

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

**County Council
22nd October 2014**

**REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Arwel Jones, Portfolio Holder for
Education and Children's Services**

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor John Morris

It is increasingly apparent that by 2017 that projections for secondary school funding in Powys will show at least a 2 million pounds overspend, at a time of severe financial cuts across the council. This coupled with a steep increase in vacant places in some schools questions the sustainability of secondary school provision in Powys.

Bearing in mind that schools need to have early information on their budgets to react to any policy change, what plans have been put in place by you, as portfolio holder, and the cabinet to deal with this overspend and to alert schools and communities to this?

The figure of £2million pounds is the projected deficit for 2017 based on the current staffing and projected pupil numbers for the current and next 3 years.

Officers from the Schools and Finance services have already commenced discussions with each of the schools to develop strategies to ensure the schools set a balanced budget in the years to 2017 and beyond.

Members will be aware that the Council has commissioned PWC to undertake a piece of work on the sustainability and future options for the configuration of the Secondary Sector in the future.