

## ATISN 27002

### Information within minutes of meetings with Newport Council

#### Autumn 2024 Head of Children's Service Meeting

##### **Wellbeing**

We are waiting to see if we can get money from Housing with Care Fund (HCF) to purchase another property. Currently in discussion with Welsh government, outlining the need for financial support across Wales. Our business strategy is complete, and the hope is that by 2027 we will be fully sufficient if we have 5 million in capital and 2.5 in revenue.

Bwthyn Bach has now been registered – this is the annex on Rose Dale. We are registering Bridge view shortly.

##### **Current budget position, any concerns risk?**

Additionally, we hope to have 14 homes by 2027, and we will look to sell some of these beds to other LAs to generate further income.

#### Autumn 2025 Head of Children's Service Meeting

##### **People**

the newly established Care Provision Panel provides oversight of children's movements and supports alignment with the Welsh Government's Eliminate strategy.

##### **Children Looked After and Placement Sufficiency**

The panel oversees placement decisions, cost management, and alignment with Welsh Government's Eliminate strategy.

Newport is investing in new residential homes, including smaller units for better matching, and has appointed an additional service manager to support RI capacity.

#### Spring 2026 Performance Review Meeting with Head of Children's Service

##### **Complaints and concerns**

A live community issue was noted relating to a new residential home due to open in early summer. Resident concerns are driven by misinformation and there has been recent Media interest (ITV News enquiry).

The authority has responded by engaging with residents and the media, recognising the sensitivities while maintaining focus on children's needs.

##### **Wellbeing:**

##### **Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)**

**[INFORMATION REDACTED – FOI Section 40(2): Personal data of third parties]**

##### **Placement sufficiency**

Discussions outlined tangible developments to increase local capacity, including the acquisition of additional properties and a deliberate move towards smaller, more individualised provision such as two-bed homes, single placements and step-down accommodation, rather than reliance on larger residential models. Once current developments are completed, the authority will be largely at capacity in terms of its planned local provision.

Placement sufficiency arrangements are subject to regular and robust oversight through the Care Provision Panel and the Eliminate Board, which review placement appropriateness, cost and safeguarding arrangements, alongside education provision for children in care as an embedded consideration. While senior leaders demonstrated a clear strategic grip on sufficiency and investment, it was acknowledged that some developments have taken considerable time to

progress and that continued delivery of planned provision, effective commissioning and the availability of suitable local options for children with highly complex needs remain ongoing challenges.

### Spring 2025 Head of Children's Service Meeting

**OWR:**

With Eliminate we've agreed regionally that we will share resources to support where we can. Health have withdrawn from Windmill farm as they needed to provide another 120k moving forward – they couldn't do this so withdrew, on a positive note, we manage the provision ourselves with our staff and training, so this has now become a four bed home. We will continue with a similar model.

**Wellbeing:**

**[INFORMATION REDACTED – FOI Section 40(2): Personal data of third parties]**

### Spring 2026 Director of Social Services meeting

**Eliminating profit agenda**

No new registrations or buildings at present. Newport is implementing a revised business plan due to increased demand and complexity.

Springfield is due for completion in June 2026. Plans are in place to acquire three additional two-bedded homes, with registration anticipated late 2026/early 2027

### 2025 Director of Social Services meeting

**Eliminating profit agenda**

Eliminating profit agenda 2027 on target even without the current extension from the WG. Have a focus on this and a drive to ensure we are meeting this agenda.