

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD BY TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 25 JANUARY 2022

PRESENT

County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)

County Councillors MC Alexander, B Baynham, P Davies, A W Davies, H Hulme and R Powell

In attendance: County Councillors

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from the Executive Director, People and Organisational Development and the Executive Director Economy and Environment.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest reported.

3. WELSH IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN (WESP) 2022-2032
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Cabinet considered the results of the consultation on the authority's draft Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) for 2022-2032. The WESP had been developed in order to contribute towards the Welsh Government target to increase the percentage of Year 1 children taught through the medium of Welsh in Powys from 22.2% in 2019/20 to 36% by 2030/31.

The Plan was based on 7 Outcomes which reflect a learner's education journey. Detailed implementation plans would be developed for each of the 7 Outcomes and monitored by both the Welsh-medium Education Forum and the Council's internal Welsh-medium Education Workstream.

A summary of consultation responses and copies of the detailed responses received from stakeholders were provided in an appendix to the report. The WESP had been reviewed and updated in light of the responses. The Director of Education noted that Estyn had observed that the WESP aligned well with the council's strategy for transforming education and had encouraged other local authorities to look at it as an example of good practice.

County Councillor Elwyn Vaughan speaking as the Chair of the Welsh-medium Education Forum welcomed the plan and the progress made over the last year in strengthening Welsh-medium education in the county.

County Councillor Pete Roberts presented the recommendations and observations of the Learning and Skills Scrutiny Committee which had met the previous day. The Committee had made four recommendations, two of which

had been accepted and two which were partially accepted. In respect of the recommendation that the details for the locations of proposed Welsh Medium secondary provision be replaced in the strategy with the aim to establish three all through Welsh Medium schools in the county, it was proposed to add the following text to the WESP

“Any changes to schools that require a statutory school reorganisation process are included in this WESP without prejudice to any decisions that the Cabinet may make in relation to that process.”

RESOLVED to approve the updated Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2022-2032 as contained in Appendix A with the addition of the text above in italics for submission to Welsh Government.

County Councillor M R Harris (Chair)