

EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD

CABINET

9 JULY 2015

Cabinet Members:

Councillors: A.H.Thomas, P.A.Rees, E.V.Latham, Mrs.S.Miller,
P.D.Richards, J.Rogers, A.J.Taylor and A.N.Woolcock

Officers in Attendance:

A.Evans, G.Nutt, Mrs.R.Crowhurst, R.Livingstone and Mrs.A.Manchipp

1. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Members made declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting in relation to the report of the Head of Transformation re the Strategic School Improvement Programme:-

Councillor E.V.Latham	as he is Chairman of governors at Tywyn and also the shadow board of governors at Ysgol Newydd Bae Baglan and governor at Traethmelyn;
Councillor Mrs.S.Miller	as she is Chairman of Govenors at Melin Infant and Melin Junior Schools and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon;
Councillor P.A.Rees	as he is grandfather of two, who may attend Ystalyfera/Sandfields Comprehensive Schools and Govenor at Cefn Saeson and Crynallt Primary Schools and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon;

Councillor P.D.Richards	as he is Vice Chairman of Governors at Blaenbaglan Primary and Baglan Primary Schools and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon;
Councillor J.Rogers	as he is Chairman of Govenors at Eastern and Groes Primary Schools and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon;
Councillor A.J.Taylor	as he is a governor of Eastern Primary School and also a parent of a child who will be attending Dyffryn Comprehensive School from September 2015, and confirmed his dispensation to speak but no vote thereon;
Councillor A.N.Woolcock	as he is Chair of Governors at Tairgwaith Primary School and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.

2. **PROPOSAL TO RECONFIGURE SECONDARY WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION BY MAKING SUITABLE PROVISION IN BOTH THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH WITH PROVISION IN THE NORTH PROVIDING BOTH PRIMARY AND SECONDARY PHASE EDUCATION**

Decisions:

1. That, having given due regard to the Equality Impact Assessment, contained in the circulated report, in line with Section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, the statutory publication of a proposal to make provision for pupils in the areas served by YG Ystalyfera and YGG Y Wern to receive Welsh-medium education at an ‘all-through’, Welsh-medium school providing for ages 3-18 at a north campus, based on the existing YG Ystalyfera site, and ages 11-16 at a south campus, based at the existing Sandfields Comprehensive school/Traethmelyn Primary school site, and to discontinue YG Ystalyfera and YGG Y Wern, be approved, with an intended implementation date of 1st September 2017;
2. That the Notice of the proposal be published on the 3rd September 2015, allowing 28 days for receipt of objections.

Reasons for Decisions:

1. To progress the proposal to the next stage in order to promote access to Welsh-medium education and contribute to school improvement. The concerns raised by those objecting to the proposal can be mitigated by management and organisational arrangements as set out in the consultation report (appendix C). A revised implementation date will address concerns over the readiness and suitability of the south campus. As such, the case for the proposal remains strong.
2. To enable the Council to meet its commitment and responsibility to:
 - a. promote high standards and the fulfillment of every child's potential;
 - b. meet its duty to secure efficient and sustainable education in its area;
 - c. comply with legislative requirements.
3. Specifically, the decision is necessary to enable the Council to comply with legislative requirements in relation to the statutory publication of the proposal.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decisions will be implemented after the 3 day call in period.

Consultation:

Consultation with interested parties has been undertaken during the period 9th February and 12th April, 2015.

3. **PROPOSAL TO RECONFIGURE COUNCIL'S 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS CAPITAL FUNDING PROGRAMME BAND A PROJECTS**

Decision:

That the withdrawal of the Faith School Scheme from Band A of the Council's 21st Century Schools capital funding programme, be approved, and that an alternative replacement project, comprising a new build at Dyffryn School, Margam, Port Talbot, be approved, and that Officers be authorised to develop a submission for Welsh Government funding approval.

Reason for Decision:

To progress the development and submission of an alternative, replacement scheme for the Faith school project which will, as a result, be withdrawn for the Band A Programme.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the 3 day call in period.

CHAIRMAN