



## **Learning and Skills Scrutiny Committee**

### **Scrutiny Observations to Cabinet on: 20-12-2022**

The Learning and Skills Scrutiny Committee met on 14-12-2022 and considered the following documents:

- Llanfihangel Rhydithon – Welsh Medium Provision

The Learning and Skills Scrutiny Committee thank the Cabinet Member for a Learning Powys and officers for attending scrutiny.

Scrutiny made the following observations:

- The Committee noted that:
  - The report was the outcome of the review as to whether a Welsh Medium school could be established at Llanfihangel Rhydithon.
  - The conclusion of the review was that it would not be viable to establish a Welsh Medium school at Llanfihangel Rhydithon as it would not meet the aspirations of the WESP (Welsh in Education Strategic Plan) a view which was shared by the Welsh Medium Education Forum and that provision should be established at strategic locations in the County.
  - High quality Welsh Medium provision already exists within the catchment at Llandrindod Wells and Rhayader.
  - Increasing the capacity of the school above the current 36 pupils would require capital funding as the current layout of the school was not suitable for larger pupil numbers. Such a change would also impact on the Cylch Meithrin located at the school.
  - A positive outcome of the review was that a number of parents had expressed an interest in Welsh Medium provision and it was now for the Council to ensure that such Welsh Medium options were available for those pupils requiring it.
- The Committee expressed a view that:
  - There had been no change in circumstances since the Committee considered the previous report proposing the review and that the WESP indicated that this would be the wrong location for a Welsh medium school as centres needed to be placed where there was a critical mass of demand.
- The Committee supported the recommendations as set out in the Cabinet report.

### **There were no recommendations to Cabinet.**

In accordance with Rule 7.27.2 the Cabinet is asked to provide a written response to the scrutiny report, including an action plan where appropriate, as soon as possible or at the latest within 2 months of the date of the Cabinet meeting i.e. by 20-02-2023

Membership of the Learning and Skills Scrutiny Committee on 14-12-2022:

County Councillors:

G Thomas, A Kennerley, A Davies, B Davies, C Kenyon-Wade, D Bebb, D Meredith, G D Jones, G Morgan, J Brignell-Thorp, L Rijnenberg, L Roberts.

Co-Opted Members:

K Chedgzoy, M Evitts, S Davies.