

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council
18th October 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander, Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language

SUBJECT: Question from Buddug Bates

A all yr Aelod gyda chyfrifoldeb portffolio dros Addysg gadarnhau pryd y bydd ysgol uwchradd newydd categori 2a gogledd Powys yn debygol o agor?

Translation

Can the Member with responsibility for the Education portfolio please confirm when it is likely that a new North Powys category 2a high school is likely to open?

Ymateb

Mae Cynllun Strategol y Cyngor o ran y Gymraeg mewn Addysg ar gyfer 2017 – 20 yn cynnwys ymrwymiad ‘i barhau i weithio i sefydlu un neu ragor o ysgolion categori 2A yng ngogledd Powys’.

Ers cyhoeddi'r Cynllun Strategol Cymraeg mewn Addysg (WESP), mae'r Cabinet a Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cymeradwyo Rhaglen Amlinellol Strategol (SOP) y Cyngor ar gyfer Band B rhaglen cyfalaf Ysgolion yr Unfed Ganrif ar Hugain - mae'r Rhaglen Amlinellol Strategol yn cynnwys buddsoddiad sylweddol mewn addysg yn Y Drenewydd; mae hyn yn cynnwys adeiladau newydd i Ysgol Cedewain ac Ysgol Neuadd Brynllwarch, buddsoddiad yn ysgolion cynradd y dref a datblygu darpariaeth uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg.

Mae'r gwaith yn Y Drenewydd ar ei gamau dichonolrwydd cychwynnol, ac unwaith y bydd hyn wedi'i gwblhau, fe fydd hi'n bosibl trefnu amserlen fanylach ar gyfer y ddarpariaeth uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg a gynllunnir. Fodd bynnag, mae'r Cyngor yn gweithio hyd at yr amserlenni mynegol presennol:

- 2018-19: Gwaith dichonolrwydd cychwynnol
Y Cabinet i gymeradwyo i barhau gyda phrynu unrhyw dir, proses statudol
- 2019-20: Proses statudol
Datblygu achos busnes cychwynnol
- 2020-21: Datblygu dyluniadau manwl, penodi contractwr
- 2022: Dechrau'r gwaith adeiladu

Yn seiliedig ar hyn, rhagwelir mai tua 2023/2024 fyddai hi cyn agor unrhyw ddarpariaeth cyfrwng Cymraeg newydd. Fodd bynnag, mae enghreifftiau mewn awdurdodau eraill lle mae trefniadau dros dro wedi cael eu rhoi ar waith i sefydlu

'egin' ddarpariaeth tra'n aros i gwblhau'r gwaith adeiladu. Digwyddodd hyn yn ddiweddar yn Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed yng Nghasnewydd, a sefydlwyd mewn lleoliad dros dro ym mis Medi 2016, cyn symud i leoliad parhaol yn 2018. Petai hyn yn ymarferol, efallai y bydd posibilrwydd sefydlu darpariaeth newydd yn gynt. Fodd bynnag, byddai unrhyw symudiad i sefydlu darpariaeth uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg yn dibynnu ar y broses statudol a amlinellir yn y Cod Trefniadaeth Ysgolion, ac ar gymeradwyaeth y Cabinet sy'n ofynnol trwy gydol y broses.

Y gobaith yw y gellir cyflwyno mwy o eglurdeb dros y misoedd sydd i ddod. Fe fydd cyfleoedd niferus i randdeiliaid gyfrannu tuag at y cynlluniau fel y byddant yn cael eu datblygu.

Translation

Response

The Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2017-20 includes a commitment 'to continue with work to establish one or more category 2A schools in north Powys'.

Since the publication of the WESP, the Council has had its Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) for Band B of the 21st Century Schools capital programme approved by Cabinet and the Welsh Government - the SOP includes a significant investment in education in Newtown: this includes replacement buildings for Ysgol Cedewain and Brynllwarch Hall School, investment in the town's primary schools and the development of secondary Welsh medium provision.

The work in Newtown is at early feasibility stage, and once this has been completed, it will be possible to work out a more detailed timeline for the planned Welsh-medium secondary provision. However, the Council is currently working to the current indicative timescales:

2018-19:	Initial feasibility work Cabinet approval to proceed with any land purchase, statutory process
2019-20:	Statutory process Develop initial business cases
2020-21:	Develop detailed designs, appoint contractor
2022:	Building commences

Based on this, it is anticipated that it would be approximately 2023/2024 before any new Welsh medium provision were to open. However, there are examples in other authorities where temporary arrangements have been put in place to establish 'seedling' provision whilst waiting for building work to be completed. This happened recently at Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed in Newport, which was established in temporary accommodation in September 2016, before moving to permanent accommodation in 2018. Should this be possible, it could be possible to establish new provision sooner. However, any move to establish Welsh-medium secondary provision would be dependent on the statutory process as outlined in the School Organisation Code, and on Cabinet approval as required throughout the process.

It is hoped that further clarity can be provided over the coming months. There will be numerous opportunities for stakeholders to contribute to the plans as they are developed.