

CABINET

30th September 2024

PETITION – YSGOL HEOL GOFFA

Purpose:

To consider the Petition referred to Cabinet by County Council on the 10th July 2024

KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

To agree on the progress of the Petition referred to Cabinet by County Council:-

“BUILD YSGOL HEOL GOFFA A NEW SCHOOL

We, the undersigned, petition Carmarthenshire County Council to retract their decision to no longer build Ysgol Heol Goffa a new specialist school that they desperately need!

Carmarthenshire Council have previously agreed, had planning permission and also already started the ground work to build a new school for Heol Goffa, but they have now put in a notice to say that they are no longer going ahead with the plans and pulled the plug on it all! The plans started back in 2018 to have a new school built as the current building is no longer suitable and can't hold any more capacity. In fact, they over in capacity. The Council have not prioritised the children and their needs and well-being and the fact they desperately need new facilities for education and it puts additional strain on education and getting future children the support they need! The new school would have provided so much more support and facilities on site. It's appalling that they can even think it's okay to make this decision but yet can provide other schools within the county new buildings and facilities! Carmarthenshire council need to be held accountable for their ridiculous decisions and to retract what they have decided and continue with the original plans! Their claim on “financial hardship” is a load of nonsense, as they are building a brand new wellness complex and leisure centre which the school was meant to be apart of the plans !”

Reasons: Petition referred to Cabinet by County Council.

Cabinet Decision Required	YES
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Council Decision Required	N/A
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**CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: -
Cllr Glynog Davies, Cabinet Member for Organisation and Workforce.**

Name of Head of Service: Gareth Morgans Report Author: Llinos Jenkins	Designations: Director of Education and Children's Services Cabinet Support Officer	 EDGMorgans@carmarthenshire.gov.uk llsjenkins@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PETITION – YSGOL HEOL GOFFA

The Petition received at County Council -

“BUILD YSGOL HEOL GOFFA A NEW SCHOOL

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As noted in the minutes of the meeting of County Council on July 10th 2024 - 'The Cabinet Member for Education and Welsh Language responded to the petition and clarified that due to the tender cost of the project, the current plan for Ysgol Heol Goffa could not proceed. Accordingly, an independent review of the current Additional Learning Needs (ALN) specialist provision in Llanelli had been commissioned, which would take on board the views of learners, parents, staff, governors and wider stakeholders to develop fully costed options for consideration.'

David Davies, former Head of Additional Learning Needs and Wellbeing for Vale of Glamorgan Council, has been commissioned by Carmarthenshire Council to lead an independent review of the current Additional Learning Needs (ALN) specialist provision in Llanelli.

The work to review special education facilities in Llanelli has started. As of next week, 9 September 2024, the independent consultant will meet with learners, parents, staff, governors and wider stakeholders to listen and take on board their views. His first visit to Ysgol Heol Goffa took place on the 12th of September.

All future proposals that will be developed, following the independent review, will be subject to a full public consultation at the appropriate time.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	NO
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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: Gareth Morgans. Director of Education and Children's Services

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

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Gareth Morgans

1.Scrutiny Committee

Not applicable

2.Local Member(s)

Not applicable

3.Community / Town Council

Not applicable

4.Relevant Partners

Not applicable

5.Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

Not applicable

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED:- 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
Minutes of the County Council meeting held 10th July 2024		Minute 12.