

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 8TH SEPTEMBER, 2016

REPORT BY: County Councillor Arwel Jones, Portfolio Holder for Education

SUBJECT: Consultation Proposals and Portfolio Holder Draft Recommendations on Primary and Secondary School Proposals to Cabinet on 27th September 2016

REPORT FOR: Discussion

Background

During the spring and summer term 2016, a range of consultations took place relating to the provision of education at the following schools;

- Builth Wells High School and Llandrindod High School
- Gwernyfed High School and Brecon High School
- Llanbister C.P. School
- Llanfihangel Rhydithon C.P. School

The consultation reports and accompanying documents are available on the Council's website through the following links:

Brecon and Gwernyfed- <http://www.powys.gov.uk/en/corporate/find-out-about-consultations-in-powys/past-consultations/brecon-and-gwernyfed-high-schools/>

Builth Wells and Llandrindod-<http://www.powys.gov.uk/en/corporate/find-out-about-consultations-in-powys/past-consultations/llandrindod-and-builth-wells-high-schools/>

Llanbister -<http://www.powys.gov.uk/en/corporate/find-out-about-consultations-in-powys/past-consultations/llanbister-cp-school/>

Llanfihangel Rhydithon-<http://www.powys.gov.uk/en/corporate/find-out-about-consultations-in-powys/past-consultations/llanfihangel-rhydithon-cp-school/>

Hard copies are available through contacting the School Modernisation team via Joni Hughes, Schools Transformation and Post-16 Commissioning Programme Manager (joni.hughes@powys.gov.uk or 01597 826721).

Full Council meeting

The purpose of the meeting as resolved at a meeting of Full Council on 13th July 2016 is that;

Full Council meets to discuss recommendations relating to Primary and Secondary School proposals that are affected by the Council's Transformation Policy and Schools Reorganisation Policy 2015, to inform the Cabinet of Council's views prior to any decision being taken by Cabinet.

The following pages identify the details of the consultation proposals and following consideration of the consultation reports, the draft recommendations of Cllr Arwel Jones, Portfolio Holder for Education. It is emphasised that these are draft recommendations to facilitate the discussion required as resolved by Full Council on 13th July 2016.

1. Builth Wells High School and Llandrindod High School

Consultation proposal.

To close Builth Wells High School and Llandrindod High School on the 31 August 2017, and to establish a new dual stream 11-18 secondary school that will operate across the current sites of the two schools from 1 September 2017.

Portfolio holder draft recommendation.

1. No change to proposal
2. Recommend to proceed to statutory notice

2. Gwernyfed High School and Brecon High School Consultation proposal.

- a) To close Brecon High School and Gwernyfed High School on the 31st August 2017, and to establish a new English-medium 11 – 16 secondary school that will operate across the current sites of the two schools from 1st September 2017 ("**the New School**");
- b) From the 1st September 2017, Post-16 provision (academic and vocational) to be delivered by NPTC Group of Colleges in Brecon;
- c) From the 1st September 2017, Welsh-medium secondary education to be delivered at the Builth Wells site of the proposed new school in Mid Powys (provided that the Proposal is approved by Cabinet following consultation); and
- d) To close the school sites at Gwernyfed and Brecon upon the opening of a new school in Brecon, in 2019/20 ("**the New School Building**").

Portfolio holder draft recommendation.

1. To consider the Consultation Report and Responses Report
2. To abandon elements **a,b** and **d** of the Proposal and to bring a new report back to Cabinet with draft recommendations for Brecon and Gwernyfed High Schools, in accordance with the Schools Reorganisation Policy 2015, by no later than February 2017;
3. To re-consult immediately on element c) of the Proposal, i.e. the closure of the Welsh-stream at Brecon High School from September 2017;
4. To immediately submit a revised Outline Business Case to Welsh Government's 21st C Schools Programme for capital investment in both campuses. This will include a new build 11 – 18 campus in Brecon and improvements to the Gwernyfed campus.

3. Llanbister C.P. School

Consultation proposal.

To close Llanbister CP School with effect from the 31 December 2016 with Crossgates C.P. School, to be named as the receiving school.

Portfolio holder draft recommendation.

To abandon the Proposal and to bring a new report back to Cabinet with draft recommendations for Llanbister C.P. School in accordance with the Schools Reorganisation Policy 2015, by no later than November 2016.

4. Llanfihangel Rhydithon C.P. School

Consultation proposal.

To close Llanfihangel Rhydithon C.P. School with effect from 31 December 2016 with Crossgates C.P. School to be named as the receiving school

Portfolio holder draft recommendation.

1. No change to proposal
2. Recommend to proceed to statutory notice