge to report quarterly to Cabinet Members on the progress of the Response Board's work programme and operation.

The report is shared by the Chair of the Response Plan Programme Board, with the intention of raising awareness of the developments and what has and needs to be achieved by the Response Plan Programme Board.

3. Introduction and Logic

3.1 Background/ Introduction

The Chief Executive was commissioned to put arrangements in place for the implementation of the content of this Response Plan including the establishment of a dedicated Programme Board and regular reporting on progress to Cabinet.

Professor Sally Holland has been appointed to take up the role of Independent Chair of the Board in February 2025. Sally is Professor of Social Work at the Children's Social Care Research and Development Centre (CASCADE) at Cardiff University and a former Children's Commissioner for Wales (2015-2022).

As promised, Sally will report quarterly to Cabinet Members on the progress of the Response Board's work programme and operation. This is the first of these reports.

3.2 Next Steps

The Board's work continues with the intention of reporting back to Cabinet on progress in 3 months' time.

4. Comments of Statutory Officers.

4.1 Chief Finance Officer

The decision sought will not create a new spending commitment and I have no further comments to add.

4.2 Monitoring Officer

The Programme Board has been established by the Cabinet to co-ordinate and ensure progress on the Response Plan which it adopted. It is key to this governance arrangement that the Cabinet receives regular updates on progress in this all-important work. A report by the Independent Chair, Professor Sally Holland is a transparent and robust method of providing that assurance. I welcome the report.