

COUNCIL

9TH March 2022

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NATURE OF PROVISION AT YSGOL Y FELIN

Cabinet Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Council:

1. Considers the submissions received to the Statutory Notice (Objection Report attached) for Ysgol Y Felin.
2. 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, 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
- To support Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan launched on 25 June 2018 in accordance with WG Strategic Plans.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted: No

Cabinet Decision Required: Yes - 28/02/2022

Council Decision Required: Yes - 09/03/2022

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

Directorate: Education & Children	Designations:	Tel: Email addresses:
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY COUNCIL 9th March 2022

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NATURE OF PROVISION AT YSGOL Y FELIN

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 Y Felin**.

The Proposal

- From 1 September 2022 the nature of Foundation Phase provision at Ysgol Y Felin will change to Welsh medium education with Dual Stream provision remaining from Key Stage 2 (KS2).

Statutory Process

In accordance with Executive Board's (now known as the Cabinet) instructions on the 8 February 2021 a formal consultation exercise was undertaken from 22 February 2021 and was due to end on the 4 April 2021. However, a decision was made by the Executive Board to extend the

Consultation Period until the 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 6th December 2021, approval was granted by the Cabinet for the publication of the Statutory Notice. The Statutory Notice (link provided) was published on 10th January 2022. The notice provided objectors with 28 days in which to forward their objections in writing to the Council which ended on the 6th February 2022.

- 4 objections were received for Ysgol Y Felin

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 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 nature of Foundation Phase provision at Ysgol Y Felin will change to Welsh medium education with Dual Stream provision remaining from Key Stage 2 (KS2) from 1st September 2022.

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, that the Cabinet recommend to the County Council the implementation of 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: 		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 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. 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** – The relevant Town 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.

CABINET AWARE/CONSULTED YES	PORTFOLIO	HOLDER(S)	N/A
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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 2 (Permission to Notice) – Cabinet	https://carmarthenshireintranet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=4555&Ver=4
Stage 1 (Permission to Consult) Exec Board	https://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=131&MId=4190&Ver=4
Stage 1 (Permission to Consult) – ECS Scrutiny Committee Report	https://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=153&MId=4184&Ver=4
Consultation Document / Consultation Report / Statutory Notice	https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1226179/consultation-document-ysgol-y-felin.pdf
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