

DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION & CHILDREN

Our Vision.....Carmarthenshire is a community where children are safe and nurtured and learners of all ages are supported to achieve their full educational potential

Future Primary Education Provision for Children Residing in the Llangennech area

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

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If you require this information in large print, Braille or on audiotape please contact the Department for Education & Children 01267 246474.

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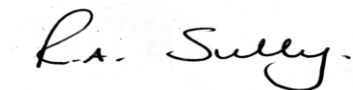
Foreword

As part of its statutory obligation to keep the number and type of school places under review, the County Council has adopted a wide-ranging programme designed to improve school buildings and enhance opportunities for learning. The strategy reflects the vision and policies established by the County Council which embraces the requirement to deliver services, to clear standards – covering both cost and quality – by the most economic and effective means. In our drive to continually improve on the services made available to all learners, we must maximise the finite resources available to the Council, and continue to work in partnership with all those who have a contribution to make to the process of learning and the well being of both children and their families. Schools of the future will need to serve as a focus for a wide range of services dedicated to serving the needs of the community through a joined up approach.

Carmarthenshire is blessed with many very able teachers but the continuing changes to the curriculum places a heavy demand on their skills to meet the wide ranging demands of all children. Although the processes of learning, and skills of teaching, are extremely important, deep subject knowledge on the part of the teacher is essential if learners with their various gifts in different areas are to discover and develop their talents to the full.

Schools designed to meet current demands are expected to provide a broad and balanced curriculum through high quality and inspirational teaching. In the planning of new provision it will be important to ensure that our schools are properly equipped to enhance opportunities for social inclusion, sustainable development, equal opportunities and bilingualism. In practical terms we need to ensure that provision reflects the changing patterns of population, with schools based in the right location with accommodation and facilities fit to serve the needs of all learners in the twenty first century.

Consultation will follow the guidelines established by the Welsh Government and will involve identified interested parties. The information set out in this document is intended to clarify the proposals for your school and support the consultation process.



Robert A Sully
Director of Education & Children's Services

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1. Introduction

The Authority has a legal responsibility to review the number and type of schools it has in the area and whether or not it is making the best use of the resources and facilities to deliver the opportunities that children deserve.

As part of this process the Council has published its vision on how it sees the future for all of the primary schools in the County and this includes consulting on the future shape of education in the Llangennech Infant school and Llangennech Junior school area. The proposals for change included in this document are in line with that long-term objective.

As reported in the MEP (Modernising Education Programme) Annual Report 2013/14 and Programme 2014/15 the intention of the Authority is to review the future provision of education in the Llangennech area.

This document seeks to stimulate the process of consultation by explaining the Authority's preferred option for the future provision of primary education for the pupils of Llangennech Infant school and Llangennech Junior school. The document also highlights why other options considered are not the preferred option as well as offering an opportunity for consultees to put forward any comments, observations or alternative proposals they wish to be considered.

Consultation on this proposal will follow the guidelines established by the Welsh Government as stated in the School Organisation Code (2013) and will involve identified interested parties, including school governors, school staff, parents and pupils.

It is intended that the formal changes be implemented from January 2017.

The main purpose of this document is to provide information and to gather the views of identified interested parties. You may wish to make use of the attached response pro-forma included in **Appendix F** on page 49 of this document for any response or by E-mail to: DECMEP@carmarthenshire.gov.uk .

2. Context – Present Arrangements (Status Quo)

2.1 Background

The County Council has a legal duty to look at the number and type of schools it has in Carmarthenshire and make sure that they are located in the right place, have the right facilities for the future and have the right resources to deliver education and learning for pupils. Changes in the curriculum and the way in which children will be taught in the future means that we also have to look at the existing buildings to meet the future needs of the pupils.

It is an ongoing objective of the Authority to create a Community Primary School to replace Infant and Junior schools and take advantage of an opportunity when a Headteacher of an Infant or Junior school decides to retire

or leave a post. Community primary schools are able to provide children with a continuous stream of education, thus removing the disruption that can be caused by moving schools at an early age.

Following the retirement of the Llangennech Infants school Headteacher at the end of the Summer 2013 academic year a soft federation has already taken place with the Headteacher of Llangennech Junior school currently responsible for both schools. On the 24th September 2014 the Governing bodies of both Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school resolved to pursue a formal federation as from April 2015.

Federation is seen as an important step towards merging the two schools to become one primary school.

In Llangennech the local Authority are currently able to offer as a 4-11 primary school part time learning provision through the medium of Welsh and English. As part of the new 3 – 11 primary school that will include nursery provision, it is proposed to change the current linguistic categories of Llangennech Infant school (Dual Stream – (DS) and Llangennech Junior school (Dual Stream – (DS) to a new Welsh Medium – (WM) language category school which will increase the provision of Welsh Medium education in Carmarthenshire and will ensure that bilingualism is increased in the Llangennech area. It will ensure linguistic continuity from the nursery sector along the key stages to the secondary sector so that every pupil becomes fluent and confident in Welsh and English as detailed in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) (2014-2017).

2.2 School / Schools which may be affected by this proposal

The catchment areas of Llangennech Infant and Llangennech Junior schools are surrounded by the following Community Primary schools:

Hendy Primary school, Carmarthenshire (DS)
Bryn Primary school, Carmarthenshire (EM)
Bynea Primary school, Carmarthenshire (EM)
Ysgol Gymraeg Brynsierfel school, Carmarthenshire
Ysgol Gynradd Llannon, Carmarthenshire (WM)
Swiss Valley Primary school, Carmarthenshire (EW)
Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant, Carmarthenshire (WM)
Pentip, Church in Wales VA Primary School, Carmarthenshire

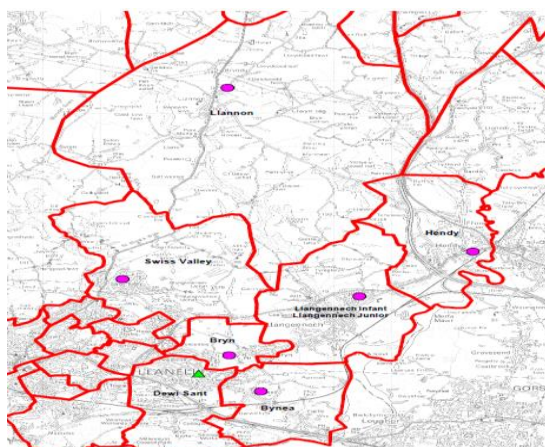
2.3 General School Information

| Name of School | Type of School | Language Category | Admission Number | Capacity | Jan 2015 PLASC Number FTE (inc Nursery) | Age Range |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------|---|-----------|
| Hendy | Community Primary | DS | 25 | 197 | 158.5 | 4 - 11 |
| Bryn | Community Primary | EM | 30 | 246 | 215 | 3 - 11 |
| Bynea | Community Primary | EM | 23 | 167 | 131 | 3 - 11 |
| Brynsierfel | Community Primary | WM | 30 | 240 | 201.5 | 3 - 11 |
| Llannon | Community Primary | WM | 11 | 91 | 106 | 4 - 11 |
| Swiss Valley | Community Primary | EW | 30 | 243 | 224 | 4 - 11 |
| Dewi Sant | Community Primary | WM | 60 | 420 | 455 | 3 - 11 |
| Pentip | Voluntary Aided | EM | 27 | 218 | 182 | 4 - 11 |

PLASC 2015 Data (Ages as at 31/08/14)

FTE – Full Time Equivalent (part time pupils counted as 0.5)

The following diagram outlines the catchment areas of schools surrounding Llangennech Junior school and Llangennech Infant school



In arriving at a preferred option for the pupils of Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools the authority considered the schools named above but discounted them for the reasons given in section 5 of this consultation document, therefore the preferred option for the Authority is to discontinue provision at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and establish a new primary school on the former Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior school sites. As these changes won't effect the pupils education, it has been decided to implement these changes from January 2017.

2.4 Pupil Numbers

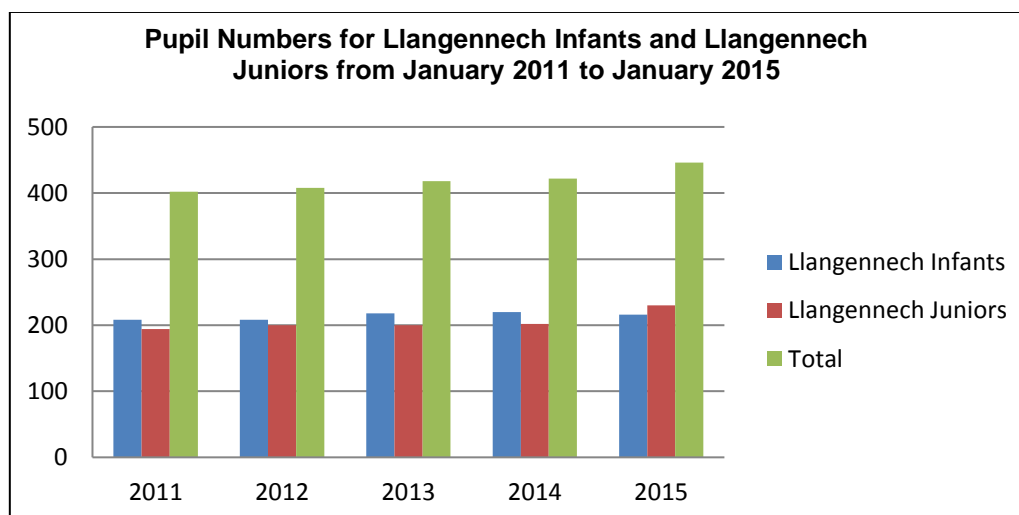
The table and graph below shows pupil numbers for Llangennech Infant school and Llangennech Junior school for January 2015 and the previous four years.

| Llangennech infant School | 3yrs (PT) | 3yrs | 4yrs (PT) | 4yrs | 5yrs | 6yrs | 7yrs | 8yrs | 9yrs | 10yrs | Total Head Count | Total (FTE) |
|---------------------------|-----------|------|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------------------|-------------|
| Jan-15 | 0 | 38 | 0 | 54 | 61 | 63 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 216 | 216 |
| Jan-14 | 0 | 27 | 0 | 59 | 61 | 72 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 220 | 220 |
| Jan-13 | 0 | 33 | 0 | 59 | 72 | 54 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 218 | 218 |
| Jan-12 | 0 | 30 | 0 | 72 | 51 | 55 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 208 | 208 |
| Jan-11 | 0 | 47 | 0 | 54 | 57 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 208 | 208 |

| Llangennech Junior School | 3yrs (PT) | 3yrs | 4yrs (PT) | 4yrs | 5yrs | 6yrs | 7yrs | 8yrs | 9yrs | 10yrs | Total Head Count | Total (FTE) |
|---------------------------|-----------|------|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------------------|-------------|
| Jan-15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 70 | 55 | 55 | 50 | 230 | 230 |
| Jan-14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 56 | 52 | 48 | 46 | 202 | 202 |
| Jan-13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 53 | 47 | 43 | 56 | 200 | 200 |
| Jan-12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 42 | 55 | 55 | 200 | 200 |
| Jan-11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40 | 54 | 54 | 46 | 194 | 194 |

PLASC 2015 Data (Ages at 31/08/14)

FTE – full Time Equivalent (part time pupils counted as 0.5)



2.5 Pupil Projections

The following table shows the actual pupil total and pupil projections for Llangennech Infant school and Llangennech Junior school for the next five years.

| | Actual FTE | Projected Pupil Total (FTE) | | | | |
|--|------------|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Jan | Jan | Jan | Jan | Jan |
| | | | | | | |

| | 2015 | | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|---------------------------|------------|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Llangennech Infant | 216 | | 212 | 209 | 207 | 205 | 204 |
| Llangennech Junior | 230 | | 243 | 249 | 253 | 241 | 235 |
| Total | 446 | | 455 | 458 | 460 | 446 | 439 |

The table below provides an analysis of the implications of accommodating the Llangennech Infant and Junior pupils at the new school.

| | Actual Pupil Total (FTE*) Jan 2015 | Projections – Pupil Total (FTE*) | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Jan 2015 | Jan 2016 | Jan 2017 | Jan 2018 | Jan 2019 | Jan 2020 |
| Current capacity at Llangennech Infants | 171 | 221** | 221** | 221** | 221** | 221** |
| Current capacity at Llangennech Junior | 223 | 240** | 240** | 240** | 240** | 240** |
| Total (Combined) | 394 | 461 | 461 | 461 | 461 | 461 |
| Llangennech Infants | 216 | 212 | 209 | 207 | 205 | 204 |
| Llangennech Junior | 230 | 243 | 249 | 253 | 241 | 235 |
| Total projected numbers | 446 | 455 | 458 | 460 | 446 | 439 |
| Surplus / over capacity | + 52 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 15 | 22 |

* **FTE – Full Time Equivalent**

** **All 4 – 11 primary schools capacities revised from September 2015**

As can be seen from the above table there isn't enough capacity at the school in 2015 to accommodate current Llangennech pupils. However, as the primary capacities were revised in September 2015, the capacity of both Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Juniors were increased. As a result of the increase in capacity at both schools, projections indicate that the schools will be at or near capacity from 2016 to 2018.

Arrangements are in place to install a Double Mobile classroom on the current Llangennech Infant school site. This will provide the school with additional accommodation but it will not increase the capacity of the new school. We will monitor the situation and will review the situation if the pupil figures continue to rise.

2.6 Pupil Capacity Information

The methodology for the calculation of school capacities was changed in 2006 following the implementation of new Welsh Assembly guidelines "Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales" (MCSW) which was implemented by the Authority in 2008. Prior to 2008, the More Open Enrolment methodology was used. Spare

places numbers for Llangennech Infant and Llangennech Junior primary schools are shown in the following table.

| | MSCW Capacity | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Jan-11 | Jan-12 | Jan-13 | Jan-14 | Jan-15 |
| Capacity Llangennech Infants | 171 | 171 | 171 | 171 | 171 |
| Pupil Numbers | 208 | 208 | 218 | 220 | 216 |
| Surplus | -37 | -37 | -47 | -49 | -45 |
| % Surplus | -22% | -22% | -27% | -29% | -26% |
| Capacity Llangennech Juniors | | | | | |
| Pupil Numbers | 194 | 200 | 200 | 202 | 230 |
| Surplus | 29 | 23 | 23 | 21 | -7 |
| % Surplus | 13% | 10% | 10% | 9% | -3% |

As can be seen in the above table, between January 2011 and January 2014 there was a significant level of surplus places in Llangennech Junior school (9-13%). Whereas Llangennech Infants school is over capacity. This trend changed in 2015 as both schools no longer have any surplus places and Llangennech Infants school continues to remain high in pupil numbers.

2.7 School Attendance Data

Improving attendance is a national priority, if children are not in school, they cannot learn.

The Authority analyses and shares data for every primary school on a half-termly basis to help schools to maintain a focus on attendance. The analysis uses data for pupils in years 1 to 6 and follows the same approach as the statutory attendance return each September. The most recent attendance data for Llangennech Infant and Llangennech Junior schools are shown in the following table:

| School | Attendance Data 2013/14 | Attendance Data 2014/15 (Autumn Term) | Above / Below Target | Target 2014/15 | Target 2015/16 |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Llangennech Infants | 94.7 | 95.7 | 0.2 ↑ | 95.5 | 95.5 |
| Llangennech Junior | 95.3 | 96.1 | 0.5 ↑ | 95.6 | 95.9 |

2.8 Building Facilities

The following information was taken from the most recent property building survey carried out at the school in 2009:

2.8.1 Llangennech Infants Primary School

Llangennech CP Infants school is situated just off the B4297 Pontardulais Road in the village of Llangennech in Carmarthenshire, approximately 3 miles from Llanelli.

There are three buildings on site: Block One is the main school and Blocks Two and Three are temporary classroom structures. Block One is of traditional construction and was opened in 1975, with a number of small extensions and internal alterations having been carried out since, the most recent a conservatory extension which was reaching completion at the time of survey.

The building is of brick construction beneath a pitched concrete tiled roof which is in good condition. The new conservatory has a translucent sheet roof. The original timber doors, windows and fascias have been replaced with white UPVC units, and there is a recently built external covered way on the route to the main entrance.

Externally, there is a car park, playground, grassed areas, play houses, play equipment, stores and garden areas.

As part of the National 21st Century School Programme a survey of all schools in Carmarthenshire was completed on behalf of the Authority. Llangennech Infants Primary school scored the following ratings;

Condition B – Reasonable

Suitability B – Reasonable

2.8.2 Llangennech Junior Primary School

Llangennech CP Junior School is situated on a sloping site in the village of Llangennech in Carmarthenshire. It lies between the A4138 to the north and the B4297 to the south, and the school is on the eastern edge of the village, approximately 3 miles from the centre of Llanelli.

There are two blocks on site. Block One, the main school building, was built in the 1950's and is a single storey structure with a basement containing the boiler house and two storage rooms, of brick construction beneath a combination of flat and shallow pitched felted roofs. The central corridors are lower than the surrounding rooms, which has in the past led to problems with water damage. These have been overcome and many of the original flat roofs are now shallow pitched. A large number of the original single metal windows and doors have been replaced with double glazed UPVC units.

Block Two is the sports hall building and is also a single storey structure of rendered brick construction beneath felted roofs. It is understood that the sports hall was re roofed around 2000 and the classroom, boiler house and store areas

were roofed in 2009. The low level windows and doors are UPVC double glazed units, and are high level profiled glazed units to the sports hall.

There was no evidence of water damage to ceilings in Block One, and the flat and shallow pitched felted roofs are being suitably maintained and repaired as necessary.

The flat roofs of Block Two have been recovered in recent years.

Externally, there is a car park, playground, grassed areas, play houses, play equipment, stores and garden areas.

As part of the National 21st Century School Programme a survey of all schools in Carmarthenshire was completed on behalf of the Authority. Llangennech Junior Primary school scored the following ratings;

Condition C – Poor

Suitability B – Reasonable

2.9 National School Categorisation System

The Minister for Education and Skills announced the introduction of the national School Categorisation System in September 2014. The system is not purely data-driven but also takes into account the quality of leadership and teaching and learning in our schools. The system will not take the place of Estyn reports, Estyn will continue to inspect schools and provide an external check on the national school categorisation system when inspecting.

The new system evaluates and assesses schools and places them in a support category using the following information:

- A range of performance measures provided by the Welsh Government.
- Robust self-evaluation by the school on its capacity to improve in relation to leadership and teaching and learning.
- Assessment of the school's self evaluation by challenge advisers in the regional consortia, agreed with the local authority.

The new categorisation system will give a clear and fair picture of a school's progress. There is a three step process in generating a category for a school, firstly after the performance data and self-evaluation have been analysed a draft support category is generated for each school. This category is discussed with the school by regional consortia and then agreed with the local authority.

The table below summarises the data for Llangennech Infant school and Llangennech Junior schools;

National School Categorisation System – Data 2014

| School | Standards Group | Improvement Capacity | Support Category |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Llangennech Infants | 2 | A | Green |
| Llangennech Junior | 2 | A | Green |

As can be seen from the table above, Llangennech Infant and Llangennech Junior schools have been categorised in the Green category reported as highly effective schools which are well run, have strong leadership and are clear about their priorities for improvement.

2.10 Estyn Reports

2.10.1 Llangennech Infants School

As part of a national programme of school inspection, Estyn commissions reviews of all schools. The latest was undertaken in June 2015 and consultees may access the findings either via the Estyn website at www.estyn.gov.wales or you may request a copy from the Local Authority (for which a charge in respect of photocopying may be made).

The main findings of the report

The Estyn Inspection report undertaken in June 2015 stated that Llangennech Infant school is a good school. The headteacher's firm leadership places a clear strategic direction for the school's development. He has high expectations and a purposeful vision, which are shared successfully with staff and governors. He allocates responsibilities effectively and has a key role in promoting purposeful co-operation and sharing good practice. Members of the senior management team fulfil their responsibilities effectively. Teachers are committed and enthusiastic and all staff co-operate very closely as a team. Governors have an increasing understanding of the school's strengths and of the areas that need to be developed further.

Pupil's behaviour is very good in the classroom and around the school. Nearly all pupils feel safe at the school and know that they can turn to any member of staff for advice and support. They have positive attitudes to living healthily and they understand the importance of eating a balanced diet and taking regular physical exercise. The school council is well-established, and members understand their roles clearly. They make a valuable contribution to decisions at the school.

The school creates a successful Welsh ethos and provides various opportunities to ensure that pupils develop a positive attitude towards the Welsh language. Taking part in the local Eisteddfod and Urdd Eisteddfod expands pupils' experiences successfully. Education for global citizenship is good. Pupils have a good knowledge of the wider world by learning about and supporting overseas charities.

There is an effective working relationship between all staff and pupils. This results in a positive learning environment in every class. Staff have a sound understanding of the curriculum and they question pupils effectively to confirm their knowledge and understanding and to extend their ideas.

The school has a strong relationship with parents with an open and welcoming ethos that develops effective partnerships with all the members of the school community.

The inspection judgements awarded are shown in the following table:

| Key Questions | Inspection Judgement |
|---|--|
| Key Question 1: How good are the outcomes? | Good – Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement. |
| Key Question 2: How good is provision? | Good – Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement. |
| Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management? | Good – Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement. |

2.10.2 Llangennech Junior School

As part of a national programme of school inspection, Estyn commissions reviews of all schools. The latest was undertaken in December 2010 and consultees may access the findings either via the Estyn website at www.estyn.gov.wales or you may request a copy from the Local Authority (for which a charge in respect of photocopying may be made).

The main findings of the report

The Estyn Inspection report undertaken in December 2010 stated that Llangennech Junior school is a good school. It is very well led by a committed headteacher, who has a clear vision regarding the school's long term strategy. The senior management team and the governors identify standards thoroughly and develop strategies to deal with a range of matters. As a result, new policies have led to a significant improvement in attendance levels, as well as in pupils behaviour.

Pupils behaviour is excellent throughout the school. They are polite and affectionate and are respectful and caring towards each other. Pupils feel safe at school, and they all have a positive attitude towards eating healthily and enjoy physical activities which includes the eco council and the school council. In years 3 and 4 pupils benefit from Wake Up, Shake Up sessions outside, which improve their concentration levels and their general fitness.

Education for sustainable development and global citizenship has been developed thoroughly in work in science and geography and also in the activities in the eco council. The school's outdoor environment, including the vegetable garden and the outdoor learning areas, is developing as a valuable contribution to the pupils experiences.

The school succeeds in developing a good ethos of Welshness. There are distinctive displays in classrooms and in corridors promoting the pupils ability to develop the Welsh language and positive attitudes towards Welshness.

The school has very strong links with the local community giving pupils a sense of belonging.

There are highly effective transition arrangements for pupils who transfer from the Infants school.

The inspection judgements awarded are shown in the following table:

| Key Questions | Inspection Judgement |
|---|---|
| Key Question 1: How good are the outcomes? | Good – Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement |
| Key Question 2: How good is provision? | Good – Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement |
| Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management? | Good – Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement |

NB: The four-point scale used to represent the main judgements in this report is as follows:

1. **Excellent** – Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice.
2. **Good** – Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement.
3. **Adequate** – Strengths outweigh areas for improvement.
4. **Unsatisfactory** – Important areas for improvement outweigh strengths.

3. Evaluation of Present Arrangements

3.1 Quality and standards in education

3.1.1 Outcomes (standards and wellbeing)

The new Llangennech Community Primary school would provide pupils currently being educated at Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools with access to a school that has good standards and provision, under the excellent leadership of a strong Management Team and an effective and committed Governing Body.

There will be no impact on the ability of schools likely to be effected by the proposals at the Foundation Phase or any other Key Stage.

Estyn in June 2015 and December 2010, judged standards at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school to be good, and these standards have been maintained since the previous inspections and standards raised further in certain subjects.

Results in the 2014 national tests were as follows:

Llangennech Infants

- The Foundation Phase Indicator has been in the upper quartile and above the family average for the past three years.
- The results of national tests are in line with these teacher assessments and provide further evidence of high standards at the school e.g. in 2014 the percentage scoring 85+ in all tests was in quartile 2, and the percentage scoring 115+ in all tests was in quartile 1.

Llangennech Juniors

- There is a pattern of standards being raised in all subjects, and the core subject indicator has been benchmarked above the median and the family average for the past two years.
- The results in national tests further provide evidence of the good standards at the school as nearly all indicators for all subjects across Years 3 – 6 in 2014 were benchmarked above the median.
- The school provides a rich, varied and successful programme of extra-curricular activities and these are of a very high standard e.g. winner of Songs of Praise Choir of the Year 2015, the National Urdd Eisteddfod 2015, finalists in Côr Cymru 2015 and Dyfed Cross Country winners, Welsh Government Entrepreneur winners and County rugby and netball winners.

3.1.2 Provision - Llangennech Infants school

Llangennech Infants School is a dual-stream school that offers Welsh and English medium education in two separate streams. Bilingual education is provided in both reception classes, and then pupils transfer either to the Welsh stream or the English stream.

In June 2015, Estyn judged the quality of teaching to be good. Internal and Local Authority monitoring shows that this quality of teaching has been maintained and further improved as the school has responded to the issues identified in the school development plan. The provision for pupils who have ALN (Additional Learning Needs) is effective. Under the clear leadership of the co-ordinator, the school identifies pupils who need additional learning support at an early stage. Support staff make a very positive contribution to the development of these pupils. The school's arrangements for safeguarding pupils meet requirements and are not a cause for concern.

3.1.3 Provision - Llangennech Junior school

Llangennech Junior School is a dual-stream school that offers Welsh and English medium education. In December 2010, Estyn judged the quality of teaching to be good/excellent. Internal and Local Authority monitoring shows that this quality of teaching has been maintained and further improved as the school has responded to the issues identified in the school development plan.

With an increased team of teachers the proposal will provide improved and enhanced pastoral arrangements and targeted support for particular groups of pupils which in turn will enable the school to deliver a wider range of specific programmes to support learning. The provision for pupils with ALN will be strengthened to provide a wide range of specialism in areas where it is needed.

3.1.4 Leadership and Management - Federation

From April 2015 the Governing bodies of both Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools resolved to pursue a formal federation. It is very well led by a committed headteacher, who has a clear vision regarding the school's long term strategy.

This proposal will also offer greater opportunities for staff development including the opportunity to develop their skills over the whole primary age curriculum.

3.2 Need for places and the impact on accessibility of schools

The County Council has considered the sufficiency of places and the likely demand for places in the future.

3.3 Resourcing of education and other financial implications

3.3.1 Surplus Places

As can be seen from the table in section 2.6 there are no surplus places at either Llangennech Infants or Llangennech Junior schools as at January 2015. As stated in the School Organisation Code (2013) document published by Welsh Government where there is more than 10% surplus in an area, local authorities should review their provision and should make proposals for school reorganisation if it will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of provision. This is especially important where individual schools have 'significant' levels of surplus places of 25% or more (as defined in the Welsh Government Circular 21/2011).

If this proposal is implemented and to support and suitably accommodate the additional requirements of the school and the projected pupil numbers within the Llangennech area, arrangements are currently in place to install a Double Mobile classroom on the current Llangennech Infant school site. This will provide the school with additional accommodation but will not increase the current capacity of the new school. The additional accommodation will help the school manage numbers and provide them with extra space whilst they still have the current English stream pupils at the school.

3.3.2 Transport costs

If the proposal is implemented there would be no additional cost to transport pupils to the new school.

3.3.3 Capital costs / Capital Receipts

In the short term and with the installation of additional mobile classroom there will be sufficient accommodation on the Llangennech School site to accommodate the current pupils of Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools. In the longer term it is planned to review the current capacity and adjust accordingly should the demands arise in the future. Llangennech is currently part of the Band C element of the Council's 21st Century Schools Programme.

3.3.4 School Budgets

Llangennech Infants School

Based on 2015/16 data the budget cost per pupil is £3,668 which is £71 below the county average of £3,739.

Llangennech Junior School

Based on 2015/16 data the budget cost per pupil is £3,356 which is £383 below the county average of £3,739.

4. Objectives

Our vision in Carmarthenshire is to provide viable, sustainable and efficient schools which are fit for purpose for the 21st Century with the right school in the right place for current and future pupils ensuring access to high quality learning opportunities for all children. Our long term aim as part of our 21st Century Schools Programme is to create school learning environments that meet the needs of the communities and provide the best learning provision for the area.

The mission of our Modernising Education Programme is to:

“transform the network of nursery, primary and secondary schools serving the county into a strategically and operationally effective resource that meets current and future need for school based and associated community focused education, where appropriate investing in the development and improvement of buildings, infrastructure and spaces, so that schools are appropriately located, designed, constructed or adopted to foster the sustainable development of the people and communities of Carmarthenshire.”

The strategic aims of our Modernising Education Programme are to:

- Develop a schools network that is educationally sustainable and resource efficient for the long term.
- Develop a structure of provision so that every learning setting is capable of providing a high quality education to all of its registered learners, either as an individual institution or as part of a formal federation or collaboration with other settings or providers.
- Develop infrastructure at all schools that is equipped for learning in the 21st century and supports the achievement of core objectives for raising educational standards and maintaining them at high levels of performance.
- Deliver a strategic approach to capital investment, integrated with a programme for the rationalisation of provision across the schools network to effectively match supply with demand.
- Rebuild, remodel, refurbish or modernise all school settings that are to be retained for the long-term, so that they conform as closely as practicable with adopted design standards.

- Contribute to the achievement of wider policy objectives, for example, community regeneration and renewal, healthy lifestyles, etc, through the development of appropriate enabling infrastructure.
- Improve the efficiency and educational viability of the schools sector by reducing the number of empty places to a reasonable level, whilst facilitating wherever practicable the expression of parental preference, responding effectively to demographic change.
- Configure schools and invest in modern school premises so that the whole school system in Carmarthenshire is equipped to support the effective implementation of the Schools Effectiveness Framework and secure improving outcomes for children and young people.

The strategic objectives of the MEP align neatly with the national objectives;

- Improved learning environments for children with better educational outcomes.
- Greater economy through better use of resources to improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the education estate.
- A more sustainable education system reducing the recurrent cost and carbon footprint.

5. Options for Change

In developing a preferred option the County Council considered a range of alternative options. In considering the options they were evaluated against key objectives and criteria to determine which option best suited the aspirations of Carmarthenshire. These changes will come into effect from January 2017.

5.1 Main Options Considered

| | |
|----------|---|
| Option 1 | Status Quo – Maintain both schools in present format |
| Option 2 | Federation |
| Option 3 | Discontinue provision at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and establish a new 3-11 WM language school in Llangennech with one Governing Body. |

| | |
|----------|---|
| Option 4 | Discontinue provision at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and establish a new 3-11 DS language school in Llangennech. |
| Option 5 | Discontinue provision at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and establish a new 3-11 WM language school in Llangennech and provide for pupils requiring EM at Bryn primary school. |
| Option 6 | Discontinue provision at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and establish a new 3-11 WM language school in Llangennech and provide for pupils requiring DS at Hendy primary school. |
| Option 7 | Discontinue provision at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and establish a new 3-11 WM language school in Llangennech and provide for pupils requiring EM education at either Bryn Primary school or Hendy primary school. |

5.2 Advantages / Disadvantages of Each Option

| Option 1 – Status Quo | |
|---|---|
| Advantages | Disadvantages |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change for stakeholders. • No statutory procedures necessary. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continues present arrangements with lack of coherence in provision. • Would not address the current demand in the schools. • Higher cost option. • Higher Staffing costs. • Opportunities for synergies will be lost. |

| Option 2 – Federation | |
|---|---|
| Advantages | Disadvantages |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federation is seen as an important step towards merging the two schools to become one primary school. • Opportunities to share resources. • Two Schools would become one primary school. • No increased travelling times for pupils. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No designated WM language category school – Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools would remain DS language category. • There will be no increase in the provision of WM education in Carmarthenshire that ensures linguistic continuity from the nursery sector along the key stages to the secondary sector. |

| | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure long term Welsh education provision in the area. • All pupils would be located on one site under the leadership of one headteacher. • Having one school which will help keep and develop the sense of belonging, heritage and tradition that help to make up a community. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not every pupil will become fluent and confident in Welsh and English as detailed in the WESP (2014 – 2017). • Doesn't align with MEP strategy to remove Infants and Junior schools. • Federations can be undone. |
|--|---|

Option 3 (Preferred Option)

Discontinue provision at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and establish a new 3-11 WM language school in Llangennech with one Governing Body.

| Advantages | Disadvantages |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a designated WM language category school following a period of federation with one Governing Body. • Opportunities to share resources. • Two schools would become one primary school. • An increase in the provision of WM education in Carmarthenshire that ensures linguistic continuity from the nursery sector along the key stages to the secondary sector. • No increased travelling times for pupils. • Secure long term Welsh education provision in the area with every pupil becoming fluent and confident in Welsh and English as detailed in the WESP (2014-2017). • All pupils would be located on one site under the leadership of one headteacher. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No designated DS language category school – Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools would remain DS language category. |

| | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having one school which will help keep and develop the sense of belonging, heritage and tradition that help to make up a community. • There will be increase in the provision of WM education in Carmarthenshire that ensures linguistic continuity from the nursery sector along the key stages to the secondary sector. • Every pupil will become fluent and confident in Welsh and English as detailed in the WESP (2014 - 2017). • There will be a designated nursery provision at the school. • All pupils leaving primary school will benefit from having two languages. | |
|--|--|

Option 4

Discontinue provision at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and establish a new 3-11 DS language school in Llangennech.

| Advantages | Disadvantages |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a designated DS language category school following a period of federation. • Opportunities to share resources. • Two schools would become one primary school. • No increased travelling times for pupils. • Secure long term Welsh education provision in the area. • All pupils would be located on one site under the leadership of one headteacher. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No designated WM language category school – Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools would remain DS language category. • There will be no increase in the provision of WM education in Carmarthenshire that ensures linguistic continuity from the nursery sector along the key stages to the secondary sector. • Not every pupil will become fluent and confident in Welsh and English as detailed in the WESP (2014-2017). |

| | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having one school which will help keep and develop the sense of belonging, heritage and tradition that help to make up a community. | |
|---|--|

Option 5

Discontinue provision at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and establish a new 3-11 WM language school in Llangennech and provide for pupils requiring EM education at Bryn primary school.

| Advantages | Disadvantages |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All pupils would have the opportunity to be educated through the medium of Welsh and English. • Secure long term Welsh education provision in the Llangennech area • Having two schools in close proximity to another will help keep and develop the sense of belonging, heritage and tradition in the Bryn and Llangennech areas. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No designated DS language category school – Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools. • There will be no increase in the provision of WM education in Carmarthenshire that ensures linguistic continuity from the nursery sector along the key stages to the secondary sector. • Not every pupil will become fluent and confident in Welsh and English as detailed in the WESP (2014-2017). • Increased travel times for some pupils. Bryn CP school being 2.04 miles away (5 mins) from Llangennech. • Not enough capacity at Bryn CP school to accommodate the EM pupils from Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools. |

Option 6

Discontinue provision at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and establish a new 3-11 WM language school in Llangennech and provide for pupils requiring DS education at Hendy primary school.

| Advantages | Disadvantages |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All pupils would have the opportunity to be educated through the medium of Welsh and English (DS). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be no increase in the provision of WM education in Carmarthenshire that ensures linguistic continuity from the |

| | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure long term Welsh education provision in the Llangennech area. • Having two schools in close proximity to another will help keep and develop the sense of belonging, heritage and tradition in the Hendy and Llangennech areas. | <p>nursery sector along the key stages to the secondary sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not every pupil will become fluent and confident in Welsh and English as detailed in the WESP (2014-2017). • Not enough capacity at Hendy CP school to accommodate all EM pupils from Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools. • Increased travel times for some pupils. Hendy CP school being 1.07 miles away (5 mins) from Llangennech. |
|---|--|

Option 7

Discontinue provision at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and establish a new 3-11 WM language school in Llangennech and provide for pupils requiring EM education at either Bryn Primary school or Hendy primary school.

| Advantages | Disadvantages |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All pupils would have the opportunity to be educated through the medium of Welsh and English (DS). • Secure long term Welsh education provision in the Llangennech area. • Secure long term English education provision in the Bryn area. • Secure long term Welsh and English education provision in the Hendy area. • Having three schools in close proximity to another will help keep and develop the sense of belonging, heritage and tradition in the Bryn, Hendy and Llangennech areas. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be no increase in the provision of WM education in Carmarthenshire that ensures linguistic continuity from the nursery sector along the key stages to the secondary sector. • Not every pupil will become fluent and confident in Welsh and English as detailed in the WESP (2014-2017). • Hendy CP school will not have the capacity to accommodate all EM pupils from Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools. • Bryn CP school will not have the capacity to accommodate all EM pupils from Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior schools. |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased travel times for some pupils. Hendy CP school being 1.07 miles away (5 mins) from Llangennech. • Increased travel times for some pupils. Bryn CP school being 2.04 miles away (5 mins) from Llangennech. |
|--|---|

6. The Proposal

6.1 Rationale for Change

Following the retirement of the Llangennech Infants school Headteacher at the end of the Summer 2013 academic year a soft federation has already taken place with the Headteacher of Llangennech Junior school currently responsible for both schools. On the 24th September 2014 the Governing bodies of both Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school resolved to pursue a formal federation as from April 2015. Federation is seen as an important step towards merging the two schools to become one primary school.

In Llangennech the local Authority are currently able to offer as a 4-11 primary school part time learning provision through the medium of Welsh and English. As part of the new 3 – 11 primary school that will include nursery provision, it is proposed to change the current linguistic categories of Llangennech Infant school (Dual Stream – (DS) and Llangennech Junior school (Dual Stream – (DS) to a new Welsh Medium – (WM) language category school which will increase the provision of Welsh Medium education in Carmarthenshire and will ensure that bilingualism is increased in the Llangennech area. It will ensure linguistic continuity from the nursery sector along the key stages to the secondary sector so that every pupil becomes fluent and confident in Welsh and English as detailed in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) (2014-2017).

The proposal will provide improved and enhanced pastoral arrangements and targeted support for particular groups of pupils which in turn will enable the school to deliver a wider range of specific programmes to support learning. The provision for pupils with ALN will be strengthened to provide a wide range of specialism in areas where it is needed.

This proposal will also offer greater opportunities for staff development including the opportunity to develop their skills over the whole primary age curriculum.

6.2 The Proposal

In arriving at a preferred option other options were considered as highlighted in section 5.3 of this document. It is the Authority's proposal to discontinue provision at Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and

establish a new 3-11 WM language school in Llangennech with one Governing Body.

The following proposal has been identified as the Authority's preferred option for the future provision of primary education in the area. These changes will be implemented in January 2017.

6.3 Catchment Area

6.3.1 Primary

That as from 1st January 2017, there would be no change to the catchment areas of Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school.

6.3.2 Secondary

For pupils residing within the existing catchment area of Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school the arrangements in respect of secondary education will be Bryngwyn and Ysgol y Strade (Welsh Stream).

Most parents send their child / children to their local catchment area school, however, parents have a right to state a preference for different schools. When you choose a school which is not your designated catchment school or the nearest school to your home there are some issues you will need to consider prior to making a decision;

- If a child does not attend the catchment area school or the nearest school to the home address and this decision is based on parental preference, then the responsibility, as well as the cost, of transporting the pupil to and from school, rests entirely with the parents / carer.
- The LA and school governors will lawfully comply with any preference for a particular school which is expressed. As with all applications a preference for a particular school will need to be considered and assessed as part of the admission process to ensure that the Authority does not exceed the limit for admission of pupils to that school for the relevant year group.

6.4 Advantages and Disadvantages of the proposal

Advantages

- Access to a school that has good standards and provision under the leadership of a strong Management Team.
- A Community school offering WM education.
- Secure long term Welsh education provision in the Llangennech area.

Disadvantages

- Local community resistance to the proposals.

- Loss of EM education in the Llangennech area.
- Statutory process required to implement proposal.

6.5 Risks and Counter Measures

| Risk | | Counter Measure |
|------|--|---|
| 1. | Failure to obtain statutory approval to implement the proposal. | - Follow guidelines as set out in the School Organisation Code 2013. |
| 2. | Staffing issues in relation to securing suitable alternative employment. | - The Authority has staffing policies which will be recommended for implementation in respect of school reorganisation. |
| 3. | Integration of pupils into the new school. | - The Authority will work with the pupils requiring EM education to ensure smooth transition and integration into the new school. |

6.6 Management and Organisation

In arriving at the preferred option of making a new 3-11 WM language school with nursery provision in Llangennech, the Local Authority are hopeful that pupils currently at Llangennech Infants and Junior schools would continue with their education at the new WM Llangennech Community school which will increase the provision of Welsh Medium education in Carmarthenshire and ensures linguistic continuity from the nursery sector along the key stages to the secondary sector so that every pupil becomes fluent and confident in Welsh and English as detailed in the WESP (2014-2017).

The proposed changes will not effect pupils who are currently in the English Stream of Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior Schools. From September 2017, all pupils going into Year 1 will be taught through the medium of Welsh. This will result in less space being required for teaching pupils through the medium of English.

The following table highlights the impact on the management and organisation of the new Community Primary School to accommodate pupils from Llangennech Infants and Llangennech Junior Schools.

| January 2015 PLASC Data (FTE) (Ages at 31/08/14) | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|-----------|------------|---------------------|-----------|------------|
| Class | Llangennech Infants | | | Llangennech Juniors | | |
| | Welsh | English | Total | Welsh | English | Total |
| N2 | 38 | 0 | 38 | | | |
| Reception | 54 | 0 | 54 | | | |
| Year 1 | 48 | 13 | 61 | | | |
| Year 2 | 46 | 17 | 63 | | | |
| Year 3 | | | | 51 | 19 | 70 |
| Year 4 | | | | 39 | 16 | 55 |
| Year 5 | | | | 37 | 18 | 55 |
| Year 6 | | | | 35 | 15 | 50 |
| Total | 186 | 30 | 216 | 162 | 68 | 230 |

6.7 Revenue Savings

Should this proposal be implemented there would be no potential revenue savings. This does not take into account any upcoming budget constraints on the fair funding allocation or additional transport costs.

Any future savings would be re-invested within the education service.

6.8 Pupil Costs

Llangennech Infants School

Based on 2015/16 data the budget cost per pupil is £3,668 which is £71 below the county average of £3,739.

Llangennech Junior School

Based on 2015/16 data the budget cost per pupil is £3,356 which is £383 below the county average of £3,739.

6.9 Admission Arrangements

The County Council is the Admissions Authority for Llangennech Infants school. The current AN of the school is 55 (from September 2015).

The County Council is the Admissions Authority for Llangennech Junior primary school. The current AN of the school is 60 (from September 2015).

If you have any queries in relation to admission to the school the contact details for Carmarthenshire LA are as follows:

The School Governance and Admissions Unit,
Carmarthenshire Local Authority,
Department for Education and Children,
Block 2,
Main Building,

St. David's Park,
Carmarthen. SA31 3HB

Tel No: 01267 246449

Fax : 01267 246746

E-mail : rjonesevans@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

6.10 Transport Impact Assessment

Should the proposal be implemented there would be no transport implications for the pupils of Llangennech Infants and Junior schools.

Safe Routes to School

There were no bids submitted for Safe Routes to Schools from the Llangennech area.

6.11 Community Impact Assessment

Please refer to **Appendix A** of this consultation document for full details of a Community Impact Assessment undertaken on Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school.

6.12 Welsh Language Impact Assessment

Please refer to **Appendix B** of this consultation document for full details of a Welsh Language Impact Assessment undertaken on Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school.

6.13 Equality Impact Assessment

Please refer to **Appendix C** of this consultation document for details on the Equality Impact Assessment undertaken for Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school.

6.14 Impact of proposal on staff

6.14.1 Llangennech Infants School Staff

There is currently 1 Headteacher, 2 Assistant Headteachers on secondment and 11 Teachers at the school. The Authority has staffing policies and procedures in respect of school reorganisation and these will be implemented. The Authority will support school staff in securing suitable alternative employment if at all possible through redeployment processes.

6.14.2 Llangennech Junior School Staff

There is currently 1 Headteacher, 2 Assistant Headteachers on secondment and 8 Teachers at the school. The Authority has staffing policies and procedures in respect of school reorganisation and these will be

implemented. The Authority will support school staff in securing suitable alternative employment if at all possible through redeployment processes.

7. Consultation and Statutory Process

7.1 The Consultation Process

The consultation on this proposal will follow guidelines established by the Welsh Government as stated in the School Organisation Code (2013).

7.2 Who else will be consulted?

This document has been sent to the following interested parties:

| | |
|---|---|
| Staff (Teaching and Ancillary) Llangennech Infants School Llangennech Junior School | Governors and Parents / Guardians, Llangennech Infants School Llangennech Junior School |
| Carmarthenshire Children's Partnership | Community Councillors / Llangennech Community Council |
| Local County Councillors | Welsh Language Commissioner |
| Assembly Member (AM) / Regional Assembly Members | National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT) |
| National Union of Teachers (NUT) | Association Of Teachers & Lecturers (ATL) |
| Undeb Cenedlaethol Athrawon Cymru (UCAC) | The Professional Association of Teachers (PAT) |
| National Association Of Head Teachers (NAHT) | GMB Union |
| UNISON | *Neighbouring Primary and Secondary schools in Carmarthenshire |
| Transport and General Workers' Union (T&G) | LA Special Educational Needs Division |
| Director of Education – All Neighbouring Authorities | ERW – Education through Regional Working |
| Local Service Board | Regional Transport Consortium |
| Local Police and Crime Commissioner | Welsh Ministers |
| Estyn | Diocesan Director of Education & RC |
| Brightbeginings Nursery | Cylch Meithrin Llangennech |

* Consultation document sent to Headteacher and Chair of Governors (Hendy CP, Bryn CP, CP, Brynsierfel CP, Bynea CP, Swiss Valley CP, Llannon CP, Dewi Sant CP and Pentip VA,) Secondary Schools (Ysgol Y Strade, Bryngwyn)..

7.3 The Consultation Period

There will be a period from 25th January 2016 to 18th March 2016 when you can express your views.

You can express your views by writing a letter or alternatively completing the attached response form in **Appendix F** which should be received by the Director of Education and Children's Services (Mr. R. A. Sully) by no later than noon on 18th March 2016, at the following address:

Mr R A Sully, Director of Education and Children's Services,
Building 2, St. David's Park, Jobs Well Road, Carmarthen, SA31 3HB
Or E-mail to: DECMEP@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Consultees can submit their views in favour of or against a proposal. Responses received during the consultation period will not be treated as statutory objections. If consultees wish to object, they will need to do so in writing during the statutory objection period outlined below.

7.4 Consultation with pupils

There will be an opportunity for the pupils of Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school to participate in the consultation process during a session that will be conducted with a member of the School Improvement Team. This session will take place at Llangennech Junior school with representatives of both schools present.

The information gathered from the consultation with pupils will form part of the consultation report which will be submitted to the County Council for consideration following the consultation period.

7.5 Considering Your Views

Within 13 weeks of 18th March 2016 a consultation report will be published on Carmarthenshire County Council's website. Hard copies of the report will also be available on request. The report will summarise the issues raised by consultees and provide Carmarthenshire County Council's response to these issues. The report will also contain Estyn's view of the proposal and details of consultation undertaken with the pupils of Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior School.

Executive Board will consider the consultation report and decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal.

If the Executive Board decides to continue with the proposal Carmarthenshire County Council must publish a statutory notice.

7.6 Statutory Notice

The statutory notice will be published on Carmarthenshire County Council's website and posted in the named and neighbouring schools within the locality. Copies of the notice will be made available to the school to distribute to pupils, parents, guardians, and staff members (the school may also distribute the notice by email).

The notice will set out the details of the proposal and invite anyone who wishes to object to do so in writing within a period of 28 days.

7.7 Determination of Proposal

County Council will determine the proposal. The County Council may decide to approve, reject or approve the proposal with modifications. In doing so, the County Council will take into account any statutory objections that it received.

7.8 Decision notification

Following determination of proposals all interested parties will be informed and advised of the availability of the decision which will be published electronically on Carmarthenshire County Council's website.

7.9 The Statutory Process Time-Table

The statutory process and timetable will be as follows:-

| | |
|---------------|---|
| January 2016 | Issue of this consultation document to identified and other interested parties. |
| March 2016 | Closing date for views on the proposal to be received by the Department for Education & Children. |
| June 2016 | <p>Within 13 weeks of 18th March 2016 a Consultation Report will be taken to the Scrutiny and Executive Board committees and published on Carmarthenshire County Council's website.</p> <p>Decision to proceed to publish statutory notice. OR alternatively proposal ends.</p> <p>If the decision is made to proceed then a statutory notice will be published. The notice will outline details of the proposal and be published on the Council's web site and be displayed near the entrance of the school and schools which are subject to the proposals. Copies of the notice will be made available to the school to distribute to parents, guardians and staff members.</p> <p>Following publication there will be a 28 day period during which time formal written objections will be invited.</p> <p>The statutory notice will give details on how you may record your objections to the proposal.</p> |
| July 2016 | <p>End of formal 28 day notice period for objections.</p> <p>County Council will determine the proposal. The County Council may decide to approve, reject or approve the proposal with modifications, in doing so the County Council will take into account any statutory objections that it received.</p> |
| November 2016 | <p>Deadline to notify parents of intention to implement proposal.</p> <p>Following determination of proposals all interested parties will be informed and advised of the availability of the decision which will be published electronically on Carmarthenshire County Council's website.</p> |

8. Appendix A – Community Impact Assessment

Community Impact Assessment

General Information

Llangennech Infant School

Llangennech Infant school is located on a flat site at the edge of the village of Llangennech on the outskirts of Llanelli. There are three buildings on site. Block One is the main school and Blocks Two and Three are temporary classroom structures. Block One is of traditional construction and was opened in 1975, with a number of small extensions and internal alterations having been carried out since. The building is of brick construction beneath a pitched concrete tiled roof. The new conservatory has a translucent sheet roof. The original timber doors, windows and fascias have been replaced with white UPVC units, with a built external covered way on the route to the main entrance. Externally, there is a car park, playground, grassed areas, play houses, play equipment stores and garden areas.

Llangennech Junior School

Llangennech Junior school is situated on a sloping site in the village of Llangennech on the outskirts of Llanelli. There are two blocks on site. Block One, the main school building was built in the 1950's and is a single storey structure with a basement containing the boiler house and two storage rooms, of brick construction beneath a combination of flat and shallow pitched felted roofs. A large number of the original single metal windows and doors have been replaced with double glazed UPVC units. Block Two is the sports hall building and is also a single storey structure of rendered brick construction beneath flat felted roofs. It is understood that the sports hall has been re-roofed along with the classroom, boiler house and store areas. The low level windows and doors are UPVC double glazed units and there are high level profiled glazed units to the sports hall.

Llangennech Infants and Junior schools are within the ward of Llangennech where the population is 4,964. The ward, Llangennech 1 is ranked 93, Llangennech 2 is ranked 65 and Llangennech 3 is ranked 85 within Carmarthenshire for deprivation (1 being most deprived).

Other School Facilities / Activities

Llangennech Infants and Junior schools have a close relationship with parents and works well with the community. Parents and visitors from the community make a positive contribution to enriching pupils' experiences.

Extra curricular opportunities are many and varied at the schools including Maths and Sports clubs being offered at the schools. Llangennech Junior school also have a successful choir who were finalists in Côr Cymru 2015 and winners of Songs of Praise Choir of the Year 2015. They have also been Dyfed Cross Country winners, Welsh Government Entrepreneur winners and County rugby and netball winners

The community makes good use of both Llangennech Infants and Junior schools in the evenings for uses such as the local football team using the playing fields on a weekly basis, the village badminton team and rugby club use the sports hall as well as 'Theatr Denny Twp', 'Clwb Cristnogol' uses the schools for their events. The schools are also the Home for the Urdd's 'Llwyth y Llan'.

Catchment Area Analysis

Each school has an area that it serves, referred to as the catchment area. Each school is expected to accommodate pupils from within its catchment area and schools must have regard for this ongoing demand.

Most parents send their pupils to their local school but parents have a right to state a preference for other schools.

Children attending the school from inside catchment

Based on January 2015 PLASC pupil address data, the geographical data in relation to the pupil distribution for the Llangennech Infants school catchment area indicated that of the 216 pupils on roll, 159 pupils lived within the catchment, whilst the remaining 57 were from outside the catchment area.

Based on January 2015 PLASC pupil address data, the geographical data in relation to the pupil distribution for the Llangennech Junior school catchment area indicated that of the 230 pupils on roll, 166 pupils living within the catchment, whilst the remaining 64 were from outside the catchment area.

9. Appendix B – Welsh Language Impact Assessment

9.1 This proposal supports the Council's vision and aims for Welsh medium education as set out in Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2014 – 2017. The proposal will offer the pupils of Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school the opportunity of a Welsh Medium education provision at the new Llangennech Community school.

9.2 Language Category

Llangennech Infants and Junior Schools

Under the new arrangements for categorisation of schools according to linguistic provision, Llangennech Infants and Junior schools categorises themselves in Category DS (Dual Stream) offering Welsh and English medium education.

Llangennech Community School

Under the new arrangements for categorisation of schools, the Council are proposing that the new Llangennech Community school will become a Category WM (Welsh Medium) school and will ensure that bilingualism is increased in the Llangennech area..

9.3 Standards – Welsh Language

Llangennech Infant School

As reported in section 2.10 of this consultation document Llangennech Infant School was last inspected by Estyn in June 2015.

The report noted that most pupils came from English speaking homes with only 23% of pupils coming from Welsh-speaking homes. By the end of the Foundation Phase, nearly all pupils' oral skills are sound in formal and informal situations in both schools.

It was reported that many pupils make good progress when developing second language skills in Welsh and are able to follow instructions skilfully and make effective use of basic vocabulary to respond to daily activities.

Llangennech Junior School

As reported in section 2.10 of this consultation document Llangennech Junior School was last inspected by Estyn in December 2010.

The report noted that most pupils came from English speaking homes but 54% of the pupils speak Welsh to first language standard. Out of the 8 classes at the school there are 4 classes where pupils are taught through the medium of Welsh.

It was reported that the pupils in the Welsh medium stream make very good progress in their use of Welsh from the time they start at school. Most of the pupils use the language fluently and effectively whatever the occasion, both formal and informal with the majority of the pupils using Welsh regularly with each other is a strong feature at the school.

10. Appendix C – Equality Impact Assessment

Carmarthenshire County Council Assessing Impact

The Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) brings together and replaces the previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act. It simplifies and strengthens the law, removes inconsistencies and makes it easier for people to understand and comply with it. The majority of the Act came into force on 1 October 2010.

The Act includes a new public sector equality duty (the 'general duty'), replacing the separate duties on race, disability and gender equality. This came into force on 5 April 2011.

What is the general duty?

The aim of the general duty is to ensure that public authorities and those carrying out a public function consider how they can positively contribute to a fairer society through advancing equality and good relations in their day-to-day activities. The duty ensures that equality considerations are built into the design of policies and the delivery of services and that they are kept under review. This will achieve better outcomes for all.

The duties are legal obligations. Failure to meet the duties may result in authorities being exposed to legal challenge.

Under equality legislation, public authorities have legal duties to pay 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality with regard to race, disability and gender, including gender reassignment, as well as to promote good race relations. The Equality Act 2010 introduces a new public sector duty which extends this coverage to age, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and religion or belief. The law requires that this duty to pay 'due regard' be demonstrated in the decision making process. It is also important to note that public authorities subject to the equality duties are also likely to be subject to the obligations under the Human Rights Act and it is therefore wise also to consider the potential impact that decisions could have on human rights as part of the same process.

Carmarthenshire's approach to Equality Impact

In order to ensure that the council is considering the potential equality impact of its proposed policies and practices, and in order to evidence that we have done so, every proposal will be required to be supported by the attached Equality Impact Assessment. Where this assessment identifies a significant impact then more detail may be required.

Reporting on assessments

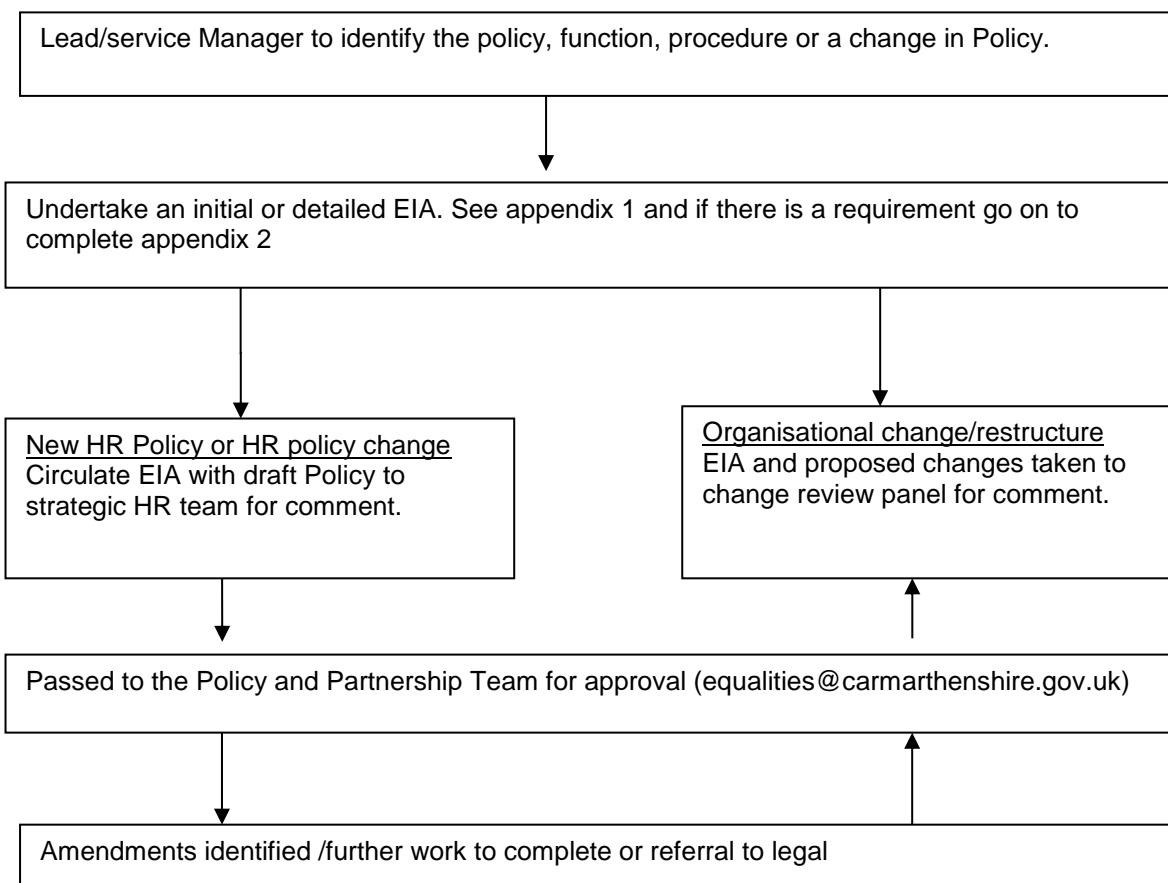
Where it is clear from the assessment that the likely impact on the authority's ability to meet the general duty is substantial, then it must publish a report.

Initial and Detailed Equality Impact Assessments

The initial EIA (appendix 1) is a simple and quick method of assessing the effect of a policy, function, procedure, decision including financial cuts on one or more of the protected characteristics.

The Service Manager responsible for the relevant new or revised policies, functions, procedures and financial decisions must undertake, at least, an initial EIA and where relevant a detailed Equality Impact Assessment (appendix 2); EIA must be attached as background paper with reports to Executive and Scrutiny .

Equality impact assessment – Process to follow where HR implications have been identified



Initial Equalities Impact Assessment Template

Appendix 1

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Department: Education & Children | Completed by (lead): Lowri Morgan | Date of initial assessment: September 2015 Revision Dates: N/A |
| Area to be assessed: (i.e. name of policy, function, procedure, practice or a financial decision) | To discontinue Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and create a new WM Community Primary School | |
| Is this existing or new function/policy, procedure, practice or decision? | School Re-organisation Proposal – Modernising Education Programme | |
| What evidence has been used to inform the assessment and policy? (please list only) | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21st Century Schools Programme • Modernising Education Programme • Welsh Government Guidance – School Organisation Code 2013 • PLASC data 2015 | | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1. Describe the aims, objectives or purpose of the proposed function/policy, practice, procedure or decision and who is intended to benefit. | It is the County Council's proposal to discontinue Llangennech Infants school and Llangennech Junior school and create a new WM Community Primary School as agreed by the Authority. | | |
| The Public Sector Equality Duty requires the Council to have “due regard” to the need to:- (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; | 2. What is the level of impact on each group/ protected characteristics in terms of the three aims of the duty? Please indicate high (H) medium (M), low (L), no effect (N) for each. | 3. Identify the risk or positive effect that could result for each of the group/protected characteristics? | 4. If there is a disproportionately negative impact what mitigating factors have you considered? N/A |

| (2) advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and (3) foster good relations between different groups (see guidance notes) | | | Risks | Positive effects | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| Protected characteristics | Age | N | Risk Neutral | | |
| | Disability | L | Risk Neutral | In Llangennech Infants school there are currently 37% of pupils with additional learning needs at the school. In Llangennech Junior school there are currently 26% of pupils with additional learning needs at the school. There will be sufficient support available to these pupils through the medium of Welsh. | |
| | Gender reassignment | N | Risk Neutral | | |
| | Race | N | Risk Neutral | | |
| | Religion/Belief | N | Risk Neutral | | |
| | Pregnancy and maternity | N | Risk Neutral | | |
| | Sexual Orientation | N | Risk Neutral | | |
| | Sex | N | Risk Neutral | | |
| Welsh language | H | Risk Neutral | As part of the proposal the language category of the school will be creating a new | | |

| | | | | | |
|--|----------------|---|--------------|--|--|
| | | | | WM school which will support the Council's vision and aims for Welsh medium education as set out in Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2014 – 2017 | |
| | Any other area | L | Risk Neutral | | |

| | |
|--|---|
| 5. Has there been any consultation/engagement with the appropriate protected characteristics? | YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informal and formal consultation will be undertaken as stated in Welsh Government guidance. We will consult informally with the Headteacher and Chair of Governors. As part of the Formal Consultation period key stakeholders will be consulted with as detailed on page 6 of this consultation document. NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
|--|---|

| |
|---|
| 6. What action(s) will you take to reduce any disproportionately negative impact, if any? Ensure that parents, staff and governors are fully informed at each stage of the consultation. |
|---|

| |
|--|
| 7. Procurement Following collation of evidence for this assessment, are there any procurement implications to the activity, proposal, service. Please take the findings of this assessment into your procurement plan. Contact the corporate procurement unit for further advice. N/A |
|--|

| |
|---|
| 8. Human resources Following collation of evidence for this assessment, are there any Human resource implications to the activity, proposal or service? The Authority has staffing policies and procedures in respect of school reorganisation and these will be recommended for implementation. The Authority will support school staff in securing suitable alternative employment if at all possible through redeployment processes. |
|---|

| | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| 9. Based on the information in sections 2 and 6, should this function/policy/procedure/practice or a decision proceed to Detailed Impact Assessment? (recommended if one or more H under section 2) | YES <input type="checkbox"/> | NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|

| | | |
|--|----------------|----------------------------|
| Approved by: Chief Education Officer | Gareth Morgans | Date: November 2015 |
|--|----------------|----------------------------|

Detailed Equalities Impact Assessment Template

Appendix 2

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Department: | Please see initial impact assessment |
| Completed by (lead): | |
| Date of Detailed assessment: | |
| Area to be assessed: (<i>Policy, function, procedure, practice or a financial decision</i>) | Please see initial impact assessment |
| Is this existing or new function/policy/Procedure/ practice | Please see initial impact assessment |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Describe the aims, objectives or purpose of the function/policy, practice or procedure and who is intended to benefit. | Please see initial impact assessment |
| 2. Please list any existing documents, evidence, research which have been used to inform the Detailed equality impact assessment. (This must include relevant data used in this assessment) | |
| 3. Has any consultation, involvement been undertaken with the protected characteristics to inform this assessment? (please provide details, who and how consulted) | |

| | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| 4. What is the actual/likely impact? | | | | |
| 5. What actions are proposed to address the impact? (<i>The actions needs to be specific, measurable and outcome based</i>) | What are we going to do | Who will be responsible | When will it be completed | How will we know we have achieved our objective |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| 6. How will actions be monitored? | | | | |
| Approved by: Head of Service | | | Date: | |

Thank you for completing this assessment.

For further information regarding Assessing Impact, please contact the -
 Policy & Partnership Team
 Chief Executive's Department
 01267 22(4914) / (4676)
equalities@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Please send a copy of the assessment to the above e-mail address upon completion.

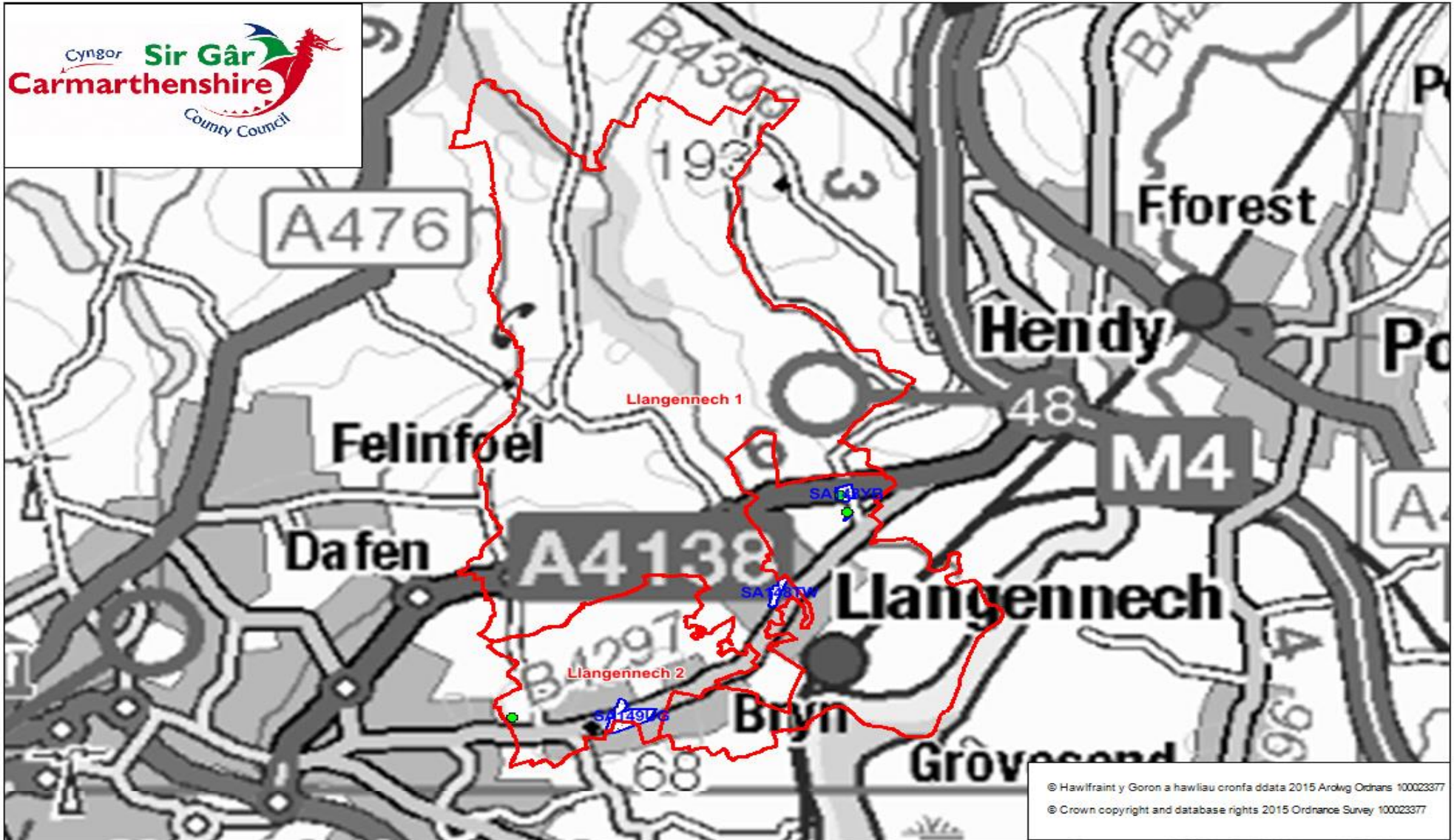
11. Appendix D – Area Profile Llangennech

Area Profile for Postcode: SA14 9UG, SA14 8TW and SA148YB(Llangennech 1,2 and 3 LSOA Codes: W01000690, W01000691 and W0100692) – Ysgol Llangennech

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Population: | 4,964 |
| Welsh Language: | <p>People with knowledge of Welsh: 55.7% (2,667)</p> <p>Can speak Welsh: 39.9% (1,912)</p> <p>Can speak, Read and Write Welsh: 30% (1,438)</p> <p>Can speak Welsh (Age 3-15): 8.6% (65)</p> <p>No skills in Welsh: 44.3% (2,119)</p> |
| Number of Children & Young People: | <p>(Aged 0-15) 18.9% (936)</p> <p>(Aged 16-24) 9.8% (484)</p> |
| Population Mitigation: | Overall population churn in area: rate per 1,000 Data no longer available |
| Ethncity: | <p>White (British): 96.2% (4,773)</p> <p>White (Irish): 0.3% (9)</p> <p>White (Gypsy or Irish Traveller): 0.3% (13)</p> <p>White (Other): 1% (50)</p> <p>Mixed (White/Black Caribbean): 0.2% (10)</p> <p>Mixed (White Black & Black African): 0.1% (4)</p> <p>Mixed (White & Asian): 0.1% (7)</p> <p>Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups; Other Mixed: 0% (2)</p> <p>Asian British (Indian): 0.5% (27)</p> <p>Asian British (Pakistani): 0.1% (4)</p> <p>Asian British (Chinese): 0.4% (20)</p> <p>Asian British (Other Asian): 0.4% (22)</p> <p>Black/African/Caribbean/Black British; African: 0.1% (5)</p> <p>Black African/Caribbean/Black British; Caribbean: 0.1% (3)</p> <p>Black African/Caribbean/Black British; Other Black: 0% (1)</p> <p>Other Ethnic Group: 0.3% (14)</p> |
| Religion: | <p>Christian: 63.2% (3,135)</p> <p>Buddhist: 0.2% (9)</p> |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| | Hindu: 0.3% (16) Jewish: 0% (2) Muslim: 0.5% (24) Sikh: 0.3% (16) Other Religion: 0.3% (15) No Religion: 28.9% (1,437) Religion Not Stated: 6.2% (310) |
| Deprivation Ranking: | Total number of Households: 2,084 Total households not deprived in any dimensions: 838 No of households Deprived of between 1-4 dimensions: 1,246 |

POSTCODES SA14 9UG, SA14 8TW and SA14 8YB are in **Blue** text and highlighted by a **BLUE** shaded boundary, Llangennech



Junior and Infant Schools and Bryn School are in shown by the **GREEN** circle markers and the areas included in the **RED** boundary is the LSOA which the postcodes are located in.
WELSH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION (WIMD)

WIMD 2014 based on fine-grained geography of lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs). The WIMD 2014 is compiled from eight domains, Income, Employment, Health, Education, Housing, Access to Services, Physical Environment and Community Safety and is published at Lower Super Output Area of which there are 112 in Carmarthenshire.

Under WIMD, where Rank 1 is the most deprived, **Llangennech 1** ranks 93 in Carmarthenshire from 112 LSOAs and is ranked 1315 in Wales from 1909 LSOAs. **Llangennech 2** ranks 65 in Carmarthenshire and is ranked 1025 from 1909 LSOAs in Wales, whilst **Llangennech 3** ranks 85 in Carmarthenshire and ranked 1206 in Wales from 1909 LSOAs.

The highest level of deprivation attributed to **Llangennech 1** is the Community Safety domain being ranked 67th in Carmarthenshire and 1442nd in Wales. In **Llangennech 2** the Access to Services domain is the most prominent ranking 45th in Carmarthenshire and 393rd in Wales. In **Llangennech 3** the Physical Environment domain is the most dominant ranking 22nd in Carmarthenshire and 395th in Wales.

Llangennech 1 - Troserch

Llangennech 2 - Bryn

Llangennech 3 – Llangennech Park

| LSOA | Overall Index | Domains: Income | | Employment | | Health | | Education | | Housing | | Access to Services | | Physical Environment | | Community Safety | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|----|------------|----|--------|----|-----------|----|---------|-----|--------------------|----|----------------------|-----|------------------|----|------|
| Llangennech 1 | 93 | 1315 | 80 | 1241 | 75 | 1115 | 68 | 990 | 74 | 1192 | 70 | 1255 | 68 | 694 | 87 | 1396 | 67 | 1442 |
| Llangennech 2 | 65 | 1025 | 52 | 965 | 47 | 858 | 73 | 1024 | 56 | 1001 | 60 | 1068 | 45 | 393 | 111 | 1854 | 79 | 1609 |
| Llangennech 3 | 85 | 1206 | 72 | 1134 | 77 | 1140 | 47 | 793 | 63 | 1090 | 108 | 1704 | 88 | 1123 | 22 | 395 | 63 | 1393 |

Source: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2014 (released November 2014), Welsh Assembly Government.

Note: LSOAs ranked 1-112 (Carmarthenshire), 1-1909 (Wales).

12. Appendix E – Glossary of Abbreviations

| | |
|--------------|--|
| ALN | Additional Learning Needs |
| AN | Admission number |
| CP | Community Primary |
| DS | Dual Stream |
| EM | English medium |
| Estyn | Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales |
| FTE | Full Time Equivalent |
| LA | Local Authority |
| MCSW | Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales |
| MEP | Modernising Education Programme |
| PLASC | Pupil Level Annual School Census Data |
| PT | Part time |
| VA | Voluntary Aided |
| WESP | Welsh in Education Strategic Plan |
| WG | Welsh Government |
| WM | Welsh medium |

13. Appendix F – Response Pro-forma

Please provide us with your comments on the proposals regarding future provision for primary pupils residing in the Llangennech Infant school and Llangennech Junior school catchment area.

Your comments:

Do you have any other issues that you wish to bring to our attention?

Please tick box if you wish to be notified of the publication of a consultation report.

Signature _____

Print Name _____

Position /

Category of

Respondent

(E.g. parent) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Date _____

Please note that unless you indicate otherwise your comments will be open to the public as part of the formal records of the consultation.

Please detach this form and return to: Mr. R. A. Sully, Director – Department for Education and Children, Building 2, St David's Park, Jobs Well Road, Carmarthen. SA31 3HB or E-mail to

DECMEP@carmarthenshire.gov.uk no later than 18th March 2016.