#### Cyngor Sir Powys County Council Impact Assessment (IA)





#### Please read the accompanying guidance before completing the form.

This Impact Assessment (IA) toolkit, incorporates a range of legislative requirements that support effective decision making and ensure compliance with all relevant legislation.

Draft versions of the assessment should be watermarked as "Draft" and retained for completeness. However, only the final version will be made publicly available. Draft versions may be provided to regulators if appropriate. In line with Council policy IAs should be retained for 7 years.

Service Area	Schools Service		Head of Service	Lynette Lovell /	Emma Palmer	Portfolio Holder	Cllr Phyl Davies
Proposal		Churchstok	e C.P School Proposal				

#### **Outline Summary / Description of Proposal**

In April 2020, the Leader approved a new Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys, which sets a number of aims and objectives to transform the Powys education system over the next few years. One of the objectives is to 'Reconfigure and rationalise primary provision'.

A review of Churchstoke C.P School has been carried out, and Cabinet approval is now requested to commence the statutory process on the following proposal in respect of the school:

- To close Churchstoke C.P. School from the 31st August 2022, with pupils to transfer to their nearest alternative schools in Powys.
- 1. Version Control (services should consider the impact assessment early in the development process and continually evaluate)

Version	Author	Job Title	Date
1	Huw Rowlands	Transforming Education Programme Officer	January 2021
2	Marianne Evans	Service Manager Schools Transformation	January 2021

#### 2. Profile of savings delivery (if applicable)

2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	TOTAL
£	£	£29,166.67	£20,833.33	£	£50,000

#### 3. Consultation requirements

Consultation Requirement	Consultation deadline/or justification for no consultation
Public consultation required	If approved by Cabinet, it is anticipated that consultation in accordance with the School Organisation Code will commence in the Spring of 2021.







		act on another service area? (H ANY AFFECTED SERVICE AREAS			& Safety and (	Corporate Parenting?)	
Adult Services		Education		✓	Legal and [	Democratic Services	<b>√</b>
Children's Service	ces 🗸	Finance		<b>✓</b>	Property, F	lanning and Public Protection	✓
Commissioning		Highways,	Transportation and Recyclin	ng 🗸	Transforma	ation and Communications	✓
Digital Services	✓	Housing ar	nd Community Developmen	t 🗆	Workforce	and OD	✓
Data Protection	Impact Assessment						
Not currently, he is Powys County If you have answ	owever should the Council Council the data controll wered yes to either of the ce please contact the Data	above you will be required to co	ses, this would involve prod				
What geograph	ical area(s) will be impac	ted by the proposal? (Chose all	those applicable)				
Powys		Brecon	☐ Llandrin	ndod and Rhayader		Machynlleth	
North		Builth and Llanwrtyd	Llanfair	Caereinion		Newtown	
Mid		Crickhowell	□ Llanfylli	n		Welshpool and Montgomery	$\checkmark$
South		Hay and Talgarth	Llanidlo	es		Ystradgynlais	
		Knighton and Presteigne	п				

5. How does your proposal impact on Vision 2025?



Council's Well-being Objective	How does the proposal impact on this Well-being Objective?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
The Economy We will develop a vibrant economy	Implementation of the proposal would have a potential impact on employment opportunities in Churchstoke as there would no longer be a school in the village. It is also possible that the loss of the school, and potentially loss of families from the area would have a negative impact on recruitment for lower paid key worker jobs in the area, and the ability of other employers in the area to recruit to roles. There could also be an impact on local businesses in the village and the surrounding communities. Concern has also been raised that the absence of a school in the village could lead to a reduction in house prices.	Poor		Poor
Health and Care We will lead the way in providing effective, integrated health and care in a rural environment	No impact	Neutral		Choose an item.



Council's Well-being Objective	How does the proposal impact on this Well-being Objective?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
Learning and skills We will strengthen learning and skills	Should the Council proceed with implementation of the preferred option, Churchstoke C.P. School would close, and pupils would transfer to alternative schools in Powys. For the majority of pupils, the closest alternative school in Powys would be Montgomery C. in W. School. Some pupils may also choose to attend schools in Shropshire, in particular Chirbury CofE School.  The Council's view is that Montgomery C. in W. School would provide education for pupils which is of at least equivalent quality as that provided at Churchstoke C.P. School, therefore it is not anticipated that implementation of the preferred option would have a negative impact on standards and progress overall. The overall aim of the proposal is to improve learning opportunities for pupils.  Whilst the Council does not have direct experience of the provision at Chirbury CofE School, the school's last Ofsted inspection which was carried out in December 2019 judged the schools overall effectiveness and quality of education to be Good, therefore it is likely that the provision is of at least equivalent quality as that provided at Churchstoke C.P. School.  The alternative schools which pupils may attend are larger schools, and it is anticipated that they would provide additional opportunities for pupils to take part in extra-curricular activities.	Good		Choose an item.



Council's Well-being Objective	How does the proposal impact on this Well-being Objective?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below		
Residents and Communities We will support our residents and communities	There would be a significant impact on the community of Churchstoke, as there would be no provision in the village, and therefore potential loss of any community facilities associated with the school.  Additional travel would be required for pupils currently attending Churchstoke C.P School.  Whilst free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy, there would also be an additional travel requirement for parents in order to access school activities / events.  Whilst the proposal is that pupils transfer to alternative Powys schools, it is possible that some pupils would transfer to alternative schools in Shropshire, and therefore would access education in England. This could impact on the Welsh identity of Churchstoke.  A separate draft community impact assessment has been carried out which includes input from the school. This will be updated as required throughout the process.	Very Poor	Home to school transport to be provided for pupils living in Churchstoke to their nearest school in Powys to ensure that they continue to access a Welsh education.  Community hall to continue to be available to the community for community activities.	Very Poor		
Source of Outline Evidence to support judgements						





6. How does your proposal impact on the Welsh Government's well-being goals?

Well-being Goal	How does proposal contribute to this goal?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
A prosperous Wales: An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.	No impact	Neutral		Choose an item.
A resilient Wales: A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).	Implementation of the proposal would require additional travel for pupils currently attending Churchstoke C.P School for whom this is their closest school. This would have a negative environmental impact as more home to school transport would need to be provided to transport pupils to alternative schools.	Poor		Poor
A healthier Wales: A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.  Public Health (Wales) Act, 2017: Part 6 of the Act requires for public bodies to undertake a health impact assessment to assess the likely effect of a proposed action or decision on the physical or mental health of the people of Wales.	Implementation of the proposal would result in closure of Churchstoke C.P School, with pupils transferring to alternative schools. It is acknowledged that this could have a negative impact on the mental well-being of pupils, staff and other stakeholders associated with the school during the transition period, however the long term aim is to provide improved learning opportunities for all learners.	Poor	Support will be provided to pupils during the transition period to enable them to transfer effectively to their new schools.  Process to be concluded as quickly as possible to minimise the period of uncertainty for pupils, staff and other stakeholders.	Neutral



Well-being Goal	How does proposal contribute to this goal?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
A Wales of cohesive communities: Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected Communities.	There would be a significant impact on the community of Churchstoke as there would be no provision in the village, and therefore potential loss of any community facilities associated with the school.  Additional travel would be required for pupils currently attending Churchstoke C.P School.  Whilst free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy, there would also be an additional travel requirement for parents in order to access school activities / events.  Whilst the proposal is that pupils transfer to alternative Powys schools, it is possible that some pupils would transfer to alternative schools in Shropshire, and therefore would access education in England. This could impact on the Welsh identity of Churchstoke.  A separate draft community impact assessment has been carried out which includes input from the school. This will be updated as required throughout the process.	Very Poor	Home to school transport to be provided for pupils living in Churchstoke to their nearest school in Powys to ensure that they continue to access a Welsh education.  Community hall to continue to be available to the community for community activities.	Very Poor



Well-being Goal	How does proposal contribute to this goal?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
A globally responsible Wales: A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being. Human Rights - is about being proactive (see guidance) UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: The Convention gives rights to everyone under the age of 18, which include the right to be treated fairly and to be protected from discrimination; that organisations act for the best interest of the child; the right to life, survival and development; and the right to be heard.	The aim of implementing the proposal is to provide the best possible opportunities to learners, enabling them to reach their full potential.  If approved by Cabinet, the Council will carry out consultation on the proposal, which would include consultation with all pupils affected by the proposal, ensuring that all affected by the plans have the opportunity to give their views.	Neutral		Choose an item.
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving	<b>g Weisn language:</b> A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage	ge and the Welsh I	anguage, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and r	ecreation.

Incorporating requirements under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards

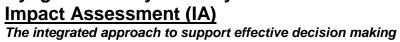


Well-being Goal	How does proposal contribute to this goal?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
Opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and treating the Welsh language no less favourable than the English language	Churchstoke C.P School is an English-medium school, therefore it is not anticipated that implementation of the proposal would impact on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, or on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language should pupils transfer to alternative schools in Powys.  However, it is possible that some pupils could choose to attend alternative provision in Shropshire. This would mean that they would no longer access a Welsh curriculum, and Welsh would no longer be a part of the curriculum. This would mean that they would no longer have an opportunity to learn Welsh, and to use the Welsh language.	Poor	Home to school transport to be provided for pupils living in Churchstoke to their nearest school in Powys to ensure that they continue to access a Welsh education.	Neutral
Opportunities to promote the Welsh language	Churchstoke C.P School is an English-medium school, however as it is located on the Powys / Shropshire border. Should pupils transfer to alternative schools in Powys, they would continue to be exposed to the Welsh language.  However, it is possible that some pupils could choose to attend alternative provision in Shropshire. This would mean that they would no longer access a Welsh curriculum, and Welsh would no longer be a part of the curriculum. This could also impact on the Welsh identify of Churchstoke and opportunities to promote the Welsh language in Churchstoke.	Poor	Home to school transport to be provided for pupils living in Churchstoke to their nearest school in Powys to ensure that they continue to access a Welsh education.	Neutral



Well-being Goal	How does proposal contribute to this goal?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation.	Implementation of the proposal would lead to the closure of Churchstoke C.P School, with pupils transferring to their nearest alternative schools.  It is likely that pupils would transfer to larger schools, and it is anticipated that being part of a larger school would result in additional opportunities for pupils to take part in sport, art and other extra-curricular activities.	Good		Choose an item.
·	s people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circu ct 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011 and the Social Econo		ing their socio economic background and circumstances).	
Age	The proposal would impact on primary aged pupils currently attending Churchstoke C.P School. The proposal aims to provide improved educational opportunities for all affected pupils.	Neutral		Choose an item.
Disability	The proposal would impact on any pupils with disabilities currently attending Churchstoke C.P School. The proposal aims to provide improved educational opportunities for all affected pupils, including any pupils with disabilities.	Neutral		Choose an item.
Gender reassignment	No impact.	Neutral		Choose an item.
Marriage or civil partnership	No impact.	Neutral		Choose an item.

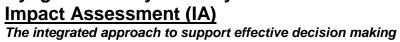
# **Cyngor Sir Powys County Council**





Well-being Goal	How does proposal contribute to this goal?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT  AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
Race	The proposal would impact on all primary aged pupils currently attending Churchstoke C.P School, including pupils belonging to protected characteristic groups due to their race. The proposal aims to provide improved educational opportunities for all affected pupils.	Neutral		Choose an item.
Religion or belief	The proposal aims to provide improved educational opportunities for all pupils currently attending Churchstoke C.P School, regardless of their religion or belief.	Neutral		Choose an item.
Sex	The proposal aims to provide improved educational opportunities for all pupils currently attending Churchstoke .P. School, regardless of their sex.	Neutral		Choose an item.
Sexual Orientation	The proposal aims to provide improved educational opportunities for all pupils currently attending Churchstoke C.P School, regardless of their sexual orientation.	Neutral		Choose an item.
Pregnancy and Maternity	No impact.	Neutral		Choose an item.

# **Cyngor Sir Powys County Council**





Well-being Goal	How does proposal contribute to this goal?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
Socio-economic duty	The aim of the proposal is to provide improved educational opportunities for all pupils currently attending Churchstoke C.P School, including any eligible for Free School Meals. PLASC 2020 information shows that some 10% of pupils at Churchstoke C.P. School were eligible for Free School Meals, and these pupils would continue to receive free school meals at any alternative school that they would transfer to.  Should the proposal be implemented, there would be no school in Churchstoke. This would mean that pupils currently attending Churchstoke C.P. School would need to travel to their nearest alternative provision. Whilst home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils, it is possible that this would impact on pupils' ability to access extra-curricular / after school activities, and that this impact would be greater in respect of pupils from lower income households. There would also be an impact on the parents of these pupils in terms of accessing school activities.	Neutral		Choose an item.



Source of Outline Evidence to support judgements		
	PLASC	

7. How does your proposal impact on the council's other key guiding principles?

7. How does your proposal impact on the	council 3 other key guiding principles:			
Principle	How does the proposal impact on this principle?		What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
<b>Sustainable Development Principle (5</b>	ways of working)			
<b>Long Term:</b> Looking to the long term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.	Pupil numbers at Churchstoke C.P. School are low and are not expected to increase significantly over the coming years. The aim of the proposal to close the school is to ensure the best possible opportunities for learners in the area now and in the future, and to ensure better strategic management of the Powys schools estate.	Good		Choose an item.
<b>Collaboration:</b> Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions.	Should the Cabinet agree to proceed, full consultation would be carried out, which would enable all interested parties to give their views. This would include an opportunity to suggest any alternative options for the school.	Neutral		Choose an item.



Principle	How does the proposal impact on this principle?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
Involvement (including Communication and Engagement): Involving a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them including: Unpaid Carers: Ensuring that unpaid carers views are sought and taken into account	Should Cabinet decide to proceed, full consultation would be required in accordance with the School Organisation Code in order to achieve this. This would that all interested parties would have an opportunity to give their views. The findings of this exercise would be reported to Cabinet and would be taken into consideration when determining how to proceed. This impact assessment will be updated throughout the process to reflect any feedback received.  All stakeholders would have the opportunity to give their views as part of this process, this would include any unpaid carers in the area.	Good		Choose an item.
Prevention: Understanding the root causes of issues to prevent them from occurring including: Safeguarding: Preventing and responding to abuse and neglect of children, young people and adults with health and social care needs who can't protect themselves.	The aim of the proposal to close the school is to ensure the best possible opportunities for learners in the area now and in the future, and to ensure better strategic management of the Powys schools' estate.  Ensuring appropriate safeguarding arrangements is a key aspect of any school organisation proposal. The intention is that the proposal would maintain or improve the safeguarding arrangements for all pupils.	Good		Choose an item.
Integration: Taking an integrated approach so that public bodies look at all the well-being goals in deciding on their well-being objectives.	No impact.	Neutral		Choose an item.



Principle	How does the proposal impact on this principle?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
Powys County Council Workforce: What Impact will this change have on the Workforce?	Implementation of the proposal would impact on all current staff at Churchstoke C.P School as there would no longer be a school in Churchstoke, therefore staff would be subject to a Management of Change process.  Should Cabinet decide to proceed, full consultation would be carried out in accordance with the School Organisation Code. This process would be supported by relevant LA teams (e.g. HR). This would include consultation with staff, which would ensure that they had an opportunity to give their views.	Poor		Poor
Payroll: How will this impact salary, any overtime/enhanced payments etc? Does this affect any particular group of employees? E.g. Male/Female dominated workforce. Does this proposal comply with the Councils Single Status Terms and Conditions?	Implementation of the preferred way forward could impact on salary arrangements for current staff at Churchstoke C.P. School.	Neutral		Choose an item.
Welsh Language impact on staff	Churchstoke C.P. School is an English-medium school, therefore it is not anticipated that there would be a Welsh language impact on staff	Neutral		Choose an item.
Apprenticeships: Has consideration been given to whether this change impacts negatively, or positively on Apprenticeships within the service? Source of Outline Evidence to support	No impact	Neutral		Choose an item.



Principle	How does the proposal impact on this principle?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below

8. What is the impact of this proposal on our communities?

Communities	How does the proposal impact on residents and community?	IMPACT See impact definitions in guidance document	What will be done to better contribute to a more positive impact or to mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION See impact definitions in guidance document	Source of Outline Evidence to support judgement
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Churchstoke	There would be a significant impact on the community of Churchstoke as there would be no provision in the village, and therefore potential loss of any community facilities associated with the school.  Additional travel would be required for pupils currently attending Churchstoke C.P School.  Whilst free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy, there would also be an additional travel requirement for parents in order to access school activities / events.  Whilst the proposal is that pupils transfer to alternative Powys schools, it is possible that some pupils would transfer to alternative schools in Shropshire, and therefore would access education in England. This could impact on the Welsh identity of Churchstoke.  Community hall to continue to be available to the community for community activities.  A separate draft community impact assessment has been carried out which includes input from the school. This will be updated as required throughout the process.	Major	Home to school transport to be provided for pupils living in Churchstoke to their nearest school in Powys to ensure that they continue to access a Welsh education.  Community hall to continue to be available to the community for community activities.	Major	
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9. What are the risks to service delivery or the council following implementation of this proposal?

#### **Description of risks**

#### Cyngor Sir Powys County Council Impact Assessment (IA)





Risk Identified	Inherent Risk Rating Impact X Likelihood (See Risk Matrix in guidance document)	Mitigation	Residual Risk Rating Impact X Likelihood (See Risk Matrix in guidance document)
Insufficient capacity at nearest Powys school to accommodate all pupils at Churchstoke C.P. School.	Medium	There is sufficient capacity at other Powys schools in the local area to accommodate all pupils, and capacity at schools in Shropshire which pupils may choose to transfer to should Churchstoke C.P. School close.	Medium

10. Overall Summary and Judgement of this Impact Assessment?

#### Outline Assessment (to be inserted in cabinet report)

**Cabinet Report Reference:** 

The aim of the proposal is to improve the educational provision for learners. However, whilst this impact assessment has identified some positive aspects, in particular relating to learning and skills and ensuring the best strategic management of the Powys schools' estate, the assessment has also identified some negative aspects. These primarily relate to the impact on the community of Churchstoke due to loss of educational provision from the village, and the associated additional travel requirements for pupils. In addition, whilst the proposal is that pupils would transfer to alternative schools in Powys, it is possible that some pupils would transfer to provision in Shropshire, which would mean that they would no longer access a Welsh curriculum, and could impact on the Welsh identity of the village of Churchstoke.

11. Is there additional evidence to support the Impact Assessment (IA)?

#### What additional evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

Full consultation would be required to implement this proposal, and this would enable the impact assessment to be further developed.

12. On-going monitoring arrangements?

#### What arrangements will be put in place to monitor the impact over time?

The Transforming Education Programme Board will continue to monitor impact over time.

#### Please state when this Impact Assessment will be reviewed.

The impact assessment will be reviewed at all stages of the development.

#### 13. Sign Off

Position	Name	Signature	Date
Impact Assessment Lead:	Sarah Astley	Sarah Astley	5 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
Head of Service:	Lynette Lovell		

## Cyngor Sir Powys County Council Impact Assessment (IA)



The integrated approach to support effective decision making

Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Phyl Davies	

14. Governance

Decision to be made byCabinetDate required9th February 2021

# FORM ENDS

