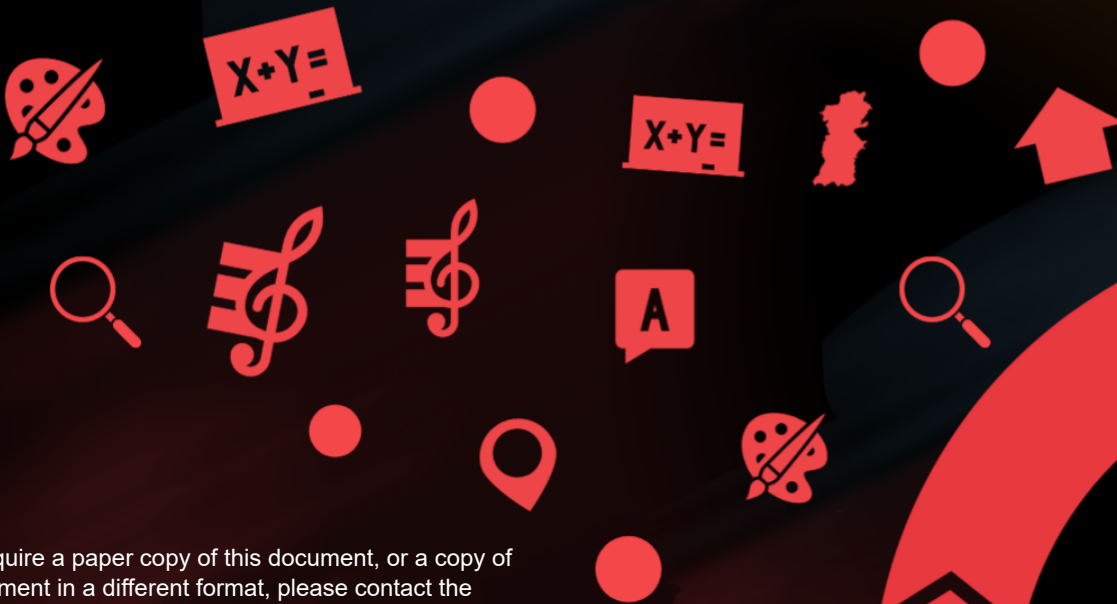




# Proposals for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School

## Consultation Report



If you require a paper copy of this document, or a copy of the document in a different format, please contact the Transforming Education Team on 01597 826618, or e-mail [transforming.education@powys.gov.uk](mailto:transforming.education@powys.gov.uk)

# Consultation on the proposals for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School

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# **Consultation on the proposals for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School**

## **1. OVERVIEW OF THE CONSULTATION**

Powys County Council consulted on proposals to close Treowen C.P. School, extend Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and move to a new building.

The proposals are as follows:

**Phase 1:** Close Treowen C.P. School from 31 August 2025 and extend Ysgol Calon y Dderwen to include the former Treowen C.P. School site from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025

**Phase 2:** Ysgol Calon y Dderwen to move to a new building located on the existing Ysgol Calon y Dderwen site during 2026/27, and the Treowen site closes.

The consultation took place from the **15<sup>th</sup> of January 2024** to the **26<sup>th</sup> of February 2024**.

### **i) Consultation methods**

The consultation documentation was available on the Council's website throughout the consultation period, and was distributed to stakeholders, as required by the School Organisation Code (2018). A separate version for pupils was also available on the Council's website throughout the consultation period.

Consultees were invited to respond to the consultation by either completing an online consultation form, filling in a paper copy of the form and returning it to the Transforming Education Team at County Hall, or by e-mailing / writing to the Transforming Education Team.

Meetings were held with the following:

- Pupils of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen – 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2024
- Staff of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen – 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2024
- Governors of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen – 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2024
- Pupils of Treowen C.P. School – 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2024
- Staff of Treowen C.P. School – 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2024
- Governors of Treowen C.P. School – 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2024

### **ii) Responses received**

A total of 119 respondents completed the consultation response form which was included in the consultation document. This included paper copies as well as responses submitted using the online response form.

In addition, 5 written responses were received, which included a response from Estyn. The response received from Estyn is provided on pages 18-22, in line with the requirements of the School Organisation Code.

### **iii) Summary of issues raised**

The issues raised in the consultation responses are listed in detail in section 6, from page 23 onwards. This includes the Council's response to each issue. The following is a summary of the issues raised:

1. Comments about the current schools
  - 1.1 Comments about Treowen C.P. School
  - 1.2 Comments about Ysgol Calon y Dderwen
2. Comments about Phase 1 of the Proposals
  - 2.1 Comments about the impact on pupils
  - 2.2 Concerns about the impact on staff
  - 2.3 Concerns about loss of school identity
  - 2.4 Comments about the impact on families
  - 2.5 Concerns about impact on the community
  - 2.6 Queries about Phase 1
  - 2.7 Comments in favour of Phase 1
3. Comments about Phase 2 of the Proposals
  - 3.1 Concern about the impact on pupils
  - 3.2 Concern about the size of the school
  - 3.3 Comments about the location of the school
  - 3.4 Comments about the new building
  - 3.5 Comments about the North Powys Wellbeing Programme
  - 3.6 Comments about the impact on the community
  - 3.7 Comments about the impact on staff
  - 3.8 Comments about Early Years provision
  - 3.9 Other comments not in favour of Phase 2
  - 3.10 Comments in support of Phase 2
4. Other comments
  - 4.1 General comments not in support of the Proposals
  - 4.2 General comments about the impact on staff
  - 4.3 Comments about the impact on Protected Characteristic Groups
  - 4.4 Comments about the impact on Welsh
  - 4.5 Comments about the consultation process
  - 4.6 Comments about the consultation documentation
  - 4.7 Alternative options

### **iv) Correspondence received prior to the consultation period**

A total of 42 letters were received before the consultation period began on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2024. They were received after the Council had announced the findings of the engagement period carried out in the summer of 2023 and the outcome of the options appraisal exercise carried out to identify a preferred way forward for Newtown schools, but before the start of the consultation period in January 2024.

The issues raised in these letters have not been included in the 'Issues raised during the consultation period' in Section 6 as they were not submitted as part of the formal consultation process. However, the Council acknowledges their contents.

A summary of the key themes raised in the letters is included as follows:

- Concerns over the loss of Treowen C.P. School as the central part of the Treowen community.
- Comments about the quality of provision pupils receive at Treowen C.P. School.
- Expressions of frustration around the existence of the proposals; questions relating to the logic and reasoning behind the proposals.
- Concerns about the logistics of children getting to the Ysgol Calon y Dderwen site, particularly during the winter months, and about the additional journey time.
- Comments about funding for the maintenance of the existing school buildings in Newtown.
- Concern about a potential decrease in school budget following the proposed expansion of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen.
- Comments about possible increase in class sizes.
- Concerns about how the proposals will affect school staff.
- Comments about safety of pupils at the proposed new site.
- Concerns about the impact on ALN pupils.
- Comments about environmental impact of Phase 2 of the proposals.
- Comments about lack of engagement with the communities involved.
- Concerns about the impact on disabled pupils and disabled parents.
- Comments about the impact on Treowen as an area of deprivation.
- General comments not in favour of the proposals.

## 2. CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM

104 respondents completed the English language consultation response form, which was available online. 15 respondents sent the consultation response form by email in English. No responses were received in Welsh.

The quantitative findings of the questionnaire are summarised below. Written comments were also provided in the consultation response forms. The issues raised in these comments are included in Section 6 of this report.

1. Please indicate how you are associated with the schools affected by this consultation:

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Parent, carer or guardian	58	48.74%
Governor	2	1.68%
Member of staff	14	11.77%
Member of the community	40	33.61%
Organisation	5	4.20%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>

2. Please specify which school you are associated with:

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Treowen C.P. School	77	64.71%
Ysgol Calon y Dderwen	28	23.53%
Another school	1	0.84%
No association with any school	12	10.08%
Not answered	1	0.84%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>

3. Please provide your postcode:

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Abermule	2	1.68%
Carno	1	0.84%
Llandinam	1	0.84%
Newtown	114	95.80%
Not supplied	1	0.84%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>

4. How old are you?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Under 16	0	0.00%
16-24	2	1.68%
25-34	24	20.17%

35-44	42	35.30%
45-54	10	8.40%
55-64	11	9.24%
65-74	16	13.45%
75-84	1	0.84%
85+	0	0.00%
Prefer not to say	4	7.56%
Not answered	9	3.36%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>

5. What is your gender?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Male	24	20.17%
Female	84	70.59%
Prefer not to say	2	1.68%
Not answered	9	7.56%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>

6. Can you understand, speak, or write Welsh?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	26	21.85%
No	66	55.46%
Prefer not to say	21	17.65%
Not answered	6	5.04%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>

7. If you have school-aged children, are they entitled to receive free school meals?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	32	26.89%
No	43	36.13%
Prefer not to say	22	18.49%
Not answered	22	18.49%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. If you have school-aged children, do they have any additional learning needs?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	23	19.33%
No	50	42.01%
Prefer not to say	23	19.33%
Not answered	23	19.33%

<b>Total responses</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>
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9. Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	11	9.24%
No	84	70.59%
Prefer not to say	19	15.97%
Not answered	5	4.20%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>

10. What is your ethnic group?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
White	101	84.88%
Asian	0	0.00%
Black, African or Caribbean	1	0.84%
Mixed	0	0.00%
Gypsy/Traveller	0	0.00%
Other	0	0.00%
Prefer not to say	11	9.24%
Not Answered	6	5.04%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>100%</b>



### **3. CONSULTATION WITH PUPILS**

Notes from meetings held with pupils at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School are found below.

#### **3.1 Consultation meeting with Ysgol Calon y Dderwen pupils**

As part of the consultation process, council officers met with the Ysgol Calon y Dderwen Learning Council on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2024. The Learning Council is made up of 12 pupils from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Pupils were asked to respond to some questions and give their thoughts on the proposals:

##### **What do you think is good about Ysgol Calon y Dderwen?**

- Lots of nice children in this school.
- We sing a lot.
- Lots of sports - house athletics, cross-country, football, rugby, netball.
- Like all the space – inside and outside.
- Like all the Eisteddfod events (singing, dance, arts)
- Like the Welsh learning.
- Like the teachers.
- Delicious food.

##### **Is there anything different since the two schools became Ysgol Calon y Dderwen in 2021?**

- More children.
- Different uniform.
- New name

##### **Is there anything you think could be better about Ysgol Calon y Dderwen?**

- Would like a drama club.
- Longer break times.
- Have lunch breaks at same time [they're currently staggered].
- More arts and crafts.
- More sports days.
- More things to do with history.
- Think the buildings need to be a bit bigger.

##### **If Ysgol Calon y Dderwen was extended to include Treowen school what would be different?**

- There would be more friends to make once two schools come together on one site.
- There would have to be more classes.
- There could be different teachers.
- Treowen uniforms could change.

- Children from Treowen might be scared about getting to know a new school.
- New site could be too far for some people to get to.
- Might be difficult to get used to new rules and subjects.
- We might have to go to the Treowen site sometimes.

### **Does anything worry you about this proposed change?**

- Maybe Treowen children would be scared.
- Might be worried about not knowing teachers.
- Treowen children could worry that we're taking over their school.

### **What do you think about Phase 2 of the proposal, which is to move to a new building on the Calon y Dderwen site?**

- What would we do whilst the new building is being built? Worried about building being knocked down.
- If the building is being built during school time it could be noisy.
- Would Treowen stay as it is or would it be knocked down too?
- Everyone from three sites would move into new building at same so it's fair.
- What if people get lost in new building?
- Ysgol Calon y Dderwen would have a lot more pupils afterwards.
- What would the new building look like?

### **What might change for Treowen pupils during Phase 2?**

- They might not know where we are.
- Would the classes be bigger?

### **What do you think about having more pupils coming to this site? Would this cause any problems?**

- Where would we all park? We currently park at the school or library.
- There will be more noise as a bigger school – might be harder to learn with more people talking.
- Might be more crowded with everyone from three buildings in one new building.
- New building needs to have enough space and facilities for pupils with extra needs.
- New building needs to be designed with enough toilets.
- Worried about too many people crowding the school at pick-up time.
- More exits for safety in case of fire etc.
- Would there still be house captains?
- General comments: would enjoy coming to a new, bigger school.

### **How would Treowen pupils feel?**

- Could be sad.
- Hard because they like going to school where they live.
- Would have to travel further.
- They're proud of the name they have now and wouldn't like to change.

### **Do you have any other comments / questions?**

- Joint effort to create new t-shirts was proposed by pupils so that new Treowen pupils can feel part of the process.

### **3.2 Consultation meeting with Treowen C.P. School pupils**

As part of the consultation process, council officers met with a group of pupils from Treowen C.P. School on the 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2024. The pupils were from Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Pupils were asked to respond to some questions and give their thoughts on the proposals:

#### **What's good about Treowen School?**

- Art
- Fun Lessons
- Teachers
- Playtime
- Cinio
- Friends
- Playing Football
- Urdd
- Cross Country
- School Trips; Llangrannog, Chester Zoo, Leisure Centres Swimming, Theatre Demon Dentist
- Eisteddfod

#### **What don't you like about Treowen School? Is there anything that could be better?**

- Maths
- More Clubs, they have breakfast club and reading club.
- Clubs like to see; more in general.
- More sports teams.
- Football Teams to play against other schools.

#### **What do you think about the plan for Treowen School to become part of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen?**

- How many years away is it?
- Why do you want us to be part of CYD?
- What would happen to the building when we move?
- Would we have a new name if we become one school?
- If we did join and went to the super school would this become a nursery?
- If more children came here we'd need more teachers to help

**Is there anything you think would be good about being part of Calon Y Dderwen?**

- Make new friends.

**What wouldn't be good?**

- Impact on younger children's learning, moving to new teachers and people you don't know, they may be uncomfortable.
- Tough for the younger children, worried that it's going to be too big.
- Worried they're not going to know everyone's names.

**What do you think about the idea of moving into a new building? What will be good about this?**

- New friends.
- More chance of getting into school teams and competing.
- More fun for sports day as you'd have more to do.

**What don't you think will be good about moving to a brand new building?**

- Finding your way around and finding the classrooms may be difficult.
- Uncomfortable if the school was big and walking through people you don't know.
- Feel a bit worried about going to school somewhere different.
- Late to classes in case we don't know our way around.

**What do you think about walking down the hill to school?**

- Road is really tight, people from Trehafren walking to Hafren the road is too small for everyone.
- Not everyone could make it to school on time as it takes longer to get to school.
- If you still want to walk, it will take longer, really tired from walking.
- Traffic if you do drive.
- More of an impact on the younger children.
- It will affect the people who can't drive or don't have cars.
- Some people don't live in Newtown, difficult for them to get there.

**How do you come to school?**

- A few walk
- Cars
- No buses
- A few live in Treowen, Vaynor, Barnfields and Garth Owen

**What do you think we could do to help you to get to know the other pupils?**

- Get to know people before it happens.
- Make new clubs in the schools to meet new people.

- First day everyone wear stickers with their names on so they don't forget.
- Sports with pupils in the schools to get to know people better.

**Do you have any further comments / questions?**

- What's going to happen to this building?
- What's going to happen to the teachers?
- How much money they've spent on this school already will be a waste.
- Thought Welshpool Primary was too big.
- 360 pupils isn't far off the size of Newtown High School, it will be too big for the younger children.
- Are the classrooms going to be too big in the classrooms some children may not be able to hear their teachers?

## **4. CONSULTATION MEETINGS WITH STAFF AND GOVERNORS**

Consultation meetings were held with the staff and governors of both schools. The issues raised at these meetings are summarised below:

### **i) Consultation meeting with Staff of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen**

- Concern about the impact of the proposals on Calon y Dderwen staff jobs, particularly following the move to a new building.
- It's unfair for staff to have to go through another period of uncertainty following the merging of Ladywell Green and Hafren schools.
- It would be better for Calon y Dderwen staff if Treowen pupils moved to Calon y Dderwen straight away.
- What would the leadership arrangements be during Phase 1?
- Currently there are more than 360 pupils in the two schools, so if the school is built for 360, it will already be over capacity.
- Is it right that we have funding for a build for a 270 place school but not for 360 pupils?
- What happens if there are more children in the future and the school isn't big enough?
- Pupil numbers at Treowen may drop because of these changes – parents may choose for their children to attend other schools instead.
- How realistic is it that we will move to the new building in 2026/27?
- When will the current process end?
- What will happen with the upkeep of existing buildings until there is a new building?
- Concern about the design of the new building, the grounds / outdoor space and size of the hall
- Queries about whether the new build will be any further forward compared to the current buildings or will it be a step back?
- Do you evaluate the success of previous new buildings?
- A number of outside agencies come into the school to work with pupils and we are already struggling for space to put people.
- Are we really thinking about the children in all of this? And the impact on the children we have now, not just those for the future?
- Some pupils are likely to struggle with transition, especially ALN pupils. Additional support required for these pupils.

### **ii) Consultation meeting with Governors of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen**

- Questions around the reasoning and strategy behind the proposals – why have we got to this proposal? Why a Treowen and Calon y Dderwen merger, and not a Maesyrrhandir and Treowen merger?
- Feeling that here is a lack of strategy behind the current proposal. It would make more sense to merge Maesyrrhandir and Treowen.
- Concerns around constraints relating to the site and the new building – compromises are already being made in terms of the new building.

- Concern about use of Building Bulletin 99 – this is now at least 25 years old, so is it fit for purpose to meet the new education requirements that the government has set out? Further discussion around the new design standard that are due to be released by the Welsh Government in coming months.
- Concern that it would not be possible to accommodate all parents in the hall.
- Concern about job security for staff, particularly during phase 2.
- Queries about the logistics of amending the make-up of the Governing Body during Phase 1.
- Concern that a Calon y Dderwen based governing body would need to be making decisions on staffing on another site, which would be challenging.
- Pupil numbers at Treowen may decrease anyway as parents may choose for their children to go elsewhere.
- What would a typical management team look like for a school of 360?
- Need to look at the staffing structure that we have at this school today because we're not business as usual as we're operating across two sites already.
- Concern about the impact on Treowen pupils in terms of getting to school.
- Would there be a town bus route as part of this process? It could include a loop around Treowen and the town centre?
- Queries about the condition of the Maesyrrhandir building and whether there would be a new building for them.
- The projected numbers for Calon y Dderwen are stable, we built that as a school. Now the proposal is to add variability to our structure, more risk of having to manage fluctuations in numbers.
- Concern that we are losing half the site.
- If Calon y Dderwen expands to include Treowen, would we lose our surplus budget?
- Queries about the accuracy of Treowen's ALN figures – they seem a little low.
- Concern about the impact on Treowen families, particularly those without cars.
- Better alignment is needed between the various things going on in Newtown.
- Queries about the cost of having an energy efficient building e.g. recladding, replacing solar panels.
- Queries about maintenance of e.g. lifts?

### iii) **Consultation meeting with Staff of Treowen C.P. School**

- Queries about why Maesyrrhandir is not included, particularly as Treowen numbers are higher than Maesyrrhandir and building condition is better.
- The report refers to the SLT situation at Treowen, but we haven't got a permanent SLT at the moment because we're in this situation.
- Worries raised relating to staff jobs.
- Is it the same situation for us and Calon y Dderwen staff? When this was proposed, we were told that if we close, they would also close.
- Concerns that the school's identity would be unfairly lost.

- We've recently been through a redundancy process at Treowen too, this isn't reflected in the Consultation Document.
- In Phase 2, is everyone affected?
- Questions about the neutrality of decision makers.
- Queries about the design of proposed new build – how will a 2-storey building work without access to outside areas?
- Do teachers input into the designs, or is it just an architect that doesn't have a clue about the new curriculum and what's needed?
- Concern about access, congestion.
- Concern about the wording of the risk identified around impact on staff
- Queries about the impact on 3+ and early years provision
- Feeling that the school community have already filled in forms and given their views but haven't been listened to.
- The school is the community, it is the anchor for many in the community.
- Concern about the impact on pupils who struggle
- Some pupils that come here don't live on the estate – they choose to come here even though it isn't their closest school.
- Suggestion that the Cabinet members should visit the school.

#### **iv) Consultation meeting with Governors of Treowen C.P. School**

- Why was Maesyrrhandir taken out of the proposal?
- We wanted to advertise for a full time head, but were advised not to because of the current situation, and now you're using this against us.
- There was an issue with our ALN PLASC figures – we have got more statemented pupils than was first stated.
- We have fewer surplus places than Maesyrrhandir and better buildings, and aren't that different in terms of ALN and FSM.
- Concern that there will be a reduction in pupils coming here because of the situation.
- Discussion around pupil numbers at the school and in Newtown in general.
- How are there benefits from being a larger school?
- There is an error on page 51 of the consultation document re finance – the figures should be the other way around.
- There is no information on current travel patterns in the document.
- Concern about the distance from Treowen to Calon y Dderwen.
- Some pupils come to this school even though they don't live in Treowen.
- Parents are choosing for their children to come here instead of a larger school.
- In this school, every member of staff knows every child, and can spot immediately if there are any issues.
- Concern that Treowen are the ones that will be missing out here – they'll be losing their identity and becoming part of another school.
- If this were to go forward, would we have an opportunity to input into the plans for the new building?
- Have you considered that the Calon y Dderwen site just becomes a Health Hub, and that a new school is built on this site?



- Concern that Treowen staff would have to apply for their jobs but Calon y Dderwen staff wouldn't.
- Concern about pupils falling through the net in a larger school.
- There are a lot of housing developments in Newtown, which will result in additional children.
- Is there a figure for the number of pupils that start in a larger school then move because maybe it's not for them?
- Concern that this proposal won't address the Maesyrrhandir position. Preferred option would be one school between Treowen and Maesyrrhandir.
- What are the predicted class sizes if this goes ahead? I've read that there could be class sizes of up to 60?
- If it goes ahead, when would we expect to learn more about our positions?
- There would need to be some representation from Treowen School on the Calon y Dderwen governing body, if this went ahead.
- What would be the outside space with the new building as some would be lost because of the campus being shared?
- Concern about congestion around the site.

## 5. ESTYN

Estyn's response to the consultation is provided below:

This report has been prepared by his Majesty's Inspectors of Education and Training in Wales.

Under the terms of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and its associated Code, proposers are required to send consultation documents to Estyn. However, Estyn is not a body which is required to act in accordance with the code and the Act places no statutory requirements on Estyn in respect of school organization matters. Therefore, as a body being consulted, Estyn will provide their opinion only on the overall merits of school organisation proposals.

Estyn has considered the educational aspects of the proposal and has produced the following response to the information provided by the propose and other additional information, such as Welsh Government data and the opinion of the Regional Consortium that delivers school improvement services to the schools in the proposal.

### Introduction

This proposal is submitted by Powys County Council. The proposal is considered under the School Organisation Code (2018) and the proposal is as follows:

**Phase 1:** Close Treowen C.P. School from 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 and extend Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen to include the former Treowen C.P. School site from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025.

**Phase 2:** Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen to move to a new building located on the existing Calon Y Dderwen site during 2026/27 and close the Treowen site.

The proposal aligns with the county's Strategy for Transforming Education that was re-launched in July 2022. The council's Cabinet agreed on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023 to begin consulting on the proposal following consideration of the alternatives.

### Summary/Conclusion

The proposer has provided useful information that explains the rationale behind this proposal.

The following options were considered:

- **Option 1:** New building for Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen, other schools to remain as they are.
- **Option 2:** New building for Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen with increased capacity, the closure of Maesyrrhandir C.P School and Treowen C.P. School with pupils attending the new building at Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen.
- **Option 3:** New building for Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen with increased capacity, the closure of Maesyrrhandir C.P. School with pupils attending the new building at Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen

- **Option 4:** New building for Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen with increased capacity, the closure of Treowen C.P. School with pupils attending the new building at Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen.

Based on SWOT analyses and an assessment against the Critical Success Factors, the preferred option for the schools is Option 4.

Having identified the preferred option, a number of possible implementation options were identified to take this option forward.

**Option 4A** – Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School continue to operate as separate schools until the new building is constructed. When the new building opens, Treowen C.P. school closes and pupils transfer to the new building at Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen along with Calon Y Dderwen pupils.

**Option 4B** – Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School continue to operate as separate schools until the new building is constructed. When the new building opens on the Calon Y Dderwen site, a new primary school is established in the new building by merging Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School.

**Option 4C** – From September 2025, Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen is extended to include the current Treowen C.P. School building. Treowen pupils would continue to attend the Treowen site; however, the school would be part of Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen. Treowen C.P. School would close. When the new building opens, all pupils move to the new building on the Calon Y Dderwen site. The Treowen site would close.

**Option 4D** – From September 2025, a new primary school is established by merging Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School. The school initially operates from the current Calon Y Dderwen and Treowen buildings. When the new building opens, all pupils move to the new building on the Calon Y Dderwen site. The Treowen site would close.

**Option 4E** – From September 2025, Treowen C.P. School closes and pupils transfer to Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen. Pupils continue to occupy the current Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen buildings until the new building is ready.

Following SWOT analyses and an assessment against the Critical Success Factors, the Cabinet's preferred implementation option is Option 4C.

Estyn believes that the proposal is likely to maintain, or improve upon, the current standards in terms of education, provision and leadership and management.

### **Description and benefits**

The rationale for this proposal is sound and due attention has been given to the considerations. Evidence is based valid facts and considerations and the proposer has provided a clear timetable for the statutory procedures and implementing the proposal.

On the whole, the proposal identifies the proposal's expected advantages and disadvantages clearly and fairly in comparison with the status quo. The proposer has given detailed consideration to the advantages and disadvantages of the alternatives and clear and valid reasons have been provided for disregarding these alternatives.

Detailed consideration has been given to completing the proposal in two phases. This would allow pupils to attend the school at the existing location until the new building is built and would eliminate the need for Treowen pupils to move twice. Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School have a similar pupil profile in terms of additional learning needs and pupils who are eligible for free school meals. This would enable a positive transition process, for example by sharing staff expertise, good practice and resources across both sites. The proposer has not detailed how they would reduce the effect on pupils' learning and well-being during the construction period of the new building, for example reducing the noise impact and disruption of the construction work. The proposer has acknowledged that the proposed arrangements may contribute to traffic density in the Calon Y Dderwen area and that this may have a negative effect on the attendance of pupils who have to walk further to school.

The proposal is expected to provide an opportunity for pupils at Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School to benefit from a better learning environment which is fully accessible, energy-efficient and meets the Welsh Government's net zero targets. The new building would eliminate the maintenance backlog at both sites, along with concerns about the condition and suitability of the existing buildings.

The proposal has given clear consideration to the effect of the changes on learners' travel arrangements. The proposer states that every effort would be made to encourage walking/cycling to school when developing the new building. As the proposed site for the new building is currently a school site, there are already good active travel links between the site and town centre. There has also recently been some development of active travel routes on the Treowen estate to reach the school after moving to the new building. However, the additional distance is not considered to be excessive and should not have a significant effect on the accessibility of provision. Several potential future routes have been identified to better connect this area to the town centre, which would be considered as part of the process of developing the new building.

The proposer has given some consideration to the effect of the proposal on school capacity and the effect of surplus places in the area. The surplus places that would have been at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. school are expected to decrease from approximately 40% to 15%. However, surplus places are expected to increase gradually across other English-medium schools in the town until January 2028.

The proposer has considered the financial costs of the new school to be suitable. Revenue savings of £108.6k per annum are estimated as a result of implementing the plan, excluding additional savings that can be made, for example by pooling resources. The proposer estimates that the re-branding costs and the Treowen site for the implementation of Phase 1 would be approximately £15k. It is acknowledged that there is a risk in terms of attracting capital funding for the implementation of the proposal. The original Strategic Outline Programme was based on a school with 270 places (as opposed to the 360 for the revised proposal). The council will submit a new Strategic Outline Programme for the Sustainable Communities for Learning programme before the end of March 2024, which will include an updated cost for this project.

The proposer gives suitable consideration to the effect of the proposals on the local pre-school provision. It is acknowledged that management arrangements for the provision in Treowen would need to be considered, as the setting is currently run by Treowen C.P School, which would no longer exist. Should all provision move to the new building after Phase 2, this would mean that funded early years education would no longer be available in Treowen and families living in Treowen would need to travel further to access provision at Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen. The proposer states that parents would also be able to access other providers in Newtown and that the demand for places in the area will be reviewed as the proposal progresses to ensure that sufficient places are provided to meet the demand.

The local authority has provided a Welsh Language Impact Assessment as part of this proposal. As the re-organisation of English-medium provision is the basis of this proposal, no significant impact is expected on Welsh-medium provision.

The local authority has provided a Community Impact Assessment as part of this proposal.

### **Educational aspects of the proposal**

The proposer has given due consideration to the effect of the proposal on the quality of outcomes, provision and leadership and management.

The proposer believes that pupils at both schools are making good progress in their skills. It is anticipated that extending Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen to include the current Treowen site would have a positive effect on the skills of all pupils, including literacy, numeracy and digital competence. This is intended to be realized by improving opportunities for staff to share expertise and resources across the school and by improving the school's capacity to monitor pupils' progress in these aspects. The proposer believes that the quality of teaching is good at both schools. It is anticipated that extending Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen to include the Treowen site would be an opportunity to improve this further by providing positive professional learning opportunities for staff, such as sharing effective teaching practices and experiences.

The proposer has not given detailed consideration to how the plans would develop the breadth, appropriateness and balance of the curriculum at the school beyond identifying that it would be an opportunity to strengthen the curriculum provided for pupils further.

Appropriate consideration is given to the effect on vulnerable pupils, including those with additional learning needs. Pupils will be taught at the same location initially. They are likely to be taught by the same staff, which would help to support their transition to the new delivery model. Although the proposal would ultimately affect these pupils, there is no reason to believe that the new arrangements would not meet their needs. The proposer acknowledges that there would be a change in location for pupils who attend the Treowen site, which may mean that the school at the new site would be less accessible to them.

The proposal is not likely to expand or have a negative effect on Welsh-medium provision as the schools affected are English medium. Appropriate consideration has

been given to the effect on groups of pupils who are vulnerable and ensuring quality. There are not concerns that the plan will have any effect in terms of these aspects. No adverse effect is anticipated on pupils' well-being or attitudes to learning. Over the short term, all pupils are likely to be taught by the same staff as at present. It is acknowledged that moving to the new building may have a short-term negative effect on pupils' well-being, for example Treowen pupils who have to travel further to school. The proposer does not detail how they intend to mitigate any negative effects on pupils at the Calon Y Dderwen site during the construction period, for example if temporary classes are needed. The proposer expects that the school's arrangements for safeguarding pupils would improve further following the move to a new building in the future. Safeguarding arrangements would be a key consideration in planning the site and designing the new building, particularly considering that the proposal is for the new building to be part of the new well-being campus to be developed by the North Powys well-being Programme.

Extending Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen to include the Treowen site would be an opportunity to ensure permanent leadership arrangements across both sites. There is currently a permanent leadership team at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen but not at Treowen C.P. School. The proposer indicates that the extended Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen would be a larger school which would enable more leadership capacity. It is acknowledged that operating across two sites may cause some challenges for the schools' leaders during this transitional period.

The Estyn report in May 2018 shows that Treowen C.P. School received two 'Good; grades against the 'Well-being and attitudes to learning' and 'Care, support and guidance' inspection areas and three 'Adequate and needs improvement' grades against the 'Standards', 'Teaching and learning experiences' and 'Leadership and management' areas. The school was placed in the 'Estyn monitoring' category and in December 2019, the school was judged to have made good progress in relation to the recommendations and, therefore, removed from the list of schools in need of Estyn monitoring. Ysgol Calon y Dderwen is a new school and has not yet been inspected by Estyn.

## 6. ISSUES RAISED DURING THE CONSULTATION PERIOD

The following tables list the issues raised during the consultation period and provide the local authority's response to these issues.

### 1. COMMENTS ABOUT THE CURRENT SCHOOLS

#### 1.1 TREOWEN C.P. SCHOOL

##### 1.1.1 General positive comments about the school

1.1.1.1	It is a lovely school with happy children.	The Council notes these positive comments about Treowen C.P. School.
1.1.1.2	Treowen CP School is a wonderful school.	As above.
1.1.1.3	Treowen is an excellent school .	As above.
1.1.1.4	Have got nothing but amazing things to say about the school and the atmosphere.	As above.
1.1.1.5	Pupils have excelled and loved their school experience at Treowen School.	As above.
1.1.1.6	Pupils love Treowen School.	As above.
1.1.1.7	Treowen is such an amazing school with great opportunities and access to the local estate.	As above.
1.1.1.8	Treowen is a wonderful school for children to attend in their formative years.	As above.
1.1.1.9	Treowen is a thriving school and does so well, it prides itself on traditions continuing over many years and pupils returning as parents and staff members says a lot about how amazing this school is.	As above.
1.1.1.10	Treowen is a happy, successful school with a great attendance record.	As above.
1.1.1.11	Treowen CP school is a thriving school who have made huge steps forward over the last few years especially,	As above.

	building up an excellent profile across our community and town. The school themselves, building important relationships and trust with the school.	
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### **1.1.2 Comments about the school's family feel**

1.1.2.1	Treowen School has a good ethos and a family feel not just a workplace feel.	The Council notes these positive comments about Treowen C.P. School.
1.1.2.2	Treowen School meets the needs of its learners and has a family feel to it which is felt by everyone who visits.	As above.
1.1.2.3	The atmosphere and team feel in the school is very much present. This school has a warming, friendly environment to it and I can honestly say I've never felt more at home in a place away from home than I do in Treowen School.	As above.
1.1.2.4	Treowen School has a community and family feel and everybody knows each other.	As above.
1.1.2.5	Treowen is a wonderful, close knit community who thrive and give their children every opportunity that they deserve.	As above.
1.1.2.6	Treowen School is well known for its nurturing care and environment.	As above.
1.1.2.7	The school has built positive relationships with families and the local community, it's not just a school it's like a family.	As above.
1.1.2.8	Treowen School is a fantastic school and has a strong sense of community.	As above.

### **1.1.3 Comments about staff**

1.1.3.1	The staff at Treowen have a long-term positive impact on pupils who attend the school.	The Council notes this positive comment about staff at Treowen C.P. School.
1.1.3.2	Treowen School is one of the few schools that stayed open even in bad weather due to the commitment of the staff wanting to be at school.	As above.



1.1.3.3	The teachers and children are very supportive to each other.	As above.
1.1.3.4	Past teachers still attend school activities due to the relationships built up over many years of teaching.	As above.
1.1.3.5	The teachers are not just teachers they're friends too.	As above.
1.1.3.6	The teachers are excellent.	As above.
1.1.3.7	The staff are dedicated to the welfare of each individual child and work very closely as a team.	As above.
1.1.3.8	The proven ability of the staff at Treowen is second to none.	As above.
1.1.3.9	The school has amazing staff.	As above.
1.1.3.10	Staff at the school are more than just teachers to the children they are a support network to the families.	As above.
1.1.3.11	Pupils who are shy and intimidated by new places are given the support to feel at home and be loved by the class teacher and all staff. They then flourish and have the best in them brought out. They're helped to believe in themselves.	As above.
1.1.3.12	The staff recognise straight away when a pupil needs a little check in or when they aren't quite themselves.	As above.

#### **1.1.4 Comments about quality of provision**

1.1.4.1	The nurturing, supportive environment and the close-knit community that this school provides have been invaluable in shaping the lives of pupils. It is a place where not only academic learning but also invaluable life skills and values are imparted, creating a strong foundation for the future.	The Council notes these positive comments about Treowen C.P. School. The quality of provision at Treowen C.P. School is not one of the reasons for the proposals.
1.1.4.2	Many of the parents whose made choices to send their kids to Treowen who don't live on the estate do this because the school has a good reputation for working well together.	As above.

1.1.4.3	The care, support, guidance and exemplary teaching that pupils experience at Treowen is second to none.	As above.
1.1.4.4	Treowen school has been recognised for its good performance by Estyn in 2018, which allows us to believe that the quality of education is exceptional.	As above.
1.1.4.5	The format of the school is excellent.	As above.
1.1.4.6	Treowen C.P school is not projecting a budget deficit and is a successful school. It achieved an Estyn good status in education standards and progress, wellbeing and attitudes to learning and quality of teaching in 2018. Whilst also achieving Good in prospects for further improvement.	As above.
1.1.4.7	The school is a great school and provides a nurturing, happy learning environment for the children.	As above.
1.1.4.8	Children are happy and settled and enjoy attending Treowen School.	As above.
1.1.4.9	The education that they receive at Treowen is great without it being in a shiny new building.	As above.
1.1.4.10	Treowen CP school's good performance is proven in the 2018 Estyn Inspection, in which Outcomes for Education Standards and Wellbeing were both identified as Good.	As above.
1.1.4.11	Treowen gives everyone equal opportunities to have a go at anything, sports events, Urdd competitions, they don't just look for their best performers, they look to each child who wants to give it a go.	As above.
1.1.4.12	It achieved an Estyn "good" status in education standards and progress, wellbeing and attitudes to learning and quality of teaching in 2018, whilst also achieving Good in prospects for further improvement.	As above.
1.1.4.13	Treowen CP school's good performance is recognised in the findings in the 2018 Estyn Inspection, in which Outcomes for Education Standards and Wellbeing were both identified as Good.	As above.

1.1.4.14	The teaching at Treowen is excellent.	As above.
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### **1.1.5 Comments about support for pupils with ALN**

1.1.5.1	The school is very nurturing, it's like going to a home from home for the children and it doesn't feel so overwhelming for them especially if they have extra needs.	The Council notes these positive comments about Treowen C.P. School provision for pupils with additional learning needs.
1.1.5.2	Treowen is a small school that works for many pupils with additional needs, education is perfect at the school.	As above.
1.1.5.3	The school helps children with additional needs and they feel more comfortable and they are more able to adapt and grow in a safe, smaller nurturing environment.	As above.
1.1.5.4	Treowen School is very friendly to children with autism and other needs.	As above.
1.1.5.5	The staff are really good at helping and meeting the needs of pupils with autism. The smaller size of the school means it's not overwhelming for these pupils.	As above.
1.1.5.6	Small school like Treowen perfectly meets the needs of children with additional learning needs.	As above.
1.1.5.7	Pupils who learn very differently and need spaces of quiet at times are supported.	As above.
1.1.5.8	Treowen School is already set out to meet the needs of everyone with it being all on one level, it has a disabled toilet and is accessible to all.	As above.

### **1.1.6 Comments about the school's role in community**

1.1.6.1	This institution has been an integral part of our community for many years.	The Council notes these comments about Treowen C.P. School's role in the community.
1.1.6.2	Treowen is a community school and this is reflected in the relationships we have built with the pupils and parents.	As above.

1.1.6.3	The school is the heart of Treowen estate, it provides stability and fosters community spirit not only for the Treowen children but also for the wider community, parents and residents of Treowen.	As above.
1.1.6.4	Treowen School is a vital part of the community and considering the deprivation in the area has provided a wonderful education its pupils.	As above.
1.1.6.5	The kids, parents and teachers all love this school. It is the heart of the community.	As above.
1.1.6.6	The events, activities, and support networks that have flourished within the school grounds have played an essential role in strengthening the bonds within our neighborhood. It is a place where relationships are nurtured and where everyone feels a sense of belonging and involvement in the education and well-being of our children.	As above.
1.1.6.7	I hope that the council will recognize the deep-rooted significance of our community school and work towards preserving it for the benefit of current and future generations.	As above.
1.1.6.8	The services of the school to the community within the Treowen area of Newtown is vital to so many. In a small community based school, the vast majority of parents would have been pupils within Treowen School themselves.	As above.
1.1.6.9	Treowen School has a lovely community feel.	As above.
1.1.6.10	The school is a valued part of the community. It brings people together. Parents get to know each other and this is vital for a community. It encourages people to care for each other and for the physical environment.	As above.
1.1.6.11	Treowen is a large housing estate and the school provides education to many of the residents.	As above.

1.1.6.12	Treowen School is a community school and lots of children from the area attend the school.	As above.
1.1.6.13	Treowen School is the heart of the community.	As above.
1.1.6.14	Treowen School is truly the hub of the community.	As above.
1.1.6.15	The school is a vital part of our Treowen community.	As above.
1.1.6.16	All parents are friendly with each other and all parents are willing to take part in many activities such as the town carnival.	As above.
1.1.6.17	The community on Treowen is unique, it is an essential part of our community.	As above.
1.1.6.18	Treowen school is a huge part of the community on that estate. It's a safe place for the children and their families.	As above.
1.1.6.19	The community centre and the school are what keep Treowen beating. The residents of Treowen pull together on so many occasions and it has been known as a village.	As above.

### **1.1.7 Comments about access to the school**

1.1.7.1	Most of the parents walk their kids to school, therefore we need Treowen school.	The Council notes these comments about access to Treowen C.P. School and notes that the school's location is very convenient for those living on the Treowen estate.
1.1.7.2	Treowen School is close and safe to access.	As above.
1.1.7.3	As a parent of former Treowen pupils, it was invaluable having the school nearby.	As above.
1.1.7.4	Having a school close is a hugely positive thing for many families.	As above.
1.1.7.5	The school is used by most of the families on this estate and on others.	As above.
1.1.7.6	Many of the parents at Treowen have chosen the school for proximity.	As above.
1.1.7.7	We currently walk to school which encourages my child to look after his wellbeing by getting out for a short walk every	As above.

	day. I have time to walk to school with my child before going to work.	
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### **1.1.8 Comments about the size of the school**

1.1.8.1	Treowen is a nice small school.	The Council notes these comments about the size of Treowen C.P. School and acknowledges that it is smaller than some other Newtown schools.
1.1.8.2	Treowen really suits a lot of children/families and with it being a small school, children and families are all known and supported well because the children do not become lost in a huge school and become just another number.	As above.
1.1.8.3	Treowen is an amazing school. One of the reasons people choose Treowen is because it's a smaller school.	As above.
1.1.8.4	Treowen is a lovely small school.	As above.
1.1.8.5	Treowen school has always been a lovely quaint little school and well presented.	As above.
1.1.8.6	Treowen school is a small and safe school.	As above.
1.1.8.7	One of the reasons we picked Treowen was because it was a smaller school.	As above.
1.1.8.8	The smaller classes at Treowen School help pupils many ways and the teachers are able to listen and help them whenever necessary.	As above.
1.1.8.9	Treowen C.P. school is not a small school by definition as it has more than 3 classes, but it is a smaller school. Smaller schools are proven to work better in communities and have better outcomes when adequately supported and resourced.	As above.
1.1.8.10	As the school is relatively small it allows all the staff to know every child by name.	As above.
1.1.8.11	It is well known that smaller schools are of benefit to children both socially as well as academically. Teachers	As above.

	tend know more about the emotional, social and academic needs of pupils in smaller schools, and children tend to have a better sense of belonging and connection. All this is true of Treowen school.	
1.1.8.12	Children benefit from the smaller classes where their needs are nurtured more and they still get a one to one benefit.	As above.
1.1.8.13	Treowen is a small school that works for many children.	As above.
1.1.8.14	Small school like Treowen perfectly meets the needs of children.	As above.
1.1.8.15	Many of the parents at Treowen have chosen the school because it is smaller and meets the needs of their children.	As above.
1.1.8.16	Smaller schools are proven to work better in communities and have better outcomes when adequately supported and resourced.	As above.

### **1.1.9 Comments about early years provision**

1.1.9.1	Treowen has the 3+ pre-school which allows the children to develop emotionally/socially and allows families to get to know each other.	The Council notes these comments about the early years provision at Treowen C.P. School.
1.1.9.2	Treowen Flying Start works closely with the Treowen school with transitions for children who turn three to be able to have a smooth transition to their next step, three plus which is their big first step into school life. Many of our children have settled in so well because of being able to work together to understand the individual needs of every single child. Each child gets to have short visits for a few weeks before leaving us to attend three plus every day.	As above.

### **1.1.10 Comments about the use of Welsh at Treowen C.P. School**

1.1.10.1	Treowen School uses a lot of Welsh and has had many Welsh achievements in the past; they compete in the Eisteddfod and even had a child place 3rd in Eisteddfod in cooking and have placed in the Urdd Eisteddfod in solos and groups for poetry.	The Council notes these comments about the use of Welsh at Treowen C.P. School.
1.1.10.2	Treowen school has increased the amount of Welsh being used over the years with having staff attend Welsh sabbaticals. The school currently has 4 staff members that speak Welsh fluently and all others can converse in basic Welsh.	As above.
1.1.10.3	Ysgol Treowen makes perfectly good use of Welsh already, while not being a Welsh medium school.	As above.
1.1.10.4	Many staff in Treowen primary school have completed the Welsh sabbatical and speaking and hearing Welsh is a strength in the school.	As above.
1.1.10.5	Treowen school have and are continuing to work hard to progress Welsh within the school and community, staff members have been on Welsh sabbatical courses to develop fluent Welsh and Welsh/Wales is venerated in the school.	As above.

### **1.1.11 Other comments about the school**

1.1.11.1	Pupil numbers at Treowen are still very good. We have 4 classes ranging from 25 – 32 pupils in each class. Our children need a nurturing environment to help support their needs.	The Council notes these comments about Treowen C.P. School.
1.1.11.2	Treowen School is a fully functional school, the school is needed to provide education for the nearby estates. There is a lot of housing being built around this area, such as a housing development site at the end of Treowen and Kerry Road, the second stage of Meadow View about to start.	As above.



1.1.11.3	Treowen C.P. school is not projecting a budget deficit and is a successful school.	As above.
1.1.11.4	Treowen doesn't currently have a permanent SLT as we were advised not to advertise for a permanent head due to the current situation.	Comment noted.

## 1.2 YSGOL CALON Y DDERWEN

1.2.1	Ysgol Calon y Dderwen is very understanding towards individuals and actively encourages children to ask questions and understand fully all situations.	The Council notes these positive comments about Ysgol Calon y Dderwen.
1.2.2	My child went through the school when it was Hafren and Ladywell Green. It's a lovely school.	As above.
1.2.3	The grounds at Calon y Dderwen currently have great green spaces for the kids to enjoy in the summer and a good yard area for winter months.	As above.
1.2.4	Welsh learning and conversational interaction is actively encouraged at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen in both interactions with parents and lessons provided to students. The use of the Welsh language within the school grounds is a positive and it would not be good to have this be impacted by any school integration. A special note to the Headteacher, whose enthusiasm towards celebrating the Welsh language is infectious and provides a very positive and natural influence on the students and parents.	As above.
1.2.5	Ysgol Calon y Dderwen has worked hard as a new school to provide an identity for all. This can be seen multiple times a week with whole school assemblies, summer and winter concerts and other parent pupil engagements.	As above.
1.2.6	The school has a wonderful site with lots of outdoor space which a school for 360 and ever growing will need.	As above.

1.2.7	As it stands at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen across the two sites we are currently working in, we don't have space for external agencies to meet with the children and families in our school.	Comment noted. The intention is to provide a replacement building for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen, which would include the provision of community facilities, including meeting rooms.
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## 2. COMMENTS ABOUT PHASE 1 OF THE PROPOSALS

### 2.1 CONCERN ABOUT THE IMPACT ON PUPILS

2.1.1	If Phase 1 was to go ahead it would be detrimental to the children.	<p>The Council recognises that any school reorganisation process creates a period of uncertainty for all involved, including children. The Council is committed to supporting schools and learners, including through periods of change. An experienced member of staff from the Council will be available to support school leaders to help them manage possible changes for their learners. It is also expected that school governors, staff and parents support the children to ensure that there isn't a detrimental impact on their wellbeing.</p> <p>Disruption for pupils would be minimal during the first phase of the proposals, as pupils would continue to attend school on their existing sites and it is expected that most staff would also remain on their current sites. However, it is recognised that senior leadership may change, and there would also be changes to the school name and identity for pupils currently attending Treowen C.P. School.</p> <p>The proposal is to implement Phase 1 in September 2025, which would give a lead in time of approximately 12 months, which would provide an opportunity for joint</p>
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		activities to take place to aid the transition to the proposed new model.
2.1.2	Closing Treowen school in August 2025 will cause massive disruption to the school and the pupils. Especially those in their last year preparing for high school. This is already a huge change and will be overwhelming for pupils but to add to the pressure is cruel.	As above.
2.1.3	It will be hard for new starters, who will just be at the very start of their education, trying to settle in and making friends, only to have to change schools, new teachers etc.	As above.
2.1.4	It is of no advantage to the pupils and would cause considerable hardship to the Treowen pupils.	As above.
2.1.5	I ultimately see this whole idea upsetting and traumatic for all involved. The welfare of the children is paramount!!!	As above.
2.1.6	This phase would be detrimental to pupils with additional learning needs and would undo all the progress we've made. No matter the time scale, whether it was tomorrow or in 2 years, it doesn't make a difference – my child still needs the support, and the support he gets from Treowen and their staff is second to none and the size of the school is ideal for pupils with sensory issues.	As above.  The Council notes these concerns about the impact on pupils with additional learning needs in particular.
2.1.7	It's unfair for those pupils that will enter year 6 in September to have to transition to another school on their last year of primary school and could have an effect on their learning.	As above.  The Council notes these concerns about the impact on pupils in year 6 in particular.
2.1.8	Ysgol Calon y Dderwen has already gone through a merger of 2 schools – Ladywell and Hafren schools. This proposed merger with yet another school is totally unfair on the children of both schools, the effect on both the children's mental health is unacceptable.	The Council fully acknowledges that Ysgol Calon y Dderwen has recently been through a merger process. This is one of the reasons why the proposal is to extend Ysgol Calon y Dderwen, rather than merging the two schools to establish another new school.

		Disruption for current pupils at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen would be minimal, particularly during the first phase of the proposals as they would continue to attend school at their current location, however it is acknowledged that there could be some impact on them in terms of staffing arrangements in particular.
2.1.9	How will the pupils on the Treowen site feel part of the school when they are not visible to those other pupils currently in Calon y Dderwen?	<p>The school would be led by one Headteacher and leadership team, who would need to work with the Treowen school community to ensure that pupils on that site felt part of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen.</p> <p>The proposal is to implement Phase 1 in September 2025, which would give a lead in time of approximately 12 months which would provide an opportunity for joint activities to take place to aid the transition to the proposed new model.</p>
2.1.10	The logistics of having the school run from two sites is an area of concern. How it will be managed without having any impact on the wellbeing of staff and children?	These concerns are noted. Should the proposal be implemented, the school would need to ensure appropriate staffing arrangements across the two sites to ensure that both sites can operate effectively. In Powys there are existing examples of headteachers managing schools across more than one site. This has been successfully implemented with standards being maintained across each of the schools.
2.1.11	I will not be sending my child to a new school for the sake of a year left in school. It will be his last year in primary school and think it would be too much disruption to have to move schools.	Comment noted.
2.1.12	As Treowen is a flying start postcode, this leads me to believe that many families are less fortunate on this estate. This affects many factors in life, health and education being the main ones. My personal opinion is that this	All schools, regardless of size, are able to provide for the needs of their pupils, and are required to support, challenge and nurture all pupils to achieve their full potential.

	<p>proposal is just disastrous. Many of these children need the support of a smaller setting to encourage their abilities as they may not get those opportunities at home. Moving them to another school further away is not the way forward.</p>	<p>During Phase 1 of the proposals, pupils currently attending Treowen C.P. School would continue to attend school in the same location.</p>
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## 2.2 CONCERN ABOUT THE IMPACT ON STAFF

2.2.1	<p>School staff jobs are at risk.</p>	<p>As stated in the Consultation Document:</p> <p>‘Should the proposals be implemented, Treowen C.P. School would close, and Ysgol Calon y Dderwen would be extended to include the former Treowen site.</p> <p>The Council would work with the headteacher and governing body of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen on an expanded staffing structure, which would enable the school to operate from the Treowen site in addition to its current site during Phase 1. This would be in accordance with the relevant HR policies for teaching and support staff. As part of this process, there would be an opportunity for the governing body to ‘ringfence’ all teaching and associated staff posts to staff currently employed within Treowen C.P. School in the first instance.’</p> <p>Whilst it is acknowledged that any school reorganisation process causes a period of uncertainty for those affected, including staff, it is anticipated that the impact on staff during phase 1 of the proposals would be minimal, as the expectation is that the majority of staff would continue in their current roles on their current sites.</p>
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		As stated in the Consultation Document, it is possible that further changes to staffing arrangements would be needed when the school moves to a new building during Phase 2. However, there would be opportunities during Phase 1 to put arrangements in place to safeguard current staff, such as recruiting to vacancies on a fixed term basis to provide greater security to current staff.
2.2.2	Concerns regarding staffing and whether there will be redundancies.	As above.
2.2.3	I feel that if Phase 1 was to go ahead it would be detrimental to the staff.	As above.
2.2.4	The proposal is ripping apart a team of staff.	As above.
2.2.5	Treowen staff deserve stability.	As above.
2.2.6	Ysgol Calon y Dderwen has already gone through a merger of 2 schools – Ladywell and Hafren schools. This proposed merger with yet another school is totally unfair on the staff of both schools, the effect on the staff's mental health is unacceptable.	The Council fully acknowledges that Ysgol Calon y Dderwen has recently been through a merger process. This is one of the reasons why the proposal is to extend Ysgol Calon y Dderwen, rather than merging the two schools to establish another new school. This would minimise the impact on Ysgol Calon y Dderwen staff during Phase 1 in particular, however it is acknowledged that there could be an impact on them during the move to a new building as part of Phase 2.
2.2.7	I don't think it's fair for the current headmaster to have to travel between technically 3 schools.	The Council notes this concern about the impact on the Headteacher of having to travel between the sites. Should the proposal be implemented, the school would need to ensure appropriate staffing arrangements across the two sites to ensure that both sites can operate effectively. In Powys there are existing examples of headteachers managing schools across more than one site. This has been successfully implemented with standards being maintained across each of the schools.

2.2.8	How are staff meant to share resources and expertise when they are the other side of Newtown? Calon y Dderwen is already on a stretched staffing structure due to budget restrictions, so there is no time for staff to move around campuses.	<p>The Council notes this concern about the impact of the school operating across multiple sites. Should the proposal be implemented, the school would need to ensure appropriate staffing arrangements across the two sites to ensure that both sites can operate effectively. In Powys there are existing examples of headteachers managing schools across more than one site. This has been successfully implemented with standards being maintained across each of the schools.</p> <p>Whilst schools are expected to operate within their budgets, additional funding is available to support schools who have been through reorganisation processes during the transition from one operating model to a new operating model. The Council would work with the school to understand whether any additional funding was required to enable it to operate successfully across more than one site during the transition period.</p>
2.2.9	The headteacher is a great value to Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen and would be so upsetting for the students/ him to have to split between the 2 schools.	As above.
2.2.10	At the original meeting for consultation, Treowen were told that all staff would be in the pot for jobs but since this second consultation phase has been discussed this seems to not be the case anymore. It is now not a merger but a closure of Treowen and everyone has to move to CYD.	<p>During the initial engagement exercise carried out, it was explained that there were two ways to bring schools together, either by closing all schools involved to establish a new school, or by extending an existing school to include another school.</p> <p>When developing the current proposals for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School, the option to close the two schools and open one new school and the option to extend Ysgol Calon y Dderwen to include the Treowen site were considered, however due to the fact that Ysgol Calon</p>

		<p>y Dderwen staff have recently been through a merger process as part of establishing the school, the preferred option was to extend Ysgol Calon y Dderwen to include the Treowen site.</p> <p>Initially, Treowen pupils would continue to attend provision on the Treowen site, and the expectation is that this would be staffed by the current Treowen staff, although a staffing process would be needed.</p> <p>Should any further staffing processes be needed to prepare for the move to the new building in Phase 2, all staff would be treated the same, as by then, all staff would be Ysgol Calon y Dderwen staff.</p> <p>The Council recognises that all school reorganisation proposals create a period of uncertainty for all staff involved. Should the proposals be implemented, then HR officers would work alongside school staff through the formal process, and also informally, to offer support whilst recognising that any period of change can be unsettling. Staff would also be able to receive support from their unions. In addition, support would be given in the management of change process for staff to consider redeployment or other positions if this were required.</p>
2.2.11	Treowen staff would have to re-apply for any remaining jobs. This is very unfair and very underhanded. Morale for staff has lowered as they feel that they have been cheated.	As above.
2.2.12	I completely understand and sympathise that Ysgol Calon y Dderwen have already had to go through the process of creating a new school but I feel all staff should be given the same chance to keep their jobs and not have it decided	As above.



	from Calon y Dderwen governors and management – surely this will be a conflict of interest as staff at that school will be favoured.	
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### 2.3 CONCERN ABOUT LOSS OF SCHOOL IDENTITY

2.3.1	I don't believe that it is fair to take away the Ysgol Treowen name from a community that has worked hard to build up the school.	The Council notes this concern about the loss of Treowen C.P. School's identity.
2.3.2	The community and family feel of Treowen School will slowly start to disappear in a larger a school – having family who work and also attend Welshpool Church in Wales School they say how you don't get the family feel with so many children and families.	<p>The Council notes this concern about the loss of Treowen C.P. School's identity, and that the school's 'family feel' would be lost if it became part of a larger school.</p> <p>During phase 1 of the proposals, pupils would continue to attend school on the Treowen site, so would continue to attend a smaller site. It is likely that the staff on the Treowen site would be the current Treowen staff, so the expectation is that the 'community and family feel' would continue.</p> <p>Phase 1 of the proposals would also provide an opportunity for the Headteacher and other staff at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen to get to know the Treowen pupils, ensuring a smooth transition for pupils to the new building during Phase 2.</p> <p>The Council does not agree that it is not possible do get a 'family feel' in a larger school – staff at all schools know their pupils well, and teachers are able to get to know pupils individually, allowing them to grow and develop.</p>
2.3.3	Waste of resources to rebrand current building. Impact on 3+ branding also.	It was acknowledged in the Consultation Document that there would be a cost associated with rebranding the

		current Treowen site. Despite this, the current option was identified as the preferred option.
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## 2.4 COMMENTS ABOUT THE IMPACT ON FAMILIES

### 2.4.1 Loss of choice for families

2.4.1.1	The proposal is taking away choice.	<p>Parents can choose to apply for a place for their child(ren) in any school they wish, however there is no requirement for the Council to provide a choice of schools of certain types or of certain sizes.</p> <p>There are currently 8 schools which provide primary education in the Newtown catchment. The current proposal, if implemented, would merge 2 of these schools, however there would still be 7 schools in the catchment which would continue to provide choice. These include community primary schools, Roman Catholic provision, a Welsh-medium primary school, Church in Wales provision and schools located in rural areas, as well as schools of a variety of different sizes.</p>
2.4.1.2	There are parents who want their children to stay at Treowen until it closes, but do not want their children to move to Calon y Dderwen after that period. By making Treowen part of Calon y Dderwen in the first phase you are taking away this choice.	Parents can choose to apply for a place for their child(ren) in any school they wish. Pupils wishing to transfer to alternative schools instead of transferring to the new building on the Calon y Dderwen site would be able to apply for a place at an alternative school, should that be their preference.
2.4.1.3	I am completely against this phase, it will have such a big impact on my family and children who are happy and settled at Ysgol Treowen and have been for the past 17 years. If this merge is to happen I will be removing my children from education to home-educate.	Comment noted.

### **2.4.2 Concern about cost of buying new uniforms**

2.4.2.1	There will be an added expense to parents to get new uniforms.	<p>It is acknowledged that should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposals, there would be an additional cost to families of pupils currently attending Treowen C.P. School to purchase new uniforms.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposals, the school would need to determine the arrangements for introduction of the Calon y Dderwen uniform on the Treowen site, which would include consideration of the impact on families. It is possible that arrangements could be made to introduce the new uniform on a phased basis, which would minimise the impact on families.</p>
2.4.2.2	Calon y Dderwen changed its uniform and name when Hafren and Ladywell merged, to have a new name and uniform again could be costly for many.	As above.
2.4.2.3	This phase is not ideal, buying new uniforms, for my child's last year in primary school.	As above.
2.4.2.4	Those low income families may struggle to buy two new sets of uniforms for their children.	As above.

### **2.5 CONCERNS ABOUT IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY**

2.5.1	Detrimental to the Treowen estate to lose the school.	The Council notes the concern about the impact on the Treowen estate. During phase 1 of the proposals, education would continue to be provided on the Treowen site.
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		The effect of the proposals on the community was acknowledged in the Consultation Document and also in the impact assessments which were carried out. These will be updated to reflect the feedback received during the consultation period, and updated versions will be considered by the Council's Cabinet when determining whether or not to proceed with the proposals.
2.5.2	This will affect the whole Treowen community which is already vulnerable and showing poverty.	As above.
2.5.3	Treowen is a large estate there should always be a school located in Treowen.	As above.
2.5.4	Phase 1 will break community links in Treowen.	As above.
2.5.5	This proposal is ripping away communities and families that have been built throughout years of this establishment being open.	As above.
2.5.6	The closure of Treowen School would have a detrimental effect on the estate and the future generations of students should the school be closed and merged.	As above.
2.5.7	Having the school on Treowen is essential for the community.	As above.
2.5.8	I don't believe relocating the school would have a positive impact on the community.	As above.
2.5.9	It is truly unfair to Treowen School when it is in the heart of pupils' and parents' community.	As above.
2.5.10	Calon Y Dderwen has not been a key part of the community for as many years as Treowen, and I know that the community will be torn apart by this move. Ysgol Treowen started in 1977, Calon Y Dderwen hasn't even been around for 3 years. Treowen primary school, a big part of the community, will cease to exist to make way for a new school with much fewer community links. It just doesn't make sense.	As above.  Both schools benefit from links with the community. Whilst it is true that Ysgol Calon y Dderwen has only existed for 3 years, it was established following the merger of Ladywell Green Infants School and Hafren Junior School, both of which had links with the community.

2.5.11	It is important for Treowen to keep their identity and place within the community, especially as there are more houses due to be built in the area.	Comment noted.
2.5.12	Treowen is a close community and the proposal to close the school will have a detrimental effect on the various housing estates surrounding the school.	Comment noted.
2.5.13	When the new housing is built Treowen School will be needed more than ever.	There is currently a significant number of surplus places in Newtown primary schools. Should the Council proceed with implementation of the current proposal, there would continue to be surplus places at Newtown schools to accommodate any increase in demand for places in the area as a result of new housing.
2.5.14	A stated reason for proposing the move to the Calon y Dderwen site is falling school numbers in Treowen. However, the 2018 LDP identifies two sites in Treowen for housing development: P48 HA3 with 70 units and P48 HA4 with 136 units. It is short sighted to take a school with all its related community activities away from an estate which is earmarked for growth.	As above.

## 2.6 QUERIES ABOUT PHASE 1

2.6.1	If the new school is not going to be ready until year 26/27, why is it essential to close Treowen C.P School in 2025?	<p>A number of implementation options were considered when developing the current proposals, this included the option to retain Treowen C.P. School as a standalone school until the new building was complete. However, this was not the preferred option.</p> <p>The strengths associated with the option to expand Ysgol Calon y Dderwen to include the Treowen site from the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2025 include the following:</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Would provide education in Treowen until the new building is constructed.</li> <li>- Pupils would continue to attend school at the same location until the new building is constructed.</li> <li>- Would enable staff expertise and good practice to be shared across both sites during the transition period.</li> <li>- Would enable the school to run more efficiently during the transition period through shared staffing and resources</li> <li>- Improved transition arrangements to support pupils' move from Treowen to the new building as they would already be part of the school.</li> </ul>
2.6.2	Has this been done successfully elsewhere? Newtown High / John Beddoes would perhaps suggest otherwise from inspection reports.	There are other examples where schools have initially operated across more than one site whilst awaiting a move to a new building. This has included Welshpool C. in W. School, which initially opened on three sites before moving to its new building, and Ysgol y Mynydd Du, which operated on two sites before moving to its new building. The Council is currently in the process of establishing a new primary school in the Brecon catchment, which will operate from 3 sites from September 2024 before moving to a new building in the future.
2.6.3	What are the plans for the pre-school setting that is currently situated in Treowen School?	As stated in the Consultation Document:  'During Phase 1 of the proposals, Treowen C.P. School would close and Ysgol Calon y Dderwen would be extended to include the current site of Treowen C.P. School. During Phase 1, the expectation is that funded early years education would continue to be available on both sites, however consideration would need to be given to the management arrangements of the provision at

		<p>Treowen, as the setting is currently run by Treowen C.P. School, which would no longer exist.</p> <p>Eventually, the intention is that the school moves to a new building located on the site of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen. Accommodation to provide funded early years education would be provided in the new building. The demand for places in the area will be reviewed as the proposal moves forward, to ensure that sufficient places are provided to accommodate demand.</p> <p>Should all provision move to the new building, this would mean that funded early years education would no longer be available at Treowen, and families currently living in Treowen who access this provision at Treowen C.P. School would need to travel further to access this provision.</p> <p>Parents would also be able to access other providers in Newtown, however due to recent changes in provision in the town, there is currently some pressure on places. Demand for places in the area will be reviewed as the proposal moves forward, to ensure that sufficient places are provided to accommodate demand.'</p>
2.6.4	Why can't Treowen school remain as Treowen school on their current site?	Status Quo was considered as an option in the Options Appraisal which was included in the Consultation Document. However this option would not address the issues identified.
2.6.5	What happens when a parent or teacher at one site needs the headmaster?	Should the proposal be implemented, the school would need to ensure appropriate staffing arrangements across the two sites to ensure that both sites can operate effectively, which would include leadership arrangements.

		In Powys there are existing examples of headteachers managing schools across more than one site. These headteachers are supported by a leadership team, and arrangements are made to ensure that a Deputy or Assistant Headteacher are available on site when the Headteacher is not, who would be able to deal with any issues that arise.
2.6.6	The logistics of having the school run from two sites is an area of concern.	This concern is noted, however elsewhere in Powys there are examples of headteachers managing schools across more than one site. This has been successfully implemented with standards being maintained across each of the sites.
2.6.7	How and where are we going to find space for extra children?	No additional space would be required during Phase 1 as pupils will remain at their existing site of learning.
2.6.8	How would it be possible for every member of staff to know every child in a larger school?	Individual teachers would know the pupils they teacher, however it is acknowledged that it is possible that not all staff would know every individual pupil in a larger school.  All schools, regardless of size, are able to provide for the needs of their pupils, and are required to support, challenge and nurture all pupils to achieve their full potential.
2.6.9	It has been difficult enough managing the opening and running of Calon y Dderwen in two buildings on the same campus. Having another site which is not on the campus brings in many more difficulties. How will we be able to hold whole school events when one site is at the other side of town?	Whilst noting these concerns, and acknowledging that Ysgol Calon y Dderwen would be operating across more than one building initially, the two sites are located within Newtown, so it would be possible to arrange for the pupils to come together for whole school events. It would also be possible to hold some online activities, which would enable pupils from both sites to access activities together.



2.6.10	No issues with Phase 1 as long as current students could continue to learn in their regular setting and would not be required to visit both sites during the school year.	Comment noted. Disruption for pupils would be minimal during the first phase of the Proposals, as it is expected that they would remain on their current sites, however it is possible that some joint activities would be held, which could involve pupils moving between the two sites.
2.6.11	What does this [ <i>Phase 1 of proposal</i> ] mean? It's not clear. The Treowen school building will remain open, but would be classed as being a part of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen? How would it work in principle when the two school sites are spread apart? Would it be a case of certain year groups will be based at the current Treowen School and certain year groups at the current Calon y Dderwen site? If differing year groups, how would it work for parents who have children in these different year groups? Has this been considered at all?	Phase 1 would see minimal change for pupils. They would continue to be based at their existing site – there is no intention for certain year groups to be based at the Treowen site and certain year groups to be based at the Calon y Dderwen site. The Ysgol Calon y Dderwen name would extend across both sites and the school would have one governing body and one leadership team.
2.6.12	What will happen in terms of upkeep of the existing buildings until there is a new building?	The Council will need to make sure that buildings are safe and well maintained whilst they continue to be used to provide education.
2.6.13	What would happen in terms of the governing body to ensure representation from Treowen?	Where any vacancies arise on the governing body, every effort would be made to provide opportunities for representatives of the Treowen School community to join the governing body.
2.6.14	If Calon y Dderwen is expanded to include Treowen, would it lose its surplus budget?	No, it would not lose its surplus budget as the school would not be closing.

## 2.7 OTHER COMMENTS NOT IN FAVOUR OF PHASE 1

2.7.1	The council should not be looking to close a school that is doing well.	The Council recognises that quality of provision at Treowen C.P. School is good. Quality of provision at the school is not one of the reasons for the proposal.
2.7.2	I would understand the merger a little more if Treowen School were a tiny rural school in a small Welsh village in	Pupil numbers at the school and other schools in Newtown have decreased over the past decade, and are expected to

	the countryside. But we're not, our pupil numbers are very good and our school works and is successful.	decrease further over the next five years, which has resulted in a significant number of surplus places in the town. Pupil numbers in the primary sector in Powys are expected to continue to decrease over the coming years.
2.7.3	I understand that declining cohort numbers would lead to this as a viable option, however as the council are also planning more new builds within the area it us a realistic expectation that numbers of students moving into the area will increase and amalgamating schools will reduce potential available opportunities.	Should the Council proceed with implementation of the current proposal, there would continue to be a large number of surplus places available in Newtown schools, which would be able to accommodate any increase in pupil numbers following any new housing in the future.
2.7.4	Phase 1 is not ideal for me or my child!	Comment noted.
2.7.5	I do not agree with phase 1 at all, the plan was to build a new building to accommodate the merged school, not to send pupils from Treowen to the building that is already being used. Is the building even big enough to accommodate pupils from both schools? The whole point was to get a new school site for pupils from both schools to attend.	There is no intention for pupils currently attending Treowen C.P. School to attend the current Calon y Dderwen building. During Phase 1, pupils currently attending Treowen C.P. School would continue to attend school at the same location, however the site would be part of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen. All pupils would then move to the new building on the Calon y Dderwen site in the future, once this is ready. The intention is to build a new school for 360, which would accommodate the current projected numbers at Treowen C.P. School and Ysgol Calon y Dderwen.
2.7.6	I strongly object to the merging.	Comment noted.
2.7.7	While I understand the thought process of merging the two schools I feel that there has been an oversight on the value of having two separate schools instead of merging into one large school.	Comment noted.
2.7.8	It's absolutely awful to close Treowen as it's a brilliant school that the children love so much.	Comment noted.
2.7.9	I am concerned Ysgol Calon y Dderwen will become too big.	This concern is noted.
2.7.10	At the original meeting for consultation, Treowen were told that if a merger was to happen then a new name and new	The proposals being consulted on relate to the expansion of the existing Ysgol Calon y Dderwen, not the merging of

	uniform would be chosen but since this second consultation phase has been discussed this seems to not be the case anymore.	two schools to create a new school. Therefore, there are no plans within the proposals to change the existing name.
2.7.11	What would the leadership arrangements be during Phase 1?	That would be up to the governing body of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen in terms of how it manages leadership across both sites.
2.7.11	Concern that pupil numbers at Treowen might drop because of these changes – parents may choose for their children to attend other schools instead.	Concern noted.
2.7.12	Concern that a Calon y Dderwen based governing body would need to be making decisions on staffing on another site.	Concern noted.

## 2.8 COMMENTS IN FAVOUR OF PHASE 1

2.8.1	Phase one of the proposal has benefits as Treowen C.P. School would remain at its existing site but become part of Calon y Dderwen School. The pupils and staff on the Treowen site would benefit from consistent leadership and governance, shared resources and expertise with Calon y Dderwen but would retain the recognised advantages of being a school based within its community.	Comment noted.
2.8.2	If the closure of Treowen Primary school ends up happening I think this is what would be best for pupils at Treowen although I do believe the school should be made into a new school to allow all pupils to feel wanted.	Comment noted.
2.8.3	I believe that this can only benefit more local children. Ysgol Calon y Dderwen is a truly amazing school led by a fantastic head teacher who has an amazing team behind him. The more children to learn from everyone at this school has to be a good thing.	Comment noted.
2.8.4	Think it's a great idea.	Comment noted.

2.8.5	I agree with Phase 1! This will allow the existing children at the school to stay within a familiar environment and faces. The existing staff will be maintaining their job and will still be educating the children. This is beneficial for the children as they have already made those relationships with the staff and other children in the school. Treowen school will benefit from the consistent leadership however being in an environment they are settled in and familiar with. With the resources that would be received from Calon Y Dderwen could help to enhance the educational options for the children. Breakfast club at the school allows children to bond with a mix of children of different ages and this helps with their social development, it allows parents to be able to drop off their children and work more regular hours, it helps those low income families, and it encourages children to eat breakfast by allowing them to socialise and enjoy eating breakfast.	Comment noted.
2.8.6	Phase 1 is a better solution rather than closing it down. They get a permanent head teacher.	Comment noted.
2.8.7	I have no objections to encompassing both schools into one name as long as they are kept as separate campuses where children only attend one of the settings.	Comment noted.
2.8.8	I support this phase as children will be able to access extra resources and support for their education and development but at the same time they will be able to stay with what they are already familiar. The small classes and friendships they have built already is important in their early years development. Children at Treowen are still able to experience diversity within their classrooms without the need to a joint school venture.	Comment noted.

2.8.9	New opportunities for sharing skills and expertise among a wider staff team will be of benefit to both Treowen and Calon y Dderwen.	Comment noted.
2.8.10	I think phase 1 will have a positive impact because they will benefit from shared resources and wider staff team.	Comment noted.

### 3. COMMENTS ABOUT PHASE 2 OF THE PROPOSALS

#### 3.1 CONCERN ABOUT THE IMPACT ON PUPILS

3.1.1	The closure of Treowen School will have a detrimental effect on the 100+ pupils that benefit from the community school.	<p>The Council recognises that any school reorganisation process creates a period of uncertainty for all involved, including children. The Council is committed to supporting schools and learners, including through periods of change.</p> <p>The Council has engaged a former Headteacher to support school leaders to help them manage possible changes for their learners. It is also expected that school governors, staff and parents support the children during any periods of change, to ensure that there isn't a detrimental impact on their wellbeing.</p>
3.1.2	We all know it's about cutting costs etc but you should be considering the effects this will have on these poor children.	As above.
3.1.3	Pupils will suffer from changes and being uprooted.	As above.
3.1.4	There will be disruption to young children who will be going to a whole new school with new faces, new teachers and this will cause anxiety and stress.	As above.
3.1.5	Closing Treowen School will have a detrimental effect on our pupils.	As above.
3.1.6	Pupil behaviour and attendance will be affected by such a drastic change in circumstances.	As above.

3.1.7	I disagree with moving all the children to Calon Y Dderwen because who is thinking of the children's mental health? Moving them to multiple schools within the next couple of years cause them to struggle.	As above.
3.1.8	Those children who are more reserved and introverted may really struggle with the change. The fear of the unknown for these children could cause high levels of anxiety.	As above.
3.1.9	Introverted children will struggle in an unfamiliar environment.	As above.
3.1.10	The children should not have to leave the school they are happy at.	As above.
3.1.11	The closure of Treowen School would not only disrupt the education of current students but also deprive future generations of the opportunity to benefit from the unique and enriching educational experience it offers. The idea of uprooting children from a familiar, local environment and forcing them to adapt to a completely different school setting is distressing, especially considering the developmental impact it can have on young minds.	As above.
3.1.12	A possible adverse effect on young children if taken out of neighborhood.	As above.
3.1.13	Children nearing the end of Year 5 and Year 6 are preparing for SATs and to go to high school and they will be so disrupted by having to move to a bigger school or having more pupils join their classes from another school. This will cause anxiety and higher bullying levels.	As above.
3.1.14	For anxious children this would be a challenging change to deal with a larger group of children to face in the lunch hall and at playtimes. Some children do not settle well into school so any changes can be difficult to face. This can also negatively impact on their education and development.	As above.

3.1.15	Children's health and safety is paramount. By moving the school you are putting children at a great risk of mental and physical health issues.	As above.
3.1.16	Concern about the impact on kids mental health and the cost of treatment to the NHS.	As above.
3.1.17	Concern about children being bullied.	Whilst this concern is noted, all schools have anti-bullying policies and would be expected to deal with any issues relating to bullying which arise.
3.1.18	Taking Treowen children out of their environment and making them attend Calon Y Dderwen will result in social problems - children from different parts of town do not necessarily integrate well. There could well be bullying as a result and more children made vulnerable.	The Council recognises that any school reorganisation process creates a period of uncertainty for all involved, including children. The Council is committed to supporting schools and learners, including through periods of change. All schools are able to provide the support needed to help their pupils with any issues they face. Further to this, all schools have anti-bullying policies.
3.1.19	Having one school combining all the children will be a disaster, with behaviour issues, additional needs and some with disabilities. I really can't see it working.	Comment noted, however the Council is confident that Ysgol Calon y Dderwen would be able to meet the needs of pupils currently attending bot Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School.
3.1.20	Closing Treowen School is likely to see increased behavioral problems.	The Council does not agree that 'closing Treowen School is likely to see increased behavioural problems.'
3.1.21	My child will not be attending this school as their needs will not be met.	Comment noted, however the Council is confident that Ysgol Calon y Dderwen would be able to meet the needs of pupils currently attending Treowen C.P. School.
3.1.22	Concern about the disruption that the new build will have on pupils currently attending the school.	It is acknowledged that there could be an impact on pupils at the current Ysgol Calon y Dderwen site during the building process required in the future. Every effort would be made to minimise the impact on pupils during this time.
3.1.23	It will confuse the children in both schools being moved around so many times.	Pupils from both schools will only be expected to move once. When the new building is ready, all pupils and staff will move there. Prior to that stage, pupils will remain at their existing site of learning.

3.1.24	This is appalling, you are going to uproot children to make them learn on a building site and to then uproot them again.	As above.
3.1.25	Parents may struggle to get their children to eat breakfast in the morning since there won't be a breakfast club.	Ysgol Calon y Dderwen also has a breakfast club, so pupils would be able to continue to access this provision. During Phase 1 of the proposals, the expectation is that pupils would continue to be able to access this provision on the Treowen site.
3.1.26	Regular school attendance has the strongest correlation with pupil attainment. Reduced attendance (due to increased journey times) will negate the stated strategic aims of improving learner entitlement and experience and improving provision for SEN/ALN in key target areas, will also reduce access to other important school provision, multi-agency support and will remove an important element in safeguarding which is regular contact.	The Council agrees that regular school attendance is important to ensure pupils meet their potential. However, whilst acknowledging that the new site would be further away and less convenient for pupils currently living closer to Treowen C.P. School, the new site is still within the town, and the Council would not expect this to have an impact on attendance in the longer term.
3.1.27	If Treowen School closes the children suffer many losses, as the large school won't be a participant in all community activities.	Ysgol Calon y Dderwen already has strong links within the community. The expectation is that should the proposals be implemented, they would develop these links to include some of the links which currently exist between Treowen C.P. School and the community, ensuring that pupils have opportunities to develop links with their community.

## **3.2 CONCERN ABOUT THE SIZE OF THE SCHOOL**

### **3.2.1 Concern about pupils having to attend a larger school**

3.2.1.1	Children are going to suffer going to a bigger school.	All schools, regardless of size, are able to provide for the needs of all pupils, and are required to support, challenge and nurture all pupils to achieve their full potential. Smaller schools do not necessarily mean that pupils receive a more individual education as there is often a number of
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		year groups and a wider age range of pupils in the class. The Council is confident that Ysgol Calon y Dderwen would be able to meet the needs of pupils currently attending Treowen C.P. School.
3.2.1.2	Parents have sent children to Treowen School as they did not want their children going to a big school .	As above.
3.2.1.3	Creating a super school means less support for children.	As above.
3.2.1.4	This proposal appears not to take into consideration the number of families that do not want their children in such a large school.	As above.
3.2.1.5	Children will just disappear on this site which is impersonal and lose any sense of belonging.	As above.
3.2.1.6	We know each and every one of our pupils in Treowen School and moving to an extremely large school (which has their own behaviour needs already) would be detrimental to everyone involved.	As above.
3.2.1.7	Worried that teachers will not having the same amount of time to spend and get to know each child individually as the classes are larger, and this is important within a child's development.	As above.
3.2.1.8	Larger schools are not better schools. Children become lost in the crowd. Allow children room to express themselves and make friends close to where they live.	As above.
3.2.1.9	With so many pupils in one school I worry they will not get the care and education they need.	As above.
3.2.1.10	A lot of kids really benefit from being in a smaller school, their life chances are increased exponentially. This is particularly important when you consider Treowen is a deprived area and these children deserve to have this.	As above.
3.2.1.11	In a bigger school, children with ALN can be easily missed which can affect the whole future of our children.	As above.

3.2.1.12	Treowen staff will be concerned about the impact of such a large school on their ability to maintain that nurturing, stable, family environment where every member of staff knows every child inside out.	As above.
3.2.1.13	In larger schools not everyone had an equal opportunity to have a go at anything – children are hand-picked or have to trial leaving those who may not be the best feeling deflated and not good enough.	It is acknowledged that in a smaller school there may be more opportunity for all pupils to take part in all activities. However, all schools, regardless of size, have a range of activities and are expected to ensure that pupils can participate fully in these. Whilst it is possible that in a larger school, not all pupils would be able to take part in all activities, it is likely that a larger range of activities would be offered, which would enable pupils to participate in their preferred activities.
3.2.1.14	If more houses are built it may attract more people into the town with less schools. Which could lead to Calon Y Dderwen being over-populated and the children not gaining a good education.	There is currently a significant number of surplus places in Newtown primary schools. Should the Council proceed with implementation of the current proposal, there would continue to be surplus places at Newtown schools to accommodate any increase in demand for places in the area as a result of new housing.
3.2.1.15	I don't think there is enough room for more pupils. My son in year 6 has to share his class with half of year 5 as it is which a lot of parents aren't really happy with.	The pupils at the two current schools wouldn't come together until the new building is ready, so there would be no need to accommodate additional pupils at any of the existing buildings.
3.2.1.16	If this takeover/merger/expansion (it doesn't matter how you dress it up, it's a takeover to create a super school) goes ahead Ysgol CYDd will be over-subscribed before the spade is put in the ground to start the new build.	The intention is to build a replacement building for 360 pupils, which is sufficient to accommodate projected pupil numbers at both Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School.
3.2.1.17	I cannot see any real advantage in increasing the size of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen to incorporate Treowen school, it will cause hardship to the pupils of Treowen.	Should the proposals be implemented, there is potential that an increased range of activities and opportunities could be offered to pupils, through the ability to share staff expertise and the ability to offer joint activities to a larger group of pupils.

3.2.1.18	My children have already voiced to me that they don't want to be in a larger school and they could be home schooled or moved to a smaller school if this was to go ahead.	Comment noted.
3.2.1.19	If this proposal goes ahead, parents are not going to send their pupils to a large school with almost 400 pupils.	Comment noted.

### **3.2.2 Concern about larger class sizes**

3.2.2.1	Pupils tend to be overlooked in larger class sizes.	<p>Schools themselves decide how many classes to have and therefore what size the classes will be, however this needs to be within the budget allocated to them, so it is not necessarily the case that pupils would be in larger classes. Whilst the size of each year group would be larger, it is possible that the school would need to split the year group in some cases.</p> <p>New build primary schools are designed and built to accommodate a maximum of 30 pupils per class, therefore it is unlikely that class sizes would exceed 30.</p>
3.2.2.2	My concerns are around large class numbers. Accommodating 2 schools and the early years provision.	As above.
3.2.2.3	If the children have to be in much bigger classes they may not be able to get the teachers to listen and help them whenever necessary like they can in smaller classes.	As above.
3.2.2.4	My concern is the class sizes at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen getting too big. With larger classes, children are easily lost in the crowd and fall behind.	As above.
3.2.2.5	Practically with year group sizes of 36+ young learners. How in all reality is this prioritising their learning experience?	As above.
3.2.2.6	The classes will be so big. Children will not be getting the education they deserve.	As above.

3.2.2.7	Class sizes will be too large, pupils will have less one to one support. Grades will suffer. Confidence may suffer.	As above.
3.2.2.8	The ratio staff to children will be too much, classes will take longer.	As above.
3.2.2.9	I just feel larger classes and a larger school would be very overwhelming for small children.	As above.
3.2.2.10	I have issues with bigger classes.	As above.
3.2.2.11	It will be difficult for the children to adapt at such an early stage of their development to larger classes (potentially).	As above.
3.2.2.12	Introverted pupils may find it difficult to form relationships with teachers and be anxious with larger classes, causing their concentration levels to decrease and they won't be gaining a full understanding of what is being taught.	As above.
3.2.2.13	Behaviour problems have been at an all-time high since Covid and the importance of keeping class numbers as low as possible even in this financial climate is of far more value than huge classes. Although there may be money saved initially when merging two schools, the impact on future services such as the Police, Youth Service, High Schools and even Prisons etc. cannot be overestimated.	As above.

### **3.2.3 Other comments about the size of the school**

3.2.3.1	With regards to the capacity of the new school being 360 pupils, the current intake of Calon Y Dderwen (251) and Treowen (110) is already above this.	Comment noted. However, the projected pupil numbers as included in the Consultation Document suggest that pupil numbers across the two schools are expected to decrease over the coming years – the projected pupil numbers for January 2028 are 229 for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and 78 for Treowen C.P. School, which is a total of 307 across the two schools.
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3.2.3.2	I don't think that many children would move to this new school site, and I think it would result in a lower number of pupils on roll.	Comment noted. In general, parents / pupils are attracted to new buildings, so the Council's expectation is that pupil numbers would be maintained. However parents are entitled to apply for a place for their children in whichever school they choose, and these applications will be dealt with in accordance with the Council's Admissions Policy.
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### 3.3 COMMENTS ABOUT THE LOCATION OF THE SCHOOL

#### 3.3.1 Comments about the distance to the site

3.3.1.1	Children from Treowen will be forced to travel longer distances to school.	<p>It is acknowledged that implementation of Phase 2 of the Proposals would mean that there would be an increase in travel for pupils currently attending Treowen C.P. School for whom this is currently the closest school.</p> <p>Should the proposals be implemented, the existing Treowen site would become part of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen, therefore during Phase 1, walking / cycling routes to school would be the same as the current walking / cycling routes to Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School.</p> <p>Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen. Active travel is a key consideration when developing new school buildings, therefore every effort would be made to encourage walking / cycling to school when developing the new building. It is acknowledged that this would be located further away from the Treowen estate, which would impact on pupils / families living on this estate, and would mean that the school would be</p>
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		located further away from their homes, which would mean that it would take longer for them to get to school. It is also acknowledged that the Treowen estate is located up a hill.
3.3.1.2	Phase 2 will add extra pressure on parents having to transport children that extra distance to the new school.	As above.
3.3.1.3	It will be adding almost an hour onto the children's day to walk there and back.	As above.
3.3.1.4	It is a significant distance for those without transport to travel, especially coming back up that hill!	As above.
3.3.1.5	It is too far for some families to have to walk.	As above.
3.3.1.6	I think that the journey from the Treowen estate to Ysgol Calon y Dderwen is unreasonable for younger children and accompanying parents with pushchairs.	As above.
3.3.1.7	If parents drive this will be an additional cost of petrol/diesel.	As above.
3.3.1.8	It is a fair distance for the Treowen community to walk to the new proposed site.	As above.
3.3.1.9	The children of Treowen having to walk all that way every single day is beyond understanding.	As above.
3.3.1.10	The prospect of sending pupils to a school that is not within walking distance is deeply concerning.	As above.
3.3.1.11	To expect Treowen pupils to walk almost 2 miles to school and back every day is very unfair.	As above.
3.3.1.12	It's a long walk to the Ysgol Calon y Dderwen site.	As above.
3.3.1.13	Children may have to wake up earlier to walk over half an hour to school, then having tea later than usual due to having to walk back half an hour from school.	As above.
3.3.1.14	The additional travel time will undoubtedly impact some children/parent's ability to get to school and back.	As above.
3.3.1.15	Lots of the Treowen parents cannot drive.	As above.

		It is acknowledged that some Treowen parents cannot drive or do not have access to a car, which would make it more difficult for them to access the Calon y Dderwen site.
3.3.1.16	Some parents do not have their own transport. Those with no transport will find it difficult to negotiate the additional time required to take their children to school and attend their place of work in time.	As above.
3.3.1.17	Many of the families in Treowen don't have a car which makes getting the children to school more difficult.	As above.
3.3.1.18	This will cause stress, extra expense and inconvenience to working parents having to make extra trips and time to get their children to school.	As above.
3.3.1.19	Some families who are unable to drive or afford to be able to drive will struggle with the commute from Treowen to the new school and then school attendance for the child/ children will become a struggle.	As above.  These concerns about the impact on pupil attendance are noted. Whilst acknowledging that the new site would be further away and less convenient for pupils currently living closer to Treowen C.P. School, the new site is still within the town, and the Council would not expect this to have an impact on attendance in the longer term.
3.3.1.20	Attending a school a mile away with the problems of actually getting there is likely to increase absence.	As above.
3.3.1.21	Attendance is key to every child's success and I believe that this longer travel time would have an adverse effect on children that live in Treowen.	As above.
3.3.1.22	There is a problem - post-covid - of poor attendance. Making the school journeys harder will make this worse.	As above.
3.3.1.23	Significantly longer walks to and from school will undoubtedly result in increased absenteeism and increased lateness for children from disadvantaged families. This will lead to a high risk of a reduction in school standards and wellbeing outcomes.	As above.

3.3.1.24	Phase 2 would add pressure on parents to find a way to get to school. Some also have other children to take on the school pick up and drop off and may not have access to a car.	As above.
3.3.1.25	With the new school 1 mile from the current site this will have a huge impact on families with young children walking to school: it will add an average of 30 minutes to the walk to school and potentially 45 minutes to return because of the steep hill involved and the difficulty of crossing main roads. This will add an hour to current walking commuting times for parents and will result in many of those who have the option to use a car instead of walking.	As above. The concern that parents will use a car instead of walking to school is noted.
3.3.1.26	Changing schools also has a negative environmental impact on how children can get to and from school.	<p>The concern that there would be a negative environmental impact should more pupils be transported to school in cars is noted.</p> <p>As indicated above, active travel would be considered when developing the new school building, and the aim would be to ensure the provision of active travel routes to minimise the use of cars for pupils living in Treowen accessing the new school building.</p>

### **3.3.2 Concerns about the journey during inclement weather**

3.3.2.1	Treowen School is located on a hill and Treowen residents can struggle trying to get into the centre of Newtown in the middle of snow and ice. Many families do not drive so will have to risk theirs and their children's safety just to get them to and from school in the ice. Attendance will drop during these conditions.	It is acknowledged that Treowen C.P. School is located up a hill, which could mean that it would be less convenient for families from the Treowen estate to get to school following the move to the new building, particularly during bad weather.
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		The additional distance to the alternative site is not considered to be excessive and should not have a significant impact on the accessibility of the provision, however the Council notes these particular concerns about the ability to access the site during bad weather. These concerns will be taken into consideration by the Council's Cabinet when determining whether or not to proceed with the proposals.
3.3.2.2	Treowen is on top of a steep hill, so it's a hard journey particularly in bad weather.	As above.
3.3.2.3	The parents, a lot of which do not drive and some of which are disabled, will struggle with getting their children to school due to the fact they live on a hill and the council do not maintain the paths during the winter so the risk of falling on ice is huge.	As above.
3.3.2.4	Weather conditions could have an impact on getting children to school at the new location.	As above.
3.3.2.5	It is a much longer journey for children in inclement weather.	As above.
3.3.2.6	In the winter Treowen is not easy to walk off as the pathways do not get treated and get very dangerous.	As above.
3.3.2.7	Lots of people from Treowen do not drive and would make the walk to school in winter horrible for children and parents.	As above.
3.3.2.8	I have issues with tired little ones having to walk up and down steep hills in all winds and weather if parents do not have transport.	As above.
3.3.2.9	In the winter, walking up and down that hill will be dangerous and in the summer, it's a hard slog. Not everyone is able to drive.	As above.
3.3.2.10	The children would have to walk in all weathers up and down the hill.	As above.

### **3.3.3 Concerns about road safety**

3.3.3.1	The children would have to walk near main roads, with no safe routes. As children get older, letting them walk to school alone in preparation for high school is important but having to cross main roads will mean that this may not be possible.	<p>The Council acknowledges these comments relating to pupil safety when walking from Treowen to the new school's location.</p> <p>Active travel is a key consideration when developing new school buildings, therefore every effort would be made to provide safe walking / cycling to school when developing the new building.</p> <p>As stated in the Consultation Document:</p> <p>'It is acknowledged that further development is needed of routes from the Treowen estate to the town centre. Several potential future routes have been identified to better connect this area to the town centre, which would be considered as part of the process of developing the new building, to ensure that there would be safe routes in place to enable pupils from the Treowen estate to access the new site.'</p>
3.3.3.2	Travelling to and from school could be made more difficult; there is a main road to cross.	As above.
3.3.3.3	Children may have to walk alone on very busy roads.	As above.
3.3.3.4	The site at Park Street is already very busy so expecting the footfall from Treowen to YCyD is not safe.	As above.
3.3.3.5	Children will have to cross the main road.	As above.
3.3.3.6	It has been stated that parents would walk their children to the new school. It has also apparently been suggested by the council officers that the children could be walked to school in 'walking trains'. I really do wonder if this has	As above.

	been thought through. There are 2 viable routes which could be taken from Treowen to the proposed new school site. Imagine walking a hundred or so 4 – 11 years olds on either of those routes which require crossing 2 very busy main roads at the busiest times of day, and one of the routes also has hundreds of children walking the opposite way to get to the high school. I know without doubt that I would not risk walking those routes with my children.	
3.3.3.7	Treowen pupils will be forced into a busy area of town.	As above.
3.3.3.8	Park Street is already an unsafe road.	As above.
3.3.3.9	Children if walking to school will have to cross very busy roads.	As above.
3.3.3.10	Very worryingly, if Treowen School is closed, I envisage many young children will end up going to school alone, when parents, for whatever reason, are unable to escort their child. So this is a child safety and welfare concern.	As above.
3.3.3.11	There is a higher risk of children not coming to school and therefore not being educated, because they is such a long way to go for them over busy roads.	As above.
3.3.3.12	It is already dangerous in the mornings by Calon y Dderwen now.	As above.
3.3.3.13	Is there a safe walk for parents of Treowen who don't drive?	As above.
3.3.3.14	Walking from Treowen to Calon y Dderwen is dangerous.	As above.
3.3.3.15	I have issues with children having to cross at least 2 main roads walking to and from school even with an adult in attendance.	As above.
3.3.3.16	It is true that, when the area around a school has heavy car traffic, more parents will drive to school because of the higher perception of risk to child pedestrians.	As above.
3.3.3.17	I am concerned about the journey from Treowen to the new school. One way from the estate is down a steep hill,	As above.

	across a road and then under a railway bridge which is already a pedestrian hazard as it is not wide enough for the volume of children walking (in the opposite direction I may add) to Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd and Newtown High School at the beginning and end of the school days. This is by no means a safe route to school.	
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### **3.3.4 Comments about impact on disabled parents/pupils**

3.3.4.1	The main concern is for families with disabilities trying to get their children across the town just to go to school when there's a perfectly excellent school across the road.	<p>The Council notes these concerns about the impact on families with disabilities due to the fact that the new building would be located further away for pupils for whom Treowen is currently the closest school.</p> <p>The impact on protected characteristic groups was considered in the draft equality impact assessment document which was published as part of the consultation documentation. This will be updated to reflect comments received during the consultation period, and an updated version will be considered by the Council's Cabinet when determining whether or not to proceed with the Proposals.</p>
3.3.4.2	Disabled parents won't be able to get their children to school, and people with disabled children will struggle just as much.	As above.
3.3.4.3	Parents/children who are disabled and unable to drive, they arrive to school via wheelchair and now they will not be able to access that without having to get on public transport, which isn't always an option. Disgusting neglect on the Council's behalf of these families.	As above.
3.3.4.4	Currently those that have disabilities can get their children to school with a very short commute.	As above.

3.3.4.5	Many of the ALN parents rely on the help of the school to be able to get their children into school in the morning and meet the needs of their child/ren.	As above.
3.3.4.6	Closing Treowen School is a big mistake, think of parents that can't drive or suffer with a disability.	As above.
3.3.4.7	It is important that Treowen School remains open otherwise disabled children, disabled parents of pupils, or parents with long term illness may find getting children to school very difficult or impossible, especially if they don't have a car.	As above.
3.3.4.8	The parents who are disabled or children who are disabled and have no transport will be put at risk due to the long unsafe journey to Calon y Dderwen.	As above.
3.3.4.9	It would be an exhausting job to take children to school if Treowen closes – it would mean pushing prams and pushchairs up and down the steep hill to and from school with little ones in tow. When you are a new mother, or you have poor health or disabilities, having the school near is so important.	As above.
3.3.4.10	I think we need to take into account that Treowen School does provide education to some families who themselves have disabilities or their children with the lay-by right next to Treowen School with a flat easy access this really helps these families. Some of these families may choose to home school rather than send their child to a large over-populated school.	As above.
3.3.4.11	How do you expect families to access the school who live on the Treowen estate? We have disabled pupils in our school and you are making their lives extremely difficult by doing this.	As above.
3.3.4.12	I have 3 disabled children I have to get to the school at 2:20 already to get somewhere to park as they're unable to	Comment noted.

	walk far. And some days we don't get home until 4pm because the traffic on Park Street is so bad!	
3.3.4.13	How are people – children and parents with disabilities – supposed to cope with walking from Treowen in the winter months, it will be bad enough in normal conditions.	Comment noted.

### **3.3.5 Comments about congestion**

3.3.5.1	Park Street is already congested now.	<p>These concerns about the impact on traffic and the potential increase in congestion in this area of Newtown are noted.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with the Proposals, further consideration would be given to this aspect when developing plans for the building, and as part of the wider plans for a well-being campus as part of the North Powys Well-being Programme. This would include an assessment of the impact on traffic in Newtown.</p>
3.3.5.2	It will add to the traffic on the roads.	As above.
3.3.5.3	Park Street is over-populated with doctors, health visitors, police station, job centre, children centre and the library - this road gets very busy over-crowded and parking becomes impossible so even if the families would be able to drive down to this new school I am not sure how this area of Newtown will have the capacity to make parking safe and manageable for families.	As above.
3.3.5.4	It will cause too much traffic in the area.	As above.
3.3.5.6	I believe the parking and town traffic will be a big problem when the capacity of Calon y Dderwen changes.	As above.
3.3.5.7	Increased traffic and pollution.	As above.

3.3.5.8	Roads need to be looked at for access to and from the new building of Calon y Dderwen if Treowen is to be merged, this is too much traffic in one area.	As above.
3.3.5.9	Driving is not feasible on a road that cannot cope with the amount of traffic it currently has.	As above.
3.3.5.10	Those travelling by car would add to the congestion in an already busy area.	As above.
3.3.5.11	Closing Treowen school would mean that parents would have to take their children into the centre of town to the new school. Park street is already congested. With the new proposed health hub as well it would become even more congested, contrary to the council's environmental fight and causing yet more pollution and environmental damage. Certainly not a 'greener Powys'.	As above.
3.3.5.12	It will create even more congestion in Park Street.	As above.
3.3.5.13	The current roads around Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen are already grid locked when it's pick up time. Creating a lot of emissions from vehicles in stop start traffic. This also poses a threat that emergency services couldn't reach critical patients. Adding the parents from Treowen school to this would only increase the problem.	As above.
3.3.5.14	Will cause ridiculous amounts of traffic.	As above.
3.3.5.15	Park Street is already an area where there is vehicular congestion and is unlikely to be able to easily accommodate additional vehicular traffic from Treowen.	As above.
3.3.5.16	More cars will be put on the roads.	As above.
3.3.5.17	Parents would need to drive them to school creating more traffic problems on the already congested Park St at school drop off and pick up times.	As above.
3.3.5.18	Is any consideration being made to the traffic build up in the area near the school and Park Street?	As above.

3.3.5.19	The proposal does not address the appalling access issues that exist at the Calon y Dderwen site, and the increased effect it will have on traffic that is already a problem.	As above.
3.3.5.20	Ysgol Calon y Dderwen struggles with parking not just for dropping off and collecting but during school hours too. It is absolutely insane to hoist another school on that area. I appreciate that parking will be addressed in the new building but in the meantime chaos will reign.	As above.
3.3.5.21	The access to Calon y Dderwen is shocking, there is not enough parking and the narrow road leading out by the library cannot cope with the amount of traffic now. The whole road comes to a standstill at school closing time.	As above.
3.3.5.22	Traffic and access to the school site, not just for parents but also considering non-school related traffic in the area. I work along Church Street and already see a large build-up of traffic around school times; especially at the exit from Park Street. With the addition of the new health centre along Park Street, this could add increased pressure during school drop-off and pick-up times. The use of Back Lane car park has been suggested however, this may result in additional pressure on Broad Street and surrounding areas without relieving any of the current pressures placed on Church Street. I regularly see traffic mounting the curb to turn left onto New Road while traffic builds up to turn right.	As above.
3.3.5.23	Traffic is likely to build up in the mornings if all children attend Calon Y Dderwen, causing children to be late for school (impacting their education), members of the community may be late for work due to traffic meaning having to leave even earlier impacting on everyone home life/routine.	As above.



3.3.5.24	Phase 2 will have a negative impact on the area around Calon y Dderwen due to increased car traffic at peak times.	As above.
3.3.5.25	Improvements to active travel routes will only partially ease the congestion situation and don't form a guaranteed part of this proposal. In terms of active travel initiatives the proposal is counter to what is generally accepted as good practice.	As above.
3.3.5.26	Adding to the already congested area around Calon Y Dderwen will create a worse nightmare than there already is. Especially if the Health Centre plan also goes ahead.	As above.
3.3.5.27	The traffic on Park Street is already chaotic and unsafe so to add in another 100 children and a health hub to that is detrimental to safety.	As above.
3.3.5.28	Car ownership in Treowen is around 70% so there could be a potential of 140 additional car journeys per day to and from the already congested Park Street area, the consultation document tacitly acknowledges that those families that can, will use a car. Improvements to active travel routes from Treowen to town will not fully address this issue.	As above.
3.3.5.29	Phase 2 of option 4C will also have a negative impact on the area around Calon y Dderwen due to increased car traffic at peak times: improvements to active travel routes will only partially ease this situation and don't form a guaranteed part of this proposal. In terms of active travel initiatives the proposal is counter to what is generally accepted as good practice. It is also true that, when the area around a school has heavy car traffic, more parents will drive to school because of the higher perception of risk to child pedestrians.	As above.

3.3.5.30	If the school was to move, due to time constraints we would have to drive to school as I would not have time to walk there and back and then get to work on time. This then has an impact on parking in the area. This can be stressful for parents and picking children up from school as a stressed parent is not a pleasant experience for the child or the parent.	As above.
3.3.5.31	I cannot wait to see how the parking in a residential area is affected with so many extra parents.	As above.  All the Council's new school builds are developed with a specific car parking ratio, including disabled spaces. Should the Proposals be implemented, full consideration will be given to access and car parking at the new school, and traffic assessments will be undertaken. Parking will also be considered as part of the wider plans for a well-being campus as part of the North Powys Well-being Programme.
3.3.5.32	Is there going to be extra provisions for the traffic and parking if you are adding a further 150 students to the school?	As above.

### **3.4 COMMENTS ABOUT THE NEW BUILDING**

#### **3.4.1 Positive comments about the new building**

3.4.1.1	YCyD deserve a new school as it is currently unsafe.	Comment noted. The Council fully agrees that Ysgol Calon y Dderwen needs a new school building.
3.4.1.2	A new school building is welcome.	As above.
3.4.1.3	I am excited for the new build.	As above.

### 3.4.2 Concerns about the new building

3.4.2.1	There is a need to maximise the space both inside and out at the school.	<p>The plans for the new school building are being developed in accordance with the appropriate Building Bulletin and Welsh Government guidance. The key purpose of the Building Bulletin document is to set out simple, realistic, non-statutory area guidelines for primary school buildings. Essentially the document gives minimum areas for all types of space in primary schools. It also offers area ranges over and above this minimum to allow schools flexibility in the design of their buildings and the way in which they use them.</p> <p>Welsh Government expect local authorities to design new schools in accordance with the Building Bulletin guidance. The current design for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen is for 270 places plus early years and community space, and is aligned with the areas recommended within the Building Bulletin.</p> <p>However, it is acknowledged that concerns about the space available for the new building have been expressed by Ysgol Calon y Dderwen in discussions to date when developing the designs for the new building, particularly as the current school has a significant amount of outside space which the school has stated is an important part of its ethos.</p> <p>The current design is two-storey in order to maximise the use of outside space available. Should the Council proceed with the current proposals, discussions with the school would continue, with the aim of achieving a design</p>
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		solution which meets the school's needs in accordance with the expectations of Welsh Government, the budget and area available.
3.4.2.2	Is there going to be enough space for all the pupils in the new building to be able to get the correct education they need without falling under the radar?	As above.
3.4.2.3	I think it's really important for the children to have plenty of space within the school and also outside playing. This needs to be included when plans are put together for new school especially with more children at the school it will become tighter naturally.	As above.
3.4.2.4	We need space!!!! All the children from both schools deserve the best education and facilities, that's why you have decided to add Treowen to YCYD. So they also get the opportunity of a brand new state of the art school brings. Really?? Let's hope it's fit for purpose with so many children crammed into small classrooms.	Classrooms are generally designed for 30 pupils, and the Building Bulletin guidance recommends that the minimum size should be 56sq metres. The classrooms in the current design are slightly above this at 61sq metres.
3.4.2.5	The new build plans to date have presented an ever-shrinking floorplan.	The current design has been developed through an evolutionary process in discussion with the school. During such a process, compromise is required at times by all parties to achieve a design that meets the needs of the school but also aligns with Welsh Government's expectations around areas, as well as to remain within available budget.
3.4.2.6	The proposed new school and allocated grounds is barely going to be big enough for Calon y Dderwen and future intakes, adding another 100 people will take away vital indoor and outdoor learning spaces.	The area available can accommodate a larger school of 360 places and is aligned with the recommended internal and external space recommended by the Building Bulletin guidance.
3.4.2.7	It is appalling that the size of the new build is set to remain the same footprint but with the addition of another school of pupils. The size of the classrooms and hall were already much smaller than we already have and learners will be	The current school design can accommodate 360 pupils without the need to expand the footprint due to the fact that it is a two storey building and classrooms can be added upstairs. If the proposal goes ahead, the school

	crammed in even without the addition of Ysgol Treowen learners. There is no understanding whatsoever of the impact that this will have on the staff and the children and is in direct contrast to what the new curriculum promotes.	would be designed in accordance with the area recommendations of the Building Bulletin guidance for an increased number of pupils – classrooms would continue to be designed for 30 pupils and the current design includes classrooms that are slightly larger than the minimum recommended by Building Bulletin. The size of the hall is also aligned with the Guidance.
3.4.2.8	Inside the building, the space has also been cut from the original plans to what we were told that we would have for 270 pupils. By expanding the school to 360 pupils, the footprint of the school is not going to change at all.	As above.
3.4.2.9	The new school needs to be bigger to accommodate all the extra pupils to avoid large class numbers including provision for ALN children and extra early years provision.	As above. The current school design includes areas for ALN and early years provision. Should the proposal be implemented, further consideration would be given to how the new design would need to evolve to meet these needs.
3.4.2.10	The school needs a hall of the size where the school are able to hold family events as a whole school and benefit to the community.	Guidance about the size of school halls is included within the Building Bulletin and is based on the size of the school population. The hall in the current design is aligned with this guidance. Should the proposal be implemented, the size of the hall would be reviewed based on a 360 place school. However, it may not be possible to design a hall that could accommodate the whole school at the same time as this isn't a requirement of the Guidance. Many schools, including new build and older schools, are unable to accommodate the whole school in their hall at the same time.
3.4.2.11	The hall itself will not be big enough to hold whole school events from assemblies, fayres, parent engagement events to Christmas concerts. How can we build our new school community when we cannot invite them all in at the new school?	As above. Building a school community isn't reliant on having a hall that can fit in the whole school community at the same time.

3.4.2.12	The school hall under existing proposed plans for a new build was small and now the added accommodation of an additional 60 pupils added to the last school plans would result in the hall of the same size. The proposal highlights the extra need for all these pupils; however a new school build, built strictly to the building bulletin 99 (over 20 years old now) is not providing the best for these pupils.	As above. Building Bulletin 99, which is the guidance for primary schools, was published in 2014. Welsh Government have recently been reviewing the Guidance, with a view to developing a new standard for school building in Wales, to reflect the changing needs of the Curriculum for Wales and other educational priorities. The Council will take account of any changes as a result of this.
3.4.2.13	All learners access the outdoors and this element is key to learning. This aspect will be taken away under the current building design as there will be no direct access to the outdoors for at least half the school. The initial compromise of having an upstairs as long as there is access to the outdoors has now been negated by adding extra classes upstairs for Ysgol Treowen children.	A two-storey building is considered the optimal design as it allows maximum use of external areas for children. Additional classrooms can be added upstairs without needing to expand the design footprint. It is recognised that it is not possible to have direct access to external areas from the upstairs classrooms, but this is not a requirement of the Guidance.
3.4.2.14	The new build is already now proposed for a two-storey development due to shrinking space and energy saving commitments. Yet with 350 pupils and 40+ staff onsite nearly 50% will be on the upper floor. The accessibility to learning for pupils and staff requiring assistance or elevators in accessing the upper floor is likely to outstrip a single elevator. The challenge of pupil movement with these additional needs has not been assessed and any solution is only stressing the available space further.	Should the proposal be implemented, consideration would be given to pupil movement and how many lifts would be required.
3.4.2.15	The new school curriculum in Wales is based on experiential learning and connection with outdoors. Having up to 180 pupils upstairs will hinder the delivery of the curriculum.	Many schools across the county do not have direct access to external teaching areas from the classroom, but this doesn't hinder their ability to deliver the curriculum.  Evidence from other two-storey primary schools in Powys and wider afield indicate that they are able to deliver the new curriculum, ensuring connection with the outdoors as

		part of learning, even though they haven't got direct access to an outdoor classroom.
3.4.2.16	The new Welsh curriculum is supposed to give time to learning outdoors, more space inside classrooms to allow fluid movement, this won't happen as the footprint of our new build will be too small. We will not be able to support children the way they deserve or are supposed to be according to WG's new curriculum.	As above.
3.4.2.17	The New Curriculum for Wales has a heavy focus on different areas of learning and that this should be provided in both indoor and outdoor classrooms. With the building being kept at the same footprint for an extra 100 pupils and additional staff I struggle to see how we will be able to provide this effectively and to the same level that both schools currently provide.	As above. All classrooms on the ground floor have direct access to external classrooms, which are the early years and Foundation Phase.
3.4.2.18	Make the new building fit for purpose and the size reflects all the different aspects of the curriculum so ALL the children can be taught in an appropriate environment for their stage. Meaning better sized classrooms and proper outside classrooms too. Not just a landing strip of tarmac with a covered area not adequate for it to be an outside classroom.	As above.
3.4.2.19	A new building with all new technology is great but it does not replace excellent teaching, I would prefer children to be met with people who know them inside out than a brand new whiteboard.	Comment noted. The Council fully agrees that a new building does not replace excellent teaching. The expectation is that should the Council proceed with the current proposals, pupils would benefit from a new building and excellent teaching.
3.4.2.20	If the schools are to be merged, extra funding should be provided to increase the footprint of the new building substantially to ensure a high standard of education for all learners.	A school of 360 can be accommodated within the footprint of the current design. If the proposal is implemented, further consideration would be given to how to make best use of the space to meet the needs of the school, align

		with the Building Bulleting guidance, within the budget and area available.
3.4.2.21	There have been so many promises regarding the proposed new build for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen, and the school has been asked what they want, but are not getting anywhere near what they want.	The Council notes the concerns and frustrations expressed by Ysgol Calon y Dderwen about the design process relating to the new school building. Designing a school is in an evolutionary process which sometimes needs compromise by all partners to meet design guidance within the budget and area available.
3.4.2.22	The site needs to be made bigger to incorporate the extra children from Treowen.	The site available is large enough to accommodate an increased number of pupils.

### **3.4.3 Other queries / comments**

3.4.3.1	Extra funding for a new build at Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen may not be guaranteed so it is not clear what would be the situation if funding were not available.	The Council has included Ysgol Calon y Dderwen within its new Strategic Outline Programme for Welsh Government's Sustainable Communities for Learning. Welsh Government has already given in-principle approval for the project by approving the original business case. Should the proposal be implemented, then a new business case would be submitted to Welsh Government. The Council's contribution to the project has already been included within its capital programme.
3.4.3.2	Why spend all that money on another new school when they haven't long built one?	No new school has been built for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen.
3.4.3.3	A new building is unnecessary. The existing buildings suffice.	The Council disagrees with this comment. There are condition issues which need to be addressed at both Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School.
3.4.3.4	If the proposed new build continues with a couple of extra rooms as has been suggested, PCC will be letting children this side of the river down, instead of the promises that were made publicly that the council wants to make sure that children this side of the river are not left behind!	A school of 360 can be accommodated within the footprint of the current design. If the proposal is implemented, further consideration would be given to how to make best use of the space to meet the needs of the school, align



		with the Building Bulleting guidance, within the budget and area available.
3.4.3.5	What will happen if we need to expand in the future? In addition to more pupils, there will be more members of staff and with no view to expand the staff areas in the building, how is this going to affect staff wellbeing and morale when they cannot be in the same area at the same time?	As above.  There is surplus capacity in other Newtown schools, and the current projected pupil numbers for Newtown indicate that pupil numbers are expected to continue to decrease.
3.4.3.6	Is it right that we have funding for a build for a 270 place school but not for a 360 place school?	It is correct that the initial SOC that has been approved by Welsh Government for a replacement building for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen is for a 270 place school. However, discussions have already taken place with Welsh Government colleagues about the intention to increase the capacity of the building. Should the Council proceed with the proposals, a new business case would need to be submitted based on the revised capacity.
3.4.3.7	How realistic is it that we will move to the new building in 2026/27?	As with all capital projects, there is a risk that it would take longer than this.
3.4.3.8	Do you evaluate the success of previous new buildings?	Yes. The Property Design Services team are currently doing a piece of work where they are reviewing some of the recent new buildings, and speaking to the heads of those schools to gather feedback on what's worked well and what hasn't worked well.
3.4.3.9	Concern about the use of Building Bulletin 99, as this is now at least 25 years old, so is it fit for purpose?	This concern is noted, however Building Bulletin 99 is still the guidance used by the Welsh Government for projects taken forward as part of the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme. The Welsh Government has been working on a new standard for school designs recently, we expect to hear more about this soon.
3.4.3.10	Who would be responsible for maintenance costs associated with the new building e.g. recladding, replacing solar panels, lifts?	Discussion will need to take place with Welsh Government about maintenance costs for some of these elements, in particular those associated with the Welsh

		Government's expectation that new buildings meet net zero standards.
3.4.3.11	If the proposal were to go ahead, would there be an opportunity for Treowen staff to input into the plans for the new building?	Yes, there would be opportunities for Treowen staff to contribute to the plans.

### 3.5 COMMENTS ABOUT THE NORTH POWYS WELLBEING PROGRAMME

3.5.1	We are losing so much space thanks to the proposed health hub, which is another crazy idea!	<p>The Council notes these concerns about the impact on the space available for the new school building due to the proposal that it becomes part of the proposed well-being hub which is being developed as part of the North Powys Well-being Programme.</p> <p>The plans for the new school building are being developed in accordance with the appropriate Building Bulletin and Welsh Government guidance, however it is acknowledged that concerns about the space available for the new building have been expressed by Ysgol Calon y Dderwen in discussions to date when developing the designs for the new building.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with the current proposals, discussions with the school would continue, with the aim of achieving a design solution which meets the school's needs and also enables the development of the well-being campus.</p>
3.5.2	Outside our space has been drastically cut by the plans for a health hub in Newtown which doesn't seem to be moving forward.	As above.

3.5.3	There is concern about the annexing of 50% of the school footprint today for the health hub where plans justifying the space are yet to materialise.	As above.
3.5.4	The site of Calon Y Dderwen is now artificially constrained by a boundary for the annexed land to the health hub; where no progress has been made. Should this proposal progress the boundary should be reassessed to provide adequate space and provision for all.	As above.
3.5.5	We need space!!! Inside our new build and outside!!! Stop the health hub for taking our site. We don't want a 5+ storey building towering over our school.	As above.  There is currently no plan for the well-being campus to include a 5+ storey building.
3.5.6	I strongly believe that the 'health hub' is in totally the wrong place and should not be:  1. In the town centre, move to an out of town site and make better infrastructure to local bus services to get people to the health hub. 2. Next to a school, we have such peaceful surroundings at the moment but when the health hub is there with potentially 100s of people in and out daily. Our children deserve the right to learn in a tranquil environment. 3. Squeezing a school out of space, making our building just fit the amount of children we will have and also trying to use the flood plain count as part of our usable land. We need more space to give our children the rights they deserve to learn in a safe space with plenty of areas to explore the new curriculum.	These comments about the proposed location of the 'health hub' are noted.  The location was selected following a site selection exercise.
3.5.7	People's lives will be put at risk as emergency services may be blocked in or out of the site by vehicles due to the increased congestion that will be in the area.	Ensuring access to emergency services will be a key consideration when developing the site.

3.5.8	Make the school the flagship of Powys not the health hub. Which will probably be half empty.	The Council's expectation is that the whole campus would become a flagship for Powys and further afield. This would include both the 'health hub' and the school.
3.5.9	The current plan would severely and permanently restrict the potential for health services to expand and serve the community of North Powys in the future.	Comment noted. The Council has been working closely with the Health Board as part of the North Powys Well-being Programme to ensure that the site design will meet the Programme's needs and result in provision which meets the needs of the local population.
3.5.10	With more space the health hub could be far more open and accessible, and could make fuller use of its connection to the town's green spaces and the newly built Hafan yr Afon centre. Putting a school in, which would need to be fenced off, would mean that the site would become very closed off and constrained.	Comment noted. However, a site assessment was undertaken when initially considering locations to build a new primary school in Newtown and there were no alternative locations in the Council's ownership.
3.5.11	The compromise of school and health on one site has been accepted because it has been assumed there is nowhere else to build a new Calon y Dderwen.	As above.

### 3.6 COMMENTS ABOUT IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

3.6.1	Phase 2 would be damaging and have a highly negative impact on the community of Treowen.	<p>The Council acknowledges that implementation of Phase 2 of the proposals would mean that there would no longer be a school on the Treowen estate, which could impact on the community.</p> <p>A community impact assessment has been carried out, which includes input from the affected schools to identify the potential impact on the community, which was published as part of the consultation documentation. This will be updated to reflect any feedback received during the consultation, and will be considered by the Council's Cabinet as part of the decision-making process.</p>
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3.6.2	Communities from Treowen losing their local school, destroying the Treowen community and the housing in that area.	As above.
3.6.3	The impact that losing the school would have on the community of Treowen would be devastating.	As above.
3.6.4	In all of this I think the only area that will suffer will be Treowen so shame on you for ripping out the heart of the community.	As above.
3.6.5	This will be a huge loss to the children of Treowen, the local community. This proposal will have a devastating effect if goes ahead.	As above.
3.6.6	In speaking with other residents and parents of children at the school, they feel that if the school closes, the community will fall apart. Parents won't have that village that they can count on.	As above.
3.6.7	The closure of Treowen School would mean the loss of a vital hub that brings together families, teachers, and the wider community.	As above.
3.6.8	Do not destroy that community spirit, that is what you will be doing if you close Treowen School. It will do immeasurable damage to the community.	As above.
3.6.9	Phase 2 would be damaging and have a highly negative impact on the Treowen community and its ability to access learning opportunities and broader community support.	As above.
3.6.10	Cllr Pete Roberts stated recently 'securing the best start in life for our young people is the only way that we can build a stronger, fairer and greener Powys. One of the ways we can achieve this is by transforming education'. So, a best start in life by destroying the community in which the children live? Not exactly a great start.	As above.
3.6.11	Phase 2 of the proposal will have a negative impact on the sustainability of the community of Treowen which already	As above.

	has few resources and has pockets of deprivation rated as the lowest 10% in Wales. The school is at the heart of the community and closing it will be detrimental to programmes designed to deliver a Wales of cohesive communities.	
3.6.12	It will destroy the Treowen community and create further social problems.	As above.
3.6.13	There is a lot of anti-social behaviour across Treowen, take away that school and there will be a marked increase in the anti-social behaviour.	As above.
3.6.14	It is stated in the consultation documents that when the planned second phase is complete the school building at Treowen will be redundant and will be sold by PCC. This will be a point of no return for the community as it is probable that the school site will be developed for housing. Treowen Community Hall is unfunded and not capable of filling the gap in community provision.	<p>The Council would need to consider the future use of the current Treowen C.P. School site should the proposals be implemented.</p> <p>Should the site be declared surplus, it would be disposed of in accordance with the Council's asset management policy. Whilst it is possible that this could lead to sale of the sites to third parties, some schools that have closed have been transferred to other service areas e.g. housing or to a community group.</p> <p>The Community Hall at Treowen would not be affected and would continue to be available for community activities.</p>
3.6.15	Treowen school's site would also become derelict which would have a negative effect on the estate.	As above.
3.6.16	Closing Treowen School would affect the community - it is unknown who may buy the land, if multiple flats or houses are built it could cause over-population of the area.	As above.
3.6.17	What is going to happen to the land at Treowen?	As above.
3.6.18	What are the suggested plans for the old site? Left to become run down and derelict like all the other closed down schools in the area?	As above.

3.6.19	Phase 2 of the original proposal is more focused on the acquisition of a new school than consideration for the communities involved. The Newtown Place Plan, adopted by Powys County Council as supplementary planning guidance in 2021, states that proposals that will result in the loss of existing community facilities will be strongly resisted (Community Facilities Planning policies Cf-a).	<p>The Council acknowledges that implementation of Phase 2 of the proposals would mean that there would no longer be a school on the Treowen estate, which could impact on the community.</p> <p>A community impact assessment has been carried out, which includes input from the affected schools to identify the potential impact on the community, which was published as part of the consultation documentation. This will be updated to reflect any feedback received during the consultation, and will be considered by the Council's Cabinet as part of the decision-making process.</p> <p>Whilst implementation of the proposals would mean that there would be no school in Treowen in the future, there is a Community Hall on the Treowen Estate which would continue to be available for community activities.</p>
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### 3.7 COMMENTS ABOUT IMPACT ON STAFF

3.7.1	Concern about the impact of the proposals on Calon y Dderwen staff jobs, particularly following the move to a new building	The Council notes the concern about the possible impact on staff at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen as part of Phase 2, particularly as they have recently gone through a merger process when the school was established.
3.7.2	It's unfair for Calon y Dderwen staff to have to go through another period of uncertainty following the merging of Ladywell Green and Hafren schools.	As above.
3.7.3	Concern about job security for staff, particularly during phase 2.	As above.

### 3.8 COMMENTS ABOUT EARLY YEARS PROVISION

3.8.1	Any big change like the one that's being proposed would be detrimental to the progress of pupils that currently attend 3+ provision in Treowen. Please think of the families and what impact this decision is going to make.	<p>The Council notes these concerns about the impact on early years provision.</p> <p>The impact of the proposals on early years provision is considered on page 24 of the Consultation Document, where it states:</p> <p><i>'Eventually, the intention is that the school moves to a new building located on the site of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen. Accommodation to provide funded early years education would be provided in the new building. The demand for places in the area will be reviewed as the proposal moves forward, to ensure that sufficient places are provided to accommodate demand.'</i></p> <p><i>Should all provision move to the new building, this would mean that funded early years education would no longer be available at Treowen, and families currently living in Treowen who access this provision at Treowen C.P. School would need to travel further to access this provision.</i></p> <p><i>Parents would also be able to access other providers in Newtown, however due to recent changes in provision in the town, there is currently some pressure on places. Demand for places in the area will be reviewed as the proposal moves forward, to ensure that sufficient places are provided to accommodate demand.'</i></p>
3.8.2	With both schools possibly combining together, will there still be a room for the 3 plus years that needed extra support?	As above.
3.8.3	Will the pre-school setting transfer to the new school also?	As above.



3.8.4	Another vital service that Treowen C.P. school provides on site is the 3+ pre-school. This is the only funded early years provision in Treowen and is another crucial element in engaging and supporting families in their own community. Phase 2 will have a negative impact on this service.	As above.
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### 3.9 OTHER COMMENTS NOT IN SUPPORT OF PHASE 2

3.9.1	Phase 2 is completely unnecessary.	<p>The Council does not agree that ‘Phase 2 is completely unnecessary.’ The reasons for the proposals are clearly set out in the Consultation Document.</p> <p>Implementation of Phase 2 of the proposals would provide access to a brand new school building to pupils currently attending Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School, providing access to much improved accommodation for pupils attending both schools.</p>
3.9.2	Why waste more money building a new build when you have a perfectly good school away from a major road?	<p>The Council does not agree that the proposals are ‘a waste of money.’ The lifetime costs of the proposed new building compared with the costs associated maintaining the existing buildings were considered in the Consultation Document. As stated in the Document:</p> <p>‘It is anticipated that the lifetime costs of the status quo option, which would include backlog maintenance would be £78.00m over a 60-year investment period. This is compared with the lifetime costs of the move to a new school building which would be £72.61m over a 60-year investment period, generating a saving of £5.39m.’</p>
3.9.3	I do not support this phase of development.	Comment noted.

	The potential closure of Treowen School is disheartening.	The concerns about the impact of the closure of Treowen C.P. School are noted, and will be taken into consideration by Cabinet when determining whether or not to proceed with implementation of the proposals.
3.9.4	Closing Treowen will have a huge negative impact.	As above.
3.9.5	Treowen closing would mean the loss of breakfast club and low-income families may struggle due to no longer have free school meals, the children may the lack the nutrition they need to keep their health adequate.	As above.
3.9.6	A vast amount of money has been spent on building safe pedestrian and cycle pavements along the road to Treowen School. This will have been wasted if there is no school in Treowen.	Comment noted. The Council does not agree that this money would have been wasted, the pavements would continue to provide safe walking routes across the estate, even if there was no school in Treowen.
3.9.7	Ysgol Calon y Dderwen have already been waiting a long time for a new school. The merger will delay this even more.	Comment noted. The Council fully acknowledges that the current proposal in respect of Treowen C.P. School and Ysgol Calon y Dderwen has impacted on the timescales involved in order to provide a much needed replacement building for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen.
3.9.8	There is potential housing growth in Treowen area identified in the Local Development Plan as: P48 HA3 South of Heol Treowen Extension 70 units and P48 HA4 South of Heol Treowen / Great Brimmon 136 units. And retaining a local school site will help provide the necessary educational infrastructure to cope with extra housing. This additional housing allocation is underlined in the local Place Plan which has been adopted as supplementary planning guidance by the planning authority. It would seem perverse to act contrary to the adopted plans.	<p>Whilst it is correct that land in the Treowen area is identified for potential housing in the Local Development Plan, there is no guarantee that this would be developed in the near future.</p> <p>Even if it were to be developed, there are surplus places available elsewhere in Newtown that would be able to accommodate any increase in pupil numbers as a result of additional housing in Treowen.</p> <p>It is expected that on average each new residential unit developed within Powys will likely generate 0.40 children or young people with educational requirements. Based on this figure, the expectation would be that a development of 70</p>

		units would generate 28 pupils, and a development of 136 units would generate 55 pupils, however these would not all be primary aged pupils.
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### 3.10 COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF PHASE 2

3.10.1	Both schools are very outdated and think would be an improvement on all pupils experience of school and learning facilities.	Comment noted.
3.10.2	Calon y Derwen should have a new building, having two schools already closely located together as one makes a lot of sense.	Comment noted.
3.10.3	I think a new school for Calon y Dderwen is a fantastic idea for the parents with children in that school or parents that will use this school in the future.	Comment noted.
3.10.4	I think phase 2 is the better option when the new school is ready and able to accommodate the number of children.	Comment noted.
3.10.5	Phase 2 is the better option! When the new school is ready and you can accommodate all the children with room, staff and I just think it would be a better way to introduce the children to a new school rather than having to leave the school they are happy in to then be in a temporary school to have to then move to the new school, it's a lot of disruption for the children. Phase 2 is the better option.	Comment noted.
3.10.6	It will be good to have a much bigger school for all the children to benefit from the teaching and learning that already goes on in Ysgol Calon y Dderwen.	Comment noted.
3.10.7	Broadly speaking, I agree with the benefits of fewer larger, better built and better staffed primary schools, especially in the larger towns like Newtown.	Comment noted.

## 4. OTHER COMMENTS

### 4.1 GENERAL COMMENTS NOT IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSALS

4.1.1	I fully understand that Calon Y Dderwen is in need of a new school building but do not feel that should be at the detriment of Treowen School.	The proposed changes provide the opportunity for all learners involved to benefit from the capital investment in a new building – for example, a better learning environment which is fully accessible, energy-efficient and meets the Welsh Government’s net zero targets. The new building would also remove the maintenance backlog which exists for both existing sites.
4.1.2	Don’t need to merge with other schools just so the council can save some money, too many kids already fall through the nets!!	As above.
4.1.3	Absolutely no thought has been given to pupils, staff and the communities of the two schools. It is clearly a money saving exercise. The proposed changes would put unwarranted stress on children and parents.	The impact on pupils, staff and the wider school communities has been considered throughout the consultation process. The consultation exercise has provided an opportunity for all stakeholders to let the Council know their views on the proposals, these will be taken into consideration by Cabinet when determining whether or not to proceed.
4.1.4	I fully believe this proposal is just to save money and Powys County Council are not giving Treowen School's pupils, parents and staff any thought or consideration.	As above.
4.1.5	I feel that this proposal is being pushed through to gain funding for the new school for Calon y Dderwen.	The first business case (SOC) for a replacement building for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen has already been approved by the Council and the Welsh Government, this is not dependent on including Treowen School in the plans.
4.1.6	This whole process seems to be more about money rather than what really matters and that’s the children of the future.	As outlined in the Consultation Document, there are many reasons for the current proposals, which include the decrease in pupil numbers in the area and resulting surplus places, as well as issues with building conditions at both

		existing schools. The aim of the proposal is to maximise the benefit from the investment in a new school in Newtown, by ensuring that more pupils are able to access the new building.
4.1.7	The proposal makes no sense.	Comment noted.
4.1.8	I don't agree with the merger.	Comment noted.
4.1.9	Trehafren, in the Calon y Dderwen catchment area, has 32 more homes being built and there are other housing developments close to completion in Newtown. In this way there are initiatives in Newtown which, by creating more homes for young people and families, will naturally address falling school numbers and surplus places.	Pupil numbers have decreased over the past decade, and are expected to decrease further over the next five years. Pupil numbers in the primary sector in Powys are expected to decrease by approximately 5% by 2026.
4.1.10	The proposal doesn't consider the amount of new families to the area.	As above.
4.1.11	The current proposal would mean that the current undersized and inadequately built Maesyrrhandir would remain.	Comment noted. The Council is aware that implementation of the current proposal would mean that Maesyrrhandir would continue to attend the same building, and consideration would need to be given to how to address these issues going forward.
4.1.12	Maesyrrhandir is the school tackling some of the greater social issues faces within the town, it seems wrong to not be addressing this, and to not be investing in this community.	Comment noted.
4.1.13	The current proposal won't address the Maesyrrhandir position.	Comment noted.

## 4.2 GENERAL COMMENTS ABOUT THE IMPACT ON STAFF

4.2.1	The impact of this will lower staff morale and wellbeing as they will be made jobless.	The Council fully acknowledges that any school reorganisation process creates a period of uncertainty for those affected, including staff.
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		<p>Opportunities have been provided through the consultation process for staff to let the Council know their views on the proposals, these will be taken into consideration when determining whether or not to proceed.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposals, HR officers would work alongside school to support any staffing processes required to implement the changes. Staff would also be able to receive support from their unions. Support is also available to staff through the Council's employee support programme, 'Vivup'.</p>
4.2.2	The impact on staff mental health would be distressful for all. Job losses, moving of locations, ending relationships and trust built over many years is would be once again, devastating.	As above.
4.2.3	How can you expect a teacher, teaching assistant, school admin, headteacher, deputy headteacher, etc to give their all to 30-odd children all day every day with this proposal hanging over their heads?	As above.
4.2.4	Staff wellbeing will be affected by such a drastic change in circumstances. Plus the risk that redundancies would be necessary.	As above.
4.2.5	It not fair as what going to happen to the current staff teaching and kitchen staff, you don't need three full kitchen staff to run one kitchen.	As above.
4.2.6	Staff at Ysgol CyDd have already experienced the pressure and pain associated with change, they are still experiencing this due to having to work across 2 sites whilst waiting for the proposed new build. There is clearly no consideration for staff wellbeing. The management of change has been bearable during the transition of Hafren and Ladywell Green. Staff at Treowen school don't want	<p>As above.</p> <p>The Council fully acknowledges that Ysgol Calon y Dderwen has recently been through a merger process. This is one of the reasons why the proposal is to extend Ysgol Calon y Dderwen, rather than merging the two schools to establish another new school. This would</p>

	<p>this either. Staff wellbeing is at a low, across all schools in the UK, the impact this is having on the wellbeing of the staff across these 2 schools just isn't fair. Working in schools is hard at the moment, there is little time for enjoying your job because of the increasing pressure put on to school staff to deliver according to the needs of the children and their families. Staff are worried about their jobs in both settings, it's natural, it's obvious that there will be job losses.</p>	<p>minimise the impact on Ysgol Calon y Dderwen staff during Phase 1 in particular, however it is acknowledged that there could be an impact on them during the move to a new building as part of Phase 2.</p>
4.2.7	<p>The closure of Treowen and the expansion of Calon y Dderwen is likely to result in the Calon Y Dderwen governing body needing to follow the management of change process, and possible redundancies. This would be the first act and not an endearing one for existing Treowen staff. In addition, the proposal would require all appointments for Calon y Dderwen to be temporary only until the new build school. This effects the existing staff of the school knowing that the proposal has ensued more uncertainty.</p>	<p>The Council notes and acknowledges this concern about the potential impact on Ysgol Calon y Dderwen's governing body.</p>
4.2.8	<p>Staff were originally sold this idea of creating a brand new school, in doing this it would mean all members of staff at each school would be treated fairly to now be told this won't be the case.</p>	<p>The Council notes this comment, however in the initial engagement on the potential of including more schools in the planned new building for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen, it was explained that this could either be achieved by merging schools together to create a new school, or it could be achieved by expanding Ysgol Calon y Dderwen to include other schools.</p> <p>Concerns about the impact of another merger on the staff of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen, who have only recently been through a merger, were raised during the initial engagement exercise, and this is one of the reasons why the proposal is to extend Ysgol Calon y Dderwen, rather</p>

		<p>than merging the two schools to create another new school.</p> <p>The Council doesn't agree that Treowen staff 'aren't being treated fairly.' During phase 1 of the proposals, education would still be provided on the Treowen site, and the expectation is that current staff at Treowen C.P. School would provide this. Any further staffing process which would need to take place to prepare for a move to a new building in phase 2 would affect all staff, as by that time, all staff would be employed by Ysgol Calon y Dderwen.</p>
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### 4.3 COMMENTS ABOUT THE IMPACT ON PROTECTED CHARACTERISTIC GROUPS

#### 4.3.1 Comments about ALN/SEN learners

4.3.1.1	<p>Treowen has a high number of ALN children who are comfortable in a stable environment which is not currently too overwhelming for them. Putting them into bigger classes with a higher teacher to child ratio is not providing them with the best education.</p>	<p>The impact on pupils with ALN has been considered in the equality impact assessment published as part of the consultation documentation. This will be updated to reflect feedback received during the consultation period, and will be considered by Cabinet when determining whether or not to proceed with the proposal.</p> <p>The Council's opinion is that pupils with ALN and those with disabilities would be equally well supported by larger schools. Where schools have larger classes with a high number of pupils with additional needs, there are processes and mechanisms within the Council to provide additional support and guidance as appropriate.</p> <p>The proposal is to introduce the changes on a phased basis, which provides an opportunity to support pupils with</p>
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		additional learning needs with transition to the new operating model.
4.3.1.2	I worry that pupils with additional learning needs will go under the radar and not get the care and education he needs as the teachers will be overwhelmed with the amount of children they will have.	As above.
4.3.1.3	Currently Treowen has great provision for those with any neurodivergence, learning disabilities etc. They have the time and resources that bigger schools don't have. The children benefit from the smaller class sizes which suit those with SEN better.	As above.
4.3.1.4	It's going be harder for children with special needs to get access to the help they need.	As above.
4.3.1.5	Pupils won't get the one to one learning in a bigger school.	As above.
4.3.1.6	Children with additional education needs are not going to cope in a large school.	As above.
4.3.1.7	The children won't get the one to one learning like they get now in Treowen school and it might knock their confidence and knock the learning.	As above.
4.3.1.8	Merging too many schools together will cause those pupils in need of extra support to be completely overlooked and lost.	As above.
4.3.1.9	A pupil who learns differently and can't cope with busy spaces would struggle in the new school.	As above.
4.3.1.10	Children with additional learning needs will be affected greatly. We as parents fight so hard for the education and extra support our children need in school, which they are all entitled to. To close Treowen would dismiss our children's needs. Which is disgraceful and disgusting.	As above.
4.3.1.11	I have huge concerns about the impact on learners with additional learning needs. Learners with autism already struggle with large classes.	As above.

4.3.1.12	Both schools have a recognised higher than county average FSM and ALN. Both catchments are recognised in the 2021 census as being highly deprived in multiple dimensions. The pupils of both schools deserve and require outstanding education provision; however, I believe the accessibility of the provision should phase 1 & 2 go ahead is of high priority and the proposal has inadequately assessed.	As above.
4.3.1.13	Concerned that pupils with additional health issues (e.g. epilepsy) would not be fully supported in a larger school. Seizures could be missed if teachers have so many other pupils to watch.	As above.
4.3.1.14	There are several children in Ysgol Calon y Dderwen that have special educational needs and I dare say there will be children in Treowen School too - how are you going to ensure that these children's mental health and other children's mental health is going to be protected?	As above.  The Council recognises that any school reorganisation process creates a period of uncertainty for all involved, including children. The Council is committed to supporting schools and learners, including through periods of change.  The Council has engaged a former Headteacher to support school leaders to help them manage possible changes for their learners. It is also expected that school governors, staff and parents support the children during any periods of change, to ensure that there isn't a detrimental impact on their wellbeing.
4.3.1.15	Some pupils are likely to struggle with the transition, especially pupils with ALN.	As above.

### **4.3.2 Comments about disability**

4.3.2.1	There are accessibility concerns for the new school build when pupil numbers will increase. This affects access to	The proposed new building will be fully accessible, including the planned first floor. Toilet provision will be in
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	upper levels and access to enough toilets suitable for those with additional needs.	accordance with the latest guidance, and will include provision for pupils with additional needs.
4.3.2.2	I don't believe moving school provision further away from an area of the community more likely to be lower income is going to be conducive to the needs of disabled pupils or parents with disabilities.	The impact on those belonging to the protected characteristic groups was initially considered in the equality impact assessment published as part of the consultation documentation. This will be updated to reflect feedback received during the consultation period, and will be considered by Cabinet when determining whether or not to proceed with the proposal.
4.3.2.3	It will completely affect adults & children with disabilities.	As above.
4.3.2.4	In particular those pupils with mobility difficulties may have considerable difficulty coping with the gradients between Treowen CP and Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen	As above.
4.3.2.5	The impact on children with disabilities of not being able to attend a school within their immediate community can be far reaching mentally and socially.	As above.

#### **4.3.4 Comments about the socio-economic duty / low-income families**

4.3.4.1	Treowen is already an area of very little resources and has pockets of deprivation rated as the lowest 10% in Wales.	<p>The Council notes these comments about deprivation in the Treowen area.</p> <p>The impact on pupils from economically deprived backgrounds was considered in the impact assessments published as part of the Consultation Documentation. This will be updated to reflect feedback received during the consultation period, and will be considered by Cabinet when determining whether or not to proceed with the proposal.</p>
4.3.4.2	There are serious concerns about this proposal due to the negative impact it will have on the community of Treowen and the particular impact it will have on those who may	As above.

	have protected characteristics, especially low income families and those who are vulnerable.	
4.3.4.3	In the consultation documents section concerning Socio Economic Duty a commitment is declared to improve opportunities for lower income families including those eligible for free school meals, Treowen C.P. school has 32.1% FSM compared to the Wales average of 18%. The impact assessment document acknowledges that these families will be more likely to fail to attend a new school in the centre of Newtown because of the distance involved.	As above.
4.3.4.4	This proposal will make the absenteeism issue worse, low income families who are eligible for free school meals are already disproportionately affected by absenteeism and the impact assessment identifies that this group will be more negatively impacted by having to travel further to school.	As above.
4.3.4.5	Treowen C.P. school currently runs a successful breakfast club which, along with FSM, is a lifeline for families suffering from food poverty and social isolation. If the school closes, this already disadvantaged group will suffer greater social isolation through reduced regular contact with the staff team and other members of the community, this will increase any existing risks to children and families who are already vulnerable and will remove a vital source of nutrition.	As above.
4.3.4.6	Phase 2 of the proposal will have a negative impact on the 3+ pre-school and it is lower income and vulnerable families who will be impacted most, it is universally accepted that early intervention is key to supporting families.	As above.

#### **4.3.5 Other comments**

4.3.5.1	Treowen School has many mixed kids from all over the world which is amazing seeing the community accept and nurture children where English has not been the first language and they love Treowen School.	Comment noted.
4.3.5.2	All learners should be valued, those with protected characteristics even more so.	Comment noted. The aim of the proposal is to improve educational opportunities for all learners, including those belonging to protected characteristic groups.
4.3.5.3	Treowen estate has many children of all ethnic groups who thrive in a small school environment before going to secondary school.	As above.
4.3.5.4	With such large numbers being catered for I don't believe people with protected characteristics will receive the support needed.	All schools, regardless of size, are able to provide for the needs of all pupils, and are required to support, challenge and nurture all pupils to achieve their full potential, including those belonging to protected characteristic groups. Smaller schools do not necessarily mean that pupils receive a more individual education as there is often a number of year groups and a wider age range of pupils in the class. The Council is confident that Ysgol Calon y Dderwen would be able to meet the needs of pupils currently attending Treowen C.P. School.
4.3.5.5	Whilst some pupils with protected characteristics may gain from a larger social milieu, others may not and may flourish more in a small setting.	As above.

#### **4.4 COMMENTS ABOUT THE IMPACT ON WELSH**

##### **4.4.1 The proposal will have a negative impact on the Welsh language**

4.4.1.1	Don't shut the Treowen School and they will have a better chance of learning it [ <i>Welsh</i> ] more quickly.	Both Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School are predominantly English-medium schools where pupils learn Welsh as a second language, and both schools currently
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		<p>participate in Welsh language activities such as the Urdd Eisteddfod.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, pupils currently attending Treowen C.P. School would continue to learn Welsh and be able to take part in Welsh language activities at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen.</p>
4.4.1.2	Closing Treowen School would give less children the opportunity to be able to achieve in the Urdd Eisteddfod as they would be competing against a wider number in there school alone and may not be picked to do something they would get the chance to while in Treowen.	As above.
4.4.1.3	They won't get a fair learning of it as there will be too many kids the classes.	As above.
4.4.1.4	More children less likely to engage in learning Welsh.	As above.
4.4.1.5	A large school with large classes will find it more difficult to promote the Welsh language. Two smaller schools would be far more able to promote Welsh.	As above.
4.4.1.6	I think the likelihood of Welsh speaking in a bigger school is minimised. Children in Treowen School already struggle to get to grips with the language. This would only be worse in bigger classes.	As above.

#### **4.4.2 Other comments**

4.4.2.1	Both schools are English medium schools. I don't believe this proposal will have an impact either way.	Comment noted.
4.4.2.2	Welsh schools should be if the parents want them to speak fluently.	Parents of pupils in Powys are free to apply for a place at any school. Any such applications would be considered in accordance with the Council's Admissions Policy.
4.4.2.3	It should be a choice by the child what language they use in school.	As above.

4.4.2.4	There is a difference of learning basic Welsh and speaking it fluently. I believe it should be of choice.	As above.
4.4.2.5	Freedom of choice is being taken away from parents and prospective parents. Ysgol Calon y Dderwen is typically Welsh so I'm guessing it will be Welsh speaking. Very unfair on those that maybe do not want their children speaking Welsh.	As above.  Ysgol Calon y Dderwen is an English-medium school and there are no plans to change the language category of this school.
4.4.2.6	There is favour there already with the school being a Welsh name.	As above.
4.4.2.7	Just because you give a school a Welsh name does not mean that they have a higher level of Welsh throughout the school.	As above.
4.4.2.8	All primary children should become fluent in Welsh. The medium should be Welsh, with extra support for non-Welsh speakers. In England pupils are expected to speak English and extra help is provided for non-speakers of English (EAL - English as an Additional Language). Wales should take the same approach with Welsh.	As above.
4.4.2.9	Welsh should be the main medium for all schools. If we want to preserve the Welsh language this is vital. All primary children should become fluent in Welsh.	As above.
4.4.2.10	Children and families should have a choice of how they want to speak in school.	As above.
4.4.2.11	I feel the ability to communicate and understand the Welsh language would be most beneficial.	Comment noted.
4.4.2.12	I think it is good opportunity to learn Welsh more.	Comment noted.
4.4.2.13	Becoming an ever more diverse community I feel that conversational Welsh would be hugely beneficial to all learners.	Comment noted.
4.4.2.14	Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd is already built and available for any parent that wants their child to be taught through the medium of Welsh.	Comment noted.

4.4.2.15	The provision of education through the medium is Welsh is already well served by Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd located between Treowen CP school, Maesyrrhandir CP school and Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen.	Comment noted.
4.4.2.16	The high school does not have a Welsh stream so pushing this agenda is unfair when Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd children can't go on to be educated in our town! At least fix that first before messing with the kids and parents education to fit WG goals of all schools to be Welsh language like Ceredigion.	The Council's plans to increase the number of pupils taught through the medium of Welsh are outlined in its Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). Whilst the Council has been working to support a number of schools to move along the language continuum, currently it has no plans to change the language category of Newtown High School, or to change the language category of all schools.
4.4.2.17	Each school offers the Welsh language learning, at some stage schools should become like Ceredigion all Cat A.	Comment noted. It is correct that all schools provide opportunities for pupils to learn Welsh. The Council's plans to increase the number of pupils taught through the medium of Welsh are outlined in its Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). Whilst the Council has been working to support a number of schools to move along the language continuum, currently it has no aim to change the language category of all schools.
4.4.2.18	Children are given the opportunity to learn Welsh no matter what school they attend.	Comment noted. It is correct that all schools provide opportunities for pupils to learn Welsh.
4.4.2.19	All staff should have the opportunity to access the Welsh sabbatical as part of promoting the Welsh language in this new larger school.	Comment noted. Opportunities are available for staff to access Welsh sabbatical courses should they wish to do so.
4.4.2.20	English medium schools work so hard on the promotion of the Welsh language, why does this matter for this consultation?	The Welsh Language Standards require the Council to consider the impact of all changes on the Welsh language. This is why a question about the impact of the current proposal on Welsh was included in the consultation response form.



#### 4.5 COMMENTS ABOUT THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

4.5.1	This proposal is awful and the council have not even had the decency to meet with parents or the members of the Treowen action group which also consists of members of the community, to hear their views and listen to what they want. This will cause parents like me to have a grudge against sending their children to this new school. I will not be sending my children there.	All members of the community were able to respond to the consultation. The School Organisation Code does not require that consultation meetings are held as part of the consultation process.  As part of the consultation, meetings were held with pupils, staff and governors at the two schools. The meetings with governors included parent and community representatives.
4.5.2	PCC don't know who this is affecting because they're not coming out into the communities and meeting the people it will affect. Come to our schools, meet our children, meet our families, meet our staff. Maybe then you will realise what a truly awful idea this is.	As above.
4.5.3	What I find shocking is that there is little or no discussion / debate with the people who live here. It feels like you are remote and unreachable, therefore are very detached from my Treowen community.	As above.
4.5.4	If 'transforming education' is the goal of this proposal then I would urge councillors to look seriously at the negative impact on the children, the community and the town of closing Treowen school. Transforming education starts with listening to and hearing the views and needs of the very people it affects.	As above.
4.5.5	The cabinet have made no effort at all to discuss this proposal with current staff. Instead the people who do not make the decision have been sent, again!	As part of the consultation, meetings were held with staff at the two schools. This is in-line with the Council's normal process for school reorganisation proposals.  All feedback received during the consultation is reflected in this report, which will be considered by Cabinet when deciding whether or not to proceed with the process.

4.5.6	I suppose you are just paying lip service to the legal side of the consultation and the decision has already been made!	The Council has not yet made a decision on whether to proceed with the proposals put forward in this consultation. The findings from the consultation will be considered by Cabinet in late Spring 2024.
4.5.7	The council seem to be only driven financially and lack any real interest in people who live in Newtown. I feel that consultations in Powys are generally paying lip service to the population and are just a paper exercise.	As above.
4.5.8	It feels like it's a done deal.	As above.
4.5.9	We have heard very little about the whole process!	The process has been carried out in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code. The Consultation Document was published as a public document for anybody to access and all members of the community were able to submit their comments and views regarding the proposals during the consultation period.
4.5.10	The short sightedness of the cabinet in this particular proposal shouldn't come as too much of a surprise to be honest, PCC at its best, cutting costs without considering who it will impact. For this to still be on the table proves that the previous consultation has not been taken seriously. PCC will go through with this proposal regardless of the outcome from this consultation, this feels like a box ticking exercise.	The findings of the earlier 'engagement exercise' which was carried out during the Summer of 2023 were considered when developing the current proposals, and were considered by Cabinet when deciding whether or not to commence the current consultation.
4.5.11	You should take into account parent's and staff's feelings on the closure, and work alongside them to come up with an alternative whilst keeping Treowen School open.	All responses received during the consultation period have been considered and included in this report. A number of alternative options were suggested in the consultation responses received, these are listed and responded to in section 4.7 of this report.
4.5.12	The council has decided to ignore all of the parents and community's letters of concern.	The Council has not 'ignored' the letters. A summary of the letters, which were received after the end of the previous engagement exercise and before the start of the current consultation process is provided earlier in this report.

4.5.13	Treowen parents have all stated they don't want this in the form of over 100 letters and additional emails being sent in to Joy Jones about this situation.	As above.
4.5.14	You say all children are entitled to have a great education yet you haven't even taken in the fact that over 95% of parents at the school wrote in to complain about the proposal to close Treowen school. How is that being inclusive and treating them as equal.	As above.
4.5.15	I can only think that the reason this poor excuse was taken out of the decision is due to the fact that David Selby sits on the panel for this proposal and that school is under his ward, which is conflict.	Whilst Cllr David Selby is a member of the Council's Cabinet, the options appraisal which identified the preferred option which was consulted on was carried out by officers and presented to the Cabinet.
4.5.16	When will the current process end?	If Cabinet proceed with the process, the intention is that the current process will be complete by the end of the school year.
4.5.17	Cabinet members should visit the school before a decision is made.	Comment noted.

#### 4.6 COMMENTS ABOUT THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENTATION

4.6.1	The staff, parents, and pupils of Calon Y Dderwen school have undergone disruption for the past 5 years. Staff have undergone redundancies and uncertainty for a prolonged period and this proposal has resurrected this emotion and hurt. The proposal has already had a negative effect on staff of Calon Y Dderwen and I am certain this is the case for Treowen. On page 20 it asserts that the risk and likelihood of staff leaving is low. However, this does not consider Calon Y Dderwen staff have already undergone 5 years of stress and this proposal has increased this.	Comment noted. The Council acknowledges that the proposal has impacted on current staff at both schools, and that staff at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen in particular have recently been through a merger process as part of establishing the school.
4.6.2	Impact on staff – the proposal states that uncertainty in staff has been identified as Low Risk. I would dispute this	The risk assessment was carried out by officers. The concerns about the assessment of the risk identified in

	<p>extremely strongly and would like to know where this information has come from? Having been part of the merge of Hafren and Ladywell Green I can confirm that my uncertainty is high. Having not known whether I had job security in the first consultation which lasted approx 2 years, I find myself back in the same position only 18 months later. I do not believe Powys have taken in staff wellbeing in any factor of this consultation. Even if this new expansion does not go ahead, I have had this additional anxiety for another 12 months.</p>	<p>respect of 'Uncertainty for staff during the transition period, which may result in some staff leaving' is acknowledged.</p> <p>The Council fully acknowledges that any school reorganisation proposal has an impact on any staff affected, and that staff at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen have already been through a reorganisation process fairly recently.</p>
4.6.3	<p>The proposal says that there will be improved opportunities for pupils to benefit from Staff specialisms - how is this possible when staff will not be able to move around sites freely?</p>	<p>Whilst it is likely that staff will primarily be based on their existing sites during Phase 1, there would be opportunities to share staff expertise across the whole school during this phase, which would enable all pupils to benefit from any specialisms. This could mean that some staff primarily working on one site could visit the other site.</p>
4.6.4	<p>The proposal cites 3 minute travel time from Treowen School to Calon y Dderwen. A google maps search alone can tell you this is not true. 18 to 23 minutes based on the average walker; I assure you a 5-year-old does not reach these speeds, and the return journey home up 40m climb each day will exceed 35minutes. Whilst this is below the 45minute travel limit, you are placing this pressure on those in most need; the most deprived (recognised by the 2021 census) and the areas with the highest FSM and ALN needs (and higher by over 105 for the county average).</p>	<p>As stated in the Consultation Document, the travel time specified is approximate. The travel time refers to the journey time by car, not on foot. It is acknowledged that the travel time by foot would be longer than this.</p>
4.6.5	<p>Treowen School is not by any means 3 minutes travel time away from Calon y Dderwen either by car or by walking (as stated in the documentation).</p>	<p>As above.</p>
4.6.6	<p>The validity of travel times on page 27 of the consultation seems questionable e.g. 0.8 miles in 3 minutes to Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen or 1 mile in 3 minutes to Maesyhandir;</p>	<p>As above.</p>

	this seems extraordinarily fast for a pedestrian and fast even for a cycle or car.	
4.6.7	I am unsure where the 3 minutes of travel time stated in the proposal has come from, but it certainly isn't correct by any stretch of the imagination. Having Googled the time it would take to walk it shows 18 minutes, which is far from 3 minutes. Your proposal states that it is not in excess of 45 minutes travel time, however I think this is an extreme benchmark to compare to - in rural mid-Wales you could be in another town or even in England in that time.	As above.  The reference to '45 minutes', the School Organisation Code states that Council's must consider 'whether primary school pupils will have one-way journeys in excess of 45 minutes or secondary school pupils one way journeys of over an hour'. The Council is confident that one-way journeys to the alternative school site for pupils for whom Treowen is currently the closest school will be well below 45 minutes.
4.6.8	The new school build SOC was for 270; the proposal recognises a combined school pupil count of 354, and given some of the pupil numbers presented are under-represented this count is likely too low. The revised plan is for a school build of 360 meaning on opening in September 2026 if a conservative estimate based on some corrected pupil data for Calon Y Dderwen was used it could have 340 pupils; 94% of the capacity. I understand the intention is to reduce surplus spaces, but I am yet to know of a new school build open with 5% surplus. Whilst national trends show a future year on year reduction of births the trend for Calon y Dderwen is flat.	The projected pupil numbers as included in the Consultation Document suggest that pupil numbers across the two schools are expected to decrease over the coming years – the projected pupil numbers for January 2028 are 229 for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and 78 for Treowen C.P. School, which is a total of 307 across the two schools. There are also surplus places in other Newtown schools which would be available to accommodate pupils should the numbers applying for places at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen be higher than 360.
4.6.9	The advantages referred to in the consultation document are mainly based around the benefits of having a new school building and a better supported staff team.	Comment noted.
4.6.10	The consultation document does not provide evidence that option 4C will achieve the stated aims and in several aspects it is clear that the proposed closure of the Treowen School site will cause harm to the community, particular	The strengths and weaknesses of option 4C and all other options are included in the Consultation Document.

	harm to the learning opportunities and safeguarding of the most vulnerable families in that community and increase traffic congestion in the town centre.	A community impact assessment has been carried out, which includes input from the affected schools to identify the potential impact on the community. This will be updated following the Consultation to reflect any feedback received and will be considered by the Council's Cabinet as part of the decision-making process.
4.6.11	Queries about the accuracy of Treowen's ALN figures – they may be higher than this.	The ALN figures included in the documentation are the latest PLASC figures available.
4.6.12	There is an error on page 51 of the consultation document re finance – the figures should be the other way around.	The Council is aware of this error on page 51 of the document.
4.6.13	The consultation document doesn't include information on current travel patterns.	This information is included in the Community Impact Assessment document.
4.6.14	The proposer has not detailed how they would reduce the effect on pupils' learning and well-being during the construction period of the new building, for example reducing the noise impact and disruption of the construction work.	Reducing noise impact and disruption during the construction work will be considered when developing the plans for the new buildings. Contractors will be asked to consider these aspects as part of tendering processes.
4.6.15	The proposer does not detail how they intend to mitigate any negative effects on pupils at the Calon Y Dderwen site during the construction period, for example if temporary classes are needed.	As above.  The new building is being planned around the current buildings, so it is not anticipated that temporary classes would be needed.
4.6.16	The proposer has not given detailed consideration to how the plans would develop the breadth, appropriateness and balance of the curriculum at the school beyond identifying that it would be an opportunity to strengthen the curriculum provided for pupils further.	The plans would provide an opportunity to develop the breadth, appropriateness and balance of the curriculum at the school as it would be a larger school with a larger group of staff able to develop specialisms.

## 4.7 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

#### **4.7.1 Status quo**

4.7.1.1	Think it's ridiculous just keep how things are!!	Status Quo was considered as an option in the Options Appraisal which was included in the Consultation Document, however this option was discounted.
4.7.1.2	There are no options for Treowen School other than to keep it open. This is what the community wants.	As above.
4.7.1.3	The schools should remain as they are! It is totally unfair to even be considering this merger.	As above.
4.7.1.4	Let the Treowen children keep their school which, to them, is a place of learning, safety and compassion.	As above.
4.7.1.5	If it ain't broke don't fix it. Leave things as they are.	As above.
4.7.1.6	Treowen needs to stay the same.	As above.
4.7.1.7	Keep the two schools as two schools not one.	As above.
4.7.1.8	Treowen school should be left alone.	As above.
4.7.1.9	I would just prefer that the schools stayed separate.	As above.
4.7.1.10	Keeping Treowen School open as it is and move forward with the new build for Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen as set out following the recent merger of Hafren and Ladywell only two years ago.	As above.
4.7.1.11	Keep Treowen School open and give it the support it needs rather than waste more of our tax money on a project that isn't wanted and isn't going to work.	As above.
4.7.1.12	The glaring option is to not merge the two schools.	As above.
4.7.1.13	Continuing the current provision. I understand these are challenging financial times but I feel this is the best option.	As above.
4.7.1.14	Keep both open - Maesyrrhandir were taken out of the equation so why can't Treowen be too?	As above.
4.7.1.15	I think Treowen School should be kept open as there is nothing up Treowen!	As above.
4.7.1.16	This is not needed, both schools are functioning perfectly well as they currently are.	As above.

4.7.1.17	They should be considering leaving both schools as they are and putting the money being used for the new school into the current sites.	As above.
4.7.1.18	Keep Treowen separate and let it continue as a thriving school.	As above.
4.7.1.19	Keep Treowen School open!!	As above.
4.7.1.20	It would be great to see Treowen School stay open and a smaller amount of money used to allow this to happen.	As above.
4.7.1.21	Keeping both schools going, why change something that's going well?	As above.
4.7.1.22	By keeping open Treowen CP School it could potentially reduce the building cost of Calon Y Dderwen from 16 million pounds to 13 million pounds.	As above.
4.7.1.23	I am completely against the proposal, leave Treowen as it, there is absolutely no reason to take away from our children at Treowen.	As above.
4.7.1.24	I urge you to explore alternative solutions that would allow the school to continue its invaluable service to our community. This could involve seeking additional funding, exploring partnerships with local organizations, or any other viable means to sustain the school's operation.	As above.
4.7.1.25	Treowen School is 60% on the building survey of repair, the same as Penygloddfa. Treowen School should be kept open!	As above.

#### **4.7.2 Invest in the current school buildings**

4.7.2.1	Treowen should be left as a school, where it already is but given updated facilities and more resources. Keep the community estate united. The children's happiness,	The Council is already committed to providing a replacement building for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen to replace the current poor condition buildings in which the school is currently located. This is included in the Council's capital
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	education and overall wellbeing should be the only concern.	<p>programme, and a Strategic Outline Case (SOC) for this development has already been approved by the Council's Cabinet and the Welsh Government.</p> <p>It is unlikely that the Welsh Government would agree to fund a replacement building for Treowen C.P. School as well as the replacement building planned for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen, particularly given that the current projected pupil numbers suggest a decrease in pupil numbers in Newtown.</p>
4.7.2.2	Don't build a new school and spend the money on Treowen School and keep it open.	As above.
4.7.2.3	Keep Treowen School open and use the money to help improve Treowen School.	As above.
4.7.2.4	Leave Treowen alone and invest the money in learning resources and more teachers.	As above.
4.7.2.5	You should deliver on the original project for a new building for Calon y Dderwen as it currently is and then look at the needs for Treowen School and give them a building and school that they deserve in their own community.	As above.
4.7.2.6	Keep Treowen as a standalone school. Put some money into it to bring it up to standards of which the school should be and go back to building the new CYD school for fewer children.	As above.
4.7.2.7	Invest in the current site instead of wasting more money on an overcrowded site.	As above.
4.7.2.8	I feel instead of investing in a new building in an already overcrowded school area, some investment in the current Treowen site could secure the future generations learning.	As above.
4.7.2.9	The proposal should be scrapped and money saved by not building a larger Calon Y Dderwen School, use the money	As above.

	to upgrade Treowen and other school buildings in the area.	
4.7.2.10	Using the funding available to improve facilities on both sites would give the wider community better choices in the long term.	As above.
4.7.2.11	If phase 2 as proposed is halted, money saved is diverted to bringing the Treowen site up to modern standards.	As above.
4.7.2.12	You spend the money on the improvements to both schools and keep them separate.	As above.
4.7.2.13	Spend the money fixing up existing schools I can imagine this would work out a lot more cost effective.	As above.
4.7.2.14	If phase 2 as proposed is stopped, the money saved can be used to bring the Treowen site up to modern standards.	As above.
4.7.2.15	The saving made from merging the two schools but keeping the two separate sites could be £3 million pounds, which could be used to bring the Treowen site up to date, including DDA compliance, meeting Net Zero targets and enhanced school facilities. There would also be potential in the school building for developing shared facilities and reinforcing links with the surrounding community. In meetings, the Treowen Action group did not recognise the implied difficulty of bringing the site up to date, the condition of the Treowen School site is rated as B/B for condition and sustainability, on a par with Penygloddfa school that is not threatened with closure. The consultation document refers to the need to make the Treowen site DDA compliant: this will require minimal works and financial investment as the school is entirely on one level and already has a disabled toilet. The outside play areas are also level, apart from one step which could easily be ramped.	As above.

### 4.7.3 Retain two sites

4.7.3.1	Treowen shouldn't be closed but could form part of a multi-site school.	Retaining the current Treowen building as part of a multi-site school would not reduce surplus places in Newtown, nor would it address issues with building condition at Treowen C.P. School. There would still be a cost to the Council of continuing to maintain the Treowen school building.
4.7.3.2	If we were to close Treowen School and rename it Ysgol Calon y Dderwen but leave it on the current site, there should be no problem. The Treowen community will still have their school, just under a different name. The issue would be with Phase 2.	As above.
4.7.3.3	I think you should consider merging the schools and keep both schools open.	As above.
4.7.3.4	Treowen School needs to stay open. Even if it means it comes under Calon y Dderwen, and then perhaps some kind of system where the Treowen School building is used for certain classes.	As above.
4.7.3.5	If having a single school split over two sites can be demonstrated to make a significant saving and/or drastically improved outcomes for pupils then this should be the driver for a school merger, not just a step towards the relocation of the site.	As above.
4.7.3.6	Keeping phase 1 but not enacting phase 2 would address concerns about staff and pupils managing further change, the new way of working will already be established and there will be no need for further disruption.	As above.
4.7.3.7	Issues such as the difficulty of retaining a permanent headship at Treowen would be resolved by having a combined SLT and Treowen would in effect operate as a campus or satellite of the larger Calon y Dderwen primary	As above.

	school whilst retaining its community identity, this will have a positive impact on the wellbeing and morale of staff, pupils and the wider community. New opportunities for sharing skills and expertise among a wider staff team will be of benefit to both Treowen and to Calon y Dderwen.	
4.7.3.8	If Treowen School remained a permanent satellite site then a new build could go ahead for CYD site at the lower number and the money saved from building a bigger school, which I believe would be in the region of £3million, could go towards the Treowen school building, which isn't in the worst state of repair and is already functioning well for anyone with disabilities.	As above.
4.7.3.9	The Senior Leadership and Governance teams continue to manage both facilities, these advantages can be retained while eliminating the damage that the original proposal will do to the community of Treowen.	As above.
4.7.3.10	The advantages referred to in the consultation document are mainly based around the benefits of having a new school building and a better supported staff team. If phase 2 as proposed is halted, the Senior Leadership and Governance teams continue to manage both facilities, these advantages can be retained while eliminating the damage that the original proposal will do to the community of Treowen.	As above.
4.7.3.11	The option that would be best for Treowen CP would be to complete phase 1 of the proposal but to not deliver phase 2. This would mean merging Treowen C.P. school with Calon y Dderwen as one school, the site at Treowen would operate as a campus of the larger Calon y Dderwen school. Treowen Campws would benefit from the SLT leadership of Calon y Dderwen as well as full access to	As above.

	the curriculum, shared resources such as topic boxes, IT and staff team expertise in all areas including SEN/ALN.	
4.7.3.12	By merging the two schools but keeping the two separate sites the size of the new Calon y Dderwen school could go from 360 places to its originally planned 270 places, potentially reducing the build cost from £16 million pounds to £13 million.	As above.
4.7.3.13	Not opposed to a long term model of school mergers but with the provision of retention of multiple sites to keep advantages of smaller local sites for those who flourish best in small local settings whilst still providing opportunities for financial savings from merged teaching and support teams.	As above.
4.7.3.14	Retaining a school on the Treowen site has the advantage of retaining a geographical balance across the community.	As above.
4.7.3.15	A distinction should be made between schools and sites, not opposed to school mergers but strongly opposed to loss of sites.	As above.
4.7.3.16	Leave Treowen School open and try and get one head teacher to run both schools.	Retaining the current Treowen building as part of a shared leadership arrangement would not reduce surplus places in Newtown, nor would it address issues with building condition at Treowen C.P. School. There would still be a cost to the Council of continuing to maintain the Treowen school building.
4.7.3.17	Have one headteacher over the two schools but keep each school with their own name and identity. Have SLT in each school.	As above.
4.7.3.18	Keeping Phase 1 but not enacting Phase 2 would address concerns about staff and pupils managing further change - the new way of working will already be established with a permanent headship across both schools and having a combined SLT. Treowen would in effect operate as a	As above.

	satellite of the larger Calon y Dderwen primary school whilst retaining its community.	
4.7.3.19	Treowen School should be able to stay at their site under the one leadership with Calon Y Dderwen but keep their name and uniform (just like what happens with Newtown High School and John Beddoes) then I could see this as an option.	As above.
4.7.3.20	Have one headteacher to run both schools but keep Treowen School called the same name and in the same location.	Retaining Treowen School as part of a shared leadership arrangement would not reduce surplus places in Newtown, nor would it address issues with building condition at Treowen C.P. School. There would still be a cost to the Council of continuing to maintain the Treowen School building.

#### **4.7.6 Review other schools**

4.7.6.1	Why was Maesyrrhandir taken out of the proposal and not Treowen?	<p>The initial engagement exercise carried out in the summer of 2023 considered merging Ysgol Calon y Dderwen, Maesyrrhandir and Treowen schools. However, concerns were raised about bringing all three schools together, and in particular, that this would mean that there would be a lack of surplus places across Newtown to accommodate any increase in demand in the future.</p> <p>An options appraisal exercise was carried out, which considered options to incorporate either Treowen or Maesyrrhandir Schools in the new building planned for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen. The options considered are outlined in the consultation document.</p> <p>The preferred option identified was a new build for Ysgol Calon y Dderwen with increased capacity, and the</p>
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		<p>eventual closure of Treowen C.P. School, with pupils to then attend the new build at Ysgol Calon y Dderwen. This was primarily because Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Maesyrrhandir have a very different pupil profile which could made the transition into a new school more challenging – the percentage of pupils with additional learning needs and pupils eligible for free school meals is much higher in Maesyrrhandir.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that the current proposals in respect of Ysgol Calon y Dderwen and Treowen C.P. School would not address issues with the condition of the Maesyrrhandir building.</p>
4.7.6.2	Maesyrrhandir School has been taken out of the running and it has more repairs needed than to build a new school and has less pupils and surplus spaces and the parents didn't have concerns about their school merging.	As above.
4.7.6.3	The council should be considering the option of merging Maesyrrhandir rather than Treowen. During the previous consultation process, we were advised that estimated repairs to Maesyrrhandir school ran into millions, while in comparison Treowen was only a fraction of that at £100,000. What possible justification can the council have for not minimising the bigger expense? Also Maesyrrhandir does not have the same sense of community as Treowen, something that would be stripped away with little possibility to repair.	As above.
4.7.6.4	Look again at Maesyrrhandir. Their numbers are falling below Treowen's and their excess spaces far higher. It is not logical.	As above.
4.7.6.5	Regarding the building work on each of the documents in that report it clearly states that Maesyrrhandir and Ysgol	As above.

	Calon y Dderwen are in much worst conditions than Treowen so how does closing Treowen but keeping Maesyrrhandir open save the council money?	
4.7.6.6	There seems no overriding strong case to exclude Maesyrrhandir CP school from the proposal over Treowen CP school, and doing do risks leaving it exposed to decline or downgrade in an area of social deprivation.	As above.
4.7.6.7	If you need to change a school in Newtown you need to look at the location of Penygloddfa, the access is not practical and unsafe and a disturbance to the residents.	Whilst acknowledging the issues around the location of Penygloddfa C.P. School, this school is significantly larger than Treowen C.P. School. The Council currently has no plans to review Penygloddfa C.P. School.
4.7.6.8	Leave as they are and consider merging Treowen and Maesyrrhandir.	Pupil numbers at both Treowen C.P. School and Maesyrrhandir C.P. School have decreased significantly over recent years and are projected to decrease further. Merging Treowen and Maesyrrhandir would result in a school of under 200 pupils, which is still relatively small in the context of a school of the size of Newtown.
4.7.6.9	There is a lack of strategy to the current proposals, it would make more sense to merge Maesyrrhandir and Treowen.	As above.
4.7.6.10	Alternative model of one school, comprising Treowen, Ysgol Calon Y Dderwen and Maesyrrhandir, able to serve all pupils equally but operating over three existing sites which will provide better choice and support for those pupils who flourish best in small settings.	This option would not address any of the challenges identified in the Consultation Document.
4.7.6.11	If anything maybe having an Executive Head over all 3 schools (Calon y Dderwen, Treowen and Maesyrrhandir) could be feasible, with Assistant Heads on each site.	As above.

#### **4.7.7 Provide additional transport to support implementation**



4.7.7.1	Provide transport to and from the school for disabled parents and children.	<p>The Council notes these comments relating to the request for support with transport to better facilitate the implementation of Phase 2.</p> <p>The effect of the proposals on the travel time and route to the Ysgol Calon y Dderwen site was acknowledged in the Consultation Document and also in the impact assessments which were carried out. These will be updated to reflect the feedback received during the consultation period, and updated versions will be considered by the Council's Cabinet when determining whether or not to proceed with the proposals.</p>
4.7.7.2	Many of the Treowen children make their own way to school and not all parents have transport. There would need to be a plan to support pupils to transport safely.	As above.
4.7.7.3	Those low income families may struggle to pay for taxis if they do not drive and for example can't walk their children far to school due to health conditions.	As above.
4.7.7.4	Moving school provision further away without access to private transport will not be conducive to the needs of disabled pupils or parents with disabilities.	As above.
4.7.7.5	The proposals appear to lack justification with reference to the county council's active travel considerations or plans.	As above.

#### **4.7.8 Build a new school at a different location in Newtown**

4.7.8.1	Build a single new school that serves the estates of Treowen, Maesyrrhandir, Trehafren and Vaynor on the current fields of the High School. This would have a number of benefits:	<p>The Council welcomes this alternative option and agrees that it would be a central location for the four estates and very accessible for Maesyrrhandir, closely located to the Leisure Centre and Newtown High School. There would be economies of scale from bringing the three schools on one campus, and it would release land in Park Street</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pupil journey wise, it would be the most central and accessible location being almost on the join between all four key estates</li> <li>- It would be in the most accessible possible location for Maesyrrhandir</li> <li>- It would be within walking distance to the leisure centre and its sports facilities</li> <li>- It would site three schools on one campus, allowing for some economies of scale</li> <li>- It would release land in Park Street to allow the full potential of the health hub to be realised over time</li> <li>- It would avoid unresolved traffic issues in the park street / town centre area</li> <li>- Chance for one single investment to solve all primary school age issues in one go</li> </ul>	<p>which could benefit the North Powys Wellbeing Programme. It would also provide an opportunity for a single investment to solve issues at all 3 schools.</p> <p>The minimum recommended site area for a 450 place primary school, according to Building Bulletin 99, is 19,400 m<sup>2</sup> and a maximum area of 20,500 m<sup>2</sup>. This does not include early years provision or a specialist ALN Unit as located in the current Ysgol Maesyrrhandir. Newtown High School has a whole site area of 71,702 m<sup>2</sup>.</p> <p>Whilst there are merits to this alternative option, there are a number of disadvantages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More traffic and congestion along Plantation Lane</li> <li>- Loss of playing fields for Newtown High School</li> <li>- Loss of approximately 20,000 m<sup>2</sup> of the overall site for the High School</li> <li>- Further away for pupils from Treowen</li> <li>- Ysgol Calon y Dderwen would not be in a central location in town</li> <li>- Potential impact on any future investment at Newtown High School.</li> </ul> <p>Furthermore, if there is going to be future investment in a potential new build at Newtown High School along with a new build primary on the same site, then the site isn't big enough at approximately 10,000m<sup>2</sup> below the minimum area recommended.</p>
4.7.8.2	Have you considered that the Calon y Dderwen site just becomes a Health Hub, and that a new school is built on the Treowen site?	The advantages of the Ysgol y Calon Dderwen site over the Treowen site is that the area is on flat land, whilst Treowen is on a sloping site. In addition, the Treowen site

		is 14,490 m2, which is too small against the current building bulletin recommendations for a 360-place school, which is 15,160 m2.
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#### **4.7.9 Other suggestions**

4.7.9.1	The Treowen staff and children should move down to Calon y Dderwen straight away. There is room there, and it would make more sense than waiting. Plus it would be easier for leadership to manage two sites instead of three.	This was considered as an implementation option as part of the options appraisal carried out, however this was discounted because there aren't sufficient surplus places in Ysgol Calon y Dderwen to accommodate all Treowen pupils, and also it would mean that there would be a larger number of pupils on site during the construction period, and it would impact on transition arrangements for Treowen pupils.
4.7.9.2	Consider other cost saving measures.	The Council regularly reviews its spending to identify cost saving measures across all service areas.
4.7.9.3	If the council is struggling to fund both schools, the council could consider bringing partnerships with private companies.	The Council is not currently considering bringing partnerships with private companies to increase funding to its schools.
4.7.9.4	I would maybe take a look at staffing levels to save money at Treowen School. Are the 'extra' staff really needed? Just going back to my childhood when I attended there myself and there was 3 support staff in the whole school.	Schools determine their staffing levels within the budget allocated to them.
4.7.9.5	Money savings could be made by restructuring Treowen staff, as a Deputy really isn't necessary.	As above.
4.7.9.6	Fund them properly.	All schools are funded in accordance with the Council's Funding Formula for schools.
4.7.9.7	I've never understood why a Welsh medium primary school was built on the grounds of an English high school medium school. Maybe the council should have built a new build there for Treowen?? It would have made a lot more sense!	Comment noted.

4.7.9.8	Calon y Dderwen to stay smaller, as we all know many children need smaller class sizes and for teachers to understand each child individual needs to learn, grow and develop.	All schools, regardless of size, are able to provide for the needs of all pupils, and are required to support, challenge and nurture all pupils to achieve their full potential. Smaller schools do not necessarily mean that pupils receive a more individual education as there is often a number of year
4.7.9.9	The proposal appear to lack justification with reference to a holistic plan for education provision in the community as a whole.	<p>The Transforming Education Strategy sets out a Vision Statement and Guiding Principles which underpin the Council's work to transform the Powys education system over the coming years.</p> <p>The Vision Statement is as follows:</p> <p><i>All children and young people in Powys will experience a high-quality, inspiring education to help develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that will enable them to become healthy, personally fulfilled, economically productive, socially responsible and globally engaged citizens of 21st century Wales.</i></p>
4.7.9.10	The Treowen Headteacher post should be advertised.	Comment noted.
4.7.9.11	Could a town bus route be introduced to include a loop around Treowen and the town centre?	Consideration would be given to this when developing plans for the new building.