

Archived Decisions for the Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure 2012



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ARCHIVED PORTFOLIO HOLDER DELEGATED DECISION

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

3rd January, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
Mrs. S. Holloway	Arddleen C.P. School	County Councillor R.G. Brown

Signed: _____
 (Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 3.1.2012

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Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

Councillor S.M. Hayes
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure

Decision Taken 6 January 2012

Closure of Cwmdu Church in Wales (Aided) School

DECISION	Reason for Decision:
To forward the objection received to the statutory notice for Cwmdu Church in Wales (Aided) School and the council's comment on it to the Welsh Government by 7th January 2012.	To comply with statutory requirements.

Closure of Dolfor Community Primary School

DECISION	Reason for Decision:
To forward the objections received to the statutory notice for Dolfor CP School and the council's comments on them to the Welsh Government by 7th January 2012.	To comply with statutory requirements.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET REPORT FOR PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION 3rd January 2012

REPORT AUTHOR: Gareth Jones
Senior Manager, Central Services

SUBJECT: Closure of Cwmdu Church in Wales (Aided) School

REPORT FOR: Decision

Summary

Following a review of small schools in Powys earlier in 2011 by the Council's Learning in the Community Programme Board, on 5th July 2011 the Council's Cabinet approved the commencement of a consultation process to close Cwmdu C In W (A) School.

In September 2011 there were 21 pupils at the school; at the start of the Spring Term 2012, it is anticipated that there will be 19 pupils.

The financial costings and potential savings from closure of the school are shown at Appendix A and are approximately £100,000 per annum. The cost per pupil at the school is £5,852, 38% higher than the county average.

A consultation meeting with staff, governors and the community was held on 21st September where the proposal was explained; this included a timetable suggesting that the school could be formally closed by summer 2012.

The consultation period for comments to be received on the proposal ran from 19th September to 31st October 2011. 22 comments on the proposal were received during this period.

On 14th November 2011, the Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure agreed to the publication of a statutory notice for closure of Cwmdu C in W (A) School. This statutory notice was posted at the school gates, in a local newspaper and at other prominent places in the community (as required by legislation) on 24th November 2011 with the closing date for objections being 24th December.

One objection to the statutory notice was received by the closing date as follows:

Objection (in full)

I wish to object to the closure of Cwmdu Church in Wales School.

The reason for my objection is because is because of the detrimental impact on the local community. The community impact assessment noted: "It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the closure of Cwmdu C in W School will have some impact on the local community through the loss of a centre of education for its young people and as an informal meeting place."

Proposed council comment:

The council acknowledges through the Community Impact Assessment that there will be some impact on the village of Cwmdu if the school closes. The school plays an active part in the local Eisteddfod and in the Cwmdu Show. However it is not the only community facility in the village; there is a public house, a church, a tea room and a village hall which are likely to continue as the main places for social gatherings in the village. There will be the loss of a local informal meeting place if the school closes but the school buildings themselves are not used very much for community functions beyond normal school activities like the school play and sports day. To summarise, the council believes that the closure of the school will not have an unacceptable detrimental impact on the local community as there are other facilities available locally.

This objection and the council's comment need to be forwarded to the Welsh Government by 7th January 2012 because the decision on the closure of the school (now that at least one objection has been received) will need to be made by the Minister for Education and Skills.

Proposal

To agree the comments on the objection received and send it to the Welsh Government by 7th January 2012.

Corporate Improvement Plan

A priority of the Corporate Improvement Plan is to provide high quality educational opportunities for all and this priority has been encompassed within the Learning in the Community improvement priority of the Powys Change Programme. The proposals within this paper will also help to meet the efficiency priority targets within the Plan. Any recommendations to consult on the closure of schools will, if implemented, support the priorities for the Schools Service contained in the Plan.

Options Considered/Available

Now that a statutory notice has been published and an objection received, the Council has no option but to comment on them and forward them to the Welsh Government.

Preferred Choice and Reasons

The Council must forward the objection received and its comments on it to the Welsh Government in order to comply with legislation.

Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc

Where small schools are proposed for closure there will be some increase in travel and therefore carbon emissions.

The proposals are not anticipated to impact on any vulnerable or minority groups; an equality impact assessment has been undertaken.

School closure proposals will have an impact on the services available in rural communities but the savings generated will help to maintain and improve services for the whole of the community of Powys.

Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing

The best interests of young people in these small schools will be safeguarded at all times particularly during this uncertain period of review. In the case of small schools that will be

closing, every effort will be made to ensure a smooth transition to new schools and safe and efficient transport to their new locations.

Local Member(s)

The local member Councillor Kathryn Silk has commented as follows:

“To view Cwmdu School simply as a building whose closure will have a negative impact on the community is to miss the point entirely. The school is not the building, it is the lifeblood of the community. The LEA response to the objection suggests that the school buildings are underused and other meeting places in the village will fulfil the same function. The fact is that it is the school which sustains a range of other facilities including the Church and the village hall as so many of its activities are centred around those buildings. It is the energy and enthusiasm of pupils, parents and staff at the school that breathes life into the wider community making this village one of the most vibrant and socially integrated in the locality.

Supporters of the school have previously commented on the valuable role the school plays in offering a mainstream education to children who have not thrived in bigger schools locally, and I would wish to endorse that view. The school has been particularly successful in providing support - at a cost significantly below that of providing complementary education - to many children with a range of problems who have subsequently been able to transfer to high school with a sense of self-confidence and achievement.

It is also worth noting that the school plays a key role in ensuring that the Welsh identity remains strong in what is otherwise an anglicised corner of Powys. The original school in Cwmdu was founded by the Revd Thomas Price, Carnhaunawc, the founder of the modern eisteddfod movement. The school's pupils are central to the success, or continued existence even, of Cwmdu Eisteddfod and the maintenance of Welsh cultural heritage.

Finally, governors have had concerns about the LEA's procedures in relation to proposals for the school. A leaked confidential decision from the School's Modernisation Board in January 2011 to proceed with informal consultation on the future of the school meant that parents and prospective parents were concerned as to the future of the school even before the Cabinet decision to proceed with formal consultation. Furthermore governors learned that prior to the period of informal consultation LEA officers had already been signposting parents away from the school, effectively prejudging the outcome of a consultation process that had not even begun. The governors believe that the Welsh Government should satisfy itself that due process has been followed before deciding the future of Cwmdu School.”

Other Front Line Services

No implications identified.

Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

The Principal Accountant has been fully involved with the costings of the proposed closure of this school and confirms the savings identified are accurate based on the assumptions made in the report

Legal - There are no legal implications at this stage.

Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

No implications identified.

Statutory Officers

The Strategic Director, Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer) has commented:-
The proposals need to follow the normal procedures for school closure and advice from Legal Services obtained as necessary.

The Strategic Director, Finance & Infrastructure (Section 151 Officer) has commented:-
I note that the Principal Accountant has agreed the financial data used in the report and would support the recommendation of the report.

Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report.

Future Status of the Report

The portfolio holder is invited to consider the future status of this report and whether it can be made available to the press and public either immediately following the meeting or at some specified point in the future.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To forward the objection received to the statutory notice for Cwmdu C in W (A) School and the council's comment on it to the Welsh Government by 7th January 2012.	To comply with statutory requirements.

Relevant Policy (ies):			
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y
Relevant Local Member(s):	Councillor Kathryn Silk		
Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Head of Schools		
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	31st August 2012		
Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Owen James	01597 826709		Owen.james@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

Letter of objection to statutory notice

Appendix A - Detailed Costings re Small Schools - November 2011

Cwmdu C in W (A) School

	Year 1	Year 2
2011-12 Pupil Numbers Funded	26	26
2011-12 Delegated & Devolved Budget	164,828	164,828
2011-12 Estimated Current Transport Costs	10,650	10,650
2011-12 Subsidy of School Meal Provision	8,000	8,000
Total Direct Costs of School	183,478	183,478
Annual Budget that Would Transfer with Pupils	56,880	56,880
Gross Saving in Year	73,849	126,598
Less Estimated H to S Transport		
9 Pupils live in allocation area, assumed 1 transport route at £125 per day and an extension to current route at £30 per day	(19,633)	(29,450)
Net Saving in Year on Direct Costs	54,216	97,148
Saving of Central Costs at an Estimated £12,500 per school	7,292	12,500
Total Net Savings before 1 off Costs	61,508	109,648
Estimated Early Retirement & Redundancy Costs (Max)		
Current Policy	52,216	641
Local Government Pension Strain	245	
Statutory Provision	38,571	-
Projected Savings/(Costs) Including Retirement & Redundancy Costs)		
Current Policy	9,292	109,007
Statutory Provision	22,937	109,648
Current Policy & LGPS	9,047	109,007

Other Factors to Consider

The preferred school of parents is expected to be Llangattock C in W School which is not the closest school and is currently at or above capacity in the majority of year groups, an extension to increase the capacity of the school would cost in the region of £250,000 and would cost £ 15,850 per annum to fund through prudential borrowing at 6.34%.

Current Budget Position (Estimated Balance).

At 31.3.2011	9,702
At 31.3.2012	3,726
At 31.3.2013	(2,250)

NB. The figures in Year 1 assume a school closure at the end of August and the savings

and additional costs reflect a 7/12 impact for the first year (September to March).

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET REPORT FOR PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION 3rd January 2012

REPORT AUTHOR: Gareth Jones
Senior Manager, Central Services

SUBJECT: Closure of Dolfor Community Primary School

REPORT FOR: Decision

Summary

Following a review of small schools in Powys earlier in 2011 by the council's Learning in the Community Programme Board, on 5th July 2011 the council's Cabinet approved the commencement of a consultation process to close Dolfor CP School.

In September 2011 there were 17 pupils at the school of which 8 were in the top two year groups. At the start of the Spring Term 2012, it is anticipated that there will be 16 pupils.

The financial costings and potential savings from closure of the school are shown at Appendix A and are approximately £100,000 per annum. The cost per pupil at the school is £5,886, 38% higher than the county average.

A consultation meeting with staff, governors and the community was held on 22nd September where the proposal was explained; this included a timetable suggesting that the school could be formally closed by summer 2012.

The consultation period for comments to be received on the proposal ran from 19th September to 31st October 2011. 23 comments on the proposal were received during this period.

On 14th November 2011, the Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure agreed to the publication of a statutory notice for closure of Dolfor CP School. This statutory notice was posted at the school gates, in a local newspaper and at other prominent places in the community (as required by legislation) on 24th November 2011 with the closing date for objections being 24th December.

14 objections were received by the closing date and these are summarised in the attached schedule along with officer comments on them. The original letters of objection are available in the Schools Service. These objections and the council's comments need to be forwarded to the Welsh Government by 7th January 2012 because the decision on the closure of the school (now that at least one objection has been received) will need to be made by the Minister for Education and Skills.

Proposal

To agree the attached comments on the objections received and send them to the Welsh Government by 7th January 2012.

Corporate Improvement Plan

A priority of the Corporate Improvement Plan is to provide high quality educational opportunities for all and this priority has been encompassed within the Learning in the Community improvement priority of the Powys Change Programme. The proposals within this paper will also help to meet the efficiency priority targets within the Plan. Any recommendations to consult on the closure of schools will, if implemented, support the priorities for the Schools Service contained in the Plan.

Options Considered/Available

Now that a statutory notice has been published and objections received, the Council has no option but to comment on them and forward them to the Welsh Government.

Preferred Choice and Reasons

The Council must forward the objections received and its comments on them to the Welsh Government in order to comply with legislation.

Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc

Where small schools are proposed for closure there will be some increase in travel and therefore carbon emissions.

The proposals are not anticipated to impact on any vulnerable or minority groups; an equality impact assessment has been undertaken.

School closure proposals will have an impact on the services available in rural communities but the savings generated will help to maintain and improve services for the whole of the community of Powys.

Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing

The best interests of young people in these small schools will be safeguarded at all times particularly during this uncertain period of review. In the case of small schools that will be closing, every effort will be made to ensure a smooth transition to new schools and safe and efficient transport to their new locations.

Local Member(s)

The local member Councillor Kath Roberts-Jones has commented as follows:

Whilst my heart tells me that there is a need for the school to continue in the village, having experienced a closure of a primary school in the recent past, knowing just how painful it is for the whole community, my head tells me that, with so few numbers attending it is difficult to see how it can continue as we have a duty to ensure that the best possible education is available for our children.

Other Front Line Services

No implications identified.

Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

The Principal Accountant has been fully involved with the costings of the proposed closure of this school and confirms the savings identified are accurate based on the assumptions made in the report

Legal - There are no legal implications at this stage.

Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

No implications identified.

Statutory Officers

The Strategic Director, Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer) has commented:-
The proposals need to follow the normal procedures for school closure and advice from Legal Services obtained as necessary.

The Strategic Director, Finance & Infrastructure (Section 151 Officer) has commented:-
I note that the Principal Accountant has agreed the financial data used in the report and would support the recommendation of the report.

Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report.

Future Status of the Report

The portfolio holder is invited to consider the future status of this report and whether it can be made available to the press and public either immediately following the meeting or at some specified point in the future.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To forward the objections received to the statutory notice for Dolfor CP School and the council's comments on them to the Welsh Government by 7th January 2012.	To comply with statutory requirements.

Relevant Policy (ies):			
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	Councillor Kath Roberts-Jones
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Head of Schools
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	31st August 2012

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Owen James	01597 826709		Owen.james@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

Letters of objection to statutory notice

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Appendix A - Detailed Costings re Small Schools - November 2011

Dolfor C P School

	Year 1	Year 2
2011-12 Pupil Numbers Funded	24	24
2011-12 Delegated & Devolved Budget	156,316	153,451
2011-12 Estimated Current Transport Costs	4,000	4,000
2011-12 Subsidy of School Meal Provision	8,000	8,000
Total Direct Costs of School	168,316	165,451
Annual Budget that Would Transfer with Pupils	48,937	48,937
Gross Saving in Year	69,638	116,514
Less Estimated H to S Transport		
20 Pupils live in allocation area, assumed 1 transport route at £160	(20,267)	(30,400)
Net Saving in Year on Direct Costs	49,371	86,114
Saving of Central Costs at an Estimated £12,500 per school	7,292	12,500
Total Net Savings before 1 off Costs	56,663	98,614

Estimated Early Retirement & Redundancy Costs (Max)

Current Policy	65,289	-
Local Government Pension Strain	4,250	-
Statutory Provision	36,251	-

Projected Savings/(Costs) Including Retirement & Redundancy Costs)

Current Policy	(8,626)	98,614
Statutory Provision	20,412	98,614
Current Policy & LGPS	(12,876)	98,614

Other Factors to Consider

The preferred school of parents is expected to be St Michaels C in W (A) School which is not the closest school and is currently at or above capacity in some of the year groups, an extension to increase the capacity of the school would cost in the region of £250,000, but as the school is an aided school would be the responsibility of the Church Authority. If the Authority wished to fund the 15% element this would costs £2,400 per annum to fund through prudential borrowing at 6.34 %

Current Budget Position (Estimated Balance).

At 31.3.2011	16,596
At 31.3.2012	(16,487)
At 31.3.2013	(49,485)

School will need to reduce the level of support staff top bring budget into balance which will result in a significant % of redundancy & pension strain figures being incurred

NB. The figures in Year 1 assume a school closure at the end of August and the savings and additional costs reflect a 7/12 impact for the first year (September to March).

LOG OF OBJECTIONS TO STATUTORY NOTICE – DOLFOR CP SCHOOL

REF.	DATED	OBJECTION COMMENT	POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL COMMENT
DO1	12.12.11	Letter in support of maintaining rural schools. Once a school is closed it will not re-open, even if the economic climate improves	Whilst the council recognises the strongly held views of local people about the closure of small rural schools, a balance needs to be struck between maintaining the character of rural areas and the need for efficient use of council resources. Dolfor CP School has costs per pupil nearly 40% higher than the Powys average and the council has a target to maintain these costs within the range of 90% to 120% of the average. There were 17 pupils at Dolfor CP School at the start of the 2011/12 academic year, 8 of whom were in the top two year groups. It is not sustainable for the council to keep open schools with pupil numbers this low.
DO2	12.12.11	Closure of Dolfor CP School will adversely affect community life in a rural area. Transporting children several miles to alternative schools is not sustainable - increased fuel usage, and more traffic on roads. Small children will have longer days because of time taken travelling and will have less time to play and study. Even if numbers of children/young in the area increase in future, it may not be possible to reopen the school, following its closure	The school is one of the only community facilities left in the village so its loss will have some impact on village life. However, this needs to be balanced against the very small number of pupils and the cost to the council and the wider community that this represents. The named receiving schools are more than two miles away from Dolfor CP School. These schools are therefore quite likely to be beyond the qualifying distance (for free home to school transport) from the home addresses of the majority of pupils. If free home to school transport was provided by the council in the event of Dolfor's closure, it is likely that children would be picked up in a coach or minibus. This is potentially more sustainable than many shorter private journeys by parents if the receiving schools were less than two miles away. It is not anticipated that pupils will spend significant amounts of time on school transport as a result of this school's closure. The distances and travel times involved are not great and are well within the guidance time (30 minutes) for the length of time that primary school pupils should spend on school transport. The council does not foresee a time when pupil numbers will rise to levels where reopening the school would be justified. Pupil numbers in the primary

			sector generally are projected to stay stable or decline over the next five years.
DO3	20.12.11	<p>The need for small and rural schools should be included in thinking around equality and diversity. Children's needs are being disregarded in trying to force children from small rural school to go to larger urban schools.</p> <p>Comments that she is impressed with the standards and ethos at Dolfor CP School. Her child who has special educational needs has thrived at the school.</p> <p>It will be difficult for parents to be involved with their children's schooling if they do not have easy access to staff at the school. This will be more difficult if Dolfor School is closed and the alternative school is at a distance from children's homes. If Dolfor CP School closes she will opt for home education.</p>	<p>The council is confident that any ethnic or cultural issues will be adequately catered for at the receiving schools. It does not believe that the needs of rural children will suffer by transferring to a school in Newtown less than 3 miles away. There is also a rural school at St Michael's Kerry (3.7 miles away) if parents prefer to send their children to a rural school. It is an excellent school (6x1s and 1x2) and is of more sustainable size at over 130 pupils. Free transport would be provided for qualifying pupils; for some existing Dolfor pupils it will be their closest school.</p> <p>Dolfor CP School has dealt satisfactorily with pupils with ALN but there is no reason to believe that this will not be done just as well at the receiving schools. Whilst the council sympathises with parents having to familiarise themselves with new teachers, there is no reason to suggest that teachers at the receiving schools will deal with pupils with ALN less adequately than Dolfor.</p>
DO4	19.12.11	<p>Councillors are disappointed that the proposal to close Dolfor CP School is being considered alone ahead of a review on schools modernisation in the Newtown area.</p> <p>Closing rural schools has a detrimental effect on village life as children and parents no longer get involved in their community if there is no school.</p> <p>The nearest rural school – St Michaels Kerry - is currently full to capacity and in need of capital investment to provide places for an increasing catchment area. Dolfor CP School premises are in extremely good condition (Category B rated) and they are linked to a recently built community hall.</p> <p>The cost of fuel is increasing and the carbon footprint</p>	<p>The school has not been reviewed as part of a wider review of the Newtown area. This area review is currently not scheduled within the Schools Service. The council's Policy for the Organisation of Primary Schools (2006) reserves the right for an individual school review to take place at any time if there has been a significant change in pupil numbers.</p> <p>Whilst the council recognises the impact of the closure of small rural schools on their communities, a balance needs to be struck between maintaining the character of rural areas and the need for efficient use of council resources. Dolfor CP School has costs per pupil nearly 40% higher than the Powys average and the council has a target to maintain these costs within the range of 90% to 120% of the average. There were 17 pupils at Dolfor CP School at the start of the 2011/12 academic year, 8 of whom were in the top two year groups. It is not sustainable for the council to keep open schools with pupil numbers this low.</p>

		<p>should be a major consideration of County Councils. Why at the same time as they are encouraging working from home and setting up rural businesses, are Councils transporting children further away for their education?</p> <p>The benefits of a rural school should not be overlooked; pupils flourish in this environment and take a pride in themselves, their school and their community.</p>	<p>St Michael's C in W (A) School Kerry also has condition B graded buildings. It's 'Suitability' rating is B/C whereas Dolfor's is D. Both schools have a 'Sustainability' rating of B. Inspections were carried out independently by the same firm of private consultants funded by the Welsh Government.</p> <p>The costs of transport to the receiving schools have been factored in to the council's decision to publish statutory notices for closure and there would still be a substantial annual financial saving (£75-100,000). There will not be a significant environmental impact or major additional carbon emissions from the increased transport from this proposal. The named receiving schools are more than two miles away from Dolfor CP School. These schools are therefore quite likely to be beyond the qualifying distance (for free home to school transport) from the home addresses of the majority of pupils. If free home to school transport was provided by the council in the event of Dolfor's closure, it is likely that children would be picked up in a coach or minibus. This is potentially more sustainable than many shorter private journeys by parents if the receiving schools were less than two miles away.</p> <p>The council is confident that pupils from Dolfor will also flourish in the environment of the receiving schools with the greater availability of resources and the educational benefits of single age group classes.</p>
DO5	21.12.11	<p>Objector (Dolfor CP School Governing Body) believes that decision is pre-determined due to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaked report in Jan 11 • Delay in response to May 11 gov body submission • Lack of democratic process • Alleged comments of portfolio holder that there was no point in objecting • Lack of consultation on CIA with local groups • Receiving school has separate infant and junior facilities which is contrary to PCC policy <p>Dolfor School has:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent quality building and facilities 	<p>The council's decision to proceed to statutory notices for closure was made after a thorough review from January 2011 taking in to account all views expressed. The decision on Dolfor's closure was not pre-determined but the decision to publish statutory notices was made following consideration of all comments received during a six week consultation process in September and October 2011.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this process the council apologised for the unfortunate leak of a confidential report that took place in January 2011. • The governing body's submission of May 2011 (including a DVD made by pupils) was considered fully by the Learning in the Community Programme Board before it made its decision on 24th May 2011. When the lack of response to questions raised in that submission were pointed out to the council during the consultation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rural, safe location• Excellent IT• Excellent canteen• Improving teaching• Proven record for pupils with ALN and staff have appropriate experience <p>School should be part of Newtown review.</p> <p>School is an important part of the community.</p>	<p>period, a full response was given.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A full report on the issues around the potential closure of Dolfor CP School was presented to the body with delegated authority to make that decision i.e. the council's Cabinet on 5th July.• The alleged comments of the portfolio holder for Learning and Leisure were raised with directly with him at the consultation meeting on 22nd September. The governing body's account of the conversation is not the portfolio holder's recollection of what took place.• The Community Impact Assessment was presented at the start of the consultation period as a draft document on which the community's views were invited. The governing body have taken the opportunity to make amendments to it following this invitation. The governing body provided the council with a list of groups who use the adjacent community hall and these were then invited to the public meeting on 22nd September.• The two receiving schools occupy adjacent sites and, whilst it is not a fully integrated single school which would be the council's preference, it operates in this way to all intents and purposes. <p>The good quality of buildings at the school is not in dispute nor are the other positive features identified by the objector. However the council believes that the facilities at the receiving schools are at least of the same standard as those at Dolfor.</p> <p>The school has not been reviewed as part of a wider review of the Newtown area. This area review is currently not scheduled within the Schools Service. The council's Policy for the Organisation of Primary Schools (2006) reserves the right for an individual school review to take place at any time if there has been a significant change in pupil numbers.</p> <p>Whilst the council recognises the impact of the closure of small rural schools on their communities, a balance needs to be struck between maintaining the character of rural areas and the need for efficient use of council resources. Dolfor CP School has costs per pupil nearly 40% higher than the Powys</p>
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			average and the council has a target to maintain these costs within the range of 90% to 120% of the average. There were 17 pupils at Dolfor CP School at the start of the 2011/12 academic year, 8 of whom were in the top two year groups. It is not sustainable for the council to keep open schools with pupil numbers this low.
DO6	21.12.11	The school serves a wide rural area as well as the local community. Numbers could go up again and urges PCC to think again.	Whilst the school's value to the community is recognised, there are other local rural schools such as St Michael's Kerry that serve a much wider rural area by the nature of their size. Numbers of pupils at Dolfor are low and are not projected to increase. Indeed nearly half of the pupils are in the top two year groups which will only exacerbate its falling numbers.
DO7	17.12.11	Where will the next generation of children be educated? School provides a friendly, caring atmosphere with excellent teaching. It is the main focus of the community. The savings that will be made are not worth detrimentally affecting children's education. Excellent school with good facilities and strong reputation – taking away choice from parents to have their children educated in a small rural school.	The next generation of children will, by the nature of the numbers involved, only be very small. The council believes that the same qualities highlighted by the objector will be provided in the receiving schools. The projected savings of £75-100,000 are substantial and the council believes that there is no evidence to support any detriment being caused to the children's education. The school has reasonable standards and good facilities but the high standards of education are not best served by children remaining in schools with such low pupil numbers. The council does not believe that the needs of rural children will suffer by transferring to a school in Newtown less than 3 miles away. There is also a rural school at St Michael's C in W (A) School Kerry (3.7 miles away) if parents prefer to send their children to a rural school. It is an excellent school (6x1s and 1x2) and at over 130 pupils is of more sustainable size. Free transport would be provided for qualifying pupils; for some existing Dolfor pupils it will be their closest school.
DO8	17.12.11	School has been an inspiration for past pupils who have gone on to a variety of successful careers and has allowed them to move on and make a success of their lives out of the area. Believes that the authority could look for other cost savings rather than close the school.	The council believes that the quality of education in <u>all</u> Powys schools allows children to pursue successful careers and fulfil their potential often outside of the area. It does not believe that moving Dolfor pupils to other schools in the area will prevent this from happening in the future. As part of a wider programme of savings, the council is looking to make efficiencies in its budget but the Schools Service must play its part in this process. Costs per pupil at Dolfor CP School are 38% higher than the Powys

			average.
D09	19.12.11	Three generations of family have been educated there. By working together with PCC it can be a thriving school once again. It provides a choice of a rural rather than a town school, this option helps to promote diversity and the school helps to hold the community together.	It is very unlikely, taking in to account current pupil numbers and the age profile of those children, that the school can have sustainable numbers or thrive in the way that the objector describes. Even if Dolfor closes there will still be a choice of rural and urban schools but with pupil numbers at the remaining schools that are more sustainable.
D10	Dec 11	Past pupils have done well educationally. It is a community focused school and if it closes this will be lost.	There is no evidence to suggest that pupils will not do just as well at the receiving schools where educational standards as rated by Estyn are at least as good as at Dolfor.
D11	19.12.11	School is the heart of the community. It is scary for country children going in to a town school. Transporting them several miles is not sustainable, more fuel will be used and children will have longer days due to travelling. The community hall is of great benefit to the school.	<p>The council does not anticipate that children will be adversely affected emotionally by transferring to a school in a more urban setting.</p> <p>The named receiving schools are more than two miles away from Dolfor CP School. These schools are therefore quite likely to be beyond the qualifying distance (for free home to school transport) from the home addresses of the majority of pupils. If free home to school transport was provided by the council in the event of Dolfor's closure, it is likely that children would be picked up in a coach or minibus. This is potentially more sustainable than many shorter private journeys by parents if the receiving schools were less than two miles away.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that pupils will spend significant amounts of time on school transport as a result of this school's closure. The distances and travel times involved are not great and are well within the guidance time (30 minutes) for the length of time that primary school pupils should spend on school transport.</p> <p>The community hall is not proposed for closure and it is likely that this will continue to be run and maintained by the Dolfor Community Hall Trust.</p>
D12	20.12.11	Three generations of family were educated at the school; with determination by locals and PCC it can be sustainable for years to come. School is a community hub and enables lots of community activities which are good for local well-being. Community spirit is lacking elsewhere in the country and don't want it to happen in	<p>It is very unlikely, taking in to account current pupil numbers and the age profile of those children, that the school can have sustainable numbers or thrive in the way that the objector describes. Even if Dolfor closes there will still be a choice of rural and urban schools but with pupil numbers at the remaining schools that are more sustainable.</p> <p>The school is one of the only community facilities left in the village so its loss</p>

		Dolfor.	will have some impact on village life. However, this needs to be balanced against the very small number of pupils and the cost to the council and the wider community that this represents.
D13	22.12.11	There should be a choice for parents who want to send their children to a rural school. The school, its location and facilities have suited local children and they have gone on to have successful careers.	For those parents who wish to have a choice of rural schools, there is one at St Michael's C in W (A) School Kerry (3.7 miles away). It is an excellent school (6x1s and 1x2) and is of more sustainable size at over 130 pupils. Free transport would be provided for qualifying pupils; for some existing Dolfor pupils it will be their closest school. The council believes that the quality of education in <u>all</u> Powys schools allows children to pursue successful careers and fulfil their potential often outside of the area. It does not believe that moving Dolfor pupils to other schools in the area will prevent this from happening in the future.
D14	23.12.11	<p>In our previous report to the Council, we suggested several different options for working together with you to keep the school open, none of which have been satisfactorily acknowledged or explored.</p> <p>The community was not contacted during the Community Impact Assessment.</p> <p>It makes more sense for the future of Dolfor School to be considered within the upcoming Newtown Schools Modernisation Review.</p> <p>The 'consultation' process itself was a farce because all communications from the Council (including minutes from your internal meetings) indicated that it was your intention from the outset to close the school.</p>	<p>The council responded in full to the report of the governing body, however it does not believe, given the small number of pupils at the school and their age profile, that there are any viable options for working with the governing body to keep the school open.</p> <p>The Community Impact assessment was produced as a draft document at the beginning of the consultation process and was therefore subject to a six week period of consultation with the community. The governing body coordinated the views of the community during that period so that the final document reflected the views of the community.</p> <p>The school has not been reviewed as part of a wider review of the Newtown area. This area review is currently not scheduled within the Schools Service. The council's Policy for the Organisation of Primary Schools (2006) reserves the right for an individual school review to take place at any time if there has been a significant change in pupil numbers.</p> <p>The council's decision to proceed to statutory notices for closure was made after a thorough review from January 2011 taking in to account all views expressed. The decision on Dolfor's closure was not pre-determined but the decision to publish statutory notices was made following consideration of all comments received during a six week consultation process in September</p>

	<p>Leaked information to the press about the proposed closure of the school, meant that it has been impossible to recruit the additional pupils required to keep us open.</p> <p>Dolfor School is a fantastic rural school where pupil literacy is being improved. At a time when no other school in the area would enrol an SEN pupil, Dolfor School took that pupil in and that pupil has thrived. Small schools by their nature are an excellent resource for nurturing and educating SEN pupils who would not thrive in larger schools. In closing Dolfor this type of resource will disappear which will have a negative impact on many children's lives. Also Dolfor is the only rural school in the area and its closure would deny parents that choice.</p> <p>We hope that the Welsh Government will not be so short sighted and promote rural schools as a vital part of the education system rather than a short term economic inconvenience.</p>	<p>and October 2011. During this process the council apologised for the unfortunate leak of a confidential report that took place in January 2011.</p> <p>Dolfor CP School has dealt satisfactorily with pupils with SEN but there is no reason to believe that this will not be done just as well at the receiving schools. Whilst the council sympathises with parents having to familiarise themselves with new teachers, there is no reason to suggest that teachers at the receiving schools will deal with pupils with SEN less adequately than Dolfor.</p> <p>For those parents who wish to have a choice of rural schools, there is one at St Michael's C in W (A) School Kerry (3.7 miles away). It is an excellent school (6x1s and 1x2) and is of more sustainable size at over 130 pupils. Free transport would be provided for qualifying pupils; for some existing Dolfor pupils it will be their closest school.</p> <p>The final decision on the review will now be made by the Minister at the Welsh Government. However the council believes that, given the low pupil numbers at Dolfor CP School and the high costs per pupil, there is a strong case for the school to close despite the objections received.</p>
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Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

Councillor S.M. Hayes
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure

Decision Taken 11 January 2012

Approval of the Authority's Draft School Calendars 2014 – 2016

DECISION	Reason for decision
To approve publication of the Authority's draft 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school calendars.	The calendars have been the subject of consultation and have received a high level of support during the process.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

CABINET

FOR PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION

9 JANUARY, 2012

REPORT AUTHOR: John Mitson, School Effectiveness Officer, Working With Others

SUBJECT: Approval of the Authority's Draft School Calendars - 2014 - 2016

REPORT FOR: Decision

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to gain approval for the Authority's draft school calendars for 2014 – 2016.

Consultation took place with stakeholders regarding school calendars for 2014/2015 and 2015/2016, copies of which are attached to the report. The draft calendars were prepared by the Authority's School Calendar Working Group which comprises two headteacher representatives, one from primary and one from secondary, two teaching union representatives, appointed by the Joint Consultative Committee (Teacher's Panel) and officers of the Authority.

The principles followed by the working group in drafting school calendars are as follows:-

- the calendars already set in neighbouring authorities, particularly the authorities that make up the South West and Mid Wales Consortium (SWAMWAC) of which Powys is a member, are considered;
- as far as possible, whole week blocks of time are used to build each holiday and term period;
- half-term holidays are full weeks and are placed at a mid-way point in each term;
- ensuring that non-pupil days do not fall on the same week days throughout the year;
- consideration of the public examination timescales;
- consideration of the timing of the Royal Welsh Show – the Royal Welsh Show week is used as the first week of the summer holiday for pupils, although it is sometimes necessary to identify a non-pupil day or days within that week;
- the academic year should not commence before 1 September.

Draft calendars were circulated to all the Authority's schools and headteachers were asked to consult with their staff and governing bodies and return their views within a set time frame. A copy of the draft calendars is attached as Appendix A to this report.

The results of the consultation were as follows:-

Draft 2014 / 2015 School Calendar – 40 responses in favour, 3 against

Draft 2015 / 2016 School Calendar – 35 responses in favour and 4 against

As percentages of responses received, the results were as follows:-

Draft 2014 / 2015 School Calendar – 93% in favour, 7% against

Draft 2015 / 2016 School Calendar – 90% in favour and 10% against

In addition to the above responses, schools were also given the opportunity of submitting additional comments and these are included as an Appendix B to this report.

PROPOSAL

In the light of the above clear support for the draft School Calendars, the Authority is proposing that these be published, without change, as the Authority's confirmed calendars for 2014 / 2015 and 2015 / 2016.

CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Authority's working group ensures, as far as is possible, that its school calendars, particularly the half-term breaks, are consistent with those applying in the other 5 SWAMWAC authorities, which will be important in facilitating joint work in the future. The proposed calendars will not negatively impact on the Corporate Improvement Plan.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED / AVAILABLE

As the Authority does not have its schools in session during the Royal Welsh Show week, this means that there is rather less flexibility in terms of the length of the other main holiday. It is possible to slightly lengthen or shorten the Christmas and Easter holidays but, because Powys schools always break up at the end of the 2nd week of July, this means that there is little flexibility for extending the length of the Christmas and Easter holidays. The main options available to the Authority are placements of the 5 statutory non-pupil days. In order to facilitate the most efficient transport arrangements, Powys sets the 5 non-pupil days whereas other Wales authorities allow schools discretion to set some of these days. In order to increase the flexibility for schools, the Authority permits 3 of the 5 non-pupil days to be converted into 3 two-hour twilight sessions and most schools take up the option of at least one or two of their non-pupil days being converted into twilight sessions.

PREFERRED CHOICE AND REASONS

The two draft school calendars are the preferred choice of the Authority, as confirmed by the consultation process, and give the best application of the principles followed by the School Calendar Working Group.

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES / EQUALITY / CRIME AND DISORDER / WELSH LANGUAGE / OTHER POLICIES etc.

N/A

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S IMPACT STATEMENT – SAFEGUARDING AND WELLBEING

The impact of this proposal on children and young people will be positive as it will ensure that there is a reasonable balance of term time and school holidays throughout the year.

LOCAL MEMBER(S)

N/A

OTHER FRONT LINE SERVICES

N/A

SUPPORT SERVICES (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

There are no legal, HR, ICT, BPU implications arising from this proposal.

The Principal Accountant for Communities, Skills and Learning, comments that the differing number of school days in each financial year can impact significantly on some budgets, e.g. home to school transport. The effect of this is limited by using a school day equalisation reserve. When the days are higher or lower than average, funding is transferred to and from this reserve.

LOCAL SERVICE BOARD / PARTNERSHIPS / STAKEHOLDERS etc.

N/A

COMMUNICATIONS

N/A

STATUTORY OFFICERS

The Strategic Director, Finance and Infrastructure (Section 151 Officer) has commented:-

The views of the Strategic Director, Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) are that:- "I support the proposal".

Reason for Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
Approval be granted for the publication of the Authority's draft 2014/2015 and 2015 / 2016 school calendars.	The calendars have been the subject of consultation and have received a high level of support during the process

Relevant Policy (ies):	Schools		
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	N/A
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	School Effectiveness Officer		
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	31 January, 2012		
Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
John Mitson	01597 826431	01597 826475	john.mitson@powys.gov.uk

**2014 - 2015
DRAFT SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Autumn Term 2014	No of School Days	Non-Pupil Days
Wednesday 3 rd September To Friday 24 th October	38	Monday 1 st September Tuesday 2 nd September
Half Term – Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October		
Monday 3 rd November To Friday 19 th December	35	

Spring Term 2015	No of School Days	Non-Pupil Days
Tuesday 6 th January To Friday 13 th February	29	Monday 5 th January
Half Term – Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February		
Monday 23 rd February To Thursday 26 th March	24	Friday 27 th March

Summer Term 2015	No of School Days	Non-Pupil Days
Monday 13 th April To Friday 22 nd May	29	
Half Term – Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May		
Monday 1 st June To Friday 17 th July	35	Monday 20 th July
Good Friday: Friday 3 rd April 2015		
Easter Monday: Monday 6 th April 2015		
May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 4 th May 2015		
Spring Bank Holiday: Monday 25 th May 2015		
Royal Welsh Show: Monday 20 th July 2015 to Thursday 23 rd July 2015		

Non-pupil days may be varied into alternative dates within a school year, other than pupil days, subject to a minimum of one term's notice to the Head of Schools. If schools wish to vary a non-pupil day into a pupil day, this change can only operate on a catchment basis and must involve all the schools in a particular high school catchment area in order to avoid increasing the Authority's transport costs. Up to 3 of the non-pupil days may be converted into twilight sessions, subject to a minimum of one term's notice to the Head of Schools, with one non-pupil day being deemed to be the equivalent of 3 twilight sessions of 2 hours each.

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**2015 - 2016
DRAFT SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Autumn Term 2015	No of School Days	Non-Pupil Days
Wednesday 2 nd September To Friday 23 rd October	38	Tuesday 1 st September
Half Term – Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October		
Tuesday 3 rd November To Friday 18 th December	34	Monday 2 nd November

Spring Term 2016	No of School Days	Non-Pupil Days
Monday 4 th January To Friday 12 th February	30	
Half Term – Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February		
Monday 22 nd February To Friday 18 th March	20	

Summer Term 2016	No of School Days	Non-Pupil Days
Tuesday 5 th April To Friday 27 th May	38	Monday 4 th April
Half Term – Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June		
Monday 6 th June To Friday 15 th July	30	Monday 18 th July Tuesday 19 th July
Good Friday: Friday 25 th March 2016		
Easter Monday: Monday 28 th March 2016		
May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 2 nd May 2016		
Spring Bank Holiday: Monday 30 th May 2016		
Royal Welsh Show: Monday 18 July 2016 to Thursday 21 st July 2016		

Non-pupil days may be varied into alternative dates within a school year, other than pupil days, subject to a minimum of one term's notice to the Head of Schools. If schools wish to vary a non-pupil day into a pupil day, this change can only operate on a catchment basis and must involve all the schools in a particular high school catchment area in order to avoid increasing the Authority's transport costs. Up to 3 of the non-pupil days may be converted into twilight sessions, subject to a minimum of one term's notice to the Head of Schools, with one non-pupil day being deemed to be the equivalent of 3 twilight sessions of 2 hours each.

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APPENDIX B

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

CYMUNEDAU, SGILIAU A DYSGU / COMMUNITIES, SKILLS AND LEARNING

GWASANAETH YSGOLION / SCHOOLS SERVICE

DRAFT SCHOOL CALENDARS 2014 – 2016

FEEDBACK FROM CONSULTATION

The Authority's School Calendar Consultation Proforma offered schools and governing bodies the opportunity of indicating whether they supported the draft School Calendars 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 or not. The responses received were as follows:-

School Calendar	Total Responses	Responses In Favour	Responses Against	% In Favour	% Against
Draft 2014 / 2015 School Calendar	43	40	3	93	7
Draft 2015 / 2016 School Calendar	39	35	4	90	10

Schools and governing bodies were also given the opportunity of submitting additional comments if they wished and the following comments were also received:-

- 2014 / 2015 - The situation in a school on the border with England as regards to the timing of school holidays is becoming very difficult in terms of target setting for absence. This is especially so in September, when Herefordshire schools are usually back the week after Powys schools. Parents involved in tourism / farming etc. often use this week as their family holiday week, more so if they have an older child in secondary school in Herefordshire. I am aware that a calendar cannot be expected to address this issue but I would like it to be noted that border schools are often faced with parents taking holidays in Wales at term time due to the different arrangements in England.
- 2014 / 2015 - Staff feel that it is a bit harsh to lose the bank holiday for the Queen's celebrations as a bank holiday but are aware that it is there as a non-pupil day, but what can we do if we need to keep in line with the other authorities.
- 2014 / 2015 – It would be preferable for the non-pupil day Friday 27 March to be Monday, 13 April, otherwise all supported.
- 2014 / 2015 – I support the calendar but believe that, as a general principle, the Royal Welsh Show should not influence the school calendar.

- 2014 / 2015 and 2015 / 2016 – Please could we have the Spring break fixed to make equal terms.
- 2014 / 2015 and 2015 / 2016 – Personally I would prefer a week less summer holiday and a week more at Christmas when the weather is cold and we are all full of germs! I also think it would suit the children more too as our primary school children are always very tired by December, but find the long break too long in the summer.
- 2015 / 2016 – Would prefer 4 April as a pupil day and have Friday, 15 July, as a non-pupil day, as 18 and 19 July is difficult due to many staff being involved in the Royal Welsh Agriculture Show.
- 2015 / 2016 – To create non-pupil days at the beginning of a new term and reduce non-pupil days at the end of summer term move 2 November non-pupil day to Monday, 4 January, 19 July non-pupil day to Tuesday 5 January, or at the beginning of another term.
- 2015 / 2016 – No use at all having two inset days in Royal Welsh Show Week – what about the staff! Add inset to Easter or Christmas holidays.

In response to the above, it is recognised that, with 13 different authorities round the Authority's borders, it is impossible to coincide with all of them in relation to school calendars and, inevitably, some situations occur where a neighbouring authority is on holiday when Powys schools are in session and vice versa.

The additional bank holiday granted for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations was added to the school holiday at the end of the Autumn Term, 2011, thus schools will not lose out because the additional bank holiday is within the half-term break.

In relation to the placement of non-pupil days within the school year, schools can convert up to 3 of the non-pupil days into 3 two-hour twilight sessions per day and, in addition, catchment groups can agree to move a non-pupil day even though it impacts on another school day.

The fact that the Authority does not have its schools in session during the Royal Welsh Show week and schools don't return until 1 September, at the earliest, because of contractual issues, means that the summer holiday is inevitably quite long.

The benefits arising from a fixed Spring holiday rather than a moveable holiday that moves with Easter, are recognised but this would only be feasible if it was taken forward on an All Wales basis.

The Authority receives comments from time to time that the Royal Welsh Show should not dictate the end of the Summer Term but it has always been the Authority's practice to ensure that schools are not in session during that week as it would be exceedingly difficult for the schools in the vicinity of Builth Wells to operate during that week and, in addition, the Authority has considered that it is important to enable families and staff to support the Royal Welsh Show as it is located within Powys. The complications of one group of the Authority's schools operating for four days when the other schools within Powys are not operating and vice versa, would create significant difficulties for operation and, therefore, the conclusion has always been

that the Royal Welsh Show should be within the school holidays. A compromise has been reached by sometimes placing one or two non-pupil days within that week, on the understanding that schools can convert these into twilight sessions if they wish.

CONCLUSION

Having considered the above responses, it has been concluded that there are no grounds for amending the draft calendars and, therefore, they are being submitted for approval without amendment.

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

9th February, 2012

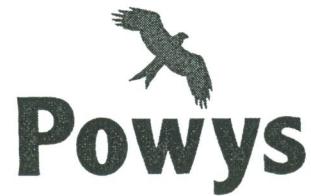
In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
Mr. A.R. Bufton	Llanfaes C.P. School	County Councillor A.M.C. Weale

Signed: _____
 (Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 9.2.12

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

27th February, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
County Councillor B. Mills	Ysgol Cedewain	County Councillor B. Mills

Signed:
(Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 28 February 2012

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Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

Councillor S.M. Hayes
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure

Decision Taken 8 March 2012

Instrument of Government _ Ardwyn Nursery & Infants School

DECISION	Reason for Decision:
To approve an amendment to the Instrument of Government for Ardwyn Nursery & Infants School	In line with The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

**CABINET REPORT
FOR PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION
7th March 2012**

REPORT AUTHOR: **Beth Groves**
Training & Development Officer - Governors

SUBJECT: **Instrument of Government – Ardwyn Nursery & Infants School**

REPORT FOR: **Decision**

Summary

The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005 required all school governing bodies to review and adopt revised Instruments of Government (Instruments of Government are the legal documents that detail the composition of a schools governing body). The Authority approved all revised Instruments of Government with effect from 3rd October, 2006.

Ardwyn Nursery & Infants School opted for the composition as outlined below:

3 Parent Governors
2 LEA Governors
1 Teacher Governor
0 Staff Governor
3 Community Governors (1 of whom will be appointed by the Community Council)
Headteacher

Proposal

Having reconsidered their Instrument of Government at a recent meeting the governing body **RESOLVED** – to request permission from the Authority's Board to change the composition of the governing body from 10 to 11 governors to include a Staff Governor. I detail below the proposed composition.

3 Parent Governors
2 LEA Governors
1 Teacher Governor
1 Staff Governor
3 Community Governors (1 of whom will be appointed by the Community Council)
Headteacher

Corporate Improvement Plan

N/A

Options Considered/Available

N/A

Preferred Choice and Reasons

N/A

Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc

N/A

Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing

N/A

Local Member(s)

The local member Councillor A. Holloway has no objections to the proposed amendment.

Other Front Line Services

No implications identified.

Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

The Principal Accountant for Community Skills and Learning comments that the proposals do not have any financial implications.

Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

No implications identified.

Statutory Officers

The Strategic Director, Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer) has no comment

The Strategic Director, Finance & Infrastructure (Section 151 Officer) has commented:- I note the proposal has no financial implications

Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer has no comment

Future Status of the Report

N/A

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To approve an amendment to the Instrument of Government for Ardwyn Nursery & Infants School	In line with The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005

Relevant Policy (ies):			
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	County Councillor A. Holloway
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Beth Groves
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	As soon as possible

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Beth Groves	01597 826402		beth.groves@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005

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Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

Councillor S.M. Hayes
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure

Decision Taken 22 March 2012

Panel Members for School Admission and Exclusion Appeal Panels

It is proposed that the current pool of panel members be widened and the following additional panel members be appointed

Panel Member	Individual Appointed
Lay member/Governor	Mrs Susan Williams
Lay member/Governor	Mr Maurice Leslie Thorne
Lay member/Governor	Mr Geraint Evans
Lay member/Governor	Mr John Hadley-Landers
Lay member/Governor	Ms Lesley Blackburn-Jones
Lay member/Governor	Mr Philip Hamer Mansell
Member with experience of Education	Mrs Gwyneth Evans
Member with experience of Education	Mrs Alison Eagle
Member with experience of Education	Mrs Eirlys Spawton
Member with experience of Education	Mr David Barwick

DECISION	Reason for Decision:
That the Panel members listed above be appointed.	To comply with the relevant regulations in operating independent appeal panels.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.**MARCH 2012**

REPORT AUTHOR: **Saira Tamboo**
Solicitor - Corporate

SUBJECT: **Panel Members for School Admission and Exclusion Appeal Panels**

REPORT FOR: **Decision**

1. Summary/Background

- 1.1 Admission appeals are held when the parent(s) of a child who has been refused admittance to a school due to it being oversubscribed appeal against the refusal.
- 1.2 Exclusion appeals are held when a pupil has been permanently excluded from a school and either the pupil or their parent(s) have appealed against the decision to exclude.
- 1.3 Independent panel members are used to sit on Education Admission and Exclusion appeals.
- 1.4 The Education (Admission Appeal Arrangements) (Wales) Regulations 2005, Regulation 3 and Schedule 1 states that the Council must appoint members to their independent Panel.
- 1.5 The Welsh Assembly Government's Circular 1/004 Exclusions from Schools and Pupil Referrals Units, as amended by Circular 1(A) 2004 states that the LEA must constitute the Independent Appeal Panel.
- 1.6 Each panel must consist of at least one lay member and one person with experience in education.
- 1.7 To widen the pool of members an advert was placed in Red Kite magazine. Applications were received and CRB checks were undertaken.

2. Proposal

It is proposed that the current pool of panel members be widened and the following additional panel members be appointed

Panel Member	Individual Appointed
Lay member/Governor	Mrs Susan Williams
Lay member/Governor	Mr Maurice Leslie Thorne
Lay member/Governor	Mr Geraint Evans
Lay member/Governor	Mr John Hadley-Landers
Lay member/Governor	Ms Lesley Blackburn-Jones
Lay member/Governor	Mr Philip Hamer Mansell
Member with experience of Education	Mrs Gwyneth Evans

Member with experience of Education	Mrs Alison Eagle
Member with experience of Education	Mrs Eirlys Spawton
Member with experience of Education	Mr David Barwick

3. Powys Change Plan

It is essential for the learning and community objective that the full membership of panel members is maintained.

4. Options Considered/Available

There are no other options to that of ensuring full membership of panel members is retained.

5. Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder/Other Policies

The continued full membership of the panel members will benefit the Council in holding and deciding the appeals for admissions to schools and appeals against permanent exclusion.

6. Local Member(s)

N/A

7. Other Front Line Services

N/A

8. Support Services (legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

The contents of the report are supported by Senior Manager, Central Services, Schools Service.

9. Local Service Board/Partnership/Stakeholders etc

N/A

10. Communications

N/A

11. Statutory Officers

The view of the Strategic Director – Finance & Infrastructure is that the proposals are within budget.

12. Member' Interests

N/A

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
1. That the Panel members listed in Paragraph 2 be appointed.	To comply with the relevant regulations in operating independent appeal panels.

Relevant Policy (ies):	None
Within Policy:	N/A

Relevant Local Member(s): N/A

Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Head of Schools and Inclusion
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	Immediately

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Saira Tamboo	01597 826071	01597 826220	saira.tamboo@powys.gov.uk

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Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

Councillor S.M. Hayes
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure

Decision Taken 5 April 2012

2012/13 Leisure / Sport Centre Pricing Proposal

DECISION	Reason for decision:
That the pricing proposals as set out in Appendices 3 – 4 (inclusive) of the report be accepted.	The fees and charges proposals recognise need to generate income necessary to sustain service delivery, whilst also recognising equality of access.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT for Portfolio-holder decision
April 2012

REPORT AUTHOR: **Neil Mathews**

SUBJECT: **2012/13 Leisure / Sport Centre Pricing Proposal**

REPORT FOR: **Decision**

1. Summary

- 1.1 The portfolio-holder is requested to consider and approve the fees and charges for Recreation Services for the financial year 2012/13.
- 1.2 These charges are proposed as maximum charges and have been calculated through consultation with the departments Finance Team; a leisure officer working group; all Sport and Leisure Centre Managers and Senior Leisure Officers, the Sports Development unit and the Active Young Peoples Coordinator.
- 1.3 In addition to this a price comparison study was also undertaken with other Local Authorities in Wales (appendix 1) and with the 'All Wales Comparison' exercise (appendix 2) undertaken by Carmarthenshire County Council.

2. Proposal

- 2.1 In order to standardise the pricing within the Corporate Membership scheme there are some decreases and increases in price. Corporate Membership charges are calculated to offset excess demand whilst still offering very real value for money. They are also set to reduce the amount by which discounted membership activities have displaced full price activities.
- 2.2 The Powys Corporate Scheme has remained unchanged in order to generate additional income growth. This will be strengthened by a joint promotion initiative between Leisure Services, the Powys Communications Dept and the Corporate Health panel.
- 2.3 The overall target increase is 2-3%. However Centre Managers through their 2012-13 marketing plans will be looking at key areas of promotion. One of these areas will be 'Children's Birthday Parties'. This proposal seeks to offer a fixed price across all sites throughout the year. It is anticipated that this will generate additional usage and income by discounting this and other various activities throughout the year. This has been offered in previous years and has proved successful in raising income and usage by attracting new 'users' to the centres.
- 2.4 Having reviewed Powys prices with other local authorities it is proposed that a price freeze will be applied to all Starfish lessons. Also, following discussion with the Powys Sports Development and Active Young People Coordinator a significant reduction in racket ball sports (i.e. squash, badminton, table tennis) has been observed and a price freeze will be also be applied to these activities in order to generate greater usage.

- 2.5 In previous years Exercise Classes have been subject to price banding between larger and smaller sites. This proposal now eliminates that band with all sites charging a set fee across all sites. It is considered that an exercise class at a Band A centre is no different to that delivered in a Band B or C Centre.
- 2.6 Historically favourable rates have been extended to individual community groups who were users of the Rhayader community centre prior to it becoming Rhayader Leisure Centre, as a result of funding from the 'Village Hall Grant'. This grant has been reduced during the last 6 years from £5K to £1.5K and the Centre is no longer able to meet the remaining shortfall in subsidy. During the 2011 Consultative Committee meetings members have expressed concern that the removal of this grant and subsidy has resulted in a decline in community groups. Upon investigation the only group to have withdrawn as a result of loss of subsidy is the 'Darby & Joan' club. In 2012/13 community groups will be continued to be brought in line with Powys fees and charges
- 2.7 The Access to Fitness Scheme (ATF) offers free swimming and gym use to all persons who are on the following benefits:-
- Job Seekers Allowance (3 months free access)
Employment and Support Allowance (12 months free access)
Disability Living Allowance (12 months free access)
Or are registered disabled (12 months free access)
Former Armed Forces personnel discharged with injury or medical conditions.
- Having reviewed similar schemes in other local authorities it is apparent that Powys offers 100% free access whilst other authorities offer between a 50%-75% discount. In view of this it is proposed that Powys can no longer sustain this level of subsidy and in conjunction with the Equalities Legislation, proposes a detailed review of this scheme. A separate report with further proposals will be forwarded to the portfolio holder later in 2012. Access by former Armed Forces under this scheme will remain FOC.
- 2.8 Through collaborative work between Sports Development, Active Young People and Leisure (SPAL) it is proposed to introduce the 'Active for Life' pass. The purpose of this scheme is to complement the FANS (Free Access for National Sports People) scheme and following completion of an application form will provide access to leisure for those who represent their sport at regional / county level; it will also be available to those who have completed the 'Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do It!' (MEND) scheme and the 'National Exercise Referral Scheme' (NERS). This pass will be valid for 1 year only following which customers would have to reapply.
- 2.9 A full set of proposed fees and charges are attached for consideration (appendix 3 &5).
- 2.10 With the introduction of Zipporah in 3 sites in 2011/2 and the further roll out of this in phase 2 in 2012/13 pricing bands will be standardised wherever possible reflecting introduction of the new Zipporah point of sale system incorporating income management and customer tracking, to be installed in all sports and leisure centres. Introduction affords increased opportunity and need to standardise fees and charges.
- 2.11 Staylittle Outdoor Centre

The proposal for this service is that most group prices will increase by less than 10% - and a smaller increase for the longer courses will be introduced. There is currently a price difference between the amount Powys clients and Out of County organisations are charged which provides an incentive for Powys schools.

A major change to operations is a 'RYAN AIR approach' – which will involve dropping residential course evening activities (except for their first night) and making it an optional purchased extra to cover costs.. This will create an overall reduction of evening staff work, lower overall weekly and subsequent claims.

An experimental Camping group residential course is proposed for this year. This will provide a low-cost option that will increase the capacity in the centre and allow overflow from Ty Gwyn closure. A limited trial with the guides worked well in 2011/12.

Day group numbers are very much up this year, and to establish a trend prices have been held. Prices on less popular products have not changed and staff are developing activities to stimulate interest.

Prices of summer and holiday activities have been reduced to stimulate interest.

3. Corporate Change Plan

This proposal will meet the following 'One Powys Outcomes':-

- People in Powys are healthy & independent
- People in Powys can easily access the services they need.
- People in Powys are supported to get out of poverty
- People in Powys benefit from a thriving and diverse economy

The revised pricing structure will enable the citizens of Powys to lead wherever possible independent, active and healthy lifestyles with consideration given for off peak and weekend participation. This it is intended, will extend participation over 7 days rather than 5 and contribute to enhance utilization of facilities and increase income. A thorough review has been undertaken of prices and key activities e.g. have dropped in price to increase participation and achieve the points mentioned above. The current ATF scheme will be reviewed later this year but it currently offers free gym and swim access to Powys residents who are in receipt of certain benefits.

4. Options Considered/Available

On reviewing the pricing structure it became apparent that there were significant anomalies at off peak and peak periods. This has now been standardised all sites.

The review also indicated that many activities had failed to achieve their expected participation and income levels. Such activities as table tennis, squash, badminton have been reduced in price to promote these sports and increase participation.

With the introduction of Zipporah, activities will be brought closer in band e.g. dryside exercise classes.

It is intended that the standardisation of peak / off peak will extend participation over 7 days rather than 5 and contribute to enhanced utilization of facilities and an increase income.

Part of the Active and Healthy Lifestyles role in the medium term financial plan is to contribute to an increase in income of £80k over four years. This pricing proposal will seek to achieve its contribution to this by the measures mentioned above.

Prices at Staylitte Outdoor Centre have been brought in line with similar providers across Wales and the United Kingdom.

5. Preferred Choice and Reasons

We have adopted this approach for the following key reasons:-

1. Historically a flat % figure has been applied across all prices in all centres. This we feel is no longer sustainable due to the current strict financial climate and lack of capital investment in leisure / sport facilities.
2. Upon review it appears that all facilities were not being utilised to their maximum capacity during the week throughout the year.
3. Certain major income generating activities have been held e.g. starfish swimming scheme. This is to encourage customer loyalty and support parents that have two or more children attending these lessons.
4. Wherever possible we are seeking to standardise and eventually eliminate the pricing bands in readiness for phase 2 of Zipporah and deliver customer equality across the County.

6. Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc

The service delivers, where appropriate, through the medium of Welsh. The service also works collaboratively under the Local Resource Solution Panels (LRSP's) where they have assisted and supported those in need and at risk or have a criminal background by providing affordable leisure experiences. The review has considered the sustainability of the service detailed in the points above.

7. Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing

The Active and Healthy Lifestyle service has a range of policies and procedures that take full consideration of the safeguarding and well being of children and young people. The programmes, activities and prices are designed to maximise participation and encourage a physical activity culture whilst providing access that is safe and equitable.

8. Local Member(s)

Through the local sport / leisure consultative committees the local members will be informed of the price changes.

9. Other Front Line Services

This does not impact on other front line services.

10. Support Services (Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

Finance Comments

The Principal Accountant for Communities, Skills and Learning comments that the prices have taken into consideration price comparisons from other Local Authorities in Wales. The proposed rates offer a more standard price of activity at each centre. The need to increase participation especially in activities that have seen reduced take up has led to some proposed price decreases. The proposals have been based to a large extent on the managers' knowledge and judgement and consideration of the current economic climate.

Legal

The recommendation raises no legal concerns

HR

This proposal raises no HR concerns.

ICT Comments

ICT support this proposal. The requirement for Zipporah to support this change has been specified and costed within the remit of that project

BPU

There is no perceived impact on the BPU of these proposals.

11. Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

Active and Healthy Lifestyles will enable partners and organisations to receive services that contribute to the health and well being of Powys, this will also include the sport / leisure local consultative committees.

12. Communications

This pricing proposal will be communicated in Welsh and English through the following:-

sport / leisure centres web sites,
social networking,
individual leisure / sport centre sites

13. Statutory Officers

The views of the Strategic Director, Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) are that:-

“ I agree with the recommendation”

Appendices

Appendix 1 LOCAL AUTHORITY PRICING COMPARISON 2011/12

Appendix 2 ALL WALES PRICING COMPARISON 2011/12

Appendix 3 PROPOSED 2012/13 PRICING

Appendix 4 RHAYADER COMMUNITY GROUPS 2012/13 PROPOSAL

Appendix 5 Staylittle Outdoor Centre

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
That the proposals as set out in Appendices 3 – 4 (inclusive) be accepted	The fees and charges proposals recognise need to generate income necessary to sustain service delivery, whilst also recognising equality of access.

Relevant Policy (ies):	
Within Policy:	Y / N

Relevant Local Member(s):

Person(s) To Implement Decision:
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

F:\wlegal\Clarence\Reports\BOARD REPORT TEMPLATE VERSION 6

SPORTS & LEISURE CENTRES						
DESCRIPTION	Lampeter	Llandysul	Tregaron	Aberaeron	Aberystwyth	Grade C
	Cardigan (no pool)					
WET ACTIVITY						
Adult Swim	3.00	3.20	2.30	3.00	2.90	
Adult Swim-with features*						
Junior Swim						
Junior Swim-with features*						
Family Swim						
Family Swim-with features*						
Parent & Child						
60+ Swim (non Powys residents)						
Starfish Adult per lesson						
Starfish Junior per lesson						
Baby Starfish						
Pirhana Swimming Club						
Starfish Rookie Lifeguard						
Pool Hire-without features						
Pool Hire-with features						
Sport Swim : Adult						
Sports Swim : Junior						
Aqua Aerobics						
Shower						
Child Free Swim anytime						
*Sessions where Flumes / Rapids ,						
FREE SWIMMING						
Under 17's Free Swim						
60+ Free Swim						
Structured Sessions						
*Free Swimming only applies to re						
SQUASH		4.60	4.60			
Squash : Adult						
Squash : Junior						
Squash Court : Off Peak						
TEN PIN BOWLING						
Ten Pin Bowling						
Ten Pin Adult						
Ten Pin Adult off peak						
Ten Pin Junior						
Ten Pin Junior off peak						
Family Ticket						
Family Ticket off peak						
MAIN HALL						
per 4 court hall :- 1hr	30.50	30.50	30.50	30.50	30.50	39.00
Sports Hall : Adult						
Sports Hall : Junior						
Sports Hall : Off Peak						
per 4 court hall :- 40m						
Sports Hall : Adult						
Sports Hall : Junior						
Sports Hall : Off Peak						
per 3 court hall :- 1hr						
Sports Hall : Adult						
Sports Hall : Junior						
Sports Hall : Off Peak						
Badminton : One Hour	4.50	4.50	4.30	4.50	4.50	4.50
Badminton : Adult						
Badminton : Junior						
Badminton : Off Peak						
Badminton : 40 Mins						
Badminton : Adult						
Badminton : Junior						
Badminton : Off Peak						
Short Mat Bowls						
Table Tennis peak						
Table Tennis off peak						
Snooker						
Bowls						
Adult Bowling Peak						
Adult Bowling off Peak						
Bowling OAP Rate						
Junior Rate						
Summer Rate						

	Lampeter	Llandysul	Tregaron	Aberaeron	Aberystwyth	Grade C						
DESCRIPTION						Cardigan (no pool)						
WET ACTIVITY												
Family Bowling Peak												
Family Bowling Off Peak												
CLIMBING WALL												
Climbing Wall : 1 hour												
Climbing Wall Junior												
Climbing Wall Adult												
Climbing Wall Hire per hour based o												
SOCIAL EVENTS/FUNCTIONS/UNSOCIABI												
* For any functions Managers need to												
are costed. Also, a total staffing cost												
need to be aware that where events i												
until Midnight and 'double time' after												
FITNESS CLASSES												
Aerobics	3.90	3.70	3.80	3.90	3.90	3.70						
Aquarobics												
Step Aerobics												
Aerobics												
FITNESS SUITE												
Fitness Suite	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.70	3.70	3.70						
Fitness Suite : Off Peak												
Fitness Suite Induction plus two sess												
HEALTH SUITE												
Health Suite Peak												
Health Suite Off-Peak mon-fri 7am-4												
ROOM HIRE												
Treatment Rooms												
Per hour												
Per half day												
Per day												
INFLATABLES												
Bouncy Castle Hire												
HEALTH INTERVENTION CLASSES												
PowERS; Cardiac; (currently support												
YEP ** to come in line with AAA & O							*if no funding -					
AAA Classes; Over 60's												
SCHEME FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES OF 25												
Corporate Scheme: POOL ONLY												
Corporate Scheme: GYM ONLY (Inc												
Corporate Scheme GYM & SWIM (In												
Corporate Scheme HEALTH SUITE												
POWYS STAFF CORPORATE SCHEME												
Get Active: Pool Only												
Get Active: Gym Only												
Get Active: Pool & Gym												
Get Active: Health Suite												
POWYS STAFF CORPORATE SCHEME												
Get Active: Pool Only												
Get Active: Gym Only												
Get Active: Pool & Gym												
Get Active: Health Suite												
OFF PEAK GYM & SWIM PASS												
Available Mon - Fri 7am - 4pm and a												
Unlimited Gym & Swim Pass (one of												
ARTIFICIAL PITCHES												
Session (per Hour)*												
Full Pitch						50.00						
Adult												
Junior												
Half Pitch						35.00						
Adult												
Junior												
Matches**												
Adult												
Junior												
* charges inclusive of lights, irres												
ATHLETICS TRACK												
Per hour												
Brecon												
Maldwyn												
Half day												

All Wales 20011/2012 Prices	Carms
Health & Fitness Classes Aerobics Standard Aerobics Concession Aerobics low income Adult Classes 45 min+ Adult Classes 30 min Junior Classes 45 min & over Junior Courses (weekly Fee Min 10 weeks) Aerobics Concession (12 for price of 10) Aerobics Concession (12 for price of 10) (Student/OAP) Aerobics Concession (10 for price of 8) Aquafit /Aqua aerobics Standard Aquafit /Aqua aerobics Concession Aquafit /Aqua aerobics Junior Aquafit /Aqua aerobics Low Income Aquafit /Aqua aerobics (30 min) Standard Aquafit /Aqua aerobics (30 min) Concession Aquafit /Aqua aerobics (30 min) Low Income Ab Blast Standard 45 min Ab Blast Concession 45 min Body Conditioning Standard Body Conditioning Concession Body Tone Standard Body Tone Concession Body Pump Standard Body Pump Concession Power max Running Club Fitball Ballroom Dancing Mixed Dance Line Dancing Latino Dance Bollywood Dance Lunchtime Keep Fit Parent Fitness Outdoor Training Arabian Dance Muscle Max Standard Muscle Max Concession Circuit Training Standard	4.85 4.35 2.90 5.10 4.60 3.05 3.05 4.85 4.85

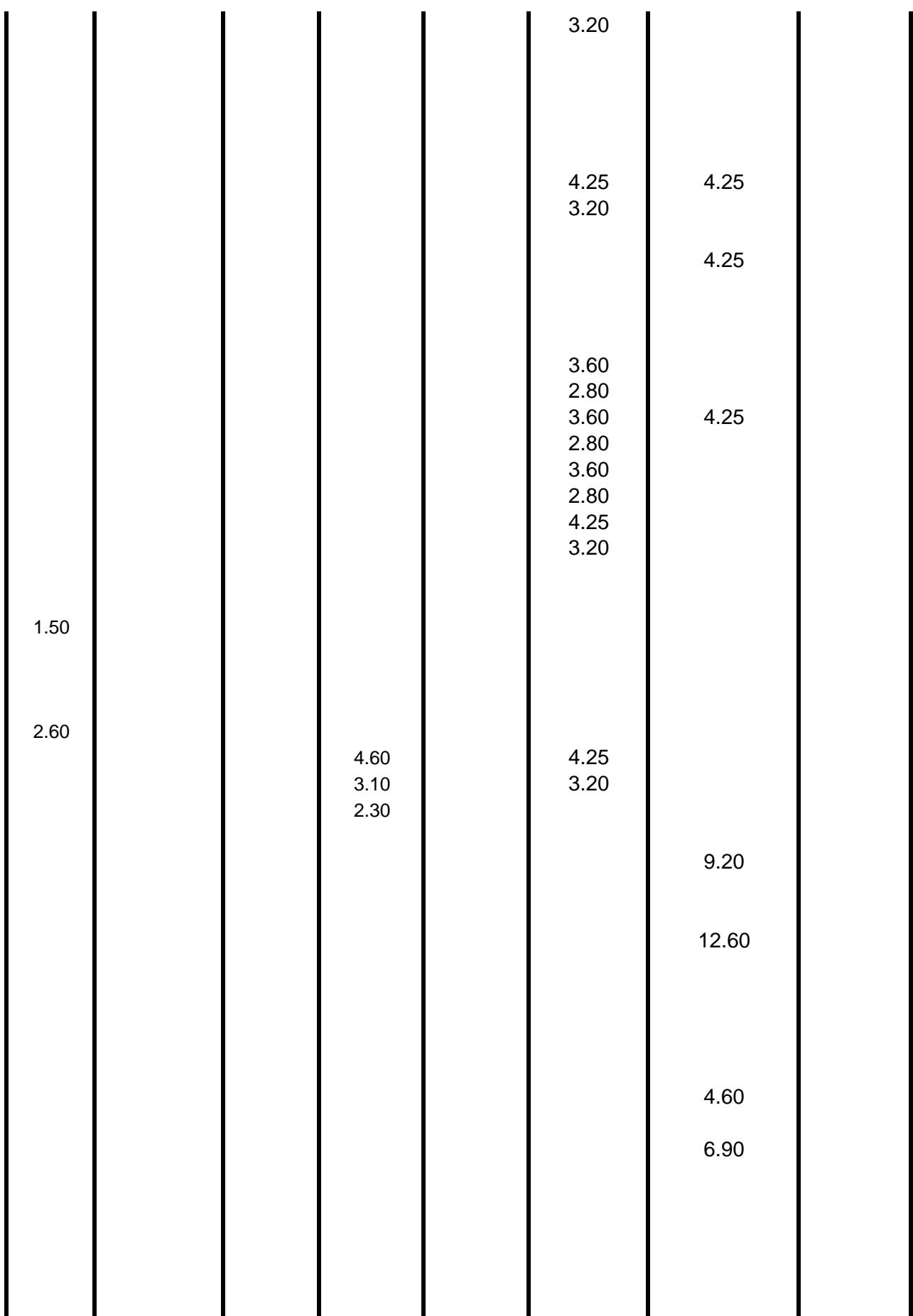
Circuit Training Concession	
Family Circuits Standard 60 min	
Family Circuits Concession 60 min	
Short Circuits	
Womens Circuits	
Activity Morning (Fri - Step & Sauna)	
Step Aerobics Standard	4.85
Step Aerobics Concession	
Step Aerobics (Wednesday)	
Step Aerobics (Evening)	
Keep Fit	4.85
Legs Bums & Tums Standard	
Legs Bums & Tums Concession	
Boxercise Standard	
Boxercise Concession	
Boxercise Low Income	
Body Combat	
Cardio Kick Standard	
Cardio Kick Concession	
Cardio Kick Low Income	
Kai Bo Standard	
Kai Bo Concession	
Kai Bo Low Income	
Self Defence	
Pilates Standard	
Pilates Concession	
Pilates Low Income	
Pilates 1.5 hrs	
Body Max Standard	
Body Max Concession	
Body Max Low Income	
Aerobiking Standard	
Aerobiking Concession	
Aerobiking Low Income	
Spin & Tone Standard	
Spin & Tone Concession	
Spin & Tone Low Income	
Spinning Standard	3.40
Spinning Concession	2.05
Spin Bikes 30 min	
Spin bikes 45 min	
Spinning Standard	
Spinning Concession	
Adult Trixter Bikes	
Women Only Trixster Bikes	
Women in Action	
Kettle bells	
Yoga 1hr Standard	
Yoga 1hr Concession	
Yoga 1.5 hrs Standard	

Yoga 1.5 hrs Concession	
Yoga 1.5 hrs Low Income	
Yoga 2hrs Standard	
Yoga 2hrs Concession	
Power Yoga Standard	
Power Yoga Concession	
Tai Chi Standard	
Tai Chi Concession	
Tai Chi Low Income	
Tae Kwondo	
Aikido Standard	
Aikido Concession	
Aikido	
Dance Class Standard	
Dance Class Concession	
Salsa Standard	
Salsa Concession	
Fitball Standard	
Fitball Concession	
Golden Years Standard	
Golden Years Concession	
NERS	1.50
Cardiac Rehab phase 4	1.50
Cardiac Maintenance Class non member	4.85
Cardiac Maintenance Class member Leisure Card £10 pa	2.90
Sure Start	
Fit 4 Life	
Junior Cooncessionary Fitness class	
Fitness Classes 90 min standard	
Fitness Classes 90 min Concession	
Fitness Classes 90 min Low Income	
Adult Dry Courses (Weekly Fee Min 10 weeks)	
Bike Hire half Day Standard	
Bike Hire half Day Concession	
Bike Hire all Day Low Income	
Bike Hire all Day Standard	
Bike Hire all Day Concession	
Bike Hire all Day Low Income	
Adult per hour	
Junior per hour	
Adult half day	
Junior half day	
Adult full day	
Junior full day	
Adult Group full day	
Junior group full day	
Adult group half day	
Junior group half day	
Women and Girls Ladies morning Standard	
Women and Girls Ladies morning Concession	

Women and Girls Low Income
Day Classes Standard
Day Classes Concession
Day Classes Low Income
Active adults Standard
Active adults Concession
Fit Club Standard
Fit Club Concession
Aqua Jogging Standard
Aqua Jogging Concession
GP Aqua therapy(GP Referral Members)
GP Aqua therapy(GP Revitalife Members)
Relaxation & Meditation Standard
Relaxation & Meditation Concession
Fit and Ski
Womens Cricket

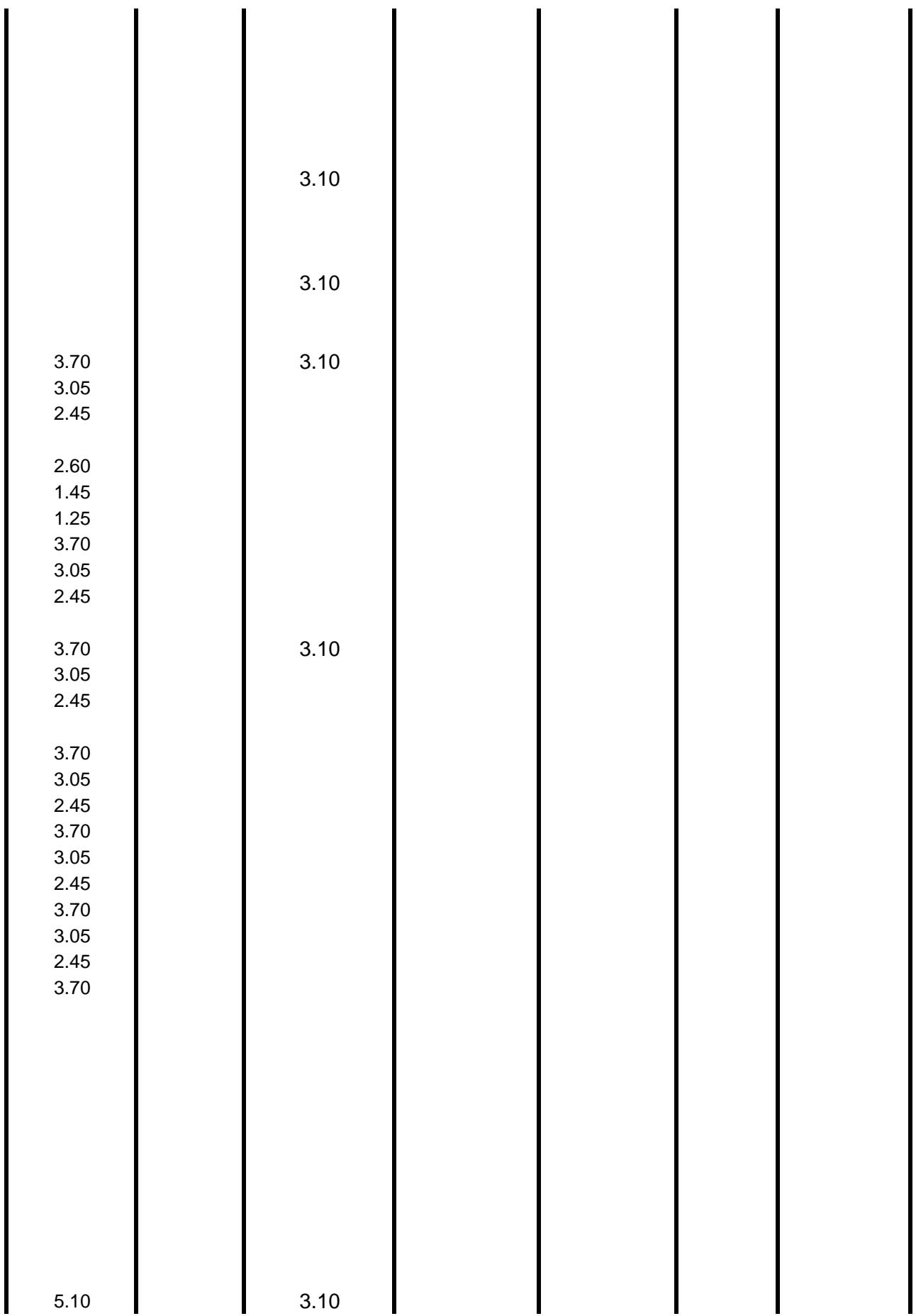
Pembs	Ceredigion	Neath Port Talbot (Celtic)	Swansea	Powys	Bridgend	Cardiff	Halo Hereford Leisure Trust (Social Enterprise not for profit registered charity)
4.00	3.90 3.00	2.50 2.20 1.80	4.10 3.10	4.25	3.60 2.80 2.35	4.25	
	39.00 32.00						
4.00	4.00	4.60	4.10	4.25	3.60 2.80	4.25	5.50 3.40 1.95 2.50 3.80 2.35 1.75
			4.10		3.60 2.80		
						4.25 4.25 4.25 4.25 4.25 4.25 4.25 4.25 4.25 4.25 4.25 4.25	
					3.60 2.80 3.60	4.25	

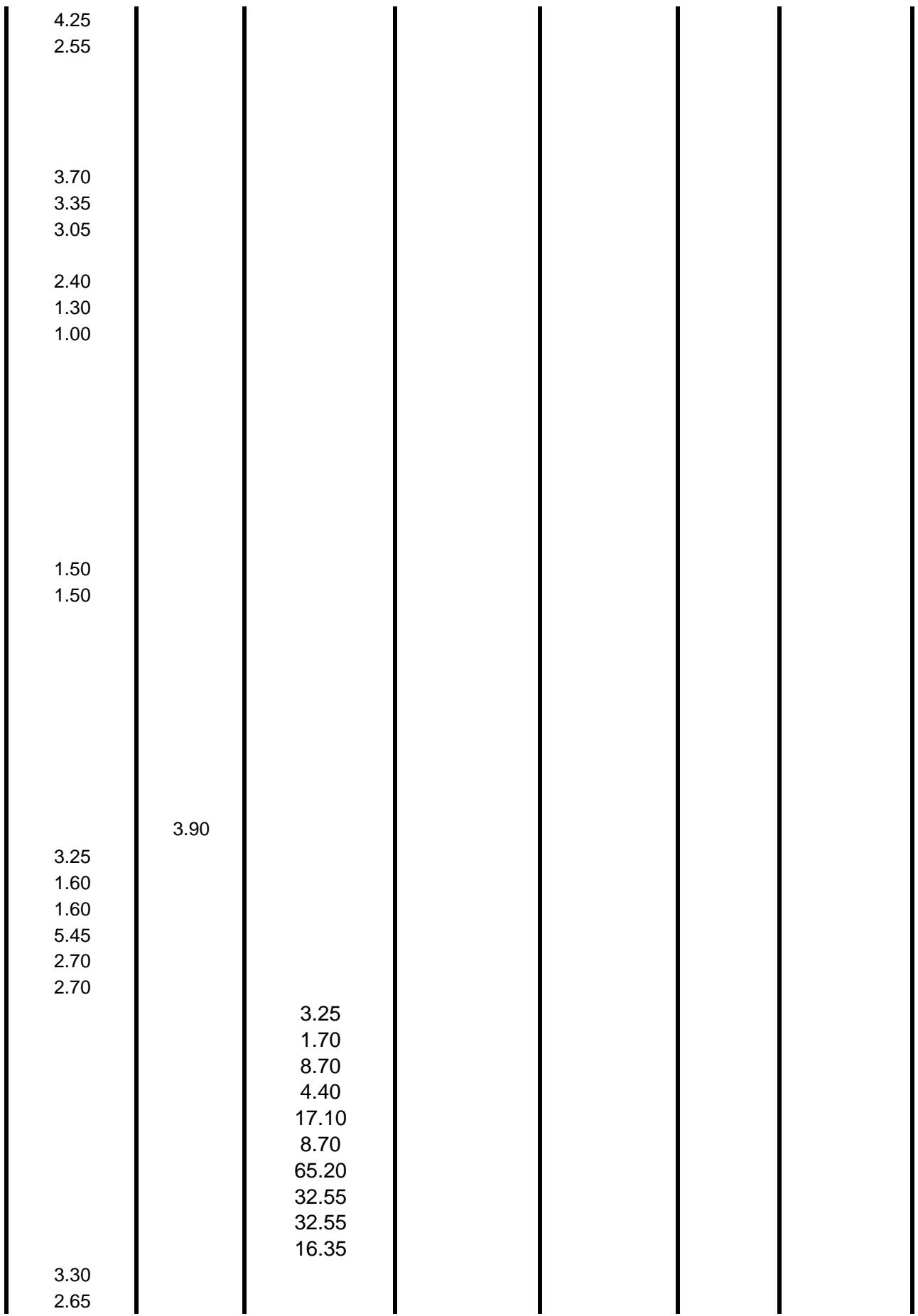
			2.80		
		4.10	4.25	3.60 2.80	3.55 4.25
	4.10			4.25	4.25
	4.10			4.25	4.25
				3.60 2.80	4.25 4.25
				3.60 2.80	4.25 4.25
				3.60 2.80	4.25 4.25
				3.60 2.80	5.80
				3.60 2.80	4.70
				3.60 2.80	4.70 4.70
				3.60 2.80	3.05 4.25
				4.25	4.25
					5.80

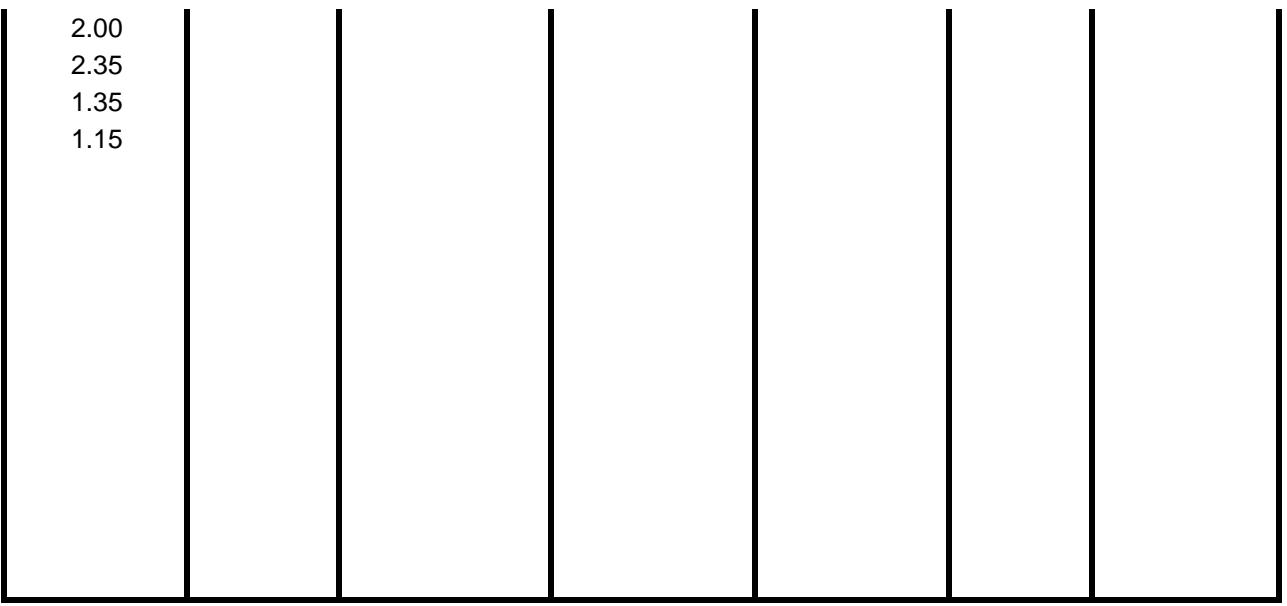


A plot showing a series of vertical black bars of equal height. The y-axis has numerical labels 1.50, 2.00, 3.60, 2.80, 4.25, and 4.25 positioned to the right of the bars.

Rhondda Cynon Taf	Caerphilly	Blaenau Gwent	Merthyr	Newport	Flint	Gwynedd
3.05 2.45 1.80		3.10	3.50	3.50	4.55	
	3.85 2.45 3.00 3.25	3.10				
3.05 2.45 1.80		3.10		3.50	28.00 4.55	
		3.10				
			3.10			
				3.10		
					3.10	





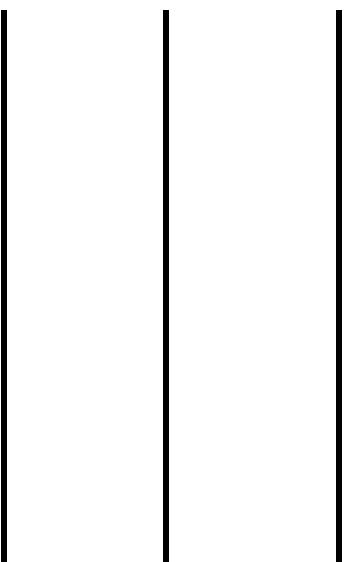


2.00
2.35
1.35
1.15

Anglesey	Wrexham
4.20 3.20	4.70 3.90
	4.70

	3.90
	4.70
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	3.90
	4.70
	3.90
	4.70
	3.90
	4.85

4.55
3.80
6.60
5.50
4.40
3.65



SPORTS & LEISURE CENTRES	DESCRIPTION		2011/12	2012/13	2011/12	2012/13	2011/12	2012/13
			Prices	Proposal	Prices	Proposal	Prices	Proposal
			Category A	Category B	Category C		Category C	
	WET ACTIVITY							
Adult Swim			3.55	3.60	2.80	2.70	2.60	2.70
Adult Swim-with features*			4.35	4.40	3.00	2.90	2.80	2.90
Junior Swim			2.40	2.45	2.00	1.90	1.80	1.90
Junior Swim-with features*			3.20	3.20	2.20	2.10	2.00	2.10
Family Swim			9.30	9.70	7.30	7.00	6.90	7.00
Family Swim-with features*			11.35	11.70	7.60	7.60	7.60	7.60
Parent & Child			4.75	4.75	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
60+ Swim (non Powys residents)			2.50	2.60	2.00	1.90	1.80	1.90
Starfish Adult per lesson			4.40	4.40	4.40	4.40	4.40	4.40
Starfish Junior per lesson			4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20
Baby Starfish			4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Piranha Swimming Club			4.60	4.60	4.60	4.60	4.60	4.60
Starfish Rookie Lifeguard			4.60	4.60	4.60	4.60	4.60	4.60
Pool Hire-without features			56.50	50.00	47.50	50.00	40.50	50.00
*Pool Hire-with features			65.10	65.00	0.00	65.00	0.00	65.00
Sport Swim : Adult			1.80	1.80	1.70	1.80	1.70	1.80
Sports Swim : Junior			1.35	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.20	1.30
Aqua Aerobics			4.25	4.25	3.70-4.25	3.90-4.25	3.70-4.25	3.90-4.25
Shower			1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
Child Free Swim anytime			Under 3's	Under 3's	Under 3's	Under 3's	Under 3's	Under 3's
*Sessions where Flumes / Rapids / inflatables / large floating mats are used which changes the session to a fun / pool mania / Wet and wild sessions etc.								
	FREE SWIMMING							
Under 17's Free Swim								
60+ Free Swim								
Structured Sessions								
*Free Swimming only applies to residents of Wales including Powys during Free Swimming designated session times								
	SQUASH							
Squash : Adult			5.65	4.50	4.40	4.50		
Squash : Junior			4.10	3.50	3.40	3.50		
Squash Court : Off Peak			3.90	2.00	3.00	2.00		
	TEN PIN BOWLING							
Ten Pin Bowling								
Ten Pin Adult			4.60	4.60				
Ten Pin Adult off peak			3.50	3.50				
Ten Pin Junior			3.50	3.50				
Ten Pin Junior off peak			2.85	2.85				
Family Ticket			16.70	16.70				
Family Ticket off peak			11.65	11.65				
	MAIN HALL							
1 Court x 1hour (for gymnastics clubs / martial arts clubs / goal practice; drama / dance training etc)			10.00		10.00		10.00	
per 4 court hall :- 1hr								
Sports Hall : Adult			38.50	38.50	25.60	30.00		
Sports Hall : Junior			23.35	23.35	16.40	20.00		
Sports Hall : Off Peak			22.20	22.20	15.35	18.00		

Page 3

per 4 court hall :- 40m Sports Hall : Adult Sports Hall : Junior Sports Hall : Off Peak per 3 court hall :- 1hr Sports Hall : Adult Sports Hall : Junior Sports Hall : Off Peak Badminton : One Hour Badminton : Adult Badminton : Junior Badminton : Off Peak Badminton : 40 Mins Badminton : Adult Badminton : Junior Badminton : Off Peak Short Mat Bowls Table Tennis peak/off peak Snooker Bowls Adult Bowling Peak Adult Bowling off Peak Bowling OAP Rate Junior Rate Summer Rate Family Bowling Peak Family Bowling Off Peak			25.65 23.25 17.95	25.65 23.25 17.95		21.00 14.05	21.00 14.00	18.00 12.80	21.00 14.00	
			8.25 5.15 4.95	7.50 5.00 2.00		5.90 4.35 3.60	6.00 4.50 2.00	5.55 4.35	5.70 4.50 2.00	*prices in all bands will be brought in line over a 3 year *prices in all bands will be brought in line over a 3 year
			6.00 5.00 4.10	6.00 5.00 2.00						
			3.85	2.00	3.00-3.85 4.20	3.10 2.00	3.10 4.20	3.00-3.85 4.20	2.00	
			6.75-8.80 3.60 6.50 4.00-4.65 3.70 17.20 11.95	6.75-8.80 3.60 6.50 4.00-4.65 3.70 17.20 11.95						
CLIMBING WALL										
Climbing Wall : 1 hour	* participants should always be supervised by a suitably qualified instructor									
Climbing Wall Junior				3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10			
Climbing Wall Adult				3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40			
Climbing Wall Hire per hour based on 12 people				26.15	26.15	26.15	26.15			
SOCIAL EVENTS/FUNCTIONS/UNSOCIABLE HOURS										
* For any functions Managers need to ensure that all set up time, take down time are costed. Also, a total staffing cost for the whole booking needs to be taken into account. Managers need to be aware that where events run beyond opening hours staff will be paid at flat rate up until 11pm and double time after 11pm.				POA	POA	POA	POA			
Birthday Party (child) Food p/person					4.00		n/a		n/a	
COMMERCIAL HIRE OF FACILITIES										
Where facilities are required by a customer who generates a personal income e.g. antique fayers, gymnastics, martial arts etc managers should agree an enhanced hire rate based on the activity and the potential profit that could be generated. A minimum deposit of £100 or 25% of the booking fee (whichever is higher) based upon the If required centre managers can contact Leisure Service Manager North & South for guidance.										
FITNESS CLASSES										
Spinning 45 mins					3.70		3.70		3.70	
Spinning 1 hour					4.00		4.00		4.00	
Aerobics				4.25	3.70	3.70-4.25	3.70	3.70-4.25	3.70	

Aquarobics		4.25	4.25	3.70-4.25	3.90-4.25	3.70-4.25	3.90-4.25
Zumba			3.70		3.70		3.70
Step Aerobics		4.25	3.70	3.70-4.25	3.70	3.70-4.25	3.70
Aerobics		4.25	3.70	3.70-4.25	3.70	3.70-4.25	3.70
FITNESS SUITE							
Fitness Suite		4.50	4.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
Fitness Suite : Off Peak		4.00	4.00	3.00	3.00		
Fitness Suite Induction plus two sessions to be taken within month of induction			20.00		20.00		20.00
HEALTH SUITE							
Health Suite anytime		5.55	2.60	4.35	2.60		
Health Suite Off-Peak mon-fri 7am-4pm & all w/e		4.15	n/a	4.10	n/a		
ROOM HIRE							
Treatment Rooms							
Per hour		2.25	5.00				
Per half day		8.00	10.00				
Per day		18.00	20.00				
INFLATABLES							
Bouncy Castle Hire		47.50	50.00	44.35	50.00	44.35	50.00
HEALTH INTERVENTION CLASSES							
PowERS; Cardiac; (currently supported by WAG funding) ** held to come in line with YEP ** to come in line with AAA & Over 60's by 2013/14**		4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75
AAA Classes; Over 60's		2.40	2.70	2.40	2.70	2.40	2.70
		3.20	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.20
SCHEME FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES OF 25 EMPLOYEES PLUS							
Corporate Scheme: POOL ONLY		180.00	180.00	180.00	180.00	180.00	180.00
Corporate Scheme: GYM ONLY (Includes Induction)		200.00	200.00	190.00	200.00	160.00	200.00
Corporate Scheme GYM & SWIM (Includes induction)		260.00	230.00	240.00	230.00	190.00	230.00
Corporate Scheme HEALTH SUITE		52.80	52.80	52.80	52.80	52.80	52.80
POWYS STAFF CORPORATE SCHEME							
<i>Per monthly payroll deductions</i>							
Get Active: Pool Only	per month	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
Get Active: Gym Only	(Includes free induction)	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
Get Active: Pool & Gym	(Includes free induction)	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50
Get Active: Health Suite	can only be purchased with 1 of the above	4.00	1.00	4.00	1.00	4.00	1.00
POWYS STAFF CORPORATE SCHEME							
<i>One off payment</i>							
Get Active: Pool Only		135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00
Get Active: Gym Only	(Includes free induction)	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00
Get Active: Pool & Gym	(Includes free induction)	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
Get Active: Health Suite	can only be purchased with 1 of the above	45.00	12.00	45.00	12.00	45.00	12.00
OFF PEAK GYM & SWIM PASS / "ACTIVE FOR LIFE" SCHEME							
Available Mon - Fri 7am - 4pm and all day Saturday & Sunday		140.00	150.00	140.00	150.00	140.00	150.00
Unlimited Gym & Swim Pass (one off payment)		230.00	250.00	230.00	250.00	230.00	250.00
ARTIFICIAL PITCHES							
Session (per Hour)*	TO COVER ALL CENTRES						
Full Pitch							
Adult		35.00	36.00				
Junior		28.00	28.90				
Half Pitch							
Adult		21.10	21.70				
Junior		17.70	18.20				

Matches**				
Adult	48.00	49.40		
Junior	33.80	34.80		
* charges inclusive of lights, irrespective of use				
ATHLETICS TRACK				
Per hour				
Brecon	15.60	16.00		
Maldwyn	15.60	16.00		
Half day				
Brecon	256.00	256.00		
Maldwyn	210.00	230.00		
Full day				
Brecon	300.00	300.00		
Maldwyn	260.00	280.00		
RED GRA PITCH				
Full Size without lights (1 hour)			16.60	17.10
Full Size with lights (1 hour)			22.20	22.90
Crazy Golf	2.20	2.30		

PEAK CHARGES TO APPLY FROM 4PM ONWARDS MONDAY - FRIDAY
OFF PEAK CHARGES ON WEEKENDS & UP TO 4PM MONDAY- FRIDAY

	<u>Category</u>
Brecon Leisure Centre	A*
Bro Ddyfi Leisure Centre, Machynlleth	A
Flash Leisure Centre, Welshpool	A*
Maldwyn Leisure Centre, Newtown	A
Builth Wells SC and Pool	B
East Radnor Leisure Centre, Presteigne	B
Llanfair Caereinion Sports Centre	B
Llanidloes Sports Centre	B
Llandrindod Wells Sports Centre	B
Rhayader Leisure Centre	B
Knighton Sports Centre	B
Llanfyllin Sports Centre	B
Crickhowell Sports Centre	C
Gwernyfed Sports Centre	C
Hay on Wye Swimming Pool	C
Ystradgynlais Sports Centre	C

ar period
ar period

User Group	Area Used	Frequency	Fee Paid	Normal hire fee	Projected subsidy in 12 month period 2010/2011	Proposal from Consultative Committee June 30 th 2010	Actual fee 2011/12	Proposed 2012/13
Football Club Bingo	Wye Lounge	49 weeks per year/2 hours per session	£14.00 per hour	£17.00 per hour	£294	Move to Small Lounge and pay £11.70 per hour	£11.70 per hour	£12.00 per hour
WI	Wye Lounge	52 hours per year	£9.10 per hour	£17.00 per hour	£410.80	Move to Stage Suite for committee meetings and small lounge for main meetings	£8 per hour for stage suite and £17 per hour for Wye lounge ,	£8.20 per hour stage suite £17.50 per hour Wye lounge
Rhayader Players Rehearsals	Main Hall	Approx 42 hours per year	£5.80 per hour	£24.90 per hour	£802.20	Charge £10 per hour	£10.30 per hour SUBSIDISED BY VILLAGE HALL GRANT	£10.60 per hour SUBSIDISED BY VILLAGE HALL GRANT
Luncheon Club	Small Lounge	40 weeks/4 hours per session	£4.20 per hour	£11.70 per hour	£1200	Charge £6.50 per hour	£6.70 per hour SUBSIDISED BY VILLAGE HALL GRANT	£6.90 per hour SUBSIDISED BY VILLAGE HALL GRANT
Darby and Joan	Small Lounge	40 weeks /2 hours per session	£3.20 per hour	£11.70 per hour	£680	Change day and move to stage suite @ £8 per hour	N/A	N/A
Horticultural show	Main Hall/Small Lounge	3 days per year	£243.10	£673.50	£430.40	Ask if they can set up on the Friday and charge main hall for two days and small	Paid £255 for three days use of hall	N/A 2011 Show was 60 th anniversary and the Committee has now been folded.

						lounge for one day		
Charity Fayres	Main Hall/Small Lounge	Approx 4 per annum	£103.30	£173	£278.80	Charge hall rate for the day	£173 per day. Organisers have chosen to hire hall for 4 hours @ £24.90 per hour	£178 for whole day.. £25.60 per hour
Concert	Main Hall/Small Lounge	Approx 6 per year	£133.70	£235	£607.80	Charge £200	£200	£206
Out of hours bingo Bingo	Main Hall or Wye Lounge	3 per annum	£72.95	£188	£345.15	Ask if they can move to a week night if not they pay £188	Apply hourly room hire rate for room used	Apply normal room hourly rate for bingo that takes place during normal hours or £47 per hour for our of normal hours
			Total		£5,049.15			
				Village Hall Grant	£1,400			
				Deficit	£3,649.15			

Room Hire Charges Rhayader Leisure Centre Proposed 2012/13

Room	2011/12 Rate	2012/13 proposed
Stage Suite	£8 per hour	£8.20 per hour
Stage Suite	£25 full day	£25.75 full day
Small Lounge	£11.70 per hour	£12 per hour
Small Lounge	£51.50 per day	£53.50 per day
Wye Lounge	£17 per hour	£17.50 per hour
Wye Lounge	£96.50 per day	£99.50 per day

Main Hall	£24.90 per hour	£25.60 per hour
Main Hall	£173 per day	£178 per day

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Powys Outdoors Price List		2011	2012	Comments
Powys County Groups - Schools & Youth				
Day Visit				
Groups 1/2 Day	£70pg	75.00	1 Group = 10 participants + leader	
Groups Full Day	£140pg	150.00	1 Group = 10 participants + leader	
Evening Sessions	£60pg	60.00	1 Group = 10 participants + leader	
Residential		1st evening activity included for multiday residential		
Overnight - Activity day only	£57pp	65.00	Weekdays 1 leader free per 10 participants	
3 Day/2 Night Residential - Activity 1st Night only	£82.5pp	90.00	Weekdays 1 leader free per 10 participants	
4 Day/3 Night Residential - Activity 1st Night only	£123pp	135.00	Weekdays 1 leader free per 10 participants	
5 Day/4 Night Residential - Activity 1st Night only	£152pp	152.00	Weekdays 1 leader free per 10 participants	
Camping Residential - as above	~	25.00	pppn Min 10 - Max 25 + leaders	
Evening Activity - now additional to residential	~	40.00	7.00-9.30pm	
Weekend - no evening activity	£80pp	80.00	Arrive Fri after 4pm. Dep 2.30pm Sunday	
Exclusive Whole Centre Booking SL	£2,600	2,600.00	fixed price for all 50 beds	
Out of County - Schools & Youth				
Day Visit				
Groups 1/2 Day	£80pg	80.00	1 Group = 10 participants + leader	
Groups Full Day	£150pg	160.00	1 Group = 10 participants + leader	
Evening Sessions	£70pg	70.00	1 Group = 10 participants + leader	
Residential		1st evening activity included for multiday residential		
Overnight - Activity day only	£66pp	75.00	Weekdays 1 leader free per 10 participants	
3 Day/2 Night Residential - Activity 1st Night only	£114pp	125.00	Weekdays 1 leader free per 10 participants	
4 Day/3 Night Residential - Activity 1st Night only	£167pp	180.00	Weekdays 1 leader free per 10 participants	
5 Day/4 Night Residential - Activity 1st Night only	£209pp	209.00	Weekdays 1 leader free per 10 participants	
Camping Residential - as above	~	35.00	pppn Min 10 - Max 25 + leaders	
Evening Activity - now additional to residential	~	40.00	7.00-9.30pm	
Weekend - no evening activity	£100	100.00	Arrive Fri after 4pm. Dep 2.30pm Sunday	
Exclusive Whole Centre Booking	£3,000	3,000.00	fixed price for all 50 beds	
Other Activity				
Adult Activity Half Day	£90 pg	90.00	1 Group = 10 participants	
Adult Activity Full Day	£180 pg	180.00	1 Group = 10 participants	
Summer Activity Programme Half/Full Day	£25/£35pp	20/35	Based at Clywedog Sailing Club	
Instructor day rate charge - Powys	£150pi	150.00	Does not include travel or groups equipment	
Instructor day rate charge - Private/Commercial	£200pi	200.00	Does not include travel or groups equipment	
Minibus / Pick Up	£0.70 p mile	0.80	Per mile with max of 45 min travel	
Travel Rate per instructor	£0.45 p mile	0.80	From SL centre	
Adult Development Training				
Light/Fun	£55pppd	55.00	Add accommodation charge if overnight	
Development Training	£82.50pppd	83.00	Add accommodation charge if overnight	
Management Training Course	£110pppd	110.00	Add accommodation charge if overnight	
Inset/Youth/Leader Training - Powys	£80pppd	80.00	not including lunch or course materials	
Other Facilities				
Meeting Rooms	£50 all rooms	50.00	inc Use of all centres presentation equipment	
Technical Advice	£20ph	20.00	ph Doesn't include mileage	
Hire of Technical Equipment / Tents /Wproofs	poa	poa	Separate Price list for kit hire	
Own Instructor 1/2 day land based	£30+vat	30+vat	PCC Staff only - must be approved first	
Own Instructor 1/2 day lake based	£50+vat	50+vat	PCC Staff only - must be approved first	
Accommodation Only				
Weekend special - Self Catering (Min 10)	£25pp	25.00	arrive Fri 4pm. Kitchen Clean Charge of £30	
Self Catering (Min 10)	£13.75pppn	14.00	Kitchen Clean Charge of £30	
B & B Basic	£16.50pppn	17.00		
B & B Cooked	£19.80pppn	20.00		
B & B Cooked plus Packed Lunch	£23pppn	25.00		
Extra Leaders	~	23.00	above the 1:10 free ratio	
Fully Catered Basic	£29pppn	30.00		
Fully Catered Cooked Breakfast + Packed Lunch	£31.30pppn	33.00		
Fully Catered All Cooked/Buffet Meals (inc bedding)	£35pppn	35.00		
Bedding	£2.75pb	5.00		
Cooked/Buffet Meal	£5.5pp	6.00	Meeting or Gatherings	
Soup and Sandwiches/Meeting Light Bites etc	£3.80pp	4.50	Meeting or Gatherings	
Public Camping - limited facilities	£5pppn	5.00	5 pitches only	
Out Reach - on your site subject to suitability				
Landbased activities at your site.	£160pd	150.00	Instructor + assistant	
Evening outreach	£70	60.00	per instructor	
Exped Support (eg DofE Bronze weekend)	£500	500.00	2 staff + minibus+ overnight supervision	
PCC Exped Assessment Support (day rate)	£125	125.00	instructor. Please add mileage	
National Governing Body Award Courses				
NGB courses 1 day non res.	£80pp	80.00	inc course materials. Minimum of 3 to run.	
NGB courses 2 day non res	£130pp	130.00	inc course materials. Minimum of 3 to run.	
Offsite-run Adult Courses & 1:1 coaching	£200pd	30.00	ph Doesn't include mileage if applicable	
NICAS Climbing Wall Sessions	~	60.00	1:10 for 1.5 Hours. Plus £4.50 per book.	
Onboard Sessions	~	50.00	After school 1: 10	
Onboard Sessions	~	8.00	Saturday sessions	
Key:				
Prices Held or Dropped		7% Discount for smaller Powys schools combining visits to make one larger group.		
New Feature		Share transport too and save!		

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Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

**Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance and Assets and
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure**

Decisions Taken 24 April 2012

Newbridge on Wye New Primary School

DECISION	Reason for Decision
To approve the recommendations in the report concerning the offer of a financial settlement to the contractor up to the amount in the report as full and final settlement of the Final Account.	To limit the financial risk/exposure to the Authority

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 14 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

Councillor S.M. Hayes
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure

Decision Taken 2 May 2012

Concurrent Functions - Recreation

DECISION	Reason for decision:
To accept and implement the amendments to the Concurrent Functions Scheme as set out in the Proposal section of the Report.	In order to reduce the staff resource required for administration of this scheme and, in order to make the application process easier for Town/Community Councils.

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- 2012

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

PORFOLIO HOLDER DELEGATED DECISION

20th April 2012

REPORT AUTHOR: Ann Owen
Treasury Manager

SUBJECT: Concurrent Functions - Recreation

REPORT FOR: Decision

Summary

Introduction:

The Concurrent Functions Scheme passed from the former Montgomeryshire District Council to the new Powys County Council in 1996. A review of the scheme during 1997 and 1998 resulted in the reduction of funds allocated to Concurrent Functions from £271,145 to £82,000. This funding was specifically allocated towards recreational activity.

A Best Value Review of the scheme took place circa 2002/2003 and it was concluded that the scheme would continue in the same format.

Description of Existing Scheme:

The Concurrent Functions Scheme is based on the provision of funding for Town and Community Councils in Montgomeryshire to help provide recreational services. The scheme is based on the following factors:-

1. Funding is restricted to 50% of revenue costs for eligible expenditure subject to a maximum overall budget (£95,250 for 2012/13).
2. Eligible expenditure is restricted to ongoing revenue funding in respect of the following service areas:-
 - Playgrounds including adventure playgrounds
 - Playing Fields including formal Sports Pitches
 - Bowling Greens
 - Tennis Courts and Multi Sports Pitches
 - Sports Pavilions
 - Amenity Areas
 - Indoor Sports Provision that does not duplicate services already provided by the County Council that are considered to be within reasonable distance from the community (excluding Community and Village Halls).

3. The scheme has a damping mechanism whereby, as a result of a change in funding, no Council's award can alter by -/+ 20% year to year and no award should have more than a £1 effect on the Council's precept year to year.
4. Overpayments for previous years are recovered two years after the event which is when actual expenditure figures become available.

Allocation Process

The scheme is now wholly administered within Finance rather than between Finance and Regeneration. In October each year letters and application forms are sent to Town and Community Councils for return by mid November.

Applications ask for the following information:-

Actual (previous financial yr)	Probable (current financial year)	Estimated (next financial year)
-----------------------------------	--------------------------------------	------------------------------------

The estimated information is analysed and a calculation of grant award is made. If the overall requested funding exceeds the budget available then the maximum 50% option is consecutively reduced by 1% until the total requested comes within budget. If necessary, the damping mechanisms are applied.

Overpayments based on the actual figures available for the previous financial year are recovered by reducing the grant allocated for the next financial year. The damping mechanism is not applied in these cases.

Current Issues

The current scheme is particularly resource heavy for the allocation of what is a relatively small budget. There is a need to carefully sift through the information supplied to ensure that capital expenditure has not been included alongside revenue items. It is often necessary to contact councils who appear to be asking for much higher funding than previous years to establish the reasons and councils do find it difficult in some instances to provide reasonable estimated figures. The damping down calculation is complicated and, when applied, very often results in a difference of pence on a Band D precept i.e. without applying the damping down a band D property may have paid a maximum of £5 extra for the town/community proportion of their annual council tax. The application of the damping down process also complicates the calculation of overpayments in subsequent years. Any such recovery of overpayments two financial years after the event of the overpayment is also time consuming to apply and is usually subject to query from the Councils as they do not understand why their funding has been reduced.

Proposal

In order to reduce the staff resource required for administration of this scheme and, in order to make the application process easier for Town/Community Councils, the following is proposed:-

1. Applications are based on the previous year's actual figures rather than the subsequent year's estimated figures. This will avoid the situation of councils being overpaid and this having to be recovered two years hence.
2. Removal of the damping down calculations in respect of the 20% and the £1 effect on the precept as this has minimal effect on the council's Band D precept and its removal would also simplify the overpayment process.

Powys Change Plan

N/A

Options Considered/Available

The options are to leave the scheme as it currently is or to make the proposed changes which will make the process easier and more cost effective for the Authority and the Town/Community councils.

Preferred Choice and Reasons

To accept and implement the proposed changes to the Concurrent Functions Scheme in order to reduce the staff resource required for administration of this scheme and, in order to make the application process easier for Town/Community Councils.

Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc

N/A

Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing

N/A

Local Member(s)

The proposal is currently applicable to 29 community/town councils in Montgomeryshire.

Other Front Line Services

N/A

Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

Legal – There are no legal implications of the recommendation.

The Strategic Director for Communities, Skills and Learning & the Head of Leisure and Recreation support the recommendation.

Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

N/A

Communications

N/A

Statutory Officers

Strategic Director – Finance and Infrastructure comment:

“The CFO supports the recommendation of the report.”

The views of the Strategic Director, Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) are:-

“I agree with the recommendation”

Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If Members have an interest they should declare it at the start of the meeting and complete the relevant notification form.

Future Status of the Report

N/A

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To accept and implement the amendments to the Concurrent Functions Scheme as set out in the Proposal section of this Report.	In order to reduce the staff resource required for administration of this scheme and, in order to make the application process easier for Town/Community Councils.

Relevant Policy (ies):	
Within Policy:	Within Budget:
Relevant Local Member(s):	Y

Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Mrs Ann Owen – Treasury Manager
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	October 2012

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Mrs Ann Owen	01597 826327	01597 826290	ann.owen@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

Councillor S.M. Hayes
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure

Decision Taken 4 May 2012

Llangedwyn Church in Wales School

DECISION	Reason for decision:
That a statutory notice of closure for Llangedwyn C in W School is not published but that pupil numbers are closely monitored, that officers work with the school to reduce the number of surplus places and that the school is reviewed as part of the Llanfyllin primary catchment review.	To ensure efficient use of resources within the schools service and to provide the best possible standard of education for local children. To review the position of the school in the context of other primary schools in the catchment.
That the small schools policy is reviewed and presented to Cabinet before the end of the current financial year.	To ensure that the framework for decision making is up to date.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

**CABINET REPORT
FOR PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION
4th May 2012**

REPORT AUTHOR: Gareth Jones
Senior Manager, Central Services

SUBJECT: Closure of Llangedwyn Church in Wales School

REPORT FOR: Decision

Summary

Following a review of small schools in Powys by the Council's Learning in the Community Programme Board in January 2011, on 4th October 2011 the Council's Cabinet approved the commencement of a consultation process to close Llangedwyn C in W School.

At the time of writing there are 28 pupils at the school.

The financial costings and potential savings from closure of the school are shown at Appendix A and are approximately £58,000 per annum. The cost per pupil for 2011/12 is £4,785 which is 32.5% higher than the Powys average of £3,612.

A consultation meeting with staff, governors and the community was held on 8th February 2012 where the proposals were explained; this included a timetable explaining that the school could be formally closed by summer 2013. The Council must give one term's notice to a school proposed for closure as well as undertaking the formal statutory notice procedure.

The consultation period for comments to be received on the proposals ran from 8th February to 21st March 2012. A total of 56 separate responses to the consultation were received; a summary of the representations received by this deadline is shown in Appendix B. Information from a meeting with some of the school pupils held on 21st March is included at Appendix C.

An officer response to the main themes from these representations is given below. A copy of all letters and emails received is available in the Schools Service as are the agreed minutes of all the consultation meetings.

Comments from respondents

Comments from respondents focus on the following themes and an officer response is given in the paragraphs that follow:

- The school provides a high standard of education and good results.
- It is a safe environment for the children. Many pupils live within an easy and safe walking distance.
- New children are likely to start in the near future; two will be starting in September bringing the number up to 30. School numbers have not fallen despite the uncertainty of the review. Pupil numbers only dropped due to the retirement of the head; there is now a full time head teacher in post.

- The school is vital to the community as a focus for village life. There are out of school activities and evening classes held at the school.
- The children at the school have excellent behaviour and manners. The school caters for their emotional needs in a nurturing environment.
- The school provides a faith based education which respondents claim would not be available in alternative schools.
- There is a breakfast and after school club which is not available in the alternative schools. Many respondents made the point that this is a significant support to the local economy allowing both self employed and employed people to work outside the area. Loss of the school would result in extra time and cost to local people and would potentially put their employment and livelihoods at risk.
- The school has good Estyn inspection grades.
- The council's decision is based on erroneous data, is not within its own policy and has breached WG guidelines.
- The savings to the council's budget are not significant.
- There will be increased transport costs, disruption to children from additional travelling and an adverse impact on the environment. Alternative schools are on B or unclassified roads which may be closed in winter. There are concerns about shared transport with high school pupils.
- There is strong parental involvement in the life of the school.
- The proportion of children with additional learning needs is high and it provides a supportive environment for these children. 50% of these children have moved from other schools.
- Alternative schools need additional building work to make them suitable, whereas Llangedwyn's buildings are in good condition.
- There is a strong and committed PTA at the school.
- The school is in a good location on a main road which stays open in winter.
- Respondents believe the council's decision is financially short-sighted.
- The council doesn't own the site so there is no capital gain to be achieved in the closure of the school.
- The school offers local full and part time employment.
- The school has a healthy budget position.
- There is no basis for the council's view that there will be a 40% increase in staff costs in the future.
- Children from Llangedwyn go on to do well at high school.
- The school has excellent outdoor facilities.
- Pupils have a voice and there are clear lines of communication.

In addition the governing body of Llangedwyn C in W School has raised the following points:

- There was inconsistency in how Llangedwyn and Llanfechain C in W Schools were dealt with in the review and at Cabinet in October. For example, the lack of capacity in receiving schools was used as a reason not to close Llanfechain but not used for Llangedwyn. The same decision should have been reached for both schools.
- The financial saving for Llanfechain C in W School would have been greater and the vacant places were higher.
- Decision was based on incorrect information and this was not checked by the council.
- Confusion over the 30 or 35 pupil threshold for reviewing small schools. They believe the higher figure was introduced halfway through the review and other schools of less than 35 were not included in the review. Furthermore the threshold figure is not included in the policy document on primary modernisation.

- The governors provided evidence that pupil numbers would exceed 30.
- The projected increase in pupil numbers in Llanfechain was not explained in the report to Cabinet.
- Llangedwyn was not given as much time as Llanfechain to provide additional information.
- The governors dispute the surplus place figure and the distance to Ysgol Bro Cynllaith.
- Housing allocations in the UDP were used in the report about Llanfechain but not in the Llangedwyn report.
- The governing body contend that a large proportion of children live in the school's closest zone or did when they started school.
- Children at the school have not been consulted on the proposals.
- The school provides facilities that the village hall cannot e.g. IT and provides them at reasonable cost.
- The school is active in the production of Village Voice, in town twinning and there is a Friends of the School group.
- 90% of pupils use the breakfast and after school clubs.
- There is currently no PCC funding for school transport at Llangedwyn but 23 out of 28 pupils would need transport to be provided if alternative schools were attended. Furthermore transport costs are underestimated in the council's figures.
- 36% of children in the school have additional learning needs.
- The school provides a non-Welsh education option for parents locally.

Officer response

In terms of the procedural issues around the review raised by the governing body, officers believe that it has been handled objectively and fairly. Members of Cabinet were presented with the same information for Llanfechain and Llangedwyn C in W Schools in October 2011 and no recommendation from officers was provided. Officers are content that all schools of under 35 were part of the January 2011 review and the reference to 30 pupils was a mistake in the report rather than the policy being changed halfway through the review. The threshold figure for small schools of 35 was specifically referred to in the report to Board of 15th July 2008. Children at the school were consulted about the closure proposals on 21st March 2012.

The school and the residents of Llangedwyn have responded in large numbers to the consultation on the proposed closure of the school. They have produced some compelling evidence for the school to remain open, and it is important that this is properly considered against the council's need to make financial savings and provide the best quality of education for all children in Powys. The decision on the future of the school is finely balanced and in the end a judgement needs to be made weighing the financial savings against the impact on the school, its pupils and the wider community. In this case, officers are not convinced that the case for school closure outweighs the impacts of the decision as articulated by the respondents. Of particular significance in this finely balanced argument are the following:

- The numbers in the school are likely to rise to 30 by September and are projected to increase to 32 by 2014.
- The savings to be achieved are not as great as for other schools that have been proposed for closure recently - £58,000 as opposed to £100,000 for Cwmdu, Dolfor and Trefnannery. The savings for Llanfechain C in W School (considered at the same Cabinet meeting in October 2011) were projected to be £75,000.

- There appears to be some evidence that closure of the school, with its breakfast and after school clubs, would have a significant impact on the local economy by preventing people being able to maintain employment or run their businesses.
- The school appears to be truly embedded in its community. The Community Impact Assessment produced in conjunction with the governing body identifies a number of local impacts of school closure. There are other community facilities in the village such as the hall but, unlike other schools considered recently for closure, additional community activity occurs at the school.

Officers are of the view that Llangedwyn C in W School is sufficiently different from those schools that the council has recently considered for closure in terms of the savings to be made and the likely impact of closure on the community and the economy. In the future it is likely that larger schools than Llangedwyn will face the prospect of closure, but these are more likely to be within catchment reviews where enhanced educational opportunities are likely to be provided as part of the review and where a strategic educational case can be made for closure.

It is important that reviews of small schools demonstrate that they are open and transparent and that there is a genuine ability for schools and communities to challenge the process. Reviews also need to be consistent not just to illustrate fairness but also to allow the council to compare its decisions over time. At present, the only clear criteria set down by the council are the total pupil numbers in the school, the savings to be made from closure, school condition data and Estyn inspection grades. It is not clear what weight is given to these factors in making the final decision or what additional considerations are taken into account. A review of the council's policy on small schools is required in order to provide more clarity for schools, communities and elected members on the subject.

Proposal

In conclusion, it is recommended that the portfolio holder does not publish a statutory notice of closure for Llangedwyn C in W School but that pupil numbers are closely monitored and that officers work with the school to reduce the number of surplus places.

Corporate Improvement Plan

A priority of the Corporate Improvement Plan is to provide high quality educational opportunities for all and this priority has been encompassed within the Learning in the Community improvement priority of the Powys Change Programme. The proposals within this paper will also help to meet the efficiency priority targets within the Plan.

Options Considered/Available

Statutory notices of closure could be published and, assuming objections are received, the matter could be determined by the Minister at the Welsh Government. However, for the reasons identified above, it is considered that the savings that could be achieved by the school's closure are outweighed by the benefits of keeping the school open.

Preferred Choice and Reasons

For the reasons identified above, it is in the best interests of the pupils in the school and the local community that Llangedwyn C in W School remains open. The savings identified do not outweigh the impact on local education and the community.

Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc

Where small schools are proposed for closure there will be some increase in travel and therefore carbon emissions.

The proposals are anticipated to impact on some vulnerable or minority groups; an equality impact assessment has been undertaken.

School closure proposals will have an impact on the services available in rural communities and these have been fully considered in this report.

Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing

The best interests of young people in these small schools will be safeguarded at all times particularly during this uncertain period of review.

Local Member(s)

Councillor Aled Davies has commented as follows:

Llangedwyn CW School provides an excellent education for children of all ability and is at the heart of the Llangedwyn community. I warmly welcome the decision not to close the school. With this decision not to close and the Llanfyllin catchment review not being started for some years, the school can now look forward to a period of stability, which is essential for the wellbeing of the school and its children.

Other Front Line Services

No implications identified.

Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

The Principal Accountant has been fully involved with the costings of the proposed closure of this school and confirms the savings identified are accurate based on the assumptions made in the report.

Legal - There are no legal implications at this stage.

Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

No implications identified.

Statutory Officers

The Strategic Director, Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer) has no comments to make on the report.

The Strategic Director, Finance & Infrastructure (Section 151 Officer) has commented:-
I note that the Principal Accountant has agreed the financial data used in the report and would support the recommendation of the report.

Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report.

Future Status of the Report

The portfolio holder is invited to consider the future status of this report and whether it can be made available to the press and public either immediately following the meeting or at some specified point in the future.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
It is recommended that the portfolio holder does not publish a statutory notice of closure for Llangedwyn C in W School but that pupil numbers are closely monitored, that officers work	To ensure efficient use of resources within the schools service and to provide the best possible standard of education for local children. To review the position of the school in

with the school to reduce the number of surplus places and that the school is reviewed as part of the Llanfyllin primary catchment review.	the context of other primary schools in the catchment.
It is recommended that the small schools policy is reviewed and presented to Cabinet before the end of the current financial year.	To ensure that the framework for decision making is up to date.

Relevant Policy (ies):	
Within Policy:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	Councillor Aled Davies
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Head of Schools
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	31st May 2012

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Owen James	01597 826709		Owen.james@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

Llangedwyn Consultation Paper February 2012

Llangedwyn Community Impact Assessment February 2012

Detailed Costings re Small Schools

Llangedwyn Controlled School

	Year 1 2012/13	Year 2 2013/14
Pupil Numbers Funded	30	30
Delegated & Devolved Budget Saving	79,954	139,089
Estimated Current Transport Costs	-	-
Estimated Subsidy of School Meal Provision Saving	4,667	8,000
Direct Savings of School Closure Sept 12	84,621	147,089
Annual Budget that Would Transfer with Pupils	(36,958)	(63,356)
Gross Saving in Year	47,663	83,733
Less Estimated Additional H to S Transport		
12 Pupils live in allocation area, assumed 2 transport routes at £100 per day per route	(22,167)	(38,000)
Net Saving in Year on Direct Costs	25,496	45,733
Potential Saving of Central Costs at an Estimated £12,500 per school	7,292	12,500
Total Net Savings before 1 off Costs	32,788	58,233
Estimated Early Retirement & Redundancy Costs (Max)	(22,061)	
Current Policy		
Local Government Pension Strain	(1,769)	
Statutory Provision		
Projected Savings/(Costs) Including Retirement & Redundancy Costs	8,958	58,233

Other Factors to Consider

No transport costs appear on the ledger relating to Llangedwyn for this financial year.

Current Budget Position (Estimated Balance).

At 31.3.2011	9,646	surplus
At 31.3.2012	4,974	surplus
At 31.3.2013	4,808	surplus
At 31.3.2014	4,808	surplus
At 31.3.2015	4,809	surplus

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LOG OF RESPONSES TO FORMAL CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL TO CLOSE LLANGEDWYN C IN W SCHOOL

REF	COMMENT
L1	<p>Llangedwyn School is a vital link in the community. It has developed many interactive activities and partnerships for children's learning and development including twinning group with Omerville in Normandy, "Village Voice" Newsletter, Educational visits, out of hours provision such as Physical Education and School Sport, Dragon Sports and work related education links. It has promoted sustainable development. The school has received an Eco Bronze award. The school was over capacity in 2008. Numbers fell when a long standing headteacher announced his retirement and at the same time news of the proposed consultation on closure was made public.</p> <p>The school is the only faith school in the Tanat Valley and the school's closure would impact not only on Llangedwyn but on families who wish their children to have a faith based education. The Community Council also has great concerns about the proposed closure.</p> <p>The school provides a breakfast and after school club which is well attended and fully supervised until 5.30 pm. There is no other school in the Tanat Valley or surrounding area that provides both the breakfast and the after school club. The school provides employment for two members of the community. For many families whose children attend Llangedwyn School the economic effect on households of having to move their children to any of the alternative schools would be profound as none of the three alternative schools offer both breakfast and after school clubs.</p> <p>In the last Estyn Report (18.6.2007) the school was awarded Grade 2. Llangedwyn School has an excellent headteacher which the governing body fully support and governors feel the school has a healthy future if allowed to remain open as the general school population is expected to rise in the next few years. Given the strong feeling in the community, respondent asks PCC to take the views of the community into consideration and to consider the wider implications should Llangedwyn C in W School close.</p>
L2	<p>The review procedure has been conducted outside PCCs own policies and procedures and has breeched WAG guidelines. Llangedwyn School was linked with Llanfechain in order to "promote fairness" but PCC's "apparent predisposition to close Llangedwyn School appears to have led to bias and inconsistencies which disadvantage Llangedwyn."</p> <p>The decision to retain Llanfechain and proceed to review Llangedwyn appears to be based on erroneous information and inaccurate data supplied by officers to the Cabinet.</p> <p>The closure of Llangedwyn School will provide not financial saving but will increase the cost of educating children from Llanfechain. Accurate data relating to the proposal sought through an FOI enquiry and provided by PCC added to research conducted by the governing body highlight the "sloppy, erroneous and misleading information presented to the Cabinet by the officers and does not ensure the efficient use of council resources".</p> <p>The increase in PCC's school transport costs should the closure of Llangedwyn School take place, provides an additional and unnecessary burden on all Council Tax payers. At present the transport costs are zero. The additional transport necessary to any of the proposed receiving schools would involve travel on B class and unclassified roads which are not gritted and would present unnecessary danger to young children, when travelling.</p>

LOG OF RESPONSES TO FORMAL CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL TO CLOSE LLANGEDWYN C IN W SCHOOL

L3	<p>Respondent opposes the proposal to close the school. Llangedwyn School's academic achievement is not in doubt. The school has high expectations of good behaviour and manners and these are met. The children mix well and their social interaction is excellent. Parents are supportive and do much to participate in the life of the school. The school is the centre of the Llangedwyn community and its loss would be a great blow to rural community life in the village. Although pupil numbers are a "little low" at the moment, pupils numbers fluctuate and Llangedwyn is still a "happy and thriving" school.</p> <p>The alternative schools are far from ideal for reasons of transport, facilities and differences in the community. Transporting children from just four years of age some distance on their own with only a driver on local treacherous road in winter is "untenable".</p>
L4	<p>As a Behaviour Support Practitioner for Resolve Cymru, Llangedwyn School stands out as a place that not only caters to the learning needs of the pupils but to their social and emotional needs. There is a culture of caring, respect and citizenship in the school that is immediately apparent. The children are polite confident and a very caring. The older children look after the younger ones in a very mature way. Staff nurture this ethos and the school seems to be very much an important part of the local community. The closure of the school would be a huge loss, not only to the pupils but also to the whole area.</p>
L5	<p>There is strong parent involvement at Llangedwyn School and if children have to travel to alternative school outside the area this may not continue which would be detrimental to the children. Respondent's grandson has health problems and his mother has often has to visit the school on an urgent basis. If there was a distance to travel to school this could be a risk to the child. Also teachers sometimes ask parents to come into school to administer medication which would be a problem if at a distance.</p>
L6	<p>The "progressive nature" of the school with its breakfast and after school club facilities has meant that staff who work at the respondents' business have been able leave their children at the breakfast and after school club and give time to the business. Llangedwyn School gives local people the flexibility that enables them to work a full day whilst knowing that their children are in a safe and nurturing environment. If it had not been possible to employ local staff, respondent's business would have located in either Oswestry or Shrewsbury. If the school closes there will be no option but to relocate the business to either of the above towns where there is a larger workforce that does not suffer from restriction of a rural community and the lack of childcare provision. The breakfast club and the after school club play a big part in the popularity of Llangedwyn School but so does Faith (Church in Wales) involvement and the non-segregation/streaming of English/Welsh. The impact of closure of Llangedwyn School could be very far reaching for a lot of people on many different levels.</p>
L7	<p>Llangedwyn School is the heart of the village and the surrounding area. Llangedwyn school is an integral part of the Jubilee Club for senior citizens, of the local twinning association fostering foreign exchange, of the Antur Tant Cain partnering fundraising and social events. All these activities help children to become caring and active members of the community in future years. Llangedwyn School's breakfast and after school clubs are essential and much valued services. There is little employment in the Tanat Valley and these clubs offer parents a lifeline giving them time to travel to nearby towns to work. The clubs and the school also provide precious local jobs. Llangedwyn school offers children the opportunity to learn, to flourish and to develop as part of the local community. Please take into consideration the enormous impact that the closure of the school would have on a small rural community.</p>

LOG OF RESPONSES TO FORMAL CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL TO CLOSE LLANGEDWYN C IN W SCHOOL

L8	<p>The proposed closure is short sighted. The school offers a very high quality provision both in terms of academic standards and pastoral care. As a teacher at the school respondent states she is aware that the school is able to offer a higher standard of education to the children as the school is small. Each child is personally known to all members of staff, any concerns about welfare or educational progress are quickly picked up and the appropriate attention and care can be given. The family atmosphere in the school is very strong with the older children interacting with the younger ones in a "very natural and caring way". Levels of "bullying" and "falling out" are very low as any incidents are quickly picked up and dealt with. There is a happy atmosphere in the school and even the shyest child is not afraid to speak out.</p> <p>The number of children with additional learning needs in the school is disproportionately high and the school is able to support these children to a very high standard to make sure they have all the skills to develop to their highest potential. In a larger school some of these children would be in danger of "falling through the crack" or falling into habits of poor behaviour. Some of them might end up in special education which would result in increased expense and may not be the best option for the children and their family. Powys CC has a duty to offer an education system that meets the needs of its rural communities. The county is made up of many small village communities and to shut their schools and transport children from these communities to larger schools does not reflect the area they live in. Shutting schools may save money in some areas but it creates additional expenses in others. It would be better to develop a more creative way of saving money and one that protects local communities e.g. shared headships.</p> <p>Llangedwyn School is an integral part of the village community. The school is used by the community and the community supports the school. 7.5 people for each child attended the public consultation meeting on the proposal to close the school which indicates the level of support for the school. The school is a vital part of the community and closing it would devastate the community social and economically. Since the threat of closure was announced over a year ago 3 new families have joined the school and 8 new children. This shows the school has potential to grow rather than fall into decline. If the school is able to attract this number of children whilst under threat of closure it would surely attract more if its future was secure. There are already 3 new children planning to join the school within the next 6 months.</p>
L9	<p>The Diocese of St Asaph is opposed to the proposed closure of Llangedwyn School. The school is thriving at the moment. It currently has around 30 pupils with new pupils starting in since the review began. The last Estyn inspection was good and the new headteacher is continuing to make improvements to the school in terms of learning and teaching. The school is particularly responsive to pupils with additional learning needs and to the children of working parents. The school offers an education with a religious character, where the Christian ethos is celebrated and enacted. If Llangedwyn School was closed, the county would not be able to offer a place to all children in a church school.</p>
L10	<p>Supports the retention of Llangedwyn School as the educational hub of the Tanat Valley and the spiritual social hub of the village. Llangedwyn School is within easy and safe walking distance from home for most of the pupils who attend the school. For those parents who drop off their children for pre and post school activities there is the security of dropping off their children at the school gates. Closing the school will mean that all the children will need to be transported to other schools and their education will probably be curtailed over the winter months when busy routes to alternative schools become dangerous.</p> <p>Closing Llangedwyn School will not only remove the opportunity for children to take part in pre and post school activities with their friends but will prevent many parents from maintaining the level of employment that would be considered "normal" for other parts of Wales, and the UK. Should the school close and take scarce working parent-centred facilities away then it is likely that its children will be brought up in families who career hopes</p>

LOG OF RESPONSES TO FORMAL CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL TO CLOSE LLANGEDWYN C IN W SCHOOL

	<p>have been limited. Children in turn may be forced to drift into future unemployment if they stay locally or will learn from their parents that the only way of finding work will be to move away from the area.</p> <p>The levels of educational achievement at the school are much higher than others in the valley. By "dismembering" such a successful, diverse and pupil-centred community school we are sending out the wrong signals to children. They will come to think that their education is less important than saving money. Investing less in their success at this early stage limits their future employment opportunities. I would like to think that long term risks of closing Llangedwyn School have been fully quantified and taken into account.</p> <p>The children who attend Llangedwyn School have privilege of living their early years as part of a small, cohesive and interdependent community. Knowing that they belong is fundamental to their development into happy healthy individuals.</p> <p>Respondent is impressed by the care the children of the school show for each other and the "easy" respect in which they hold their teachers. Many of the most important gifts the school brings to the valley are immeasurable and intangible. It would be a shame to lose what we have in the school, and what it brings to the community in the long-term for the sake of "short term easy win gains"</p>
L11	<p>Llangedwyn School is an excellent school for the children of Llangedwyn and the district. As well as teaching the children it has recognised the needs of the 21st Century in that it has a breakfast club and after school facilities. It has a good solid building (no mobiles) It plays an important part in the community and its closure would be a great loss.</p>
L12	<p>There is some question about the figures that the decision is based on. If the figures aren't correct then the decision making will be poor. The figures need to be revised and audited by someone who doesn't put them together. If the mileage between villages is incorrect, it gives no confidence in the rest of the figures.</p> <p>The school provides facilities for working parents. As a local businessperson respondent hopes to expand his business in future and to employ local people. Without the breakfast club and after school facilities at the school it will be difficult for him to employ local people if they have children. Threat of closure is self-fulfilling because parents won't put their children into a school they think is going to close.</p> <p>Standards at the school seem good. Why close a good school which is well supported by the local community for questionable cost savings?</p> <p>Use Llangedwyn School as an opportunity to retain small schools with smaller class sizes to drive up standards.</p> <p>The school is used by community groups and this should be extended. The school is a central point in the community. Events that happen at the school are an added attraction to bringing money into the valley.</p> <p>The alternative Church in Wales school needs some building work to bring it up to the same standard as Llangedwyn School and the extra cost of doing this should be considered.</p> <p>With the population likely to increase short-term decisions can be regretted in the future.</p>

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	A sense of place is a really important differentiator for Wales. The school is the heart of this community with residents meeting twice a day to pick up their children. Community members are invited to school functions; not just parents, and this would disappear if the school closes.
L13	Respondent strongly opposes the potential closure of Llangedwyn School. School means a lot to her family. She was able to make arrangements at very short notice for her children to stay in the after school club when facing a family illness. The school know the family well and know the situation the family is facing – no questions were asked and at a critical time she did not need to be concerned about child care. The sort of community support offered by Llangedwyn's after school club is not available at any of the schools that Powys is suggesting as alternatives for the children's education. The closure of Llangedwyn School will have a devastating impact on the community.
L14	<p>It is acknowledged that Llangedwyn School provides a good education for its pupils. In the last Estyn inspection the school received grades 2 through. The new headteacher is making an impressive contribution to the quality of teaching learning and achievement in both key stages and officers of the Authority are thoroughly satisfied with the standard of education currently and the prospect of the continued improvement in future. The school has above average number of pupils with additional learning needs and being small the school is able to support these pupils learning in a "distinctive and valuable way." Should the school close it would impact on the level of provision the pupils with additional learning needs receive.</p> <p>The school has developed a range of additional provision outside the normal school day which contributes vastly to the local economy. Its breakfast and after school clubs allow many parents to work full time. A significant number of parents own small businesses which employ others. No other schools in the locality offers exactly the same provision.</p> <p>All parents of primary school aged children in the Diocese of St Asaph should have the choice of selecting a faith based education, specifically in a diocesan voluntary controlled or voluntary aided school. Many of the parents of pupils at Llangedwyn School have chosen the school because of its Christian ethos. If the school closes there will not be sufficient church school places in north Powys to accommodate all of the children even if the provision at Llanfechain and elsewhere is taken into account.</p> <p>Respondent strongly supports retention of Llangedwyn School.</p>
L15	<p>It is impossible to find another school in the area which offers the same breakfast and after school club facilities as Llangedwyn. Respondent's daughter is upset about the prospect of being separated from her friends if they go to different alternative schools.</p> <p>Closing Llangedwyn School and transferring pupils to schools outside the immediate community will increase the carbon footprint. There are children attending Llangedwyn School from outside the area whose parents have chosen Llangedwyn School because their local schools are "not suitable". These children will be travelling even further to find a school with the same standards of education. "Worse still" children could be taken to "unsuitable schools" causing disruption to their children's education.</p> <p>As a taxpayer respondent expresses concerns that PCC employees are "changing their policies, wasting money and causing more paperwork to justify their existence." He does not believe the cuts should be against schools that are educating "future taxpayers".</p>

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	Why is the closure of the school even being considered when it is in a better financial state than other schools which have been given the “all clear”?
L16	<p>Strongly objects to the closure of Llangedwyn School. Llangedwyn School boasts many attributes, namely its ability to offer “a unique and supportive learning environment” to children with special needs. Needs that have not been “easily met” in neighbouring schools. The early morning breakfast club and after schools activities provide considerable support to working families, which is a support offered by no other school in the area. Without these facilities it would mean many families would not be able to afford to stay in the village.</p> <p>The PTA is one of the best in the area raising thousands of pounds each year to subsidise the running of the school. This demonstrates the commitment of the community to the school.</p> <p>The school is in a good location at the heart of the village. Its position on the main road in a flat area location enables it to remain open in the most severe of weather conditions.</p> <p>Respondent considers that the pupil numbers are on account of the threatened closure of the school. Families who might have enrolled their children at the school have been put off by the threat of closure. Action of proposing closure has been damaging and the only way to repair the damage is to praise Llangedwyn School and promise future support for it.</p> <p>The Church is proud of Llangedwyn School. In a times where Christianity and morality are struggling, a community like Llangedwyn where the church and a school can work together to support families and be a positive influence to people should be cherished not abolished.</p> <p>The school offers community facilities in terms of adult education and social classes. The classes operate at not extra cost to Powys CC but give money to the school and make the village a cultural and more interesting place to live.</p> <p>The plan to close the school and send children further afield to school will increase the amount of transport and pollution. There are no financial, practical social or environmental reasons to close the school. The proposal to close the school is financially short sighted and not in the best interest of people the Council represents. To close the school will mean losing faith of the residents and potentially driving people out of Wales.</p> <p>In France small village schools are regarded as highly important and with low numbers of the pupils the school of the village twinned with Llangedwyn has never been under threat of closure and is at the heart of its community.</p> <p>The village school in Llangedwyn means everything to its community and without it village life would never be the same again.</p>
L17	<p>Respondent operates a business in the area. The “progressive” nature of the school with the breakfast and after school club facilities has meant that staff with children have been able to give the business the time it needs.</p> <p>The facilities at Llangedwyn School give local people the flexibility that enable them to be able to work knowing that their children are in a safe and nurturing environment. If the business cannot recruit local staff because the school and its facilities are closed it will need to relocate to a less rural</p>

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	area. The after school and breakfast club play a big part in drawing in pupils from other villages but so does the Faith involvement and the non-segregation/streaming of English/welsh. The impact of the closure of the school could very far-reaching.
L18	Respondent expresses “grave concern” about the possible closure of Llangedwyn School. Respondent is completely reliant on both the breakfast and afterschool club offered at the school as she has to commute 50 minutes each way to work. There is no other school in the area which offers the same provision and can accommodate her daughter. If Llangedwyn School was to close she would either have to move from the area or give up her job.
L19	Potential closure of Llangedwyn School is short sighted with damaging consequences for the children, the community and local businesses. Many self employed parents need or will need in future the extra benefits of the afterschool and breakfast club. Respondent has had four children who have all been pupils at Llangedwyn School. He has another child who is due to start in 12 months and has been told that he will have to be placed in an “inferior school with no proper head in a sub standard building without the benefits of the breakfast and afterschool club.” He requests that the Authority helps the children, local tax paying businesses and preserves the community by not closing Llangedwyn School.
L20	Respondent intends to run an adult education evening class at Llangedwyn School from September, 2012. She urges PCC to reject the proposal to close the school and to instead recognise the valuable role the school plays in its local community. She describes Llangedwyn School as a “centre of excellence” which must not be undermined.
L21	<p>To close the school would result in the end of a thriving Welsh village which contributes to the economy. The school enables the development of “confident, well rounded, sociable, hard working and happy children” and if it was closed this would have a detrimental effect. Children in small schools thrive better than children in large schools. Children in large schools become just a number where all that matters are the school’s results, not whether they are content emotionally, physically and socially. Llangedwyn Primary School provides everything a child needs to become an outstanding pupil when they reach High School. The happiness of the children is of paramount importance. Respondent’s son has special educational needs and she is of the view these would not have been recognised in a larger school and he would not have received the support he has received in Llangedwyn. Respondent has mobility problems. The short distance to Llangedwyn school means she can pick up the children from school in her mobility car. She would struggle to drive any longer distances to another school and she would not be happy for her young children to travel to school on the bus. The closure of Llangedwyn School would impact on their daily lives in caring for their children and on her husband’s business.</p> <p>Educational standards at Llangedwyn School are “second to none”. The Parents, Teachers and Friends Association regularly raise funds for the school. The school has a breakfast and after school club which many parents take advantage of and these facilities jointly do not exist in any other school in the Llanfyllin area. The school also has a toddler group which was a good way to introduce her children into school life and for her to become fully involved in the community.</p> <p>Closing Llangedwyn School would save very little money. The building is owned by St. Cedwyn’s Church and the grounds are owned by the Llangedwyn Estate, therefore no lucrative deal could be done on the sale of the school. The cost per pupil at Llangedwyn School is one of the lowest in the region. The Council has not considered in fine detail what the additional costs there would be as a result of having to transport children to alternative schools. Many parents currently walk to Llangedwyn School with their children. Has the cost to the environment of all the additional journeys been considered? Many parents do not want their young children travelling on a bus mixed with High School children with only one bus</p>

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	<p>driver to look after them or deal with any disruption. In her view this is "unsafe and untenable". What would the cost of all the additional bus routes be to provide transport for those pupils whose parents do not have access to a car?</p> <p>She does not believe that the Council has considered any of the above factors prior to decision being made to commence consultation on closure of the school. In her view PCC just wants to save money and the education and social well-being come "far down on the list of the Council's priorities".</p>
L22	<p>Llangedwyn School is unique. It is flourishing into a "wonderful school with wonderful children". The community is fully involved with the school and is built around it. Taking away the school will deeply affect the community and the local children in Llangedwyn. The school provides a "fantastic education" and also playschool, after school club, breakfast club and youth club. The school allows working parents to feel at ease to be able to leave their children in caring and responsible environment within working hours and not to have to worry about finding childcare in the area, where it would be "impossible" to do so.</p> <p>The added cost of having to send children to a different school would be £90 per month in extra petrol. Respondent would have to reduce her working hours to ensure she could take and collect her children from school resulting in £200 less per month in wages.</p> <p>The impact on the children would be detrimental; the emotional trauma of the children being split up and sent to schools where they don't know anybody. The closure of the school would also cause stress to working parents. The land is owned by the Church so PCC doesn't have the outgoings for Llangedwyn School that it has for most other schools.</p>
L23	<p>Respondent's family is new to the village and considered very carefully which school would be best for their children. Llangedwyn is a church school with a good ethos and family values. Respondents' children have special educational needs and the children are benefitting from being at Llangedwyn School due to the small class size where they receive more one to one attention. The school has a breakfast club and after school club which are needed for working families. This is not available at other schools in the area. Closing the school would mean that one parent would not be able to fulfil required hours at work as they have no alternative child care. Children will need to travel further to school should Llangedwyn School close, which will mean longer travelling time and increased carbon footprint. Llangedwyn School is a very good school with high standards and all of the pupils are happy and doing well. Some children do not thrive in large classes. If all of the small schools that are doing well are closed, what will happen to those children?</p>
L24	<p>Respondent runs a business in Llanfyllin and that has taken on people in the area who were previously unemployed and had found it difficult to find work within the local community. The company has been able to grow and employ staff because he and his staff all have children in Llangedwyn School and have been able to use the pre-school and after school facilities ie breakfast club and after school club. Without these clubs the business could not have continued to operate because staff would not have been able to afford to pay for child minders. Losing staff could mean that he will have to relocate his family and business to a larger town across the border as no other school in the area offers the pre school and after school facilities.</p> <p>Respondent's two children have received excellent education at Llangedwyn School and they are extremely happy there. Closing down local schools and services will deter businesses from staying in the area or coming to the area. Parents cannot work in full time jobs if there are no pre-school and after school facilities or if they have to travel several miles to take their children to school before they can get to work and then pick them up after</p>

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	<p>work.</p> <p>Respondent is not happy at the prospect of his 5 and 6 year old children having to share transport with pupils from the secondary school who could be up to 18 years old. He thinks it is not acceptable for Powys County Council to think it is adequate for one person who should be concentrating on driving a bus to be in charge of his children without a second CRB checked adult to supervise.</p> <p>PCC has not taken into account the road and routes the children would be expected to travel during the winter months. At least 50% of the existing pupils at the school are able to walk to the school at no cost to PCC. If the school closed all the children would need to be transported with some children having to travel about 15 miles along a winter route to get to a school only 5 miles away. Many roads in the area are not gritted and are single track roads which are not suitable for school buses. A good school should be protected by PCC. The people who live in Llangedwyn and the business that employ people in the area all pay taxes and the council tax and the main return for the taxes paid is for the local school which is rated as one of the best schools in the area.</p> <p>In respondent's view PCC does not care about good education, about the farming community, the local economy, people's lives or sustaining /creating jobs in Llangedwyn or Powys. PCC should "stop wasting tax payers' money by undertaking this "nonsense of a consultation process for closure". A good community school brings people to a community and it can also bring jobs not just directly within the school but all around it.</p>
L25	<p>Llangedwyn School has provided a nurturing environment which has encouraged respondent's daughter to develop both academically and socially. She chose Llangedwyn School because the school is linked to a friendly community and the cultural heritage of the area and gives her daughter an opportunity to "stay connected with her family roots and the Welsh language". The school has a welcoming atmosphere and is at the heart of the community which brings people together. The closure of the school would take this away. Sending children to alternative schools out of the immediate area would mean the loss of a close and essential network of support provided by the staff and parents. As a single working parent the removal of this would have major consequences and could result in her having to leave the community.</p>
L26	<p>Llangedwyn School is a "unique, supportive, family School and provides an irreplaceable wonderful learning environment." Respondent's eldest daughter is excelling academically at the High School which is proof that Llangedwyn School is doing an "admirable job of preparing young children for the greater academic demands of the secondary school." Closing the school will leave a village and community without a heart. Localism should be encouraged over centralism in the current climate of increasing costs. Respondent is concerned her daughter will have to travel further to school if Llangedwyn School is closed.</p>
L27	<p>Llangedwyn School is "so friendly and the children there are so happy". This was the only school in the area to which respondents wanted to send their children. Her children have all been very happy to attend Llangedwyn School. The children at the school are "very caring, polite and socialise together". Her children have also achieved academically at the school. Respondent's relatives who have recently moved to the area are all impressed with friendliness of Llangedwyn School and are involved in school activities, plays and concerts. The after school club is affordable and staff are helpful. No other school in the area provides these facilities. Her children tell her that "Llangedwyn is the best school in the world". Her eldest daughter had a week's work placement at the school and thoroughly enjoyed it.</p>

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L28	<p>Respondent describes school as a “second home” for her family. It has allowed her family to be involved in their community and to make friends through school activities and fundraising for the school and local community. If Llangedwyn School was closed “the fabric of village life” would be “shattered”. The school offers a lot of local people part-time jobs. These people would have to travel further afield to find work and with rising fuel costs this would have an impact on family budgets. Respondent believes it is in the best interests of her child to send him to his local school to grow up in a “safe environment that reaches beyond learning the national curriculum”. It is where he will learn the values of living and caring for his local community too.</p>
L29	<p>Even though the respondent’s family moved to Oswestry they kept her daughter in Llangedwyn School for a while after they moved because she was so happy there. After moving to a school in Oswestry, her daughter’s educational attainment “went backwards” so she moved her daughter back to Llangedwyn School. She has continued to commute from Oswestry to Llangedwyn on a daily basis because of the good standards at Llangedwyn School. Respondent works for a company local to the school and this has only been possible because of the breakfast and after school club facilities offered at Llangedwyn School. If Llangedwyn School closes not only would the children suffer but local businesses would also suffer. No young families would want to stay in Llangedwyn if there was no school there.</p>
L30	<p>Llangedwyn School is central to the village and has an interactive relationship with many local organisations. The exchange arrangements offered by the Llangedwyn Twinning Group would be in jeopardy if the school was lost and the children would miss valuable cultural experiences they gain from close interaction with a different culture. The community council is concerned about the possibility of closure of the school. Only in 2008 the school was over capacity and it was difficult to accommodate any more local children. Pupil numbers only fell last year when a very popular headmaster retired and at the same time news of the proposed consultation on closure was leaked to the press. Although the school has since appointed an “excellent new head” several pupils were lost to the school because parents decided because of the uncertainty to take up scarce places in the only other local Church in Wales school with a similar record and after school facilities. Respondent considers Llangedwyn School has a “healthy future” as the school population is expected to rise in the next few years. The school is the only faith school in the Tanat Valley and the closure would impact not just on Llangedwyn but on other families who want a faith based education for the children. Llangedwyn School has strong links with Antur Tanat Cain and Llangedwyn Mill. The children of the school are involved in helping to produce the Village Voice newsletter, which is an essential free communication that allows small businesses to advertise at no cost to the local community. Many fundraising and school social events are held in partnership with Antur Tanat Cain. These are important opportunities that allow local businesses members of the community and children to work together for the good of the school and the community. Tenants at Llangedwyn Mill support the school in running craft classes for the pupils. At present there is one long term tenant at the mill who has a</p>

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	<p>successful business and is a single parent with a child due to staff at Llangedwyn School next year. She will find it difficult to continue with her business if the school closes as there is no other school in the Tanat Valley with both a breakfast and an after school club.</p> <p>The school children visit and entertain members of the Jubilee Luncheon Club which is for senior citizens and other people with social need in the community. The visits are appreciated by the members who make an effort to attend all the school productions and events both in the school and the local church. If the school closes the elderly would lose contact with the younger generation of the village. Because of this close association within the village, many of the families support the older generations and there is a feeling of "community warmth and support" due to the ongoing link the pupils have with the Jubilee Luncheon Club.</p> <p>There is no other facility with pupil capacity in the area which offers the provision of the existing after school club. Parents rely on this service and the impact of closure would be enormous and would lead to many parents having to reduce working hours or having to give up their jobs. Llansantffraid School offers an after school club but this is oversubscribed.</p> <p>Respondents feel the closure of Llangedwyn School would be "short sighted" and a costly measure in both personal and educational terms. Additional transport costs and socio-economic impacts would significantly erode the savings projected by closing the school.</p>
L31	<p>The quality of education at Llangedwyn School has been of a high standard, not only academically but also socially and spiritually. The family atmosphere and fostering of good relationships with others has given children a good, strong base from where to move on to the next stage of life with confidence. The school provides a good grounding in the Christian faith but with an exploration of other ways of experiencing religion which nurtures tolerance and understanding. The mother and toddler group "Little Hedgehogs" at the school offers children opportunities for them to mix with their future classmates. Llangedwyn School is the hub of the local community. It is a focal point of a scattered community and the school concerts, coffee morning, sports days and Christmas Fayres provides opportunities to bring the community together and promotes community cohesion. There are strong links between Llangedwyn School and the local church. The school regularly holds services in church and these are valued by the congregation. Without the children attending the church and the faith teaching at the school it may not be possible to maintain a viable church in Llangedwyn in a few years time. Llangedwyn is a village which still maintains a strong community ethos. This could be irreparably damaged if the school closed.</p>
L32	<p>Respondents are parents who have been pleased with Llangedwyn School's performance, its supportive environment, the conduct of the staff and its creative and community based activities. The leadership and commitment of the headteacher guides the school forward despite the uncertainty about the school's future. Llangedwyn School has many strengths including its "unique educational environment and its commitment to the local community". The school buildings are good as are the Estyn inspection grades. Ysgol Bro Cynllaith has buildings of a lower standard and weaker grades for educational attainment. Additional transport to alternative schools would be costly and treacherous in winter. Demographic trends rise and fall and although the number of children of primary school age is currently very low, they are set to rise again next year. "Short term thinking and knee jerk reactions come to mind when considering the implications of shutting such a valuable community school". If money has to be saved look elsewhere for more "ethical savings".</p> <p>Respondent's household income would be adversely affected by the loss of the after school club provision offered at Llangedwyn School. The</p>

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	Council faces challenges in reducing overheads but the proposal to close Llangedwyn School is "immoral" on the grounds that it has no benefit to the community that the Council serves, only detriment.
L33	<p>Llangedwyn School provides a caring and creative educational environment. Although not the nearest school to respondents' home, it is the "most desirable school". It provides an after school club which is an essential asset which supports respondents' self employment. Closure of the school would mean increased fuel and travel costs and an increase in unnecessary traffic during rush hours on small country roads. In poor weather this increases the risk of accidents.</p> <p>The school provides a social and charitable function in the community; regularly organising events which recycle and network materials and resources between individuals. These support community cohesion and intergenerational communication.</p> <p>Loss of the after school club facilities would mean a reduction in the family income.</p>
L34	<p>Closure of Llangedwyn School would be a "catastrophic blow to a close knit and vibrant community". Llangedwyn School provides a focus for the whole community, giving local people a chance to get together at occasions organised by and for the school. The school building is an essential asset to the local community hosting, Parochial Church Council meetings, Tai Chi groups and providing an alternative venue for meetings and groups when the very busy village hall is booked up.</p> <p>The school provides a first class education and helps to support the Christian ethos which is central to respondent's family life. The fact that Llangedwyn School has close connections to the Church is a very important part of life education and matters to the respondent. There are no other viable options for a faith school and to deny her child the opportunity to be taught in a faith school is "contradictory to both Welsh Government and national educational policies and tantamount to undermining the Christian faith in the local area."</p> <p>Llangedwyn School is the only school in the area which provides both before and after school clubs which is vital to respondent's ability to return to full-time employment.</p> <p>Respondent's child currently attend Little Hedgehogs playgroup and has benefited from the social interaction with other children at the playgroup and with the school children. The school children at Llangedwyn have been welcoming and caring towards the younger children at the playgroup. Respondent's child has already made friends with the children from the school. If Llangedwyn School was closed then the friendship bonds would be broken with children being sent to different alternative schools. Closure of the school would lead to destruction of a school community that is "warm welcoming and an asset to Wales".</p> <p>Llangedwyn School's excellent reputation attracts young families to the area and encourages growth in the local economy. The loss of the school would be "catastrophic both socially and economically". The more people who settle in Llangedwyn and its environs the more council tax for the local authority so retaining the school at Llangedwyn is a benefit both locally and to Powys as a whole.</p>
L35	Llangedwyn School is the "hub" of the village with many different social events throughout the year. The Church is also an important part of the school.

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L36	<p>"Little Hedgehogs" is a volunteer toddler and parent/carer group that operates weekly within the school. The group is very important to the area. Most of the children who attend the parent and toddler group go on to Llangedwyn School. The group benefits the children as they are already familiar with the school building when they start school, which enables them to settle in more quickly to the school environment. Most of the parents of children who attend the group do not use formal childcare due to their financial circumstances. There is very little funded nursery care for 3 year olds in the area. For some children this will be the first and possibly only time they will socialise with peers before commencing full time education.</p> <p>Specialist play sessions run by the Welsh Assembly initiative Language and Play are provided from "Little Hedgehogs." These promote literacy and numeracy through play. The close proximity to where the families actually live mean these sessions are accessible to everyone, even those on stretched family budgets. For some children attending the group the sessions it may be their introduction to language and numeracy. Discretion is used in relation to charging of fees to remove barriers from the poorest families. The group is non profit making only charging £1 to cover refreshments. If the school was to close, the group would discontinue.</p>
L37	<p>Education offered at Llangedwyn School is "second to none". Both of respondent's children are very settled at the school, happy and achieving well academically. She is not convinced that the PCC can match or better the educational experience that her children receive at Llangedwyn School.</p> <p>The loss of the breakfast club would have an impact on the respondent's availability for work and would mean her children would not be able to enjoy the benefits of a breakfast club. She could not afford to transport her children to a "replacement school" either in terms of fuel cost or delay to her commuting time to work. Additional car journeys are not in line with the Council's aim to increase "its green credentials". Respondent's employer would be affected by the decision to close the school as she would need to reduce her working hours or possibly lose her job. The reduced income would limit the amount of money she has available to spend on her children. Closure of Llangedwyn School would have an immeasurable impact on families whose children attend the school – both on the children's education and on income levels of affected families.</p>
L38	<p>Llangedwyn School has provided support for respondent's son who has special educational needs and his progress has been "fantastic". The staff and the pupils at Llangedwyn School were supportive and caring. Respondent's daughter describes her last year at Llangedwyn School as the best in her life and she made new friends and formed firm bonds with her teachers. Llangedwyn School has a high percentage of pupils with special educational needs as compared with other schools in the area and respondent suspects that other schools may be "ill equipped to assess a child's special needs". Respondent can recall 5 children in recent years who transferred to Llangedwyn School as they were labelled as being either disruptive or under achieving in other schools, only to discover that they have special needs or are talented in ways that were missed by other schools.</p> <p>No other schools offer a suitable alternative for her son's schooling. Respondent is a practicing Christian who believes it is important children are given the opportunity to practice their faith within the school. The nearest alternative faith school would be Llanfechain. Respondent would be unable to commute twice daily to Llanfechain as it would affect her work. She would therefore be forced to change either to a closer school, which would not be a Church in Wales School or reduce her hours of work. Respondent considers that her right to a choice of a faith school is being ignored.</p> <p>Respondent and her husband run a business in the local area which employs 5 members of staff. Young families are leaving the Tanat Valley due to lack of employment. If Llangedwyn School closes the family would be considering a move over the border and this would be detrimental to the staff the business employs, to the community and to her family. Powys would lose another small family business which provides a service for the</p>

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	<p>community. "Communities are being diluted, almost rubbed out in the name of progression."</p> <p>Llangedwyn School isn't just a special school; it is a family orientated meeting place for all ages. It is the centre for computer training, Tai Chi class, playgroup in the village and offers provision for children to be cared for when parents are at work.</p>
L39	<p>Llangedwyn school is a "happy welcoming school". Children who have found it difficult to cope in other schools have flourished in Llangedwyn School. Pupils with disabilities thrive in the small environment of Llangedwyn School. The mixed age range within the classroom helps children in their learning as they support each other. Pupils are treated as individuals and given individual attention. Past pupils return to Llangedwyn school for school events because it is special and is very much needed to keep alive the future community within the Tanat Valley. If the school closes the post office in the village will lose trade and the village hall will be used less. The Church's congregation will suffer as it plays a big part in the life of the school.</p>
L40	<p>Because Llangedwyn School is a small school pupils receive individual attention. The school has a caring ethos. The staff and pupils are hospitable and welcoming to new pupils. Teachers provide a "one to one" service to parents, constantly updating them on the children's welfare and progress. In respondent's view no other local school could provide this comprehensive facility. If the school closes it will be detrimental to the village, Church and community as a whole. Many of the pupils walk to school. If children have to be bussed to alternative schools this will incur additional cost in terms of fuel and wasted time. Pupils will be upset by being separated from their friends.</p> <p>Llangedwyn School is the only school in the area which offers both a breakfast and an after school club. If this facility is not available this would impact on working parents. Llangedwyn community is centred around the church controlled school and if it were to close, the village would become a "drive through".</p>
L41	<p>Llangedwyn School has always been "a pivot of happiness and a wonderful example to other schools. Respondent's grandchild attends the school and loves to go there. She is concerned for her grandchild's and other children's future happiness if the school closes. Closure of the school will have a negative impact on the community and family life. During difficult economic times cut backs should "start from the top".</p>
L42	<p>Llangedwyn School has been in the heart of the village and community for a very long time. The closure of the school would greatly affect respondent's family. His daughter is happy there and in his view is receiving a very good primary education. At the moment his child walks to school every day. If the school closes this would not be possible. The environment would suffer if pupils need to be transported to alternative schools. Additional journeys would incur costs in fuel and in time. Llangedwyn village is a close-knit community. The school holds events which are well attended by other community members as well as parents. The Church holds events and these are attended by parents as well as community members. If the school closes the whole community is affected.</p>
L43	<p>The school is integral to educating local children and maintaining the communal environment of the village. Respondent is an ex pupil of the school and she made invaluable friendships there. If the school closes it would have a detrimental effect on the community. New people would not be encouraged to come and live in the area and it would have a negative impact on local businesses. The school's closure would add to family's travel costs because they would need to find an alternative school for respondent's sister and the closure of the school may mean that her parents could have to change their working hours. The school is the focal point of the village. If the school closes families will move out of the village.</p>

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L44	The quality of life of the community and the “spiritual health” of the community would suffer greatly if the school closed. The school has at its core a foundation of faith through its connection with the Church in Wales. This connection makes a clear and positive difference in children’s lives which parents value in their choice of school. The parents would be deprived of this choice if the closure of the school goes ahead as the school is the only Church in Wales school in the Tanat Valley. The input of faith is seen in the teaching of such values in areas of life such as respect, service, teamwork, responsibility for actions and citizenship. Respondent believes that a faith based education is indispensable in the preparation of young people for adult life and that this preparation commences at primary school. It would therefore be a great loss if Llangedwyn School closed.
L45	<p>Respondent helps to run the breakfast club and runs the successful after school club. If Llangedwyn School closes she will have no job. Former pupils of Llangedwyn School have done “extraordinarily well” at Secondary level. If the school closes, it will have a “devastating” effect on everyone within the school and the local community. Has anyone considered the psychological effect on the pupils attending the school if the closure goes ahead? The pupils are very happy in Llangedwyn School and should be left to enjoy their education where they will stay happy.</p> <p>The after school club is extremely popular and successful. It is an essential service for many for the families at the school who are working over school hours. Many parents at the school would be struggling to find after school childcare if the club was not there. Other schools in the area do not offer the same facilities.</p>
L46	Respondent was impressed by the confident and mature manner in which the children conducted interviews in the survey of customers attending the local farmers markets. She considers that it was a “splendid example of the advantage of a small school in coaching and developing skills” and suggests that it is doubtful that this could have been achieved in a larger school. Respondent is impressed by the quality of education provided at Llangedwyn School. There are strong links between the school and the church. The children of the school participated in the RoadPeace service held in church and it was evident the children had taken seriously the road traffic awareness sessions held at the school. Copies of the pupil’s work will be included in a future edition of “Village Voice” which is a local newsletter produced and distributed from the school. The closure of Llangedwyn School would result in the loss of this amenity and other essential links connecting a scattered rural community.
L47	Respondent is a past pupil of Llangedwyn School which was also attended by her grandfather, father and other members of her family. Respondent considers that the good foundation provided by Llangedwyn school followed her throughout her future schooling. The events held by the existing school are well supported by everyone in the community. A culture of “expected excellence” is very prevalent in all the activities provided by the school. The pupils of the school develop into confident young people. Respondent feels she benefited greatly through her life from the experiences at “this small, family friendly, community-based school” and she is pleased that existing pupils are able to benefit in the same way. Not only is the formal education very good but the school encourages the pupils to focus on concerns of the surrounding community because of its closeness as a school to the community. She hopes the school is given the opportunity to continue the “wonderful work it does in nurturing its pupil’s education and development.”
L48	Llangedwyn School’s happy, welcoming atmosphere influenced the respondent in choosing the school for her child’s education. She believes if children are happy at school they will be confident in their learning. Respondent’s son left Llangedwyn School as a “confident and articulate pupil”. She believes that smaller schools advantage children and her son had an easy transition to Secondary School which she attributes to the confidence that his experience at Llangedwyn School gave him. Without access to Llangedwyn School breakfast club, she would not be able to get to work on time as there are no child minders in the area who would be able to assist with school travel. She also makes use of the after school club and would

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	find it very difficult to manage if this facility was not available. None of the suggested alternative schools offer a regular after school club. If her child has to move school it will mean extra costs in travel for her family as they live in England and will not qualify for school transport. She may need to move her child to a primary school in England.
L49	Respondent's son is very upset about the possibility he may have to move from a school where he is happy and about the prospect of being separated from his friends. Her daughter has special educational needs. Respondent has great concerns about the effect of a change in education for her daughter. School transport would not be suitable for her daughter, aged 5, which would lead to additional transport costs and would have a big impact on the family's income. Many of the routes to alternative schools are impassable in the winter months. At the moment the family are within walking distance of Llangedwyn School. If Llangedwyn School is closed, the family would need to purchase another car, which would mean additional cost. The family may need to consider moving from the Tanat Valley to be closer to an alternative school, which would impact on their children's social connections. Closure of Llangedwyn School would result in empty houses in the village and a loss to local businesses. Children have a right to attend their local community school and respondent urges PCC not to deny this right.
L50	Loss of Llangedwyn School will mean a loss of uniqueness of the village of Llangedwyn as the school is a major part of its identity. The loss of the school will have an impact on respondent's business (he runs the local pub and families support it by using the facilities throughout the year). Unless PCC provide safe reliable transport to an alternative school, suitable for a four year old child, he will need to transport her to school himself, which will incur cost and mean the opening and closing times of his business will be affected to accommodate the additional time needed to take his child to and from school. Respondent also expresses concern about negative environmental impact as a result of additional journeys for parents to and from alternative schools.
L51	To close Llangedwyn School would leave a tremendous hole in the community. The school is vital for the community. The staff at the school are always welcoming and grateful to past parents and pupils for help. Respondent's son was a former pupil of the school and she continues to help with fundraising. Her son was bullied at other schools but was settled and happy at Llangedwyn School.
L52 & L53	Respondents' daughter, who suffers from cerebral palsy, is undertaking work experience at the school's breakfast and after school club. It is their view that if the Llangedwyn School closes this would be illegal under the Equal Opportunities Act because it would deny his daughter opportunity of a work placement in her local community.
L54	The closure of the school would have massive impact on the community as it is a place where parents and community members meet. At present family live within walking distance of the school. If respondent's child had to go to an alternative school, he/she would need to go by bus or by car. Respondent considers the bus would need to have an escort with the children as well as a driver to ensure her child is "safe at all times". If she needed to take her child to school by car this would incur additional cost and could be unsafe on roads which are dangerous in winter months. Respondent's son has special needs (difficulties with communication). If he had to go to a larger primary school she does not consider he would receive as much individual support as he has at Llangedwyn School. He is happy to go to school as he receives a lot of emotional support for his teachers and peers at Llangedwyn School. He thrives in the small environment of the school. Respondent considers if her son was not to receive the same level of support he receives in Llangedwyn School his behaviour would be affected and we would become withdrawn. When her son has to transfer to High School she believes he will be given dedicated emotional and educational support from staff at Llangedwyn school. Respondent uses the breakfast and after school club at Llangedwyn School on a regular basis and the same facilities are not offered at other schools in the area. Her son also attends the Youth Club at Llangedwyn School which gives him an opportunity to mix with his friends and improves his social

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	<p>interaction. The school runs classes out of school hours e.g. IT. Respondent has attended the IT class at the school which she has found "invaluable". If Llangedwyn School closes she considers this could have a detrimental psychological effect on her son as he has special needs and he would be separated from his friends. She considers that all the "hard work the school has done with her son" in relation to his special education needs "would all go to waste"</p>
L55	<p>Finances: Llangedwyn School is showing a healthy budget. Llangedwyn School has a sustainable financial future.</p> <p>Staffing costs: In a document presented by the Authority on 4.10.2011 it stated the school would have a 40% increase in staffing costs over the next few years. The school can find no evidence to merit this statement with any validity. There is due to be only a nominal percent increase in staffing costs over the new few years. Staff "believe that hard work and dedication is the key to a successful school and that as a staff" they "consistently and willingly deliver excellent results because of the children" they "work with and not because of" their "wages"</p> <p>Special Educational Needs: 36% of the pupils on roll have SEN. Several parents have moved their children to the school because the children have experienced difficulties in other primary school settings. 50% of the children with special needs at Llangedwyn School have moved there from other primary schools. Parents have stated that they have moved their children because from other schools because they were unhappy and unwilling to attend school but since moving to Llangedwyn School these pupils are enthusiastic to attend school and are making good progress. 58% of the children in the Foundation Phase class at the school have special educational needs. 2 pupils who have recently left Llangedwyn School to go to High School attained level 5 in all subjects in Year 6 and when they joined the school in years 3 and 4, one child had a number of behavioural and learning difficulties and the other labelled with potential ADHD and severe behavioural problems at another local school. The inclusive nature of Llangedwyn School underpins its approach to learning. Staff believe that pupils leaving Llangedwyn School are "equipped emotionally and educationally ready continue their learning both at the High School and in life" and that is why many parents whose children have experienced difficulties choose to send their children to the school.</p> <p>Standards: In 2010 66% of pupils made 3 levels progress in reading, writing and English Y2 – Y6 (L2-L5). In 2011, 42% of pupils made 3 levels progress (L2-L5 and L1 to L4) in English, writing, reading and maths. All pupils in 2011 made the expected 2 levels progress from Y2 to Y6 in all subjects and all pupils in KS1 made the expected progress from their baseline scores. Over the past 3 years there has only been one year when Llangedwyn School hasn't performed at a significantly higher level than both Wales and Powys in all subjects at the end of KS2 and during the other year Llangedwyn School performed in line with standards in Wales and Powys.</p> <p>Behaviour: School staff have high expectations of pupils' behaviour and the school has an "exceptional reputation for good behaviour, not just in the community but on school trips when the good behaviour of the children is frequently commented on." The school has had no exclusions of any kind over the past year.</p> <p>Community Use: Llangedwyn School has strong links with the local community. The school is used as a base for many community activities and the school grounds are enjoyed by the whole community on a regular basis. The school is offered as a free resource for the community as it allows small local groups to meet in the school free of charge e.g. the Tai Chi group. The school building is also used for a number of classes and community events including adult education classes. It is the only school in the area that offers so many affordable opportunities for the community at the local primary school. Many of the events are run by staff, parents and governors of the school, often voluntarily. If the school was closed most of the</p>

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events could not be held at another venue due to the cost and loss of volunteers.

Little Hedgehogs: The school has a volunteer run parent and toddler group which is well supported. If the school was to close the group would be lost to the community.

Parent Teachers and Friends Association: The school's PTFA has raised significant sums of money for both the school and various charities and demonstrates the high level of support and commitment the school engenders.

Village Voice is a community magazine is published solely by the school on behalf of the local community and is a free publication. The publication would be lost if Llangedwyn School closes.

Equal Opportunities: The school offers a voluntary work placement at its breakfast and after school club for a young person with learning difficulties. If Llangedwyn School was to close staff believe that this would be indirect discrimination as a local provision to provide work experience for a person with a disability would be withdrawn.

After School Club – wraparound care from 8am to 5:30 pm

Llangedwyn School is the only school in the Tanat Valley that offers full wraparound care for pupils. This is a vital resource to the local community and its loss would cause great detriment to the local rural economy. Working parents would find it difficult to manage without this essential facility.

Travel:

At present all pupils either walk to the school or live close enough to car share or are transported by their parents. If the children had to travel to alternative schools this would incur cost to the Authority's transport budget. The roads to the majority of the alternative schools are poor. Many of the roads are single track and impassable in winter resulting in an even longer journey to school during cold winter months. Potentially many school hours could be lost due to bad weather. Close working relationships with parents will be lost if pupils have to travel by bus to another school. For four of the pupils at Llangedwyn School who have significant learning difficulties the experience of having to travel on a bus to school each day and no regular parental contact with the school at the beginning and end of each day would have a severe detrimental effect on their education.

Pupil numbers: Since the news that Llangedwyn School would be reviewed was released by the press in January, 2011, the school has significantly increased pupil numbers. 8 new pupils have joined the school and 2 more will be joining in September, 2012.

Unique provision: Llangedwyn School has a strong link with the community church and this aspect of faith is reflected in all areas of school life. The school has a clear ethos of respect, understanding, empathy tolerance, support and patience. The ethos and atmosphere is commented on by visitors to the school. The ethos makes Llangedwyn an irreplaceable school with many qualities that cannot be matched by any surrounding schools. The school has an "inclusive" nature and pupils with difficulties, some with extreme difficulties, settle quickly into the school and are accepted wholeheartedly by their peers.

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	<p>Pupils at Llangedwyn School are offered opportunities that are not available at other equivalent local schools: wooded area, stream, adventure playground, large field, links with local businesses, ambassador school status, annual residential trip, regular educational visits.</p> <p>Children at Llangedwyn are offered a clear pupil voice. There are clear lines of communication through the School Council. Children have developed a Youth Club and After School Tuck shop that raises money for charities that are important to them. The children deserve to attend the school of their choice and where they are happy, nurtured and enabled to become successful members of the community and lifelong learners.</p>
L56	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In deciding to include Llangedwyn School in the review PCC did not follow their stated policies or their own procedure laid down for such a review. • It did not follow Welsh Government guidelines in respect of consultations with interested parties. • The decision making process was flawed in that the information presented to the Cabinet and used to inform the decision was incorrect and the manner in which the information about Llangedwyn and Llanfechain CIW Schools was inconsistent and led to bias. • The decision made was incorrect because it cited “lack of capacity in receiving schools and opportunity for savings by formalising collaborations” in deciding to retain Llanfechain; whilst citing as the reasons for proceeding with consultation on review of Llangedwyn “to ensure the efficient use of council resources, through the reduction of the number of available spaces and an estimated revenue saving of £58K.” • The different outcomes for the two schools cannot be justified. If lack of capacity in receiving schools was a reason to retain Llanfechain, it should likewise have been a reason to retain Llangedwyn. • Llanfechain was retained due to a possible saving of £6500 if collaborative arrangements were formalised, but even with that saving, there would still have been an overall saving of £68K if Llanfechain was closed, whereas, the decision was taken to proceed to consultation for Llangedwyn due to a saving of £58K; 10K less than the savings which would have been made if Llanfechain was closed. • One of the reasons for taking the decision to review Llangedwyn was to reduce the number of available places, but governors believe Llanfechain has a higher number of surplus places than Llangedwyn, so Llanfechain School should also have been reviewed. • There is no justifiable reason for the decision by PCC to retain Llanfechain and proceed with the review of Llangedwyn. Both schools should have been treated consistently and the same decision reached on both schools. • The information used by PCC was wholly inaccurate. • In making this decision PCC failed to place sufficient weight on the impact of the closure on the Llangedwyn community, particularly in terms of social inclusion and the economic effects of the withdrawal of the services to the community provided by the school. • Governors are of the opinion that PCC failed to fulfil its responsibility: to ensure the review carried out by its officers was within the policies and regulations of both PCC and WAG; that its officers were competent and diligent in undertaking the review particularly in respect of checking information presented to them by both the governing bodies and from within PCC. PCC failed to ensure that the information presented to the Cabinet on 4.10.11 was correct, impartial and reflected the true situation in both Llangedwyn and Llanfechain schools and failed to demonstrate that the decision to commence consultations on the closure of Llangedwyn at that meeting whilst retaining Llanfechain School was properly made. • The 11 schools identified for review at the meeting of the LICPB in January 2011 and which included Llangedwyn, were identified for review based on the fact that the schools had been identified as having projected numbers of 30 pupils or less at some point over the next 3 school years.

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	<p>years; not 35. Had the Council intended that the review should relate to schools with less than 35 pupils, the schools identified for review on 18th January, 2011, by the LICPB should have included all primary school with 35 pupils or less, not just those with under 30.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• By identifying schools for review which were projected to have 30 pupils or less and making a decision to review on that basis, it was procedurally and legally unfair to then change the review criteria for those schools to 35 pupils or less, without bringing into the review all other schools having pupil numbers of 35 or less.• Governors are of the view the current Council adopted policy on primary school reorganisation does not include a policy approving the review of small schools when pupil numbers fall or are projected to fall below 35 and this is not a policy which the Council has formally adopted or consulted upon.• Governors are of the opinion that the minutes of the LICPB meeting on 18th January, 2011, make it clear that the LICPB only intended to review schools with projected numbers of 30 or less; not 35 or less.• It was only at a meeting of the LICPB on 24th May, 2011, 4 months after the 11 schools had been identified for review that reference is made to the figure of 35 with regard to projected pupil numbers.• At this stage no other schools were brought into the review, it remained those 11 schools identified based on projected numbers of 30 or less.• By identifying schools for review which were projected to have 30 pupils or less and making a decision to review on that basis, it was procedurally and legally unfair to then change the review criteria for those schools to 35 pupils or less, without bringing into the review all other schools having pupil numbers of 35 or less.• In identifying the schools to be considered in January 2011 based on pupil number of 30 or less, those schools identified which were able to show project numbers of 30 or more during the review process should have been removed from the review, or the Council should have restarted the review process and included all schools with 35 pupils or less.• The governors of Llangedwyn School based their initial discussion and consultations from January until April 2011 on that basis and were confident that provided they could evidence pupil numbers in excess of 30 in each of the next 3 school years, the school would be safe from the proposed closure consultations.• At a meeting with the governing body on 13th April, 2011, with Gareth Jones, governors were not aware that the criteria had been altered with regard to pupil numbers and still believed that the school would be safe provided it could be evidenced that pupil numbers were in excess of 30.• It was only at the meeting with governors, held on 15th June, 2011, that it became clear that the Council's position was that evidence of 30 or more pupils over the next 3 years would not be sufficient to take Llangedwyn out of the review and that the Council's position was that evidence of pupil numbers in excess of 35 would be required and no adequate explanation for the change was provided.• Clarification is required as to why Llangedwyn was identified as being a school with actual or projected numbers of less than 30 by the LICPB on 18th January, 2011, as the pupils projections provided by Gareth Jones and presumably those upon which the decision to include Llangedwyn in the review was taken show that the projected pupil numbers do not fall below 30 in any of the next 3 school years.• The current Council adopted policy on primary school reorganisation doe not include a policy approving the review of small schools when pupil numbers fall or are projected to fall below 35 and this is not a policy which the Council has formally adopted or consulted upon.• At no point in the meeting of the Council's Board held on 15th July, 2008, did members approve the review of individual small schools when the pupil numbers fall below or are projected to fall below 35.
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- The Board's decision on 10th November, 2009, was that officers should undertake informal discussions with governing bodies of schools having pupil numbers of 35 or less and which were not in the area review process. The Board did not approve the review of individual small schools when pupil numbers fall or are projected to fall below 35.
- PCC do not now, nor have they ever adopted a policy providing for school with less than 35 pupils to be subject to review. Furthermore, to identify schools with 30 or less pupils for review and change the criteria to 35 pupils part way through the process, based on this being within policy, is clearly incorrect and not within policy as consulted upon and adopted by the Council.
- Llangedwyn School's projected pupil numbers on roll for the three years identified when the review commenced showed pupil numbers in excess of 30 in each of those years and as such, Llangedwyn School should have been removed from the review process.
- PCC failed to ensure it had followed consultative procedure for school review as determined by Welsh Government.
- Section 1.11 of Circular 21/2009 states that consultation should include "the view of those most directly affected, including children and young people. In conducting the review of Llangedwyn CIW School, PCC has taken no steps whatsoever to follow the terms of WAG Circular 21/2009 in respect of undertaking a consultation with the pupils of Llangedwyn about the closure of their school. This is a material failure to comply with the procedures for such review as determined by the Welsh Assembly Government.
- The decision to commence the statutory consultation process on the closure of Llangedwyn C in W school was not taken with due diligence. The information put before the Cabinet on 4th October, 2011 contained factual errors and inconsistencies when compared to the information provided for Llanfechain School. The lack of parity in terms of how the material was presented and used by the Cabinet and PCC officers and the ultimate decisions reached on Llanfechain and Llangedwyn schools discriminated against Llangedwyn and led to a different decision being taken on each of the schools, which cannot be justified based on the evidence available.
- Llangedwyn governors contend that the necessary and expected levels of scrutiny and due diligence were not apparent when the seven Cabinet members took their decision on 4th October, 2011.
- The decision in respect of Llanfechain School was delayed in order to allow that the future of Llanfechain and Llangedwyn School could be considered together and this took place on 4th October, 2011. The delay afforded opportunities for the original report from Llangedwyn School governors to be amended. Page 3 of the document attached to the report considered by the Cabinet on 4th October gives the date of submission as 19th July and states that it had been updated to reflect the most recent information available to the governors at time of writing. The governors of Llanfechain School had a period of at least 7 months in which to draft and amend their response to the report ultimately presented to the Cabinet on 4th October, 2011 but the amount of time available to the governing body of Llangedwyn School to respond to the school's review was only a little over 4 weeks and was prejudicial to Llangedwyn.
- Tables showing current and projected pupil numbers for Llangedwyn and Llanfechain Schools included in the report to Cabinet on 4th October were not calculated using the same base data. There is an issue with the figures produced for January 2015 in Llanfechain School's table, which in the view of Llangedwyn governing body members, indicated a "sudden influx of pupils that runs against the previous year' demographic trend.
- The result of these presentational differences is that the final total of pupils in the table for Llanfechain is 40 and for Llangedwyn it is 34, which gives the impression that Llanfechain will have significantly more pupils on roll in future years. This view is not supported by the current figures for Llanfechain which shows in January, 2012, 29 pupils on roll and 27 in January, 2013.
- There is a lack of parity between the data in the report presented to the Cabinet on 4th October as the criteria used for calculating the projected

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	<p>pupil numbers for each school was not the same and figures for Llanfechain School have been inflated against those of Llangedwyn School. It was incumbent upon PCC to ensure that the pupil numbers for both schools were calculated in the same way and this they failed to do.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governors of Llangedwyn School are “dismayed that the decision made by the 7 Councillors” at the Cabinet meeting held on 4th October, 2011, “went against Llangedwyn School.”• It is the view of governors that “a disturbing series of errors and statements in the two reports created a more favourable picture for retention of Llanfechain School and appear to have prejudiced Llangedwyn”.• By only presenting certain information for Llangedwyn and not equivalent information for Llanfechain, Cabinet members cannot gain a fair comparison.• Governors dispute the percentage surplus places figures of 34% given in the report.• Llangedwyn Governors dispute the distance between Llangedwyn School and Ysgol Bro Cynllaith quoted in the report.• Llanfechain’s report explores the potential impact of “prospective” housing development in the school’s catchment and of UDP allocations in adjoining catchments on pupil numbers but no reference is made in Llangedwyn’s report of the actual UDP housing allocation in Llangedwyn or in the catchment of its two nearest schools.• The decision made on 4th October 2011, was to keep Llanfechain School open. The reason given was lack of capacity in receiving schools and opportunity for saving by formalising collaboration arrangements but governors contend that, in terms of receiving schools Llanfechain and Llangedwyn school are in identical positions and therefore if lack of capacity in receiving schools was given as a reason to retain Llanfechain , it should also have been given as a reason to retain Llangedwyn.• The governors of Llangedwyn School were assured by Gareth Jones at the meeting on 15th June, 2011, that the temporary arrangements between Llansantffraid School and Llanfechain school were temporary and confirmed that these arrangements would have no bearing on the decision to be taken for either school but despite such assurance these arrangements were cited as a reason for retention of Llanfechain, specifically thereby prejudicing Llangedwyn.• There is no justification for reaching a different conclusion for each school based on reduction of surplus places.• Reaching different decisions at the same meeting for Llanfechain and Llangedwyn schools based on costs savings cannot be supported by evidence.• Governors of Llangedwyn School contend that in deciding to include Llangedwyn School in the review PCC did not follow their stated policies or their own procedure laid down for such a review.• PCC did not follow the WAG guidelines particularly in respect of consultation with interested parties.• The decision making process was flawed, in that the information presented to the Cabinet and used to inform the decision was incorrect and the manner in which the information about Llangedwyn and Llanfechain CIW Schools (being the school that PCC had decided to consider together to ensure fairness and consistency) was inconsistent and led to bias.• There can be no objective or justifiable basis upon which PCC should reach different conclusion in relation to Llanfechain and Llangedwyn Schools having taken the decision to consider the two schools together to ensure fairness and equal treatment of each school.• Having taken the decision to retain Llanfechain School on 4th October, 2011, and considered all representations since that date, PCC should ensure consistency between the two schools by concluding that in relation to Llangedwyn School the council should “take no further steps towards closure of the school but monitor the situation in terms of number of pupils on roll and that officers work with the school to identify ways
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	<p>to reduce surplus capacity.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The governors and community accept that the school cannot be immune from future review but believe that Llangedwyn School should be treated equally with other schools and, in particular be considered, if appropriate in future, as part of an area review with all other schools in the catchment.• In May 2011, Llangedwyn School recruited a fully qualified permanent Head Teacher with a view to taking the school forward into the future. Other schools in the Llanfyllin catchment area have been unable to recruit a permanent headteacher.• Llangedwyn Governors cite a document entitled “The Perfect Antidote to Toxic Childhood” by Mervyn Benford, Information Officer for the National Association for Small Schools, in support of education in small schools.• Educational standards: Using “Value Added Data”, at Llangedwyn School, over the past few years, a number of children have made greater than expected progress at the end of KS2. In 2010 66% of pupils made 3 levels of progress from Y2 – y6 (L2 –L5) in reading, writing and English. In 2011, 42% of pupils made 3 levels of progress (L2-L5 and L1-L4) in English, writing reading and mathematics. All pupils in 2011 made expected 2 levels of progress from Y2-Y6 in all subjects and all pupils in KS1 made the expected progress from their baseline scores. Over the past three years, there has only been one year when the school has not performed at a significantly higher level than both Wales and Powys in all subjects at the end of KS2. During the other year the school performed in line with standards in Wales and Powys. The school’s educational standards and performance are above average for Powys even taking into account the School’s pupils with special education needs and additional learning needs.• Special Education needs:• 36% of the pupils on Llangedwyn School role have special educational needs and 50% of children with special needs have arrived at Llangedwyn having attending other schools. A close “family” ethos permeates the school and provides a secure inclusive environment in which children with SEN and additional learning needs can be supported by the whole school and the wider community”.• Governors quote WAG circular 21/2009 key principles 1.32 that states “consideration should be given to how changes to schools are likely to impact on all other services provided by the Authority for pupils with disabilities and/or SEN. Any change should not be detrimental to the standard of these services”. PCC would have to demonstrate that alternative schools are equivalent or higher for children with SEN and ALN and that any change would not be detrimental to education and support of these children. Many children admitted to Llangedwyn School are brought there by parents who state support and provision has been lacking in their previous schools.• Social Inclusion: Llangedwyn School places great importance on social inclusion within the school and in the wider community. This is evidenced not only with regard to the children but also continued work the school undertakes for those adults with learning difficulties and/or disabilities in the community. The school currently offers a volunteer work placement for a young woman with disabilities. The school’s inclusive approach creates a space where participants of all ages and abilities are valued within a supportive community.• Extra-curricular activities: The pupils of the school are offered numerous and varied activities in additional to the normal curriculum which are not offered in their entirety by other schools in the area.• Catchment area: In the PCC presentation at the consultation meeting of 8th February PCC stated that “over half of pupils are from out of the catchment”. This is incorrect. Currently 25 pupils out of 28 being educated at the school are either within the Llangedwyn catchment area or lived there originally when they started school. The remaining pupils are from the surrounding area. Given that 89% of children are from within
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	<p>Llangedwyn catchment area or lived there originally when they started school, the impact of a school reorganisation would have a devastating effect on the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cost per pupil: In the Community Impact Assessment by Powys County Council, it stated that the cost to the County Council per pupil in Llangedwyn C in W School for 2011/12 is £4785; 32.5% higher than the Powys average of £3612. <p>It should be noted that 30% of PCC schools had a spend per pupil of more than £4000 in 2011/12. With respect to Llangedwyn School, this equates to £700 per child therefore comparing it to the mean creates a statistical skew which masks the true picture of cost and disadvantages Llangedwyn School.</p> <p>Community facilities in Llangedwyn: In Llangedwyn village there is a village Hall, St Cedwyn's Church, a craft centre and a post office as well as the school, which provides a focus for the community. The village hall holds larger community events plus karate and line dancing classes. The village hall is available for large local functions however the layout of the church does not lend itself to this type of use. The school's inclusive approach creates a space where participants of all ages and abilities are valued within a supportive community.</p> <p>Governors agree with the view that "once you lose the school within the immediate community, the whole community feeling among the children and their parents is lost"</p> <p>School facilities: Llangedwyn School has been a vital resource for the community for a number of years. The school hosts a number of classes and community events including adult education classes, parent toddler group breakfast and after school club and a youth club for primary aged children. The majority of these activities take place at minimal or no cost to the participants because the school is available for small groups of this nature without the charge that they would have to pay if they used the larger village hall for which a fee is charged. It is unlikely therefore that Little Hedgehogs Parents and Toddler group would be able to transfer to the village hall as the voluntary costs of this is £1 per child. The small numbers participating in Tai Chi classes would be unable to support a move to the village hall. The school also provides facilities that are not available in the village hall such as an IT suite which enables adult ICT class and genealogy research classes.</p> <p>The school helps with the production of the Village Voice newsletter which is a source of local new and information and allows small businesses to advertise at no cost to the local community. This is of assistance to new businesses and the self employed in the area who cannot afford to advertise in the local press. This service would cease if the school closes.</p> <p>Many fundraising and school social events are held in partnership with Antur Tanat Cain at Llangedwyn Mill which allows local businesses members of the community and children to work together for the good of school and the community. The Jubilee Luncheon Club was founded at Llangedwyn Mill for senior citizens and other people with social need in the community. The children of the school have visited and entertained regularly at the Jubilee Luncheon club. If the school closes, these events will no longer take place.</p> <p>Llangedwyn is twinned with a town in Normandy and children have taken part in annual exchanges with the children from the school in France. This exchange would be in jeopardy if Llangedwyn School closes.</p>
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The Friends of Llangedwyn meets on a monthly basis to discuss issues affecting the village school and surrounding area and the school is a focal point of this group.

The school offers a well attended breakfast and after school kids club. The after school is totally self sustaining and provides employment for two members of the community. Parents can leave their children at the school from 8 am to 5:30 pm. There is no other school in the Tanat Valley or surrounding area that provides either of these facilities. Almost 90% of the children who attend Llangedwyn School rely on the school's breakfast and after school kids club. (There is only one family who do not use these facilities)

Children: PCC should take into consideration the psychological impact that the school reorganisation would have on the children.

The Governors state that "at no point during the PCC process to date (March, 2012) have the children of Llangedwyn C in W School been consulted."

Economic and business impact: 94% of parents of the current pupils at Llangedwyn C in W School are either employed or self employed. Of the total number of working parents, 48% of those are self employed and run their own business and sometimes two businesses within the same family in the Tanat Valley or surrounding area. This equates to 16 different businesses in the Tanat Valley or surrounding area; a major contribution to the economy of Powys. The school currently supports all of these local businesses which are run by parents whose children attend the school or will be attending the school by offering the flexibility of the breakfast and after school kids club to enable extended working hours to the self employed and those running small business. Many parents feel their employment and training opportunities have been improved with the existence of these school facilities. For many families whose children presently attend Llangedwyn School, the economic effect upon their households of having to move their child to any of the alternative schools would be profound. The extended school day at Llangedwyn allows parents to leave their child at school, travel to their place of employment, undertake a fully working day, collecting their child on the way home. Businesses are considering relocation away from Powys due to the school reorganisation programme. The lack of breakfast provision at the suggested alternative schools the extra travel time required to get to and from the alternative schools, the lack of after school provision, would mean that parents would have to find employment with shorter working hours, cease working altogether or find expensive childcare. No other school in the local and surrounding area offers the facilities of the breakfast and after school club. Closure of Llangedwyn School would result in enterprising parents being forced to curtail the growth within their businesses and employed parents being faced with may difficult decisions regarding the future of their jobs and therefore, their children's futures. Llangedwyn School is a "Family Friendly School" not only are the needs of the child met, but consideration given to self employed and working parents, which is a "glowing example" of sustainability and regeneration within the Llangedwyn community.

Faith considerations: Llangedwyn School is the only Faith school in the Tanat Valley. The religious character of the school is of great significance to its parents, staff and governors. One parent states "to deny our children the opportunity to be taught in a Faith school is contradictory to both WAG and national educational policies and this is tantamount to undermining the Christian faith in this area" The are very close links between the school and the Church. The Diocesan Director of Education, Carol Burgess, and the Bishop of St Asaph both support the retention of Llangedwyn School.

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Transport:

PCC do not fund any transport for children attending Llangedwyn School. With regard to the pupils that currently attend Llangedwyn School and based on the three schools that PCC have stated as alternative schools, 23 out of 28 pupils would require transport to their nearest school because their nearest school is outside the threshold of 2 miles from their home.

Transport costs: PCC does not fund any transport for pupils attending Llangedwyn School at present. In the report presented to the Cabinet on 4.10.2011, the additional transport costs were stated to be £38K. However governors understand that there would be 2 extra bus routes required to transport the children currently attending Llangedwyn School - route 1 at a cost to PCC of £38K and route 2 at a cost of PCC of £12K. There would be a total of £50K additional transport costs to PCC. Closing the school would exacerbate the transport budget which is already overspent.

As Llangedwyn School has 36% pupils with SEN and ALN there would be an additional cost incurred by PCC on top of the transport costs of £50K to take into account the use of escorts on buses for those children with SEN and Additional Learning Needs and this has not been taken into account by PCC.

Transport considerations for pupils: Travelling via bus would cause undue stress to all of the children of Llangedwyn School who have never had to use this mode of transport without the security of their parents.

Environmental impact: Regardless of whichever school PCC choose to select as the alternative school, all of the children would have to be transported either via free transport on a bus or by car. Therefore to send Llangedwyn pupils to any one of the three schools nominated by PCC would result in an increase of mileage by an average of over 53,000 miles per year and this is based on normal routes i.e. excludes the extended winter routes on more suitable roads. This would impact on road systems, carbon emissions and the amount of time that children spend travelling to and from school and goes against WAG's objectives to reduce traffic congestion, carbon emissions and promote alternatives to the car. Travelling by car would also result in additional fuel costs for individual families.

Hazardous routes: Living in rural surroundings with many single track lanes, not all routes to schools are safe particularly in the winter. Many of the routes to some of the alternative schools are either B or unclassified roads and not gritted when there are icy conditions. Travelling longer routes during the winter months would add to travelling time for children if they travelled on the bus or additional travelling time for parents if they chose to travel by car.

Transport to denominational schools: According to the Equality and Impact Assessment – under the heading of "Provisional Assessment Result", it states that "some adverse impact was identified with regard to religion or belief. This adverse impact can be justified as there is a good faith school within reasonable travelling distance." Given that all parents of pupils in Llangedwyn School choose to take their children to a faith school, this would result in parents driving their children by car to the alternative faith school named by PCC. This would incur a total mileage of 314 miles per day (round trip) for all of the children during the summer months and a total of 564 miles per day (round trip) during the winter months. Given this extensive mileage, governors do not consider this as a "reasonable travelling distance"

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	<p>Equal Opportunities and Social Diversity: Should Llangedwyn School close, there would be a loss of choice for those parents not wishing to send their children to a school with an emphasis on Welsh medium teaching. Concerning the three alternative schools offered by PCC, the communities in which these schools sit and including Llangedwyn School, are all culturally and linguistically extremely diverse.</p> <p>Reuse of School Buildings: The school site cannot be developed due to the covenant on the school buildings. Therefore no monies could be reinvested in the School Modernisation Programme should closure be pursued.</p> <p>Former Chair of Governors of Llangedwyn School, Len Lewis, said "The building is in much better condition than some locally built in the 50s and 60s and will need less refurbishment going into the future. It also lends itself to extension, outwards or upwards, if needed in the future."</p> <p>Regeneration: The area is classified as a rural ward in the Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-2013 enabling enterprises and groups to seek support from a number of Powys Regeneration Partnership initiatives. However the site cannot be reused for non-educational purposes due to the covenant on the school building.</p> <p>Conclusion: the closure of Llangedwyn School would have significant impact on the local community through loss of a centre of education for its young people, as a meeting place, the services to the local community provided by the school and ultimately the local economy. There is strong evidence that children flourish in a small schools, as this allows for bespoke education that caters for the individual child's needs and a personal approach to learning.</p>
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Appendix C

Feedback from pupils at Llangedwyn Church of Wales Primary School re: possible closure

Wednesday 21st March 2012

Facilitators:

Owen James and Sue Glenn.

Participants:

Nathan, Ben, John, Emrys, Jessie, Mary and Phoebe.

Observer:

Jude Robinson – School Governor

Context:

Owen James introduced himself and Sue Glenn to the children and explained that we wanted to hear from them about their school, answer any questions they had about the proposal and take back their comments to Cllr Hayes to help him make a decision about whether their school should close or stay open.

Sue Glenn then asked the children if they wanted to read out their notes first and afterwards do an exercise or vice versa. The children said they'd like to do an exercise first. Sue asked them to think about what they liked about their school, to choose a coloured felt tip pen and write all these things down on the flipchart provided. (See Photo's "What's Great 1 and 2" to see pictorially some of the comments made).

Below is a summary of the main comments the children made:

Exercise One

"Llangedwyn – what's great about it?"

- No bullying
- Teachers
- Everyone forgives each other
- Breakfast Club
- Fun work
- Team points and work
- Raising money – sponsored walk
- School Council
- Ollie the Owl
- After School Club
- Tuck Shop
- Including each other
- Friendly
- Helpful
- Safe
- Accept people for who they are
- Rewards for being good
- Bean bags
- We all have a voice
- We have an education to suit our abilities
- When you are sad there is always someone to help you

The Children's Notes

The children then took it in turns to read out the notes they had prepared.

Nathan and Ben said the school was friendly; it was easy to make friends here and if you were sad people helped and were kind. They liked the fact that the school was small because it gave them more time to talk to their teachers. They felt safe, accepted and said they had an education that suited everyone's ability. They didn't want to go to a larger school because they were worried about being bullied and getting into fights. Some of their friends had told them this happened. They felt that Llangedwyn was inclusive, there was no bullying and if they got into trouble it was dealt with quietly by the teachers.

Jessie, Mary and Phoebe said they'd been into speak to the children in the Infants and had their comments to feed into the process. The infant children liked to pray to God, they liked their breaks and said if they were good they got to go on the scooters and bikes. They liked their teachers, colouring, painting and drawing, the computers and the bean bags. They had friends and liked games, music, the rocket project, the salmon project and enjoyed "show and tell".

Jessie, Mary and Phoebe then gave their own comments. They said they felt they had freedom to make choices about things that were important. They had an Eco and School Council. They had been allowed to work to re-design their own classroom and introduced a bean bag corner. They liked the fact that they had Ollie the Owl as a reward. They enjoyed the tuck shop which opened Monday's and Friday's and both breakfast and after school club. They enjoyed raising money for the school and had recently done a sponsored walk to raise money for a trip. They were looking forward to Youth Club restarting again on a Tuesday night.

John felt that the education he received at Llangedwyn was much better than at his previous school. He said this school was fun. Emrys agreed. They both went on to say that when they did good work they got rewards, that all pupils had a voice and that the education here suited them. They felt they were pushed (in a good way) by the teachers to do their best, the teachers were patient and encouraged them and told them not to give up. They felt supported.

They also said they had a good laugh together at school with the teachers and learning was fun and thus stuff was easy to remember. They did lots of games and activities here and loved the fact that they had a good playground and big field. They had access to PE equipment and also PCs. There were PCs and laptops too and they had an interactive whiteboard for lessons. They said the teachers joined in with them. They really liked their new reading corner with the bean bags and felt good that they had got the books and organised it all themselves. They said they were encouraged to take responsibility for their own classroom and work together as a team. They got points for this and would sometimes get free time on a Friday if they'd

achieved 15 points. John and Emyr said that RE was good with Miss Roberts and they were learning about each other. They also liked their Welsh lesson on a Thursday and said the new teacher helped them a lot and did guided reading if they needed it.

Exercise 2

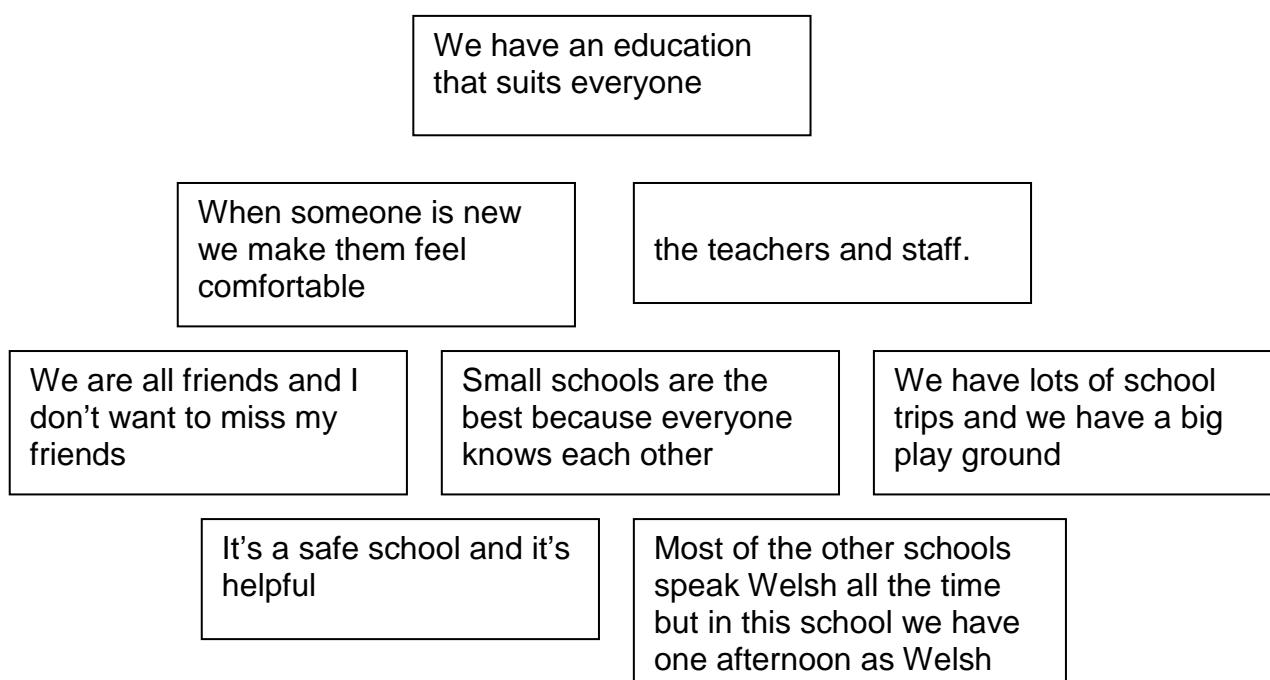
Sue Glenn then asked the children if they'd like to ask Owen their questions and then do a final exercise or vice versa. The children choose to do the exercise first so Sue gave out coloured post-it-notes and asked the children to think about what they'd say if someone asked them why their school should stay open. She asked them to write the reasons on a post-it-note. One reason per post-it-note.

After approximately 5 minutes Sue collected in all the post-it-notes and stuck them up on the wall. Each one was read out and any that were the same or similar were grouped together in discussion with the children and the governor.

Sue then stuck a flipchart up on the wall with eight pre-drawn boxes which formed a diamond type shape with one box at the top, two on the second row, three on the third row and then two on the fourth. She asked the children to consider which of their reasons would be the most important. The children then discussed and decided which order their reasons would go in and ranked them on the diamond shape.

(See Photo's "Why It Should Stay Open 1 - 3" to see pictorially the key reasons the children put forward).

In order the pupil's reasons why the school should stay open were:-



A couple of other post-it-notes remained. These were that the pupils wanted the school to stay open because the food was good, they enjoyed break time and tuck and that they all laughed a lot and told jokes and had fun.

Questions

The pupils then asked Owen James their questions.

Jessie asked if the reason for maybe closing the school was the number of pupils. Owen explained the link between pupils and costs.

Mary asked "If the school is to close how long would it take?" One of the boys asked if it would be the day afterwards. Owen explained that there was a proper process to follow which would take quite a while and that it wouldn't be until August 2013 that the school would shut if the decision was to do so. Ben said at this point that he didn't want to lose his friends and if they had to go to other schools this would happen.

Nathan and John asked Owen about numbers of pupils needed to keep the school open and mentioned that the newspaper had reported that their school was "doomed". John also mentioned that another school with fewer pupils in it had stayed open. Owen responded by explaining about the numbers and acknowledged their points and said he would feed them back.

Jessie said she felt friendships were really important at this school and that it wasn't fair to shut their school. She said it felt good to be in this school.

John spoke about his experience at another school and said Llangedwyn was a brilliant school and that if pupils who came into the school did mean things they were taught to become good pupils instead. He said that he was going to High School soon and if the school closed it wouldn't affect him but he still cared about the school and everyone else.

Ben said that they felt like they were being punished by the proposal to close the school.

Owen acknowledged this feeling and said he would take back all their comments to Cllr Hayes and thanked all the pupils for giving their views.

Owen and Sue left shortly afterwards having spoken to the Head Teacher briefly about the next steps.

Meeting of PCC with Children of Llangedwyn Church In Wales Primary School

21st March 2012

Notes taken at Meeting by Jude Robinson

Present :

PCC – Owen James, Sue Glen

Children – Emrys Davies, John Roberts, Nathan Reynolds, Ben Davies, Jessie Sandell, Mary Aspinall and Phoebe Saxon

Owen and Sue introduced themselves to the children as representatives from Powys County Council.

Owen – The council are talking to all the local people about the possibility of the school closing. I'm sure you have picked up on that already. This is not an exam or for us to ask you questions. We want to listen. I'll hand over to Sue.

Sue – I see you have all got notes which we can look at in a little while. We can talk about what makes your school great. We can write on this flip chart.

[Sue presented the children with her first Flipchart entitled "What makes your school great" and invited the children to write on the flipchart in coloured pens. Sue will take a photograph of the flipchart and add it as an Appendices to the report to Stephen Hayes.]

Owen – Back at the council we make important decisions about schools in the area. The number of children affects schools. We are looking at Llangedwyn because of numbers of children in it. The Modernisation team have a closing date of today for comments. What we have to do is write a report to one of the counsellors, Stephen Hayes who deals with schools. He will make the decision on the school. I write the report that goes to him. It is an uncertain time for everyone but we will know quite soon. Your views are really important. This is about you. I will remind you all about this at the end and all your comments will go back to Stephen Hayes.

Sue – We can go through the notes you have made.

Ben & Nathan – Everyone is friendly here. It's easy to make friends. When people are sad, they always help. Everyone is kind and helpful to each other. When we have a small school, there's more time to talk to the teachers. We are a safe school. We are all accepted for who we are. Education suits everyone's abilities. We don't want to go to a larger school. We enjoy being with lots of ages. Friends in larger schools tell us they have lots of fights and problems. There's no bullying in the school. We include each other. When in trouble, it's dealt with quietly.

Mary – we have notes from the Infant class.

Mary, Jessie & Phoebe – The infants say they like to pray to God. They like their breaks. They like the bikes and scooters. In the last break, they can bring these out. They like the teachers. They like colouring, painting and drawing. They like the bean bags. They have computers. They have friends. They're working on the salmon project where the salmon in the tank will be let out into the river. They like music and games. They like rockets and Show & Tell.

Mary & Jessie – We have the freedom to make choices that are important to us. We have an Eco Council and a School Council. We have designed our own classroom. We have a bean bag corner. We have Ollie the Owl for being good. We have a tuck shop after school on Mondays and Fridays. We have a good Breakfast and After School Club. We raise money for our own causes.

Sue – Do many of you go to Breakfast Club?

Several children answered yes.

Mary & Jessie – We did a sponsored walk, it was really fun. We did it to raise money for our trip to Condover Hall/JCA.

John – At my last school that education was not as good and I got pulled out of the school. This education is better. It's fun.

Emyr – It's fun.

Mary – Education is fun because we do games.

Nathan & Ben – When we do very good work we get rewards. All pupils have a voice. There's a lot of education. The education suits us all. We are pushed to do our best.

Jessie – The teacher encourages us.

Nathan & Ben – Teachers support us. They don't give up on us. We laugh a lot.

Sue – You all have a sense of humour.

Nathan & Ben – Teachers make learning fun and easy to remember. Lots of games and activities. Lots of different activities. We have a good playground and a big field. It's a shared field. If we are good, we get to use the PE equipment. We have ICT equipment. We have computers and laptops in the Junior class. Infants have 3 computers. Teachers play with us. We have a reading corner with bean bags. We raise lots of money.

Jessie – We get books, two shelves arranged in alphabetical order of the author. It's all organised.

Nathan & Ben – We have team points to get golden time. At golden time we can play and have fun on the computers or use or DSs. It's 2 hours on a Friday afternoon. We take responsibility for the classroom and resources. We're good at team work. We do a lot of religious stuff.

Mary – We learn about different religions. We are on Christianity at the moment.

Jessie – We have a welsh teacher, Miss Hughes, on Thursday and we learn welsh with her.

Emyr – The old teacher wasn't as good. Now we understand it more.

Nathan – The new welsh teacher started with the easy stuff first. We can remember it and we work up to the harder stuff.

[Sue presented the children with her second Flipchart entitled "Why should your school stay open" with 8 boxes on it, and invited the children to write on post it notes in coloured pens. Sue will take a photograph of the flipchart and add it as an Appendices to the report to Stephen Hayes.]

Sue – You have to think about the reasons why the school should stay open.

[Sue went through the post it notes and prioritised them with the children from 1 to 8. The top one was "Education that suits everyone".]

Owen – Do you have any questions you would like to ask us?

Jessie – Are they going to shut down the school because there's not many people in it?

Owen – If there's less children, it costs more money.

Nathan – That doesn't make sense.

Owen – If there's more children in the same space, it costs less per child. Lot of it is to do with money. Your parents probably tell you about the economy and money. It's to do with the numbers of children in the school.

Mary – If the school closed, how long would it take?

Owen – It takes a long time. It goes to another stage. Stephen Hayes makes the decision next month. There will be notices on the school. The school wouldn't close until next year.

Ben – When friends go to other schools, we will lose our best friends. When I came here, everyone asked me to be their friend.

Nathan – What's the limit of children?

Owen – When we get to 30 or 35, we need to talk to the school about staying open. We need to ask the question.

John – It said in a newspaper that Llangedwyn School is “doomed”.

Owen – There are reasons for the school to stay open. The newspapers make a big fuss.

John – The other school you have been looking at, they only have 18 children in that school and they stayed open.

Owen – Yes that's a very good point.

Jessie – The newspaper people normally exaggerate. We make friends with people who live a long way away. If the school shuts, we won't be able to see them anymore. Why do you have to shut the school, it's not really fair. It feels good to be in this school, it feels comfortable and welcoming.

Owen – It is important that you said that so we can put forward your views.

Nathan – There was a school that only had 11 pupils, will that be shut now?

Owen – You might be talking about Trafannau. It doesn't make sense to keep it open. It's a difficult decision.

Jessie – The man who wants to close our school, does everyone agree with him?

Owen – Stephen Hayes you mean, it is his decision, it's only one man. The next stage if it goes to that will be to post notices on the gates. If we get an objection, then it goes to Welsh government.

Emyr – So it goes higher then?

Owen – Yes, exactly.

John – Me and my friend have been here 6 years. My sisters have been here. It has always been a brilliant school. It is better than the other schools. If we get mean people here, they are turned into good people. I don't want the school to close.

Ben – If you close the school, we feel that although we are being as good as we can, we are being kicked out.

Owen – It is not about anything you've done. It comes down to the numbers of children and money. Thank you so much for all the comments and questions. You are an example to us all.



Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

13th June, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
County Councillor D.C. Jones	Ysgol Llanbrynmair	County Councillor D.C. Jones
Mr. Robert James Harper	Hafren C.P. School	County Councillor J.R. Jones

Signed:
(Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 19 - 6 - 2012

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

20th June, 2012

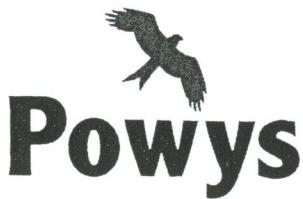
In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
County Councillor P.J. Medlicott	John Beddoes School	County Councillor G.R. Banks, County Councillor J.H. Brunt and County Councillor P.J. Medlicott
County Councillor P.J. Medlicott	Knighton C. in W. School	County Councillor P.J. Medlicott
Mrs. Nicola Williams	Builth Wells High School	County Councillor D.R. Price and County Councillor A. York
County Councillor D.R. Jones	Guilsfield C.P. School	County Councillor D.R. Jones
Mr. Charles Jones	Guilsfield C.P. School	County Councillor D.R. Jones
Ms Ffion Williams	Guilsfield C.P. School	County Councillor D.R. Jones

Signed: _____
(Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 26.6.12

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

26th June, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
Mrs. June Lawson	Llangynidr C.P. School	County Councillor M.R. Harris
Mr. John Nigel Bowen	Castle Caereinion C. in W. School	County Councillor D.R. Jones
County Councillor J.H. Brunt	Beguildy C. in W. School	County Councillor J.H. Brunt
Reverend Barry Letson	Crickhowell C.P. School	County Councillor J.G. Morris
County Councillor J.G. Morris	Crickhowell C.P. School	County Councillor J.G. Morris
County Councillor G.M. Jones	Llanidloes High School	County Councillor L.R.E. Davies
County Councillor R.G. Thomas	Llanfyllin High School	County Councillor A.W. Davies

Signed: _____
(Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 27. 6. 12

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

6th July, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
County Councillor T.G. Turner	Llandrindod Wells C.P. School Cefnllys	County Councillor T.G. Turner
Mr. L. Kellaway	Llanfechain C. in W. School	County Councillor R.G. Thomas
Mrs. E.A. Williams	Franksbridge C.P. School	County Councillor M. Mackenzie
Mrs. M.E. Morris	Clyro C. in W. School	County Councillor C.P. Davies
County Councillor W.J. Powell	Crossgates C.P. School	County Councillor W.J. Powell

Signed: _____
 (Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 12.7.12

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

16th July, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
County Councillor G.D. Price	Llandrindod Wells C. in W. School, Trefonnen	County Councillor G.D. Price
County Councillor J.H. Brunt	Llanbister C.P. School	County Councillor J.H. Brunt
County Councillor G.R. Banks	John Beddoes School	County Councillor G.R. Banks, County Councillor J.H. Brunt, County Councillor E.M. Jones, County Councillor H. Lewis and County Councillor P.J. Medlicott
County Councillor H. Lewis	John Beddoes School	County Councillor G.R. Banks, County Councillor J.H. Brunt, County Councillor E.M. Jones, County Councillor H. Lewis and County Councillor P.J. Medlicott
County Councillor H. Lewis	Whitton (Aided) School	County Councillor H. Lewis
County Councillor E.M. Jones	Radnor Valley C.P. School	County Councillor E.M. Jones
Mrs. M.L. Fellows	Hay-on-Wye C.P. School	County Councillor G.W. Ratcliffe
County Councillor G. Morgan	Llanidloes C.P. School	County Councillor G. Morgan
County Councillor E.T. Morgan	Sennybridge C.P. School	County Councillor E.T. Morgan
County Councillor J.R. Jones	Treowen C.P. School	County Councillor J.R. Jones
Reverend K. Rogers	Machynlleth C.P. School	County Councillor J.M. Williams
County Councillor J.M. Williams	Machynlleth C.P. School	County Councillor J.M. Williams
County Councillor T.J. Van-Rees	Ysgol Dolafon	County Councillor T.J. Van-Rees

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

24th July, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
County Councillor D.A. Thomas	Ysgol Maesydderwen	County Councillor S.C. Davies, County Councillor D.A. Thomas, County Councillor S. McNicholas and County Councillor D.H. Williams
County Councillor S. McNicholas	Ysgol Maesydderwen	County Councillor S.C. Davies, County Councillor D.A. Thomas, County Councillor S. McNicholas and County Councillor D.H. Williams
County Councillor D.H. Williams	Ysgol Maesydderwen	County Councillor S.C. Davies, County Councillor D.A. Thomas, County Councillor S. McNicholas and County Councillor D.H. Williams
County Councillor D.C. Jones	Ysgol Bro Ddyfi	County Councillor G.P. Vaughan, County Councillor D.C. Jones and County Councillor J.M. Williams
County Councillor J.M. Williams	Ysgol Bro Ddyfi	County Councillor G.P. Vaughan, County Councillor D.C. Jones and County Councillor J.M. Williams
Mr. W.L. Williams	Ysgol Bro Ddyfi	County Councillor G.P. Vaughan, County Councillor D.C. Jones and County Councillor J.M. Williams
Mrs. Hazel Marshall	Brecon High School	County Councillor P.J. Ashton, County Councillor M.J. Dorrance, County Councillor D.W. Meredith, County Councillor E.T. Morgan, County Councillor D.G. Thomas and County Councillor T. Thomas
Mrs. Helen Roderick	Brecon High School	County Councillor P.J. Ashton, County Councillor M.J. Dorrance, County Councillor D.W. Meredith, County Councillor E.T. Morgan, County Councillor D.G. Thomas and County Councillor T. Thomas
Mr. R.D. Arnold	Llanelwedd C. in W. School	County Councillor M.C. Mackenzie

Mr. D. Shaw	Archdeacon Griffiths C. in W. (A) School	County Councillor S. Davies
County Councillor P.E. Lewis	Llanfyllin C.P. School	County Councillor P.E. Lewis
Mr. P. Green	Llanfyllin C.P. School	County Councillor P.E. Lewis
Mrs. B. Williams	Ysgol Meifod	County Councillor E.M. Jones
Mr. D.J. Gibson-Watt	Newbridge-on-Wye C. in W. School	County Councillor W.J. Evans
County Councillor W.J. Evans	Newbridge-on-Wye C. in W. School	County Councillor W.J. Evans
County Councillor E.R. Davies	Caersws C.P. School	County Councillor E.R. Davies
Mrs. J.A. Hughes	Caersws C.P. School	County Councillor E.R. Davies
County Councillor G.M. Jones	Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon	County Councillor G.M. Jones
Mr. G.M. Evans	Beguildy C. in W. School	County Councillor J.H. Brunt
County Councillor D. Bailey	Buttington/Trewern C.P. School	County Councillor D. Bailey

Signed: Huw Alyn
 (Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 26th July, 2012



Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

31st July, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
County Councillor G.G. Hopkins	Llanigon C.P. School	County Councillor G.G. Hopkins
Mrs. H. Rhydderch-Roberts	Crickhowell C.P. School	County Councillor J.G. Morris
Mrs. E.O. Jones	Ysgol Llanbrynmair	County Councillor D.C. Jones

Signed:
(Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 1st August 2012

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Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

Councillor M.C. Alexander
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure

Decision Taken 6th September

Instrument of Government – Ysgol y Cribarth and Gwmraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr

DECISION	Reason for decision
To approve the Instruments of Government for Ysgol y Cribarth and Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Golwyr.	In line with The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005.

Instrument of Government – Ysgol Golwg y Cwm and Ysgol Bro Tawe

DECISION	Reason for decision
To approve the Instruments of Government for Ysgol Golwg y Cwm and Ysgol Bro Tawe.	In line with The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET EXECUTIVE REPORT FOR PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION 4th September 2012

REPORT AUTHOR: **Beth Groves**
Training & Development Officer - Governors

SUBJECT: **Instrument of Government – Ysgol y Cribarth and Ysgol
Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr**

REPORT FOR: **Decision**

Summary

In line with The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005 all schools are required to have an Instrument of Government (Instruments of Government are the legal documents that detail the composition of a school governing body)

Proposal

Having considered the Instruments of Government for the new schools of Ysgol y Cribarth and Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr at their recent shadow governing body meetings held on 11th July and 10th July 2012 respectively, each shadow governing body

RESOLVED – to request permission from the Authority's Executive Cabinet to adopt the following Instruments of Government.

4 parent governors;
3 LA governors;
1 teacher governor;
1 staff governor;
3 community governors
1 additional community governor (to be appointed jointly by Tawe Uchaf Community Council and Ystradgynlais Town Council)
the headteacher (except at any time when he/she has given written notice to the clerk to the governing body of the school that he/she chooses not to be a governor)

A draft of the Instruments of government for Ysgol y Cribarth and Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr as required by regulation 34(1) of the Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005 are attached as Appendix A

Corporate Improvement Plan

This paper supports the aspirations for Learning and wider community involvement within the Corporate Improvement Plan.

Options Considered/Available

The Authority does have an option for the additional community governor to be appointed from the Minor Authority area that the school is physically located in, but as each School will serve the geographical areas of both Minor Authorities the proposed Instrument of Government is the preferred option.

Preferred Choice and Reasons

N/A

Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc

N/A

Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing

N/A

Local Member(s)

The paper has been considered by the local members and they have no specific comments to make

Other Front Line Services

No implications identified.

Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

The Principal Accountant for Community, Skills and Learning comments that the proposal has no financial implications

Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

No implications identified.

Statutory Officers

The Strategic Director, Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer) has no comment

The Strategic Director, Finance & Infrastructure (Section 151 Officer) has commented:- I note the proposal has no financial implications

Members' Interests

Future Status of the Report

N/A

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To approve the Instruments of Government for Ysgol y Cribarth and Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Golwyr	In line with The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005

Relevant Policy (ies):	
Within Policy:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	County Councillor S. C. Davies County Councillor S. McNicholas County Councillor D.A. Thomas County Councillor D.H. Williams County Councillor S.L. Williams
----------------------------------	---

Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Beth Groves
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	As soon as possible

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Beth Groves	01597 826402		beth.groves@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET EXECUTIVE REPORT FOR PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION 4th September 2012

REPORT AUTHOR: Beth Groves
Training & Development Officer - Governors

SUBJECT: Instrument of Government – Ysgol Golwg y Cwm and
Ysgol Bro Tawe

REPORT FOR: Decision

Summary

In line with The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005 all schools are required to have an Instrument of Government (Instruments of Government are the legal documents that detail the composition of a school governing body)

Proposal

Having considered the Instruments of Government for the new schools of Ysgol Golwg y Cwm and Ysgol Bro Tawe at their recent shadow governing body meetings held on 9th July and 17th July 2012 respectively, each shadow governing body **RESOLVED** – to request permission from the Authority's Executive Board to adopt the following Instruments of Government.

4 parent governors;
3 LA governors;
1 teacher governor;
1 staff governor;
3 community governors
1 additional community governor (appointed by Ystradgynlais Town Council)
the headteacher (except at any time when he/she has given written notice to the clerk to the governing body of the school that he/she chooses not to be a governor)

A draft of the Instrument of government for Ysgol Golwg y Cwm and Ysgol Bro Tawe as required by regulation 34(1) of the Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005 are attached as Appendix A.

Corporate Improvement Plan

This paper supports the aspirations for Learning and wider community involvement within the Corporate Improvement Plan.

Options Considered/Available

N/A

Preferred Choice and Reasons

N/A

Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc

N/A

Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing

N/A

Local Member(s)

The paper has been considered by the local members and they have no specific comments to make

Other Front Line Services

No implications identified.

Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

The Principal Accountant for Community, Skills and Learning comments that the proposal has no financial implications

Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

No implications identified.

Statutory Officers

The Strategic Director, Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer) has no comment

The Strategic Director, Finance & Infrastructure (Section 151 Officer) has commented:- I note the proposal has no financial implications

Members' Interests

Future Status of the Report

N/A

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To approve the Instruments of Government for Ysgol Golwg y Cwm and Ysgol Bro Tawe	In line with The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005

Relevant Policy (ies):			
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	County Councillor S. C. Davies County Councillor S. McNicholas County Councillor D.A. Thomas County Councillor D.H. Williams County Councillor S.L. Williams
----------------------------------	---

Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Beth Groves
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	As soon as possible

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Beth Groves	01597 826402		beth.groves@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

3rd September, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
County Councillor L.R.E. Davies	Llandinam C.P. School	County Councillor L.R.E. Davies
County Councillor W.T. Jones	Abermule C.P. School	County Councillor W.T. Jones
Mrs. J. Williams	Llanfihangel Rhydithon C.P. School	County Councillor H. Lewis
County Councillor D.O. Evans	Nantmel C. in W. School	County Councillor D.O. Evans
Mr. I. Harrison	Ardwyn Nursery & Infants School	County Councillor A. Holloway
County Councillor D.G. Thomas	Cradoc C.P. School	County Councillor D.G. Thomas
Mr. C.W. Garnett	Cracoc C.P. School	County Councillor D.G. Thomas

Signed: _____
 (Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 6-9-12



Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

6th September, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
Miss G.A. Williams	Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant C.P. School	County Councillor A.W. Davies
County Councillor J. Holmes	Crickhowell High School	County Councillor J. Holmes
County Councillor G.J. Bowker	Newtown High School	County Councillor J.R. Jones, County Councillor G.J. Bowker, County Councillor K.M. Roberts-Jones and County Councillor W.T. Jones
Mr. R. Harper	Newtown High School	County Councillor J.R. Jones, County Councillor G.J. Bowker and County Councillor K.M. Roberts-Jones
Mrs. A.R. Butler	Hafren C.P. School	County Councillor J.R. Jones
County Councillor R.G Brown	Brynhafren C.P. School	County Councillor R.G. Brown
Mr. G.T. Evans	Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon	County Councillor G.M. Jones
Dr. D.G. Jones	Ysgol Dolafon	County Councillor T.J. Van-Rees
Mrs. L. Bowker	Ysgol Maesydre	County Councillor P.C. Pritchard
County Councillor S.L. Williams	Ysgol Golwg y Cwm	County Councillor S.L. Williams and County Councillor D.H. Williams
County Councillor D.H. Williams	Ysgol Golwg y Cwm	County Councillor S.L. Williams and County Councillor D.H. Williams
Mr. T. Barrell	Ysgol Golwg y Cwm	County Councillor S.L. Williams and County Councillor D.H. Williams
County Councillor S.L. Williams	Ysgol y Cribarth	County Councillor S.L. Williams and County Councillor D.A. Thomas
County Councillor D.A. Thomas	Ysgol y Cribarth	County Councillor S.L. Williams and County Councillor D.A. Thomas
Mrs. S. Davies	Ysgol y Cribarth	County Councillor S.L. Williams and County Councillor D.A. Thomas
County Councillor S. McNicholas	Ysgol Bro Tawe	County Councillor S.C. Davies County Councillor S. McNicholas
County Councillor S.C. Davies	Ysgol Bro Tawe	County Councillor S.C. Davies County Councillor S. McNicholas
Mr. L. Ley	Ysgol Bro Tawe	County Councillor S.C. Davies County Councillor S. McNicholas

County Councillor S.C. Davies	Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr	County Councillor S.C. Davies, County Councillor D.A. Thomas, County Councillor S. McNicholas and County Councillor S.L. Williams
Mr. J. Jones	Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr	County Councillor S.C. Davies, County Councillor D.A. Thomas, County Councillor S. McNicholas and County Councillor S.L. Williams
Mr. D. White	Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr	County Councillor S.C. Davies, County Councillor D.A. Thomas, County Councillor S. McNicholas and County Councillor S.L. Williams

Signed: _____
 (Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 6-9-12



Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

11th September, 2012

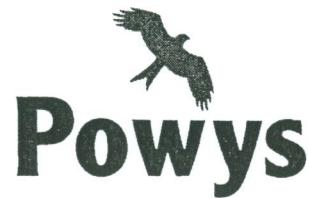
In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
Mr. G.T. Evans	Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon	County Councillor G.M. Jones
Mrs. J. Roberts	Knighton C. in W. School	County Councillor P.J. Medlicott
County Councillor E.A. Jones	Carreghofa C.P. School	County Councillor E.A. Jones
County Councillor T.J. Van-Rees	Builth Wells High School	County Councillor D.R. Price, County Councillor A. York and County Councillor M.C. Mackenzie
Mrs. M. Evans Jones	Llandysilio C. in W. School	County Councillor E.A. Jones
Mr. R.J. Row	Llanfechain C. in W. School	County Councillor R.G. Thomas

Signed: _____
(Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 12-9-12

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

18th September, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
County Councillor G. Morgan	Llanidloes High School	County Councillor L.R.E. Davies, County Councillor G. Morgan
Mr.G.T. Evans	Llanidloes High School	County Councillor L.R.E. Davies, County Councillor G. Morgan
Lady B.C. Davies	Llanidloes High School	County Councillor L.R.E. Davies, County Councillor G. Morgan
Mrs. A.D. Skyrme	Talgarth C.P. School	County Councillor W.D. Powell
County Councillor W.B. Thomas	Pontrobert C.P. School	County Councillor W.B. Thomas

Signed: _____
(Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 16 - 9 - 12

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

11th October, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
Mrs. M. Bailey	Ysgol Maesydre	County Councillor P. Pritchard
County Councillor G.P. Vaughan	Ysgol Glantwymyn	County Councillor G.P. Vaughan
Miss M.E. Oldham	Ladywell Green N & I School	County Councillor J.R. Jones
Mrs. D. Jarvis	Ladywell Green N & I School	County Councillor J.R. Jones
Mrs. C. Evans	Forden C. in W. School	County Councillor L.V. Corfield

Signed: Myfanwy Alyn
 (Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 11-10-12

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

18th October, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
Mr. John Lionel Davies	Llanbister C.P. School	County Councillor J.H. Brunt
County Councillor G.R. Banks	Presteigne C.P. School	County Councillor G.R. Banks
Mr. Sidney Nigel Williams	Presteigne C.P. School	County Councillor G.R. Banks
County Councillor A. York	Builth Wells High School	County Councillor T.J. Van-Rees, County Councillor M.C. Mackenzie and County Councillor A. York
Mr. Philip Anthony Woodhall	Llandrindod Wells C.P. School Cefnlllys	County Councillor T.G. Turner
Mrs. Christine Rouse	Llandrindod Wells C.P. School Cefnlllys	County Councillor T.G. Turner
Councillor A. York	Builth Wells C.P. School	County Councillor A. York
Mr. Richard Tudor	Banw C.P. School	County Councillor M.C. Alexander
Mrs. Ursula Amelia Owen	Ysgol Pennant	County Councillor D.J. Mayor
Dr. Beryl Wyn Wainwright	Ysgol y Bannau	County Councillor P.J. Ashton
Mr. Geraint Skyrme	Hay-on-Wye C.P. School	County Councillor G.W. Ratcliffe

Signed: _____
(Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 19.10.12

Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

Councillor M.C. Alexander
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure

Councillor G.R. Banks
Portfolio Holder for Property & Assets

New Severn Valley Welsh Medium School, Newtown

Decision Taken 15th October 2012

DECISION	Reason for Decision:
To procure a design and build contractor for the New Severn Valley Welsh Medium School, Newtown using the Powys County Council Framework agreement for Property Construction Works	To ensure legal compliance and achieve the positive outcomes of the recently completed Ystradgynlais schemes at Newtown.
To strengthen where possible the contractual requirements placed on the Framework contractors to achieve Community Benefits.	To meet the wider objectives of the Council including economic regeneration

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- 2012

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

PORTRFOOLIO HOLDER DELEGATED DECISION
9 October 2012

Cllr Myfanwy Alexander – Learning & Leisure
Cllr Gary Banks – Property & Assets

REPORT AUTHOR: **David Bradley; Construction Procurement and Premises Manager**

SUBJECT: **New Severn Valley Welsh Medium School, Newtown**

REPORT FOR: **Decision/ Information**

Summary

On 14th February 2012, Cabinet resolved that a new Welsh medium school for 300 pupils be constructed adjacent to Newtown High School with a target implementation date of September 2014.

The property team, in conjunction with education colleagues and user stakeholders, have developed the scheme to the point where the Authority needs to procure the services of a contractor to develop the design and tender price and, subject to contract, manage the construction phase. The process that is followed in this case is set out in this paper for information and/or approval.

Proposal

The value of the construction project exceeds £4.348m therefore an EU Procurement Directive compliant process must be followed for the project to ensure legal compliance.

The Authority tendered and awarded six contractors, arranged in various lots, to a Framework Agreement for property construction works of value £2m to £100m in late 2010, (for background and information see next section) using an EU Procurement Directive compliant process. Therefore, it is proposed to procure the services of a design and build contractor using the Framework Agreement.

The Framework ensures competition for each specific project. A mini-competition is tendered between the three contractors awarded to the appropriate Lot. The competition tests price and quality with quality questions focussing on the contractor's ability to deliver the specific project and add value.

The Newtown scheme is now ready to tender and therefore it is proposed to run the mini-competition tender for the project allowing the scheme to be delivered on time.

Procurement is not an objective in its own right, but is used as a lever to support the Council's wider objectives. Of particular interest is the development of innovative mechanisms aimed at assisting local SME's in becoming more competitive so that they can win an increasing share of the Council's business.

To contribute to the regeneration and economic development agenda, it is important that community benefits and SME development are fully considered within commissioning and procurement plans in a proportionate manner.

To encourage Small & Medium Enterprises and Micro business (SME's) to embrace collaborative working and to build capacity in the local supply chain, Framework contractors are directed, and contractually required to respond to a range of community benefits requirements ranging from targeted Recruitment and Training for the local community through to offering opportunities to local contractors, thus maximising local impact. It is proposed to build on the successes of the Ystradgynlais projects by placing greater demands on the contractors tendering the Newtown project to engage with the local supply chain. (see later section for examples).

Background

The recently completed High School extension at Maesydderwen, the four new primary schools, pavilion/sports pitch in Ystradgynlais and the Integrated Health and Social Care building under construction in Builth Wells were all procured through the framework.

The completed schemes have demonstrated that through the Framework agreement the awarded contractors can deliver multi-million pound schemes not only on time and budget but also meeting the Authority's quality standards for delivery and built outcomes.

During 2010 the Authority indentified that a number of planned schemes would be required to follow an EU compliant process, therefore a Framework agreement was tendered and awarded in December 2010 with partner Authorities. This was supported by Welsh Government who encourages such arrangements. Similar arrangements have been put in place across Wales. Therefore, this approach was included in the Powys Strategic Outline Program for 21st Century Schools submitted to WG in October 2010.

The Framework is split into value and area lots allowing suitable and experienced contractors to be awarded to Lots most suited to their skills and turnover. Contractors were selected on price/quality criteria as required by the Authority's financial regulations.

Quality questions and presentations examined the contractor's economic and professional capacity and ability to deliver projects with particular reference to the delivery of school building programmes

This method of procurement allows contractors to be included in the delivery team during the design process. This allows the overall project delivery program to be shortened. The contractor can ensure build-ability in the design and drive efficiencies resulting in higher quality outcomes and a substantial reduction in defects at handover.

The Authority benefits from the skills and experience of major Welsh based contractors who regularly deliver multi-million pound school contracts across Wales to manage, procure and construct our schools. At the same time, it can be said that they 'break up' the project into packages of work that are individually tendered. This gives opportunities for SME's from the locality where the works are undertaken to bid for work. The Framework contractor ensures that the package contractors meet minimum health and safety requirements.

Powys is amongst the leading Authorities in Wales embedding Community Benefit in frameworks and implementing the Welsh Governments Community Benefits Measurement Tool. Our documents and approach have been commended by Welsh Government.

In the mini competition for the Newtown Scheme we are increasing the contractual requirements placed on the Framework contractors to achieve Community Benefits, and will score the tender submissions demonstrating innovative, Powys orientated proposals, higher. These are summarised in the next section Therefore, there is an incentive for the contractor to have a thorough understanding of pre-procurement market engagement and a knowledge of the local supply side..

The approach to Community Benefits is fully in line with the priorities in the Powys Change Plan, Regeneration Strategy 2011 and the Commissioning & Procurement Strategy.

Clearly, whilst compliance needs to be ensured, designing an effective procurement strategy is about giving all competitors (including our local SME's) a fair opportunity to win business.

Community Benefit; summary of enhanced requirements

Throughout the requirements for Community Benefits, the term “local” is used. The Council currently defines “local” as follows: Powys County and any neighbouring/bordering counties.

Community Benefits include the following: Targeted Recruitment and Training, Community Engagement and Supply Chain Opportunities.

A summary of the enhanced requirements follows:

- The Welsh Government Community Benefits Tool will be completed by the contractor at mid-way through the term of the contract in addition to reporting at the completion of the contract. This allows us to monitor progress. The contractor will be expected to gather the appropriate data during the course of the contract to complete the Tool and liaise with the Council in doing this. In order to calculate the “Welsh” Multiplier” effect.
- We are going to implement a pilot project where the same data is gathered for the “local” area only, calculating a “local” multiplier figure (£) showing for every £1 spent on this contract, the amount of money that has been re-invested in the “local” economy. We are not aware of any other local Authority undertaking such an exercise.
- Contractors will be required to devise the sub contract packages in a way that the size or type does not exclude their provision by contractors they have not worked with before, particularly those based in the locality of where the works will take place.
- In addition to holding an initial ‘Meet the Contractor’ event, if appropriate, additional events should be held during the contract period. For example just before the finishing trade packages are issued.
- Require that all the Supply Chain/Sub-Contractors endorse and implement the policies of The Council, and ensure they make opportunities available to the supply chain for supply of materials, plant and labour in the locality of where the works are being completed.
- In terms of the design and professional services packages, ensure there are opportunities offered during the tender process to include SMEs/ Micro business from the locality where the works are being completed, if they have suitable and demonstrable skills.

Preferred Choice and Reasons

Recent procurement through the Framework Agreement for property construction works is successfully delivering approaching £40m of construction works for the Authority. Projects have been completed on time, to budget and meet the Authority's quality standards for delivery and built outcomes.

By increasing the contractual requirements placed on the Framework contractors to engage with the Community, the supply chain and those requiring training and recruitment in Powys. A benefit of the framework is that we can drive continuous improvement with the contractors.

To ensure legal compliance, continue the success recently enjoyed with the Ystradgynlais projects and further develop Community Benefits, the Newtown project will be procured under the Framework and through a compliant mini-competition process.

Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

Legal officers have commented "We support the recommendations"

Corporate procurement officers have commented "We support the recommendations"

Statutory Officers View:

Strategic Director, Finance & Infrastructure (Section 151 Officer)

The Strategic Director, Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer) has commented:-

"I support the recommendations"

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To procure a design and build contractor for the New Severn Valley Welsh Medium School, Newtown using the Powys County Council Framework agreement for Property Construction Works	To ensure legal compliance and achieve the positive outcomes of the recently completed Ystradgynlais schemes at Newtown.
To strengthen where possible the contractual requirements placed on the Framework contractors to achieve Community Benefits.	To meet the wider objectives of the Council including economic regeneration
	.

Relevant Policy (ies):	Powys Change Plan Regeneration Strategy 2011 Commissioning & Procurement Strategy		
Within Policy:	Y / N	Within Budget:	Y / N

Relevant Local Member(s):	
----------------------------------	--

Person(s) To Implement Decision:	David Bradley
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	September 2012

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
David Bradley	01597826540		David.bradley@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

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Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

Councillor M.C. Alexander
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure

**Ystradgynlais Schools Modernisation Programme: ICT Ysgol Gymraeg
Dyffryn y Glowyr**

Decision Taken 17th October 2012

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To implement the Medium Spend Option.	To complete the ICT workstream of the Ystradgynlais Schools Modernisation Programme

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

**Portfolio Holder Report
26th September 2012**

REPORT AUTHOR: Steve Rogers Head of Schools Service

SUBJECT: Ystradgynlais Schools Modernisation Programme: ICT

REPORT FOR: Decision

Summary

Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure is asked to consider and approve the request for additional ICT capital funding as per the detail in this report. Funding is required to complete the final ICT element of Phase 1 of the Ystradgynlais Schools Modernisation Programme by approving expenditure for the Welsh Medium Primary School - Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr.

Proposal

The Ystradgynlais Schools Modernisation Programme is the most ambitious building programme undertaken by PCC. It is a trailblazer project, acting as the benchmark for all future schools modernisation programmes in Powys. As such, it provides an excellent opportunity to modernise school design and implement new ways of using ICT to enhance delivery of all the activity that takes place in schools, including teaching, learning and business support systems. The potential benefits to the wider community are also significant.

The Ystradgynlais Technology Project is the first opportunity to create and deliver a vision for ICT enabled learning and business support on an area basis.

The project aims to implement 21st Century technology, accessible from anywhere using a range of devices to:

- help deliver improved outcomes (standards and well being) for children and young people
- support innovative teaching and learning to capture the imagination of children and young people to help them engage and succeed.
- deliver more efficient business support services on an area or where appropriate County / regional basis.
- contribute to the wider regeneration agenda in the Ystradgynlais area by providing benefits to citizens using other PCC services, local businesses and the wider community.
- Improve integration between service providers (within and outside PCC) to enable citizens to have seamless access to and benefit from service provision.

There is broad agreement that appropriate use of ICT resources contributes positively to raising standards, both at national level and as a result of more local research.

Nationally Becta has presented evidence that 95% of teachers believe that the use of technology is raising standards in schools and colleges (Raising standards, Becta, 2010). In the report "The impact of digital technologies on learning" (Becta, 2009) evidence was presented that classes with online learning, whether completely online or blended, on

average produce stronger learning outcomes than learning face-to-face alone. There were also positive impacts from interactive whiteboards on literacy and mathematics at Key Stages 1 and 2 once teachers had experienced sustained use and the technology had become embedded in pedagogical practice.

Continuous professional development of teachers is also supported by ICT. In their review for Becta, the Institute for Education highlighted the role that communities of practice can play in CPD (Continuing Professional Development) and the importance of individual access to technology to make best use of that (Continuing Professional Development in ICT for Teachers: A literature review, Becta, 2009).

Penrhos school in Ystradgynlais has been part of a pilot programme for Year 6 laptop use where students are allocated individual machines to use. This has shown significant progression for students. The proposed capital spend includes provision for Ysgol Dyffryn y Glowyr to adopt a similar scheme.

The equipment proposed in this report is designed to work and enable full realisation of the value of networking equipment and teaching and learning resources already approved for installation in the school, including interactive whiteboards and projectors.

Corporate Improvement Plan

Improvement Objective Learning and Community Sub programme 2: Schools Modernisation:

We will reconfigure schools provision to match places to students and ensure our schools are financially viable and fit for purpose.

'Council' Improvement is another one of the 5 Improvement Objectives identified in the Powys Change Plan (Stage 1) June 2011. The 'Council' Investment Objectives aims to constantly challenge what the Council delivers and how it is delivered to improve quality and reduce cost by

- transforming the ways in which our workforce operates,
- improving how we communicate with both the community and workforce
- Utilising modern technology to improve productivity.

Support Services Transformation is one of the sub programmes within the Council Investment Objective and includes significant reference to how ICT can increase capacity and capability and provide efficiency savings

The project supports the following objectives of the LSB One Plan

- People in Powys can easily access services
- People in Powys have the skills to pursue their ambitions

The project addresses the objectives in the respective Schools Services Strategy, 21st Century Schools Strategic Outline Programme, the ICT Service Strategy, the Schools Service ICT Strategy and the Powys Community Focussed Services strategy. It is also informed by the Regeneration Strategy.

Options Considered/Available

Four options have been considered. The aim is to implement a 21st century ICT model into the school complemented with a robust training programme to maximise the technology and create efficient teaching ability with the technology.

The four options are:

- Minimum new spend (£16,100) – redeploy existing equipment into the new schools at a small cost
- Medium spend (£74,900) – fully provision the school with a mix of new and reconditioned computers, deliver laptops for all teaching staff, and tablet computers similar to the level already deployed in the other primary schools in the area
- Full spend (£115,760) – full provision for school with new equipment, to the ideal specification agreed between the school and the Council

Minimum New Spend Option

The existing Welsh Medium schools have very little in terms of modern ICT resource and what they have is concentrated in leased equipment. Compared to the primary schools already modernised they have a poverty of provision. However, experience in the English Medium schools has shown that reconditioning machines do perform adequately, if not well, in the majority of tasks.

Much of the existing equipment is, in ICT terms, antiquated and becoming unreliable. Some of the computers are 8-10 years old and are not capable of meeting basic school needs such as internet browsing. Additionally this older equipment tends to be physically bulkier and using CRT (Cathode Ray Tube) rather than flat monitors which make the ICT more dominating of physical space and makes the classrooms less flexible.

The audit of existing equipment suggests that only around 12 computers owned outright by the schools are currently suitable for continued operation, based on a very modest minimum specification. In this model these would be supplemented by a number of reconditioned devices from Ysgol Maesydderwen. These could be supplemented by extending the leases on 24 computers. If there was no additional investment in ICT, the school would be left with a poor pupil to computer ratio, be unable to confidently and reliably use the interactive whiteboards specified as part of the new build, and there would be no mobile or personal ICT for staff to support their own development.

In the short term this model, through the use of cascaded reconditioned equipment, will increase ICT provision in the school, but system reliability would quickly decline, and as a corollary to this use by teachers and students would drop. Classrooms would quickly become unable to effectively make full use of investment in the new buildings, including the whiteboards. In addition, opportunity for students' and teachers' professional development would be reduced through lack of access to resources, ideas and their wider professional community. Finally the role the school might directly or indirectly play in the wider community would suffer. Opportunities for community use of facilities to improve skills or simply access the internet could not be reliably offered.

The capital cost of this would be near zero (excepting the cost of moving and reconnecting ICT), but the school would be required to spend significant sums in the near future to even maintain the current level of opportunity. Revenue commitment from the schools would include maintaining existing leases, and entering a new contract for printing and copying which would combine capital and revenue.

MINIMUM NEW SPEND

	Budget
Software (Primary)	£0.00
Printers (Primary)	£0.00
Total	£0.00
Desktop ICT - Dyffryn y Glowyr	£4,000.00
Total	£4,000.00
NAS - Dyffryn y Glowyr	£0.00
Total	£0.00
Project Management	£9,600.00
Install	£2,500.00
Contingency	£0.00
Total Funding Required	£16,100.00

Medium Spend Option

A middle ground between a zero and optimal investment would be to focus on key infrastructure improvements for the school and use refurbished and reconditioned machines available from the high school to offer a good level of provision but without the expense of entirely new computers. This would offer the school a significant improvement from its current position, though it must be stressed that the current provision is extremely limited.

This would allow confident use of ICT facilities for all teachers and pupils and would deliver the planned pilot of tablet computers in the primaries.

This would prevent the investment in infrastructure from being wasted and gives the school a number of options over its deployment of ICT

This approach does include a laptop per teacher in all the schools to encourage and support their personal development.

The ICT provision met under this budget would include:

- New and reconditioned machines to equip all classroom benches fully
- Laptops and mobile devices for student use to allow teachers to plan for 1:1 access for students to computers
- 1x new desktop for each whiteboard in all the schools
- 1x laptop per member of teaching staff
- 1x new desktop for the office

Compared to the full budget, cuts have been made to budgets for software, upgrades of existing computers, printing and installation/training. This will have an effect on the immediate familiarity and ability of teachers to use the ICT equipment, but the baseline provision will be in place. The lack of funds for training and support in using the equipment is the big risk to overall success and value of ICT in schools in this option.

The prices used to calculate the cost of desktop and laptop computers are based on the prices achieved in the earlier procurement for the three English Medium primary schools and the high school. Around 110 new devices would be bought, and 50 reconditioned computers used.

Based on the prices achieved it is possible to include the tablet computer pilot. This includes the provision of a class set of tablet computers to the school. The intention is to build on the pilot of laptops for year 6 in Ysgol Penrhos, to investigate the potential for the use of these devices in the classroom. There is existing evidence of the impact of Windows-based Tablet PCs on staff confidence and use of ICT back as far as 2005 (Tablet PCs in schools, Becta, 2005) and a series of current projects including a large scale collaboration between the eLearning Foundation and Carphone Warehouse (<http://www.e-learningfoundation.com/tablets-for-schools>). Tablet computers are achieving wide acceptance internationally as tools for learning – particularly supporting some ALN, individual creativity and self-paced learning. Experience in an area such as Ystradgynlais would create a demonstration site for other schools in the county looking to apply this technology themselves.

MEDIUM SPEND

	Budget
Software (Primary)	£4,500.00
Printers (Primary)	£3,750.00

Total	£8,250.00
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Desktop ICT - Dyffryn y Glowyr	£47,440.00
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Total	£47,440.00
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NAS - Dyffryn y Glowyr	£1,410.00
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Total	£1,410.00
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Project Management	£9,600.00
Install	£6,100.00
Contingency	£2,100.00

Total Funding Required	£74,900.00
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Full Spend

This model, as discussed with the headteacher, would be a complete provision with new ICT across the school. New computers would be installed with each interactive whiteboards and staff would be given individual access to laptops to support their planning, administration and on-going development. Each classroom would be fully provisioned with new desktops and laptops would be available for two classes at any time to have personal used of ICT.

Personal equipment for teachers is expected to increase the opportunities available to staff to locate and design resources; to manage data on pupils to inform personalisation of lesson content; and to participate in the wider professional community to get ideas and expertise from the rest of the county and country.

The school would have a class set of tablet computers, plus a number of new and legacy laptops capable of being deployed flexibly by teachers. Schools have expressed enthusiasm for the flexibility of mobile devices to cater for a variety of learning and lesson styles.

Around 300 new devices would be purchased.

FULL SPEND	
	Budget
Software (Primary)	£6,000.00
Printers (Primary)	£3,750.00
Total	£9,750.00
Desktop ICT - Dyffryn y Glowyr	£82,000.00
Total	£82,000.00
NAS - Dyffryn y Glowyr	£1,410.00
Total	£1410.00
Project Management	£9,600.00
Install	£10,000.00
Contingency	£3,000.00
Total Funding Required	£115,760.00

Preferred option and reasons.

The preferred option is the Medium spend option. This will achieve a balance between level of provision in the schools and the need for fairness and austerity in comparison to the rest of the county.

The school will be able to benefit from an acceptable level of ICT, and staff will be able to fully participate in professional development. If available, extra resources should also ideally be identified for staff training and support.

Particularly the reuse of equipment combined with the purchase of new allows the council to demonstrate an emphasis on sustainability within its capital programmes, and prevents future upgrades needing to be a 'big bang'.

The cost of this model is higher than that for an individual English Medium primary school as already delivered, but this fairly reflects the larger number of students and classes, and the extremely low level of existing provision that severely restricts the re-use options from within the schools. For comparison this proposal is around 1.6x the spend on one of the other new primary schools.

Notes on revenue (all options)

The School Service has retained a sum of £60,000 in current financial year that, together with the funding held and budgeted for in the High School delegated budget, will be used to provide a repairs and renewals fund for an ICT maintenance and replacement programme. There remains a potential small shortfall (10k) in the proposed repairs and renewals fund which will be addressed as part of the Fair Funding Formula Review.

Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc

The recycling, reuse and upgrading of some of the existing ICT equipment supports the Council's environmental programme.

Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing

N/A

Local Member(s)

N/A

Other Front Line Services

N/A

Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

The Principal Accountant (Capital) confirms that in the first instance it is proposed that the £74,900 is funded from within the overall capital budget for the Ystradgynlais schools. If there is insufficient underspend to fund all or part of the £74,900 the balance will need to be funded from Schools Major Improvements capital. In any event, it is proposed that the £74,900 is reimbursed from School Improvement capital budget over two years to maintain the overall capital provision for schools modernisation. The ongoing revenue costs of £18,510 have been identified by the Schools Service.

Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

N/A

Communications

N/A

Statutory Officers

The Strategic Director Finance and Infrastructure (S151 Officer) has commented: "I note the comments of the Principal Accountant that sufficient funding can be identified to meet this investment and sustain renewals thereafter."

The Strategic Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) has commented: " I have no comments over and above those of the S151 Officer."

Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If Members have an interest they should declare it at the start of the meeting and complete the relevant notification form

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To implement the Medium Spend Option.	To complete the ICT workstream of the Ystradgynlais Schools Modernisation Programme

Relevant Policy (ies):	
Within Policy:	Y

Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Stephen Rogers – Head of Schools
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	October 2012

Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Jennifer Owen Adams	01597 82 6448		jennifer.owenadams@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

7th November, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
County Councillor J.C. Holmes	Llangattock C. in W. School	County Councillor J.C. Holmes
Mr. H. Anton-Stevens	Montgomery C. in W. School	County Councillor S.M. Hayes
Mrs. H.M. Jones	Oldford Infants Schools	County Councillor P.C. Pritchard

Signed: _____
(Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 8th November 2012

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

20th November, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
Mr. M. Gough	Llandrindod Wells C. in W. School Trefonnen	County Councillor G.D. Price
Mrs. E. Williams	Berriew C.P. School	County Councillor D.E. Davies
Reverend E. Yates	Berriew C.P. School	County Councillor D.E. Davies
County Councillor L.V. Corfield	Leighton C.P. School	County Councillor L.V. Corfield

Signed: _____
(Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 20 - 11 - 12

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Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

Councillor M.C. Alexander
Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure

Statutory notice for transfer of school to new site and expansion of school capacity – Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd

Decision Taken 29th November 2012

DECISION	Reason for Decision:
To publish a statutory notice for (a) the expansion of Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd from its current capacity of 194 to a new capacity of 300; and (b) the transfer of the school to the new site the grounds of Newtown High School.	To meet the needs of Welsh medium education in Newtown and to ensure that statutory requirements are met.

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CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET REPORT FOR PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION 29th November 2012

REPORT AUTHOR: Stephen Rogers - Head of Schools

SUBJECT: Statutory notice for transfer of school to new site and expansion of school capacity – Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd

REPORT FOR: Decision

Summary

The council is proposing the expansion of Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd on the site of Newtown High School to build a school of up to 300 places for completion by January 2015. This expansion of school capacity requires the publication of a statutory notice which invites objections to this proposal. This report seeks approval to the publication of this statutory notice.

Proposal

On 14th February 2012 the former Cabinet approved the construction of an up to 300 place Welsh medium school in Newtown. The development represents the relocation and expansion of Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd to the grounds of Newtown High School. The project is currently being designed in conjunction with local stakeholders such as the High School, the Cylch Meithrin and the governors of Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd itself.

The current Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd site is unsuitable for modern education comprising several mobile classrooms. The number of children at the school is 180 having risen from 132 in 2008. This number is projected to rise to 220 by September 2014. There are serious overcrowding problems in the school and its official capacity is currently 194. The new school will have a capacity for 300 Pupils.

Current Welsh Government regulations dictate that any proposed increase in a school's capacity of more than 30 pupils requires the publication of a statutory notice to advertise the increase and to invite objections. There is some debate as to whether or not a statutory notice is also required due to the relocation to the new site or whether the authority can rely upon one of the exceptions to statutory notices where a transfer is required due to the condition of the existing premises. However, out of an abundance of caution it is proposed that a statutory notice should be issued to include the transfer to the new site.

These statutory notices, as with school closure notices, need to be published for one calendar month at the school, in a local newspaper and at other prominent places in the community. If one or more objection is received, the decision falls to the Minister at the Welsh Government.

In order to inform the decision to publish a statutory notice for expansion, two public meetings were held in Newtown to invite comments on the proposals. The first at Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd on 27th September was well attended by parents and was very supportive of the proposals. The second meeting held at Newtown High school on 3rd October aimed at the wider public and attended by about 60 people was also fairly positive. A deadline for comments was set for the end of October and 24 letters and emails were received by the Schools Service which can be summarised as follows:

- 18 general comments in favour of the proposal emphasising the great opportunity for Welsh medium education in the area and how it is long overdue.
- 6 letters of objection broken down as follows:
 - 3 - Impact on staff and pupils in neighbouring schools
 - 1 – incorrect PCC projections for Welsh medium demand
 - 1 – unsuitable site and access
 - 1 – unsustainable that PCC pays for transport to Llanfair Caereinion for Welsh medium secondary provision

A copy of all representations received is available for inspection in the Schools Service.

In conclusion there is nothing in the responses received that should deter the council from proceeding to a statutory notice for expansion of the school. Most of the objections received raise concerns over the expansion of the school and, if sustained at statutory notice stage, would probably result in the decision being made by the Minister at the Welsh Government. On the other hand, objections relating to the suitability of the site or the access would probably not be valid objections to the notice.

Corporate Improvement Plan

A priority of the Corporate Improvement Plan is to provide high quality educational opportunities for all and this priority has been encompassed within the Learning in the Community improvement priority of the Powys Change Programme.

Options Considered/Available

The council could decide not to proceed with the project but there is a pressing need for a new Welsh medium school in Newtown and a significant financial, resource and political commitment to the project.

Preferred Choice and Reasons

In order to progress this project and make appropriate provision for Welsh medium education in the county, the preferred option is to proceed to the publication of a statutory notice for the expansion of Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd and the transfer to the new site. The target date for publication of this notice is 30th November 2012.

Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc

The design of the new school will be to BREEAM excellent standard which seeks to minimise its environmental impact and carbon footprint. Pupils from Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd are still likely to access secondary provision at Llanfair Caereinion but this will not represent an increased need to travel compared with the current situation.

Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing

The best interests of young people in Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd will be safeguarded at all times particularly during the period of transition to the new school.

Local Member(s)

Councillor Joy Jones has commented as follows:

I have no objection to this as this school is overcrowded and is in desperate need of improvement. The children and staff are in need of better quality building than the one they have at present. This will be a great improvement for Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd and for Newtown and surrounding to have a new Welsh school. I would agree with the preferred option is to proceed to the publication of a statutory notice for the expansion of Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd.

Other Front Line Services

None identified.

Support Services (Legal, Finance, HR, ICT, BPU)

The Principal Accountant (Capital) confirms that the budget is included in the capital strategy for 2012/13 and 2013/14. Welsh Government have agreed in principle the funding for 2014/15. The Principal Accountant (Communities, Skills & Learning) confirms that the annual revenue funding of the new school will be met from the overall Schools Delegated Budget.

Legal: we are satisfied that recommended statutory notices are required.

Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc

None identified.

Communications

The Corporate Communications team will be working closely with staff in the Schools Service to plan and manage communications around the construction of the new school and the associated consultation processes.

Statutory Officers

The Strategic Director, Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer) has commented:-
"I support the recommendations"

The Strategic Director, Finance & Infrastructure (Section 151 Officer) has commented:-
"I note the comment of the Principal Accountant."

Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If Members have an interest they should declare it at the start of the meeting and complete the relevant notification form.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To publish a statutory notice for (a) the expansion of Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd from its current capacity of 194 to a new capacity of 300; and (b) the transfer of the school to the new site the grounds of Newtown High School.	To meet the needs of Welsh medium education in Newtown and to ensure that statutory requirements are met.

Relevant Policy (ies):			
Within Policy:	Y	Within Budget:	Y
Relevant Local Member(s):	Councillor Joy Jones Councillor Bob Mills		
Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Head of Schools		
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	30th November 2012		
Contact Officer Name:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Owen James	01597 826709		Owen.james@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report: None

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Decisions taken by Individual Portfolio Holders

**Councillor M.C. Alexander
Portfolio Holder for Learning & Leisure**

Budget Virements

Decision Taken 13 December 2012

DECISION	Reason for Decision:
That the budget virements in respect of Maesydderwen Phase 2 project be approved.	In accordance with Financial standing Orders.

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Capital Budget Virement Application Form*[Please see guidance notes on page 2532 of the Intranet]*

To Head of Finance

From Community, Skills & Learning (Directorate)Schools (Service)Stephen Rogers (Head of Service)Stephen Rogers (Budget Holder)Jim Swabey (Project Manager)Date 30th November 2012

Details of Virement (please refer to notes to ensure all the relevant details are included and extend box to additional page if required)

Maesydderwen Phase 2 project is now complete, request remainder of budget to be moved to Maesydderwen Phase 3 project where it can be utilised.

Budget Increases

Scheme Name	Maesydderwen Phase 3					
Job Code	9SE538					
	Total Cost	Prior Years	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Future Years
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Existing Budget	4,505,465.67		4,505,465.67			
Revised Budget	4,571,379.10		4,571,379.10			
Increase Required	65,913.43	0.00	65,913.43	0.00	0.00	0.00

Financing

Name of Scheme Reduced

Maesydderwen Phase 2

Job Code

9TE500

	Total Cost	Prior Years	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Future Years
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Existing Budget	65,913.43		65,913.43			
Revised Budget	0.00		0.00			
Decrease Required	-65,913.43	0.00	-65,913.43	0.00	0.00	0.00

Additional / New Resources

Capital Receipts	0.00					
Grant	0.00					
Supported Borrowing	65,913.43		65,913.43			
Revenue/Reserves	0.00					
Total	65,913.43	0.00	65,913.43	0.00	0.00	0.00

Total Financing must match increase required above

Other Financial Implications (e.g. future years capital & revenue – must not be left blank)

Funding will be moved from Maesydderwen Phase 2 to Maesydderwen Phase 3.

Approvals**Signatures**

In all cases	Head of Service		Date	30/11/12
In all cases	Head of Finance		Date	12/12/12
£25,001 - £75,000	Portfolio Cabinet Member		Date	13/12/12
£75,001 - £300,000	Cabinet Minute Ref.		Date	
Over £300,000	Council Minute Ref.		Date	

FMS Updated (office use only)

Accountant: Signature

Print Name

Date

Copy of Authorised form returned to Head of Service

Signature

Page 236
Print Name

Date



Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

26th November, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
Mrs. D. Jarvis	Newtown High School	County Councillor P. Harris, County Councillor W.T. Jones, County Councillor R.I. George and County Councillor K.M. Roberts-Jones
Mr. A. Turner	Llanidloes C.P. School	County Councillor G. Morgan
Mr. G. Thompson	Bronllys C.P. School	County Councillor S. Davies

Signed: _____
 (Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 26-11-12

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Appointment of Local Education Authority (LEA)

Governors to School Governing Bodies

4th December, 2012

In accordance with the Authority's policy regarding the appointment of Local Education Authority representative governors to school governing bodies which was approved on 16th October 2007, the following persons have been recommended by the local member(s) for the ward(s) in which the school(s) lie for appointment to serve as L.E.A. Governors with immediate effect (see table below).

Name of Recommended person to serve as LEA Governor	School	Recommended by (Local Member(s) for the Ward in which the school lies)
Mr. P. Roberts	Llanrhaeadr ym Mochant C.P. School	County Councillor A.W. Davies
County Councillor W.J.T. Powell	Llandrindod High School	County Councillor D.O. Evans, County Councillor G. Williams, County Councillor G.D. Price, County Councillor H. Lewis, County Councillor J.H. Brunt, County Councillor W.J. Evans, County Councillor K.F. Tampin, County Councillor K.W. Curry, County Councillor M. Mackenzie, County Councillor T.G. Turner and County Councillor W.J.T. Powell
County Councillor K.F. Tampin	Llandrindod High School	County Councillor D.O. Evans, County Councillor G. Williams, County Councillor G.D. Price, County Councillor H. Lewis, County Councillor J.H. Brunt, County Councillor W.J. Evans, County Councillor K.F. Tampin, County Councillor K.W. Curry, County Councillor M. Mackenzie, County Councillor T.G. Turner and County Councillor W.J.T. Powell
County Councillor T.G. Turner	Llandrindod High School	County Councillor D.O. Evans, County Councillor G. Williams, County Councillor G.D. Price, County Councillor H. Lewis, County Councillor J.H. Brunt, County Councillor W.J. Evans, County Councillor K.F. Tampin, County Councillor K.W. Curry, County Councillor M. Mackenzie, County Councillor T.G. Turner and County Councillor W.J.T. Powell

County Councillor P.E. Lewis	Llanfyllin High School	County Councillor D.J. Mayor
County Councillor A.W. Davies	Llanfyllin High School	County Councillor D.J. Mayor
County Councillor D.J. Mayor	Llanfyllin High School	County Councillor D.J. Mayor
County Councillor C.P. Davies	Gwernyfed High School	County Councillor G.G. Hopkins
Mrs. M. Roberts	Welshpool High School	County Councillor F.H. Jump
Mr. D. Roberts	Banw C.P. School	County Councillor M.C. Alexander

Signed: _____
 (Portfolio Holder for Learning and Leisure)

Dated: 4.12.12