

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **EDUCATION SKILLS AND CULTURE CABINET BOARD**

**11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2019**

### **JOINT REPORT OF THE HEAD OF TRANSFORMATION AND THE HEAD OF PROPERTY AND REGENERATION**

#### **MATTER FOR DECISION**

**WARDS AFFECTED: PORT TALBOT**

**FORMER DYFFRYN LOWER SCHOOL SITE, TALCENNAU ROAD,  
PORT TALBOT SA13 1EP**

#### **Purpose of Report**

1. To obtain Member approval to declare the former Dyffryn lower school premises surplus to the operational requirements of the Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Service and to transfer the premises to the Head of Property & Regeneration to dispose/lease.

#### **Executive Summary**

2. The Council is responsible for promoting high educational standards and for delivering efficient primary and secondary education. Having the right schools in the right place and ensuring that they are fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century learner is the challenge facing the Council. Achieving this will involve reviewing the number and type of schools the Council has in its area and assessing whether best use is being made of resources and facilities.

3. Implementing the Strategic School Improvement Programme (SSIP) has involved reviewing existing provision and determining the number and type of schools needed to deliver education effectively and efficiently across the County Borough resulting in substantial change involving opening new schools, closing existing schools, merging or amalgamating schools, federating schools and promoting new initiatives that supports collaborative working between schools.
4. The Council decided to review its provision on the basis of:
  - educational standards
  - the need for places and the accessibility of schools
  - the quality and suitability of school accommodation
  - effective financial management
5. At its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2017, Cabinet determined to implement a proposal to establish a brand new 21<sup>st</sup> Century 3-16 English-medium community school to replace Groes Primary and Dyffryn School which would be discontinued.
6. The new replacement school would be located within the confines of the existing grounds at Bertha Road, Margam.
7. Ysgol Cwm Brombil was established the start of the 2018/19 Autumn term but continued to operate from the buildings previously utilised by Groes Primary and Dyffryn School whilst its new premises were being completed.
8. Following an extended transition period during the early part of the 2018/19 Autumn Term, Ysgol Cwm Brombil's brand new 21<sup>st</sup> Century School building became fully occupied and operational from 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018.
9. Currently, the former Dyffryn (Upper) and Groes Primary school buildings at Bertha Road, Margam are in the process of being demolished to make way for parking areas and playing fields to

serve Ysgol Cwm Brombil's new premises whilst the former Dyffryn (Lower) school site and buildings at Talcennau Road, Port Talbot have been fully vacated and as such are now surplus to the operational requirements of the Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Directorate.

### **Financial Impact**

10. Should Members be minded to recommend declaring the land and premises as surplus to requirements, future responsibility will pass to the Head of Property and Regeneration until such time as it is sold/leased.

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

11. A Screening Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Authority in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. After completing the assessment, it has been determined that this function does not require an Equality Impact Assessment.

### **Workforce Impact**

12. There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

### **Legal Impact**

14. There are no legal impacts associated with this report.

### **Risk Management**

15. There is no risk management issues associated with this report.

### **Consultation**

16. There are no requirements for external consultation in this instance.

### **Sustainability**

17. Should Members be minded to recommend declaring the land and premises as surplus to operational requirements, responsibility will pass to the Head of Property and Regeneration until such time as it is sold/leased.

### **Recommendation**

18. That Members declare the former Dyffryn (Lower) school land and premises at Talcennau Road, Port Talbot SA13 1EP as being surplus to the operational requirements of the Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Service and transfer responsibility to the Head of Property & Regeneration.

### **Reasons for Proposed Decision**

19. To declare the former Dyffryn (Lower) school land and premises at Talcennau Road, Port Talbot SA13 1EP as being surplus to the operational requirements of the Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Service and transfer responsibility to the Head of Property and Regeneration.

## **Implementation of Decision**

20. The proposed decision is subject to the 3 day call in period.

## **Appendices**

21. See attached plan – appendix 1

## **List of Background Papers**

22. None

## **Officer Contact**

Mr Andrew Thomas  
Head of Transformation  
Tel 01639 763314  
Email [a.d.thomas@npt.gov.uk](mailto:a.d.thomas@npt.gov.uk)

## **APPENDIX 1**

