

THURSDAY, 15TH DECEMBER, 2016

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A MEETING OF THE **EXECUTIVE BOARD** WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE **CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, CARMARTHEN AT 10.00 A.M. ON THURSDAY, 22ND DECEMBER, 2016** FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA

Mark James CBE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE



PLEASE RECYCLE

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EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERSHIP 10 MEMBERS

Councillor	Portfolio
Councillor Emlyn Dole	Leader (Plaid Cymru) Corporate Leadership and Strategy; Chair of Executive Board; Represents Council at WLGA; Political Advocate for Council; Appoints Executive Board Members; Determines EBM Portfolios; Liaises with Chief Executive
Councillor David Jenkins	Deputy Leader - Resources (Plaid Cymru) Finance & Budget; ICT; Property / Asset Management; Procurement; Housing Benefits; Revenues; Armed Forces Champion; and Chairs Executive Board in Leader's absence
Councillor Pam Palmer	Deputy Leader - Communities (Independent) Council Business Manager; Community Champion; Customer Focus & Policy, Police Liaison; Community Safety; Social Justice / Crime & Disorder Community Planning; Anti-Poverty Champion; Sustainability; Bio-diversity; Youth Ambassador; Rural Affairs and Chairs Executive Board in Leader's absence
Councillor Hazel Evans	Technical Services (Plaid Cymru) Refuse; Street Cleansing; Transport Services; Grounds Maintenance; Building Services; Catering Services; Caretaking; Building Cleaning; Transport Services; Emergency Planning; Flooding
Councillor Linda Evans	Housing (Plaid Cymru) Housing – Public; Housing – Private; Equalities; Older People
Councillor Meryl Gravell	Regeneration & Leisure (Independent) Economic Development; West Wales European Centre; Community Development; Sports; Leisure Centres; Museums; Libraries; Country Park
Councillor Gareth Jones	Education and Children (Plaid Cymru) Schools; Children Services; Special Education Needs; Safeguarding; Respite Homes; Regional Integrated School Improvement Service; Adult Community Learning; Youth Services; Lead Member for Children and Young People; Eisteddfod Ambassador
Councillor Jim Jones	Environmental & Public Protection (Independent) Environmental Enforcement; Litter; Unlicensed Waste; Dog Fouling; Parking Services; Trading Standards; Environmental Health.
Councillor Mair Stephens	Human Resources, Efficiencies & Collaboration (Independent) Human Resources; Training; Simpson Compact; Priority Based Budgeting (PPB); Corporate Efficiencies; Welsh Language Champion; Town and Community Councils Ambassador.
Councillor Jane Tremlett	Social Care & Health (Independent) Adult Social Services; Residential Care; Home Care; Learning Disabilities; Mental Health; NHS Liaison/Collaboration/ Integration; Carers' Champion; Disability Ambassador; Dementia Care Champion; 50+ Champion.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.
2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST.
3. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON THE 21ST NOVEMBER, 2016.
4. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE BY MEMBERS (NONE RECEIVED).
5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE:-

11 - 16

5.1 QUESTION BY MR ROBERT WILLOCK TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

“Mr Jones. In our first meeting with you last year, you stated that 30% Welsh lessons were too much for the English Children. As an educationalist how have you come to the conclusion that fully immersing children in their weaker language will be more beneficial to the child than learning welsh second language?”

5.2 QUESTION BY MS NIKKI LLOYD TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

“A pilot was carried out by the School to look into Welsh immersion in the reception classes. We have requested the results from this pilot from the School and the County Council under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, we are still waiting for these results. At the time of the pilot only parents who attended the meeting at the School were made aware about it and no follow up letters were issued. The evidence found from this pilot should have been collated and presented with the proposal. The only time we were told about the pilot was when we were provided with the information through an FOI and it has never been made public. The evidence and results have not been presented with the proposal and it is unknown whether there is an actual demand for Change. According to the School Organisation Code the demand for additional provision of any type in an area should be assessed and evidenced. When looking at the current position within the Llangennech Schools there are currently 121 children from outside of catchment coming into Llangennech School and at the same time 111 Children leave the village to seek education (20 of these pupils have left in

recent months as a result of this proposal and uncertainty). These factors have clearly been overlooked. Why has there not been an adequate assessment for demand carried out?”

5.3 QUESTION BY MRS MICHAELA BEDDOWS TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

“In a previous Scrutiny Committee meeting Mr Sully stated that his intention is to change all Dual Stream Schools to Welsh Medium and all English Medium to Dual Stream and so on... This will eventually eradicate all English medium schools in Carmarthenshire. Can you confirm if this is also the Authorities long term Education plan?”

5.4 QUESTION BY MR STEVE HATTO TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

“According to the latest Pisa report, Wales is still lagging behind the rest of the UK in Maths, Science and English. This could be a direct result of children not being educated in their native tongue. Children who are not quite so bright academically would not reach their full potential if they don't fully understand the lesson being taught and parents not being able to support them at home. Does CCC feel that by pushing the Welsh language so aggressively is worth the sacrifice of the standard of our education?”

5.5 QUESTION BY MRS JULIA REES TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

“As a parent of a child with additional learning requirements I obviously feel very strongly about what is going on here today. My son was placed by Carmarthenshire County Council into a short term assessment centre, one of only 3 within Carmarthenshire. He was placed there to assess his requirements before release to mainstream education like many other children each year. All 3 of these assessment centres educate via English medium and there is no Welsh medium equivalent in Carmarthenshire. As stated previously it has been communicated to us that the aim of the council is to discontinue all English medium education by 2022 and that Llangennech School is simply part of this long term plan. How can the council discontinue English medium Education within the County when there are numerous children placed by the County specialists each year into these English medium Assessment centres but no English medium schools to be released to after assessment?”

5.6 QUESTION BY MR DEAN BOLGIANI TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

“Recent information obtained under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 advised us that Bryn and Bynea Schools have already refused admission requests at the schools despite in previous meetings we were told the Schools were not oversubscribed. The next nearest English Medium School is Hendy which does not have a safe route to school. You have informed us throughout this consultation that it is not the Authorities intention for any child to leave Llangennech School but it is obvious that you have already driven some away and the welcome mat has been pulled up by the chair of Governors openly stated that English Speaking children are detrimental to the Welsh speaking children’s Education. If English Medium is removed from Llangennech the freedom of choice for parents is also being removed. Could you please answer this question this time as to where are you going to cater for pupils who seek English Medium Education as it will no longer be available at Llangennech for those who seek it?”

5.7 QUESTION BY MRS KAREN HUGHES TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

“The KeepDualStreamCommittee are members of the Llangennech community who have voluntarily given up their time and money to ensure that the majority within Llangennech have a voice. To date, any questions have been met with responses such as ‘We must do it because it’s the WESP’ or ‘Carmarthenshire Council know what’s best for your child’s education’ or that ‘there is no demand for Dual Stream’. These are simply speculative, misleading non-factual statements and prove that real issues are not being addressed. Concerns regarding children with disabilities learning abilities, to the emergence of social divisions, increased traffic through Llangennech as children are unnecessarily being shipped in and out to pursue educational language choices, detrimental effects on the environment and promotion of healthy lifestyle are all failing to be even acknowledged. Plus we must not forget the negative impact on the Welsh language itself which most parents had embraced as Llangennech has always been supportive of its culture, heritage and language. We are astounded that none of these factors have been built into the Community Assessment despite there being a legal necessity to provide ‘due regard’. It appears it is just a tick box exercise and nobody appears to be taking it seriously or providing workable solutions but instead is using the WESP as a defence mechanism. It is ironic that the purpose of the Community

Assessment is to inform the WESP and highlight risks in order to ensure that what is implemented is fit for purpose. Out of all the issues raised by the Community, none have been recorded in your risk assessments. This begs the question what is the purpose of doing this consultation when the majority opinion and concerns are being overlooked. Can you explain the logic for ignoring an informed and democratic decision making process and how can you see this as a positive?"

5.8 QUESTION BY MR NIGEL HUGHES TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

"The elimination of dual stream in Llangennech will have a massive effect on discouraging non Welsh speaking professional people moving into the area. If they have young children who have had their education in English in their early years, then they are unlikely to move into the area. This will have an adverse effect on house prices and investments from outside the county. Carmarthenshire County Council's long term strategy appears to be seeking to create a county of isolation and seclusion. Please explain how you are planning to attract new businesses and talent to the County when you will only teach children in one of the two recognised languages of Wales and not provide families with any choices? This appears to be another oversight by the local councillors that wrote the WESP which does not appear to have considered the longer term impacts."

5.9 QUESTION BY MR PHILLIP WILLOCK TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

"We are about to discover whether you, like the open minded Mr Campbell believe in Welsh education by compulsion. You have asked for the public's opinion via the statutory consultation and we are now very interested as to whether you are going to listen to it. Given that the majority of Llangennech's responses are objections to the change are you going to assume an authoritarian approach on this consultation?"

5.10 QUESTION BY MRS SALLYANN THOMAS TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

"A recent wide ranging consultation was conducted by the Welsh Government to find out the views from myriad sources for its long term vision for the Welsh language. The aim of WAG is to create a million bilingual speakers of Welsh and

English by 2050 however, the results from this consultation are still being reviewed. Undoubtedly the findings will have a major impact on how we deliver our education system in Primary Schools. What reasons do you have for not waiting for the recommendations of this independent panel Wales consultation due early in 2017 before any change is decided to any of our schools in Carmarthenshire?"

5.11 QUESTION BY MS VICKI FREEMAN TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

"Many Doctors and nurses in the NHS are from a different ethnic background. A lot of nurses are Filipino and Indian, and a vast majority of Doctors are from the middle and Far East. English is already their second language. Carmarthenshire has many vacancies in both professions. There has been discussion as to why so few people apply for these jobs. Many answered that as their children already speak two languages, they feel it would be too difficult to move to this area when the Welsh language is being forced onto non Welsh speaking immigrants. This was especially a concern when children were already 8 or 9 years of age and never been exposed to the Welsh language. Is CCC aware that by heading on the path to eradicating English medium education, it is going to affect the whole infrastructure of the county and prevent professional immigration into our local NHS and other businesses?"

5.12 QUESTION BY MS ORLA WILLIAMS TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

"CCC is segregating and marginalising the current and future bilingually and English stream learners in Llangennech school by not providing a suitable pathway for those learners. In Welsh government legislation, English and Welsh have equal status. But not if you live in East Carmarthenshire. The move to Welsh only in Llangennech, where there is a high percentage of out of catchment middle class parents on their way to J48 of the M4, and insisting on Welsh only is a flawed plan by the County Council. What provision is being put in place to raise performance in Hendy Primary, Strade Comprehensive to justify this exclusionary practice and to provide an equivalent high standard of education in Llangennech for parents who wish and require their children to be educated bilingually as Bryn School does not have the same bilingual ethos, performance, outcomes or leadership to allow children to that Llangennech currently offers and why parents choose the bilingual stream. Maintaining the bilingual stream in Llangennech will help reach the government target of

1 million Welsh speakers by 2050. By excluding families from bilingual education will not encourage or embrace those families willing to take the first steps into fluency. This proposed policy will exclude; discourage some families from speaking Welsh and create division and an unequal, divisive education provision in East Llanelli. Surely it is better to welcome people in as proven by studies in Catalan, Finland and Lithuania where truly bilingual education is proven by success in performance, PISA and international performance. Would looking for inclusive solutions not better serve the current intake and future generations of our community and provide a better legacy for this Council?"

5.13 QUESTION BY MR DARREN SEAWARD TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

"Councillor Gwyn Hopkins has stated many times that those opposing the changes are a vociferous minority and has peddled this fairy-tale in the press. Given that there are over 750 objections, probably the largest appeal in the history of Llangennech, it is unfortunate that after being a County Councillor for over 20 years that Mr Hopkins does not understand the needs and wishes of his electorate better. It also begs the question, what other poor judgements have been made during this consultation. We believe it would be fairer to all, including the new candidate that this decision be postponed until after May 2017 elections when a new candidate is appointed and confidence can possibly be restored and that the village has a representative voice. Do you agree this should be delayed?"

5.14 QUESTION BY MRS JACQUELINE SEWARD TO COUNCILLOR GARETH JONES, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN:-

"It really saddens us to see how much our once close knit community has been divided by this proposal. We seem to have overlooked what is important here which is infact we have an extremely successful dual stream school that caters for all. Llangennech School has an excellent reputation and is sought after by many who are even willing to travel from outside of area to be educated at Llangennech. Many of the children in the Welsh Stream would not have tried it if the school was a Welsh only School and this is what we must recognise. The Welsh Government wants one million speakers by 2050. The Welsh language should be desired not forced and by taking parents choices away we will only end up diluting the welsh language not increasing it. Llangennech is already contributing to increasing the number of Welsh speakers and will continue to do so as a dual stream. Other Schools need to follow our

example. Let's look at the impact this proposal has had on Llangennech community who have embraced the Welsh language for years. It does make us wonder how would other Schools especially all English Medium School would react if faced with the same proposal as per the wishes of Mr Sully to make every school in Carmarthenshire Welsh medium. This will create resent and end up damaging the Welsh Language which is certainly not what we want. We want our children to continue learning Welsh as they are able to do now in the dual stream but at their own pace and parents choice. From our last exercise we have hard proof of 750 people against the proposal. There were 698 support comments submitted but following an FOI request we have been made aware that a large majority who commented were not even from the village or even County. We have asked again under an FOI for a further breakdown of streets so a true analysis can be made. But unfortunately as usual this is not readily available. For a number of years before this proposal, figures and people have been manipulated to present a false picture of the demand in the village. The people of Llangennech have spoken and it's about time they were finally listened to. Can you honestly make such an important decision about our children's futures and Education when so many questions are still unanswered?"

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| 6. MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME - PROPOSAL TO DISCONTINUE LLANGENNECH INFANT SCHOOL AND LLANGENNECH JUNIOR SCHOOL AND ESTABLISH LLANGENNECH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL. | 17 - 296 |
| 7. PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD SCRUTINY. | 297 - 302 |
| 8. PREVENTION, EARLY INTERVENTION AND PROMOTING INDEPENDENT LIVING. | 303 - 320 |
| 9. SCHOOL STAFF ABSENCE SCHEME. | 321 - 342 |
| 10. COUNCIL TAX BASE 2017-18. | 343 - 376 |
| 11. CORPORATE ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 2016-2019. | 377 - 410 |
| 12. CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S GUIDANCE AND SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT ON CHARGEABLE PRE-APPLICATION AND POST CONSENT ADVICE IN RELATION TO DEVELOPMENTS OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE (PLANNING (WALES) ACT 2015) AND NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS (PLANNING ACT 2008). | 411 - 430 |
| 13. ANY OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT BY REASONS OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE CHAIR DECIDES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY PURSUANT TO SECTION 100B(4)(B) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972. | |

