Impact Assessment

Reduction in Secondary Strategy Investment and Associated Consultancy Support



06/01/2023

Reference: 7837-1016-1819-1253

Impact Assessments (IA) are a process of assessing how our proposals and decisions might impact upon different types of people and communities and developing proposals in line with relevant legislation.

This is a legal requirement, and ensures the Council considers key legislation, including Equalities, Welsh language, Future Generations, Socio-economic Duty and Risk when developing proposals.

It will also help the Council make the best possible decisions for the people of Powys.

1. Proposal Information

Author name	Sarah Quibell, Professional Lead for Education Support Services
Head of service	Georgina Bevan, Head of Education
Portfolio holder	Pete Roberts, portfolio holder for Cabinet Member for a Learning Powys
Proposal title	Reduction in Secondary Strategy Investment and Associated Consultancy Support
Description of proposal	Annual reduction in Secondary Strategy growth funding and removal of associated consultancy support. Following the demise of ERW, and effective succession planning, it was agreed that a permanent Secondary Improvement Team would be appointed in September 2022. There will be a reduction in the need for external consultant support for secondary schools, as the team will be to provide bespoke school improvement support and facilitate effective collaboration through school-to-school working. Therefore, it will be possible to reduce the allocated growth funding by an annual amount of £50,000 over the next two years and removal of £50,000 in associated consultancy support. There should be no negative impact as a result of this change.

2. Savings and Consultation requirements

Profile of savings delivery

2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027+	Total savings
£NaN	£NaN	£NaN	£NaN	£NaN	£NaN	£150,000

Further information

Growth funding was awarded to Education to support the implementation of the Secondary Improvement Strategy and there has been spend on external consultancy support. Work is moving forward at pace, and the reduction of external support, combined with the increased school-to-school collaboration, means that a portion of the allocated growth funding can continue to be returned annually over the next two financial years and some consultancy spend can be removed in 2023-24.



Consultation requirements

Consultation required?	No
Justification	There is no reduction in service or provision.

3. Impact on other service areas, geographical areas and data protection

3a. Impact on other service areas

3b. Impact on geographical locations

The entire county

3c. Data protection impact assessment

Will the proposal involve processing the personal details of individuals?	No
Is Powys County Council the data controller?	No
Further information	No processing of personal details of individuals is included in the proposal.

4. Impact on Vision 2025

4a. The economy

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4b. Health and care

Impact None



4c. Learning and skills

Impact	The implementation of the Secondary School Improvement Strategy and the introduction of the new Secondary School Improvement Team has enabled more bespoke support including joint delivery of cluster INSET days, in line with the National Mission. Furthermore, subject specific networks have been developed as part of the Mid-Wales Education Partnership to facilitate more effective school to school working.
Impact rating	Good
Mitigation	The robust approach to the implementation of the strategy is increasing the pace by which leadership, teaching and learning and the curriculum, and its implementation, will address the seven dimensions for Schools as Learning Organisations [SLO].
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

4d. Residents and communities

Impa	ct	None

4e. Evidence

The implementation of the Secondary School Improvement Strategy and the introduction of the Secondary School Improvement Team, mean that it is possible to reduce the amount of external support required, which in turn results in the reduction of investment required.

5. Impact on well-being goals including Welsh language and equalities

5a. A prosperous Wales

Impact	None
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5b. A resilient Wales



5c. A healthier Wales

Impact	None

5d. A Wales of cohesive communities

None	mpact
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5e. A globally responsible Wales

Impact	None

5f. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Using Welsh

Impact	One of the guiding principles of the Secondary School Improvement Strategy is to ensure that 'Welsh-medium provisionis accessible and provides a full curriculum in Welsh'. The removal of this consultancy element reduces the finance available to secure additional secondary school support to be delivered through the medium of Welsh.	
Impact rating	Good	
Mitigation	Enhanced collaborative working with the Mid Wales Education Partnership (MWEP) and between Welsh Medium schools will ensure that 'Welsh-medium provisionis accessible and provides a full curriculum in Welsh' is progressed at increased pace.	
Mitigated impact rating	Very good	

Promoting Welsh

Impact	The removal of the consultancy element reduces the finance available to secure bespoke secondary school support to be delivered through the medium of Welsh.
Impact rating	Neutral



	Enhanced collaborative working with the Mid Wales Education Partnership (MWEP) and between Welsh Medium schools will ensure that 'Welsh-medium provisionis accessible and provides a full curriculum in Welsh' is progressed at increased pace.
Mitigation	The Mid Wales Education Partnership provides a fully bilingual school improvement service across the partnership region. This means that the authority has direct access to bilingual support staff without the additional cost of having to bring in external consultants who will not have had the opportunity to build an ongoing relationship with the staff they are supporting.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

Sports, Art & Recreation

Impact None

5g. A more equal Wales

Age

Impact	The Secondary Improvement Strategy supports all learners aged 11-18.
Impact rating	Good
Mitigation	Not specified

Disability

Impact	The Secondary Improvement Strategy supports all learners aged 11-18.	
Impact rating	Good	
Mitigation	Successful implementation of the Secondary Improvement Strategy will ensure that 'all children and young people in Powys should experience high-quality education and develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that will enable them to become personally fulfilled, successful, economically productive, socially responsible and globally-engaged citizens.'	
Mitigated impact rating	Very good	

Gender Reassignment



Impact	The Secondary Improvement Strategy supports all learners aged 11-18.	
Impact rating	Good	
Mitigation	Successful implementation of the Secondary Improvement Strategy will ensure that 'all children and young people in Powys should experience high-quality education and develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that will enable them to become personally fulfilled, successful, economically productive, socially responsible and globally-engaged citizens.'	
Mitigated impact rating	Very good	

Marriage or Civil Partnership

Impact	None	
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Race

Impact	The Secondary Improvement Strategy supports all learners aged 11-18.	
Impact rating	Very good	
Mitigation	Successful implementation of the Secondary Improvement Strategy will ensure that 'all children and young people in Powys should experience high-quality education and develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that will enable them to become personally fulfilled, successful, economically productive, socially responsible and globally-engaged citizens.'	
Mitigated impact rating	Very good	

Religion or Belief

Impact	The Secondary Improvement Strategy supports all learners aged 11-18.	
Impact rating	Good	
Mitigation	Successful implementation of the Secondary Improvement Strategy will ensure that 'all children and young people in Powys should experience high-quality education and develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that will enable them to become personally fulfilled, successful, economically productive, socially responsible and globally-engaged citizens.'	



Mitigated	impact
rating	

Very good

Sex

Impact	The Secondary School Improvement Strategy will support learners aged 11-18.
Impact rating	Good
Mitigation	Successful implementation of the Secondary Improvement Strategy will ensure that 'all children and young people in Powys should experience high-quality education and develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that will enable them to become personally fulfilled, successful, economically productive, socially responsible and globally-engaged citizens.'
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

Sexual Orientation

Impact	The Secondary School Improvement Strategy supports all learners aged 11-18.
Impact rating	Good
Mitigation	Successful implementation of the Secondary Improvement Strategy will ensure that 'all children and young people in Powys should experience high-quality education and develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that will enable them to become personally fulfilled, successful, economically productive, socially responsible and globally-engaged citizens.'
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

Pregnancy and Maternity

Impact None

Socio-economic Duty

Impact	The Secondary Improvement Strategy is one of several key policy initiatives, which together aim to support learners from socio-economic disadvantaged backgrounds.
Impact rating	Good



Mitigation	Successful implementation of the Secondary Improvement Strategy will ensure that 'all children and young people in Powys should experience high-quality education and develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that will enable them to become personally fulfilled, successful, economically productive, socially responsible and globally-engaged citizens.'
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

5h. Evidence

The Mid Wales Education Partnership provides a fully bilingual school improvement service across the partnership region. This means that the authority has direct access to bilingual support staff without the additional cost of having to bring in external consultants who will not have had the opportunity to build an ongoing relationship with the staff they are supporting.

Through effective collaboration with schools and other regions, the Secondary School Improvement Team provide subject specific pedagogical support inline with Estyn recommendations and the National Mission.

6. Impact on key guiding principles & workforce

6a. Sustainable development principles

Long-term

Impact	The Secondary Improvement Strategy supports all learners aged 11-18 and introduces a sustainable and long-term approach to secondary schools in Powys.
Impact rating	Good
Mitigation	Through the introduction of the Secondary School Improvement Team, Post-16 pedagogical and leadership support is currently being provided. This support has strengthening support for more vulnerable learners e.g. ALN and more able and talented learners, whilst establishing effective links to life-long learning with key stakeholders including external providers and employers.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good



Collaboration

Impact	The Secondary Improvement Strategy supports all learners aged 11-18 and is building on effective links with key stakeholders including external providers and employers.
Impact rating	Good
Mitigation	Successful implementation of the Secondary Improvement Strategy and implementation of the Post-16 Transformation programme will ensure that 'all children and young people in Powys should experience high-quality education and develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that will enable them to become personally fulfilled, successful, economically productive, socially responsible and globally-engaged citizens.'
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

Involvement (including Communication and Engagement)

Prevention

Impact None

Integration

Impact	None

6b. Impact on the workforce

Impact	None
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6c. Impact on payroll

6d. Welsh language impact on staff

Impact	None
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6e. Impact on apprenticeships

6f. Evidence

The implementation of the Secondary School Improvement Strategy and the introduction of the Secondary School Improvement Team means that it is possible to reduce the amount of external consultancy support required, which in turn results in the reduction of investment required but strengthens the capacity of the service.

Through effective collaboration with schools and other regions, the Secondary School Improvement Team provide subject specific pedagogical support inline with Estyn recommendations and the National Mission.

7. Likelihood and risks

Risk 1

Description	Progress against the Secondary School Improvement Strategy does not continue at the same pace resulting in the inability to release the allocated funding as anticipated.					
Likelihood score	2	Impact score	3	Risk rating	6.0	
Mitigation	Progress is monitored and supported through the existing operational and strategic Secondary School Improvement Strategy boards.					
Residual likelihood score	2	Residual impact score	2	Residual risk rating	4.0	

8. Overall summary and judgement

Outline assessment



The implementation of the Secondary School Improvement Strategy and the introduction of the Secondary School Improvement Team, mean that it is possible to reduce the amount of external support required, which in turn results in the reduction of investment required. Furthermore, through effective succession planning, the expertise of the permanent Secondary School Improvement Team is ensuring that there is appropriate levels of support available to all schools and a more cohesive approach to service delivery.

Cabinet reference

9. Additional evidence

Transforming Education Strategy

Secondary School Improvement Strategy

10. Ongoing monitoring arrangements and governance

Monitoring arrangements

The proposal will be monitored via the strategic Secondary School Improvement Strategy board and the existing budget monitoring mechanisms.

Review date 17/12/2023

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