

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Education, Skills and Wellbeing Cabinet Board

27th October, 2022

Report of the Head of Support Services and Transformation Rhiannon Crowhurst

Matter for Decision

Strategic School Improvement Programme - proposal to establish a name for the new Welsh-medium primary school in Neath Abbey and a permanent governing body.

Wards Affected:

Briton Ferry West, Coedffranc Central, Coedffranc North, Coedffranc West, Dyffryn, Neath North

Purpose of the Report

To comply with Regulations surrounding the opening of a new school, Members are asked to formally agree:

1. The creation of an Instrument of Government which will establish a permanent Governing Body;
2. To approve a permanent name for the new 3-11 school.

Background

3. Members will be aware that from 1st January, 2023 a new 3-11 Welsh Language primary school will come into existence on the site which was previously Abbey Primary School junior site.

4. Prior to the new school becoming operational Cabinet Members agreed on 22nd September, to the creation of a temporary Governing Body to oversee the business of the new school.
5. Regulations state that a permanent Governing Body must be established and in place on a date agreed by the Local Authority, known as the “incorporation date”. This incorporation date is contained within the Instrument of Government and cannot be effected any later than the last day of the first term.
6. To allow time for the process of elections and appointment of governors during the early part of the autumn term, it is proposed the incorporation date will be Wednesday 1st March, 2023. Until this date, the temporary governing body will continue in its current form when their role and function will then come to an end.
7. It is a legal requirement that every school must have in place an Instrument of Government. In addition to recording the incorporation date, this document also formally records the name of the school and the constitution of its governing body. The Instrument of Government must be formally created by the Local Authority.
8. Governors of the temporary Governing Body have proposed to the Authority that the name of the new school be Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tregales. Consultation regarding the name has taken place with the Head of Planning and Senior Management Team of the Education Directorate where there have been no objections from either.

Financial Impact

9. There is no financial impact associated with this proposal.

Equality Impact Assessment

10. Having considered the Council's screening assessment guidance produced to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010 it has been determined that the proposal within this report does not require an equalities impact assessment.

Workforce Impacts

11. There are no workforce or staffing issues directly associated with this proposal although the permanent governing body will have responsibility for the employment of staff at the school.

Legal Impacts

12. The recommendations contained within this report are in accordance with the Council's obligations set out in The New Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005.

Risk Management

13. Should the recommendation to create the permanent governing body not be approved then the Council will be in breach of its statutory obligation. Should the recommendation to name the school not be approved then an alternative name will be sought and reported back to Members at a future meeting.

Consultation

14. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on either of the recommendations within this report, however, consultation has taken place with the Head of Planning and Education Senior Management Team.

Recommendations

15. i) That the Instrument of Government (attached as Appendix A) be approved with the incorporation date of 1st March, 2023, creating a permanent Governing Body;
ii) The name of the school will be " Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tregeles ".

Reasons for Proposed Decision

16. To comply with legislative requirements for the establishment of a new school.

Implementation of Decision

17. The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices

18. Instrument of Government at Appendix A.

List of Background Papers

19. Cabinet Report 20th September 2022:

<http://modgov.npt.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=447&MId=10863&Ver=4>

The New Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2005/2912/contents/made>

Officer Contact

20. Kathryn Gilbert, Principal Schools Governance Officer

Tel: 01639 763598

Email: k.gilbert@npt.gov.uk

INSTRUMENT OF GOVERNMENT - COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

1. The name of the school is:
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tregeles
2. The school is a community school.
3. The name of the governing body is:
The Governing Body of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Tregeles
4. The governing body shall consist of:
 - (a) Four parent governors;
 - (b) Three local authority governors;
 - (c) One teacher governors;
 - (d) One staff governor;
 - (e) Four community governors;
 - (f) Headteacher (except at any time when he/she has given written notice to the clerk to the governing body that he/she chooses not to be a governor).
5. Total number of governors: Fourteen (except at any time when the Headteacher has given notice as above that he/she chooses not to be a governor, when the total number of governors will be thirteen).
6. This instrument of government comes into effect on 1st March, 2023.
7. This instrument was made by order of Neath Port Talbot Local Authority on 22nd September, 2022.