

COUNTY COUNCIL

8TH JANUARY 2020

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NATURE OF PROVISION AT YSGOL RHYS PRICHARD

Executive Board Recommendations:

That the proposal to change the nature of provision at Ysgol Rhys Prichard to Welsh medium, as laid out in the Statutory Notice be implemented.

Reasons:

To support Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan launched on 25 June 2018 in accordance with WG Strategic Plans

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Consulted: YES 25/11/19

Executive Board Decision Required: YES 02/12/19

Council Decision Required: YES 08/01/20

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder:

Cllr. Glynog Davies (Education & Children)

Directorate:
Education & Children

Name of Head of Service:
Simon Davies

Report Author:
Sara Griffiths

Designations:

Head of Access to Education

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COUNTY COUNCIL

8TH JANUARY 2020

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NATURE OF PROVISION AT YSGOL RHYS PRICHARD

Background

On 25th June 2018 in accordance with WG Strategic Plans the Local Authority launched **Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan** and its vision for a bilingual Carmarthenshire. To achieve this, the authority will deliver significant growth in Welsh medium education and training to increase the number of children and young people who become fluent in both Welsh and English and have the ability to use their languages confidently with their families, in their communities and in the workplace.

With this in mind, the Local Authority has a responsibility to provide its communities with the best education and opportunities possible and believes that this can be achieved through set objectives. Carmarthenshire County Council are fully supportive of the aim that all pupils are able to speak, read and write in both Welsh and English fluently by the end of Key Stage 2 and will provide services that will ensure high quality learning opportunities for all Carmarthenshire's children, young people and adults, thereby enabling them to achieve their full potential as lifetime learners in the context of the unique bilingual nature of the County.

In order to support Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and national policies in moving the county's schools along the Welsh language continuum, the consultation document (link provided) sets out proposals with regards to the change in nature of provision at **Ysgol Rhys Prichard**.

The Proposal

The proposal is to change the nature of provision of Ysgol Rhys Prichard to Welsh medium.

In accordance with Executive Board's instructions on the 13th May 2019 (link to the consultation document and report provided) a formal consultation exercise was undertaken from 20 May 2019 to 30 June 2019. The results of the consultation exercise are contained in the Consultation Report (link provided) and were presented to the ECS Scrutiny Committee and then to the Executive Board for consideration and determination on whether or not to publish a Statutory Notice.

On the 23rd September 2019, approval was granted by the Executive Board for the publication of the Statutory Notice. The Statutory Notice (link provided) was published on 24th September 2019. The notice provided objectors with 29 days in which to forward their objections in writing to the Council which ended on the 22nd October 2019. A total of 2 objections were received to the Statutory Notice.

The attached Objection Report summarises the objections received and the Local Authority's responses to these submissions.

The full suite of documents which include: Consultation Document, Consultation Report, the Statutory Notice and the Objection Report will be presented to the Executive Board and ultimately will be presented to the County Council for their determination.

This provides the ECS Scrutiny Committee and Executive Board the opportunity to offer comment and a recommendation to the County Council whether or not to implement the proposal as laid out in the Statutory Notice.

Should the County Council agree to implement the proposal, the nature of provision of Ysgol Rhys Prichard would change to Welsh medium from 1st January 2020 **(this date will need to be modified due to change in County Council meeting date).**

Recommendation

Being satisfied that there are no other related proposals; that the statutory proposal has been consulted upon and published in accordance with the School Organisation Code and contains all the relevant information and, having considered the consultation document and consultation report, the objections and any responses to the notice in the objection report, the County Council implements the proposal as laid out in the Statutory Notice.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES: Objection Report

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: **S. Davies** Head of Access to Education

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	YES	NONE	YES	YES	YES

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

Developments are consistent with the Authority's Corporate Strategy and the Modernising Education Strategic Outline Programme and WESP 2018.

2. Legal

Appropriate consultation was initiated in accordance with the relevant statutory procedures.

3. Finance

Revenue implications will be catered for within the Local Management of Schools Fair Funding Scheme.

4. ICT

None

5. Risk Management Issues

The proposal may impact on the demand for school places at the school and surrounding catchment area schools. Admissions will be monitored and if required, appropriate action will be undertaken.

6. Staffing Implications

Staffing implications will be addressed in accordance with the County Council's Policy and Procedures.

7. Physical Assets

Ysgol Rhys Prichard will be re-locating to their new premises (the former Ysgol Pantycelyn) from Spring 2021.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: **S. Davies** Head of Access to Education

1. Scrutiny Committee – The Scrutiny Committee were formally notified of the Statutory Notice period and consulted on the 25th November 2019.

2. Local Member(s) – The local member was formally notified of the Statutory Notice period. No formal objections were received to the Statutory Notice.

3. Community / Town Council – The Community and Town Council were formally notified of the Statutory Notice period. No formal objections were received to the Statutory Notice.

4. Relevant Partners – All relevant partners were formally notified of the Statutory Notice period.

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – Staff side representatives and other organisation were formally notified of the Statutory Notice period.

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Stage 3 (Permission to Implement) – ECS Scrutiny Committee Report	http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=153&MIId=2087&Ver=4
Stage 2 (Permission to Notice) – Executive Board	http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MIId=2001&Ver=4
Stage 2 (Permission to Notice) – ECS Scrutiny Committee Report	http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=153&MIId=2005&Ver=4
Stage 1 (Permission to Consult) – Executive Board Report	http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MIId=3025&Ver=4
Stage 1 (Permission to Consult) – ECS Scrutiny Committee Report	http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=153&MIId=2235&Ver=4
Consultation Document / Consultation Report / Statutory Notice	https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/education-schools/modernising-education-programme/consultation/primary-school/rhys-prichard/
Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan	https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/welsh-in-education-strategic-plan/
MEP Biennial Review	www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk Executive Board 20 th June 2016
21 st Century Schools Website	www.21stcenturyschools.org