

Council

9th March 2022

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE AGE RANGE OF YSGOL SWISS VALLEY FROM 4-11 TO 3-11

Cabinet Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Council:

1. 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, and that no objections were received in response to the Statutory Notice, recommend to the County Council the implementation of the proposal as laid out in the Statutory Notice.

Reasons:

- To comply with statutory procedures and guidance in relation to school re-organisation.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee to be consulted:	No
Cabinet Decision Required:	Yes - 28/02/22
Council Decision Required:	Yes - 09/03/22

Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder: Cllr. Glynog Davies (Education & Children)

Directorate: Education & Children	Designations:	Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COUNCIL 9th March 2022

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE AGE RANGE OF YSGOL SWISS VALLEY FROM 4-11 TO 3-11

Background

Ysgol Swiss Valley has been undertaking a pilot scheme to become a 3-11 school since 2013 which was initiated as part of a Welsh Government scheme to give parents flexibility and choice regarding nursery provision. However, as the school is currently advertised officially as a 4-11 school, parents are unaware or confused in regard to what nursery provision the school offers.

The proposal aims to provide equal provision within the Llanelli area, aligning Ysgol Swiss Valley with neighbouring schools that are already 3-11 schools. The governing body and head teacher are positive with the outcome of the pilot scheme and now wish to proceed with officially making the school a 3-11 school through statutory process.

The Proposal

The proposal is to change the age range of Swiss Valley Primary School from 4-11 to 3-11 from 1 September 2022.

Statutory Process

In accordance with the Executive Board's (now known as the Cabinet) instructions on the 21 December 2020, a formal consultation exercise was undertaken from 11 January 2021 and was due to end on the 21 February 2021. However, a decision was made by the Executive Board to extend the Consultation Period until 16 July 2021. The results of the consultation exercise are contained in the Consultation Report (link provided). and were presented to the Cabinet for consideration and determination on whether or not to publish a Statutory Notice.

On the 6 December 2021 approval was granted by the Cabinet for the publication of the Statutory Notice. The Statutory Notice (link provided) was published on 10 January 2022. The notice provided objectors with 28 days in which to forward their objections in writing to the Council which ended on the 6 February 2022. No objections were received to the Statutory Notice therefore there is no Objection Report.

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

This provides the Cabinet 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 age range of Ysgol Swiss Valley will change from 4-11 to 3-11 from 1 September 2022.

Recommendation

1. 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, and that no objections were received in response to the Statutory Notice, recommend to the County Council the implementation of the proposal as laid out in the Statutory Notice.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

NO

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. James* 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	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

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

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. The situation will be monitored as part of the school admission process and ongoing data forecasting and analysis through the Authority's Modernising Education Programme.

6. Staffing Implications

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

7. Physical Assets

None.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed:  Head of Access to Education

1. **Scrutiny Committee** – The Scrutiny Committee were formally notified of the Statutory Notice period.
2. **Local Member(s)** – The local member was formally notified of the Statutory Notice period.
3. **Community / Town Council** – Llanelli Rural Council was formally notified of the Statutory Notice period.
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.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIO
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED**

N/A

YES

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
MEP Biennial Review	www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk Executive Board 20 th June 2016
21 st Century Schools Website	www.21stcenturyschools.org
Consultation Document/Consultation Report/Statutory Notice	Swiss Valley (gov.wales)
Stage 1 (Permission to Consult) – ECS Scrutiny Committee Report	Agenda for Education & Children Scrutiny Committee on Monday, 23rd November, 2020, 10.00 am (gov.wales)
Stage 1 (Permission to Consult) - Exec Board	Agenda for Cabinet on Monday, 21st December 2020, 10.00 am - Carmarthenshire County Council (moderngov.co.uk)
Stage 2 (Permission to Notice) – Cabinet	Agenda for Cabinet on Monday, 6th December 2021, 10.00 am (gov.wales)