

# EXECUTIVE BOARD

## 20/06/2016

### MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME (MEP)

#### PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE LANGUAGE CATEGORY OF YSGOL BRO MYRDDIN FROM BILINGUAL (2A) TO WELSH MEDIUM (WM)

#### Recommendations / key decisions required:

It is recommended that the Executive Board:

1. Considers the objections received during the Statutory Notice period.
2. After considering the objections received approves to proceed with the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin from bilingual 2A to category Welsh medium and to recommend to the County Council that it implements the proposal as detailed in the Statutory Notice as from 1 September 2016.

#### Reasons:

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

To formulate views for submission to the County Council for consideration.

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee consulted:** YES (17<sup>th</sup> June 2016)  
The Director of Education and Children's Services will provide a verbal update regarding the findings of the ECS Scrutiny committee.

**County Council Decision Required:** YES (13<sup>th</sup> July 2016)

#### Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder:

Cllr. Gareth Jones (Education & Children Portfolio Holder)

|  |                                     |  |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Directorate:</b><br>Department for Education and Children | <b>Designation:</b>                 | <b>Tel No.:</b><br>01267 246649  |
| <b>Name of Head of Service:</b><br>Gareth Morgans            | <b>Chief Education Officer</b>      | <b>E Mail Address:</b><br><a href="mailto:EDGMorgans@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">EDGMorgans@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a>     |
| <b>Report Author :</b> Simon Davies                          | <b>School Modernisation Manager</b> | <b>Tel No:</b><br>01267 246471<br><a href="mailto:SiDavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">SiDavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a> |

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY EXECUTIVE BOARD 20/06/2016

## MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

### PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE LANGUAGE CATEGORY OF YSGOL BRO MYRDDIN FROM BILINGUAL (2A) TO WELSH MEDIUM (WM)

#### Background

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin is currently a Category 2A Bilingual school. The description in Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan of category 2A is '*At least 80% of subjects apart from English and Welsh are taught only through the medium of Welsh to all pupils. One or two subjects are taught to some pupils in English or in both languages.*'

In recent years the school has moved along the language continuum naturally in accordance with Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2014-17. At present there are no pupils studying Mathematics in English in years 7 to 10 and only one group of pupils have chosen to study science in English in year 7. The change has occurred organically over a period of years and it offers an opportunity therefore, to proceed further by establishing the first WM category secondary school in Carmarthenshire.

The Department for Education and Children fully supports the schools desire to continue along the Welsh language continuum and to change the language category to Welsh Medium (WM). The description of a category WM school is '*All subjects apart from English are taught through the medium of Welsh to all pupils, although some schools may introduce English terminology in one or two subjects.*'

An informal consultation with pupils, governors, staff and parents of existing and prospective was completed. However, under the 2013 School Organisation Code a regulated alteration such as a change in the language category of a school requires a proposal to be published to formalise arrangements. The Authority was therefore required to complete a statutory consultation process which was completed in the Autumn Term 2015.

In accordance with County Council's instructions, in October 2015 a consultation document (attached) was produced and distributed to identified interested parties with regard to the following proposal:

- To change the language category of Ysgol Bro Myrddin School to Welsh Medium (WM) (as laid out in the consultation document) from September 2016.

As part of the consultation process consultees were invited to forward their observations or any comments they wished to make in relation to the proposal to the Council.

Following the formal consultation period, a consultation report (attached) which summarised all of the observations received and the Local Authority's responses to these observations was presented to the ECS Scrutiny Committee, Executive Board and ultimately to the County Council for decision of whether or not to publish a statutory notice to implement the proposal.

In March 2016 approval was given by the County Council for the publication of the Statutory Notice. The Statutory Notice (attached) was published on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016. The notice provided objectors with 28 days in which to forward their objections in writing to the Council. The Statutory Notice period ended on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016. A total of 2 objections were received to the Statutory Notice.

The attached Objection Report which summarises the objections received by stakeholders, has been presented to the ECS Scrutiny Committee and ultimately will be presented to the County Council for their consideration.

This provides the ECS Scrutiny Committee and Executive Board the opportunity to offer comment and a recommendation to 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 language category of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin will change from category Bilingual 2A to category Welsh medium from 1 September 2016.

**Recommendation:**

That the Executive Board recommend to the County Council the implementation of the proposal as laid out in the Statutory Notice.

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?</b> | <b>YES:</b><br><br><b>Consultation Document</b><br><br><b>Consultation Report</b><br><br><b>Statutory Notice</b><br><br><b>Objection Report</b> |
|----------------------------------|---|

**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: **G. Morgans**

**Chief Education Officer**

**S. Davies**

**School Modernisation Manager**

|   |            |            |             |                        |                       |                 |
|---|------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities | Legal      | Finance    | ICT         | Risk Management Issues | Staffing Implications | Physical Assets |
| <b>YES</b>                              | <b>YES</b> | <b>YES</b> | <b>NONE</b> | <b>NONE</b>            | <b>NONE</b>           | <b>NONE</b>     |

### **1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities**

Developments are consistent with the Authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2014-17, Corporate Strategy, Children and Young People's Plan and the Modernising Education Strategic Outline Programme.

### **2. Legal**

Appropriate consultation will need to be 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.

## **CONSULTATIONS**

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

**Signed:** G. Morgans  
S. Davies

**Chief Education Officer  
School Modernisation Manager**

### **1. Scrutiny Committee**

The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee were notified of the Statutory Notice Period. The committee was asked to consider and comment on the findings of the Statutory Notice period on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

### **2. Local Member(s)**

Local members were notified of the Statutory Notice Period.

### **3. Community / Town Council**

Community and Town councils were notified of the Statutory Notice Period.

### **4. Relevant Partners**

Other relevant partners were notified of the Statutory Notice Period.

### **5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations**

Staff Side Representatives and other organisations were notified of the Statutory Notice Period.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Staff (Teaching and Ancillary) Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin | Governors and Parents / Guardians Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin          |
| Staff (Teaching and Ancillary) feeder primary schools          | Governors and Parents / Guardians feeder primary schools                   |
| Carmarthenshire Children's Partnership                         | Carmarthen Community Councillors   |
| Local County Councillors                                       | Welsh Language Commissioner  |
| Assembly Member (AM) / Regional Assembly Member                | National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT) |
| Undeb Cenedlaethol Athrawon Cymru (UCAC)                       | National Union of Teachers (NUT)   |
| Association Of Teachers & Lecturers (ATL)                      | The Professional Association of Teachers (PAT)                             |
| National Association Of Head Teachers (ASCL)                   | 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                                   |
| Carmarthen Town Council  | Coleg Sir Gâr  |
| Local Service Board  | Regional Transport Consortium  |
| Local Police and Crime Commissioner                            | Welsh Ministers  |
| Estyn  | RHAG (rhieni dros addysg Gymraeg)  |

## Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

### List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

These are detailed below.

| Title of Document   | File Ref No. | Locations that the papers are available for public inspection   |
|---|--------------|---|
| Planning School Places<br>- Primary Schools –<br>The Way Forward  |              | <a href="http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk">www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a> – the County Council<br>Agenda 9 Pre 28/06/2004) – 11/04/2001  |
| Modernising Education<br>Provision Strategy and<br>Draft Implementation<br>Plan   |              | <a href="http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk">www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a> – Education and<br>Learning – Useful Links   |
| Modernising Education<br>Provision Timeline/<br>Rollout:  |              | <a href="http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk">www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a> – Executive Board<br>Agenda – 31/05/2005   |
| Modernising Education<br>Provision Update /<br>Revised Draft Timetable  |              | <a href="http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk">www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a> – Executive Board<br>Agenda – 24/07/2006   |
| Modernising<br>Educational Provision<br>Future Use/Disposal of<br>Redundant Land and<br>Buildings arising from<br>the MEP programme |              | <a href="http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk">www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a> Executive Board –<br>31/05/05  |
| School Organisation<br>Code   |              | <a href="http://gov.wales/topics/educationandskills/publications/guidance/school-organisation-code/?lang=en">http://gov.wales/topics/educationandskills/publications/guidance/school-organisation-code/?lang=en</a>   |
| MEP Annual Report<br>2013/14 and<br>Programme 2014/15   |              | <a href="http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/">http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/</a> County Council<br>Agenda 14 <sup>th</sup> January 2015  |
| Strategic Outline<br>Programme 21 <sup>st</sup> Century<br>Schools  |              | <a href="#">Strategic Outline Programme 21st Century Schools</a>  |
| Carmarthenshire's<br>Welsh in Education<br>Strategic Plan 2014-<br>2017   |              | <a href="http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/english/welsh/pages/trafodiaith.aspx">http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/english/welsh/pages/trafodiaith.aspx</a>   |
| Consultation Document<br>Consultation Report<br>Statutory Notice  |              | <a href="http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/residents/education-schools/modernising-education-programme/secondary-schools/bro-myrrddin/">http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/residents/education-schools/modernising-education-programme/secondary-schools/bro-myrrddin/</a> |