

EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD

6 SEPTEMBER, 2018

CABINET

Cabinet Board Members:

Councillors: A.J.Taylor, C.Clement-Williams, D.Jones, E.V.Latham, A.R.Lockyer, P.A.Rees, P.D.Richards and A.Wingrave

Officers in Attendance:

S.Phillips, H.Jenkins, A.Evans, G.Nutt, K.Jones, A.Jarrett, N.Headon, C.Davies, J.Davies, M.Shaw, A.Thomas, R.Gordon and R.Crowhurst

Invitees:

Councillor A.L.Thomas (Chairperson of the Scrutiny Committee)
Councillor A.N.Woolcock (Vice Chairperson of the Scrutiny Committee)

Observers:

Councillors: S.Ap.Dafydd, N.E.Davies, S.E.Freeguard, S.Harris, M.Harvey, S.Hunt, H.N.James, J.Jones, S.Jones, A.Llewellyn, S.Miller, J.D.Morgan, S.M.Pendry, R.Phillips, M. Protheroe, L.M.Purcell, S.Renkes, S.Rahaman, A.J.Richards, R.L.Taylor, D.Whitelock

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Members made a declaration of interest at the commencement of the meeting:

Councillor A.J.Taylor Re: Report of the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning on the Strategic School Improvement Programme, Future of Secondary Education in the Upper Afan Valley

as he is a Governor at Eastern Primary School Ysgol Cwm Brombil and has children of school age who will attend Ysgol Cwm Brombil and confirmed his dispensation to speak in respect of the report but not to vote thereon.

Councillor P.A.Rees Re: Report of the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning on the Strategic School Improvement Programme, Future of Secondary Education in the Upper Afan Valley as he is a Governor at Cefn Saeson Comprehensive School and Crynallt Primary School and has a daughter in law who works at Dyffryn Comprehensive School and confirmed his dispensation to speak in respect of the vote but not to vote thereon.

Cllr. C.Clement-Williams Re: Report of the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning on the Strategic School Improvement Programme, Future of Secondary Education in the Upper Afan Valley as she is a Governor of Baglan Primary School, and confirmed her dispensation to both speak in respect of the report and to vote thereon.

Councillor D.Jones Re: Report of the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning on the Strategic School Improvement Programme, Future of Secondary Education in the Upper Afan Valley as she is a Governor at Cilffriw Primary School and Llangatwg Community School, and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.

Councillor A.R. Lockyer Re: Report of the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning on the Strategic School Improvement Programme, Future of Secondary Education in the Upper Afan Valley as he is a Governor at YGG Castell-nedd and Gnoll Primary School, and confirmed his dispensation to both speak in respect of the report and to vote thereon.

Councillor E.V.Latham Re: Report of the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning on the Strategic School Improvement Programme, Future of Secondary Education in the Upper Afan Valley as he is a Governor at Tywyn Primary School and Ysgol Bae Baglan, and confirmed his dispensation to both speak in respect of the vote and to vote thereon.

Councillor P.D.Richards Re: Report of the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning on the Strategic School Improvement Programme, Future of Secondary Education in the Upper Afan Valley as he is a Vice Chair of Governors at Baglan Primary School and Blaenbaglan Primary School, and confirmed his dispensation to both speak in respect of the vote and to vote thereon.

2. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON**

Agreed that Councillor E.V. Latham be appointed as Chairperson.

3. **STRATEGIC SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME - FUTURE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION IN THE UPPER AFAN VALLEY**

The Chairperson thanked Local Members, Members of the Public and Officers involved in the programme.

The Head of Transformation gave Members an overview of the circulated report.

Officers explained that the consultation process had been a rigorous and thorough process, and it was paramount to recognise all impacts.

Members highlighted parents' concerns regarding the transition and travel to a different school. Officers explained that they are committed to supporting pupils and will engage and work with the school community to provide assistance with transition arrangements.

It was noted that Officers would liaise with the Transport Section in order to ensure that correct transport checks are in place and to monitor home to school transport for the first year of travel.

Members emphasised that every participant in this process wants to provide the best education and start in life for the children in the Upper Afan Valley.

Decision:

1. That having given due regard to the objections and the impact assessments in relation to equality, risk, community usage and Welsh language together with the legal implications, in line with Section 53 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, the proposal to make arrangements for pupils who would otherwise attend Cymer Afan Comprehensive school to receive their secondary education at Ysgol Cwm Brombil and to close Cymer Afan Comprehensive, be approved.
2. That the date of implementation be 1 September, 2019.
3. That the site and buildings be declared surplus to the operational requirements of the Education Leisure and Lifelong Learning Service.

Reason for Decision:

1. This decision is necessary to comply with the legislative requirements that provide for the implementation of the proposal.
2. A decision to implement the proposal will enable the Council to:
 - promote high standards and the fulfilment of every child's potential; and
 - meet its duty to secure efficient education in its area.

Implementation of Decision:

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

CHAIRPERSON