

# Public Document Pack



CYNGOR SIR  
YNYS MÔN  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY  
COUNTY COUNCIL

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<b>RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD</b>	<b>NOTICE OF MEETING</b>
<b>PWYLLGOR SGRIWTINI CORFFORAETHOL</b>	<b>CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DYDD LLUN, 12 MAWRTH, 2018 am 2:00 y. p.</b>	<b>MONDAY, 12 MARCH 2018 at 2.00 pm</b>
<b>YSTAFELL BWYLLGOR 1, SWYDDFEYDD Y CYNGOR, LLANGEFNI</b>	<b>COMMITTEE ROOM 1 - COUNCIL OFFICES, LLANGEFNI</b>
<b>Swyddog Pwyllgor</b>	<b>Ann Holmes 01248 752518 Committee Officer</b>

## **AELODAU/MEMBERS**

Cynghorydd/Councillor:

## **PLAID CYMRU / THE PARTY OF WALES**

Lewis Davies, Trefor Lloyd Hughes, MBE, Dylan Rees (*Is-Gadeirydd/Vice-Chair*), Alun Roberts, Nicola Roberts

## **Y GRWP ANNIBYNNOL / THE INDEPENDENT GROUP**

Richard Griffiths, Richard O. Jones

## **PLAID LAFUR CYMRU/ WALES LABOUR PARTY**

J. Arwel Roberts

## **ANNIBYNNWYR MÔN / ANGLESEY INDEPENDENTS**

Aled Morris Jones (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru/Welsh Liberal Democrats)(*Cadeirydd/Chair*)  
Shaun Redmond

## **AELODAU CYFETHOLEDIG (Gyda hawl pleidleisio ar faterion Addysg) / CO-OPTED MEMBERS (With voting rights when dealing with Educational matters)**

Mr Keith Roberts (Yr Eglwys Gatholig / The Catholic Church)  
Mrs Anest G. Frazer (Yr Eglwys yng Nghymru / The Church in Wales).

## **A G E N D A**

**1     DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

To receive any declaration of interest by any Member or Officer in respect of any item of business.

**2     MINUTES OF THE 31 JANUARY, 2018 MEETING** (Pages 1 - 22)

To present the minutes of the previous meetings of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee held on the following dates –

- 31 January, 2018 (extraordinary)
- 5 February, 2018 (Budget meeting)

**3     PERFORMANCE MONITORING: CORPORATE SCORECARD QUARTER 3 2017/18** (Pages 23 - 46)

To present the report of the Head of Corporate Transformation.

**4     SCHOOLS' MODERNISATION PROGRAMME - SEIRIOL AREA** (Pages 47 - 126)

To present the report of the Head of Learning.

**5     SCHOOLS' MODERNISATION PROGRAMME - LLANGEFNI AREA** (Pages 127 - 158)

To present the report of the Head of Learning.

**6     PLAY SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT** (Pages 159 - 170)

To present the report of the Head of Learning.

**7     FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 171 - 178)

To present the report of the Scrutiny Manager.

## CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 31 January, 2018

- PRESENT:** Councillor Aled Morris Jones (Chair)  
Councillor Dylan Rees (Vice-Chair)
- Councillors Lewis Davies, Richard Griffiths, Richard Owain Jones, Shaun Redmond, Alun Roberts
- Co-opted Member: Mr Keith Roberts (The Catholic Church)
- Portfolio Members**
- Councillors Llinos Medi Huws (Leader and Portfolio Member for Social Services), John Griffith (Portfolio Member for Finance), Carwyn Jones (Portfolio Holder for Major Projects and Economic Development) R. Meirion Jones (Portfolio Member for Education, Libraries, Youth & Culture), Alun Mummery (Portfolio Member for Housing and Supporting Communities), R.G. Parry, OBE, FRAgS (Portfolio Member for Highways, Property and Waste), Dafydd Rhys Thomas (Portfolio Member for Corporate Services)
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive  
Head of Function (Resources) and Section 151 Officer (for item 2)  
Head of Learning (for items 6 & 7)  
Head of Housing Services (for item 2)  
Head of Adults' Services (for item 2)  
Head of Highways, Waste and Property Services (for items 4 & 5)  
Head of Children and Families Services (for item 3)  
Library Services Manager (RR) (for item 7)  
Principal Valuation Officer (for item 4)  
Support Manager (Highways, Waste and Property) (for item 6)  
Senior Manager (School Support) (EC) (for item 6)  
Scrutiny Manager (AGD)  
Committee Officer (ATH)
- APOLOGIES:** Councillors Trefor Lloyd Hughes, J. Arwel Roberts, Nicola Roberts, Anest Frazer (The Church in Wales)
- ALSO PRESENT:** Head of Audit and Risk, Senior Internal Auditor, Councillor Jason Zalot (Beaumaris Town Council), Rhian Jones (Chair of the Committee against the closure of Ysgol Beaumaris)
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#### 1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Richard Griffiths declared a personal but not prejudicial interest on the basis of his daughter's employment in the Housing Department.

Councillor Alun Roberts declared a personal but not prejudicial interest as a member of the Governing Body of Ysgol Beaumaris.

## 2 EXTRA CARE HOUSING – SEIRIOL AREA

The report of the Head of Adults' Services incorporating a summary of the feedback from the engagement process and final recommendations with regard to the proposed development of an Extra Care Housing Scheme on the Ysgol Beaumaris school site in the Seiriol area was presented for the Committee's consideration. The report provided a synopsis of the comments made at the public meeting held in Llangoed on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2018 and the Council's response to the issues raised, along with the Site Selection Report by the Authority's Senior Valuation Officer and feedback from an on-line questionnaire.

The Leader and Portfolio Member for Social Services said that a commitment was made in 2015 to develop Extra Care provision in the Seiriol area; the Ysgol Beaumaris site was subsequently identified as the most suitable site for the development both in terms of the residents of Seiriol and more broadly for the South of the Island. Both the Corporate Scrutiny Committee and the Executive supported holding a period of engagement locally within the Seiriol ward on the proposal and specifically, the location of the proposed scheme. This process took place during November and December, 2017 and entailed meetings with the local town and community councils, drop-in sessions, an on-line survey and a public meeting. The Portfolio Member said that the responses to the proposal were mixed and whilst there is general support for Extra Care Housing (ECH) as a form of provision there is disagreement as regards the best location for an ECH development in Seiriol as well as concerns about the impact of the proposed scheme on the future of the Haulfre Residential Home.

The Head of Adults' Services gave a visual presentation to the Committee based on the presentation made to the town and community councils and to the public meeting held at Llangoed on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2018. The presentation addressed the following matters –

- The evidence in support of extra care compared to residential care. Extra care supports an independent life and higher quality living and is generally cheaper for residents and more cost-effective for local authorities.
- The key features of Extra Care Housing.
- Extra Care provision on Anglesey in the form of the established Extra Care Scheme in Penucheldre, Holyhead and the planned development at Hafan Cefni, Llangefni which is scheduled to open in the summer, 2018.
- The sites considered for the Extra Care scheme in South Anglesey (an area encompassing Seiriol) and their ranking following evaluation and scoring for suitability.
- The two favoured options (Beaumaris Day Care Centre and Ysgol Beaumaris) which are both on the site of Ysgol Beaumaris. These are considered preferable because of their accessibility to the town and amenities of Beaumaris; because of their centrality within the Seiriol Ward and because there is enough space to develop the scheme behind the school if it were to remain as a school.
- The proposed 3<sup>rd</sup> floor model for the development in Beaumaris images of which were shown, as well as an example of a typical Extra Care Housing apartment
- Feedback from the engagement process which can be summarised as follows:
  - General agreement with the concept of Extra Care Housing but not with the school site as the best location;
  - Much support for the utilisation of the Haulfre site with many respondents believing that the residential home is still needed and that the ECH development should also be on the Haulfre site.
  - Opposition by the community to the possible closure of Ysgol Beaumaris as well as to the school site as the preferred site for the ECH development mainly due to the location on top of a steep hill.



- Cwm Cadnant Community Council did favour the development of an ECH facility in Beaumaris but not necessarily the school site as the preferred option, stating that other options in Beaumaris should also be considered.

The Head of Adults' Services also showed a short video clip of the amenities available at the recently opened Hafan Garnedd ECH facility in Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor along with testimony provided by some of the residents, families and staff of the benefits which living at the facility has brought them. The Officer said that whilst acknowledging the important points raised during the engagement process and the public meeting, the service's recommendations remain the same for the reasons set out in the report – that the site of Ysgol Beaumaris is used to develop the ECH scheme within the Seiriol area taking into account the points made during engagement with the community particularly with regard to ensuring that the site is accessible for older people. Although the Haulfre site was favoured by many within the community it is important to reiterate that Beaumaris is more central to the Seiriol area; it is more accessible to local amenities and it provides a better opportunity to develop the site as a community hub. Urban locations are consistently recommended for the development of ECH facilities and are supportive of the consideration that living well and living independently means having access to resources. It is the Council's oft stated strategy to offer more options to allow people to live independently thereby reducing the dependency on residential care provision. This approach is consistent with trends nationally; further investment in residential care provision would be a step backwards as regards providing a model of care that is sustainable into the future and ensures independence. As the older population increases, continuing with residential placements as the main form of provision would be a negative step in terms of the Authority's ability to manage demand in a way that offers less institutional options to individuals and which supports them in remaining independent in the long-term. In any process to decommission Haulfre Residential Home, the service would work closely with individuals and their families to ensure a successful transition to the ECH provision or depending on individual circumstances, to other provision within the South of the Island. The school site is not perfect but with considered design it can provide a good provision for the area. The proposal also provides an opportunity for the Authority to be ambitious in funding the scheme via the Housing Revenue Account thereby enabling the Council to manage its housing and its care options for older people. The recommendation does not make any presumption as regards the outcome of the consultation on the future of the school; it offers an opportunity to co-locate provision for older people with the school should that be the Council's wish.

Rhian Jones, Ysgol Beaumaris and Councillor Jason Zalot, Beaumaris Town Council were given the opportunity to address the meeting. Both emphasised the strength of feeling within the community against locating the ECH facility on the school site for a number of reasons including accessibility. They suggested that the investment should instead be made in Haulfre while keeping the primary school open. The indications are that pupil numbers at Ysgol Beaumaris are on the increase making the Council's approach look like short-termism. They were concerned that the ECH development was being discussed ahead of the closure of the statutory consultation on the future of the school, when in the community's opinion, both are inextricably linked.

Councillors Carwyn Jones, Lewis Davies and Alun Roberts spoke as Local Members. They highlighted the following points –

- They welcomed the investment in the area but not in the location proposed.

- They took issue with the assessment of the Ysgol Beaumaris site as the most suitable site suggesting instead that Haulfre, Llangoed would be a better location for the ECH facility and would provide a far more suitable environment for older people than the hilltop site at Ysgol Beaumaris.
- They were concerned about the future provision for the residents of Haulfre Residential home in the event of its closure many of whose needs are not suitable to independent living. They emphasised that there is a need for residential provision in the area and that the closure of the home would be the latest loss of a service in the south of the Island when a Welsh Government report on a review of health and social care in Wales in 2018 refers to the need still for residential and nursing care homes to provide flexible and long-term care for those who are unable to live in their own home.
- They pointed out that Beaumaris town is in dire need of investment but of the social housing type to provide for families and young people rather than of the extra care type which will only serve to reinforce the impression of Beaumaris as an ageing town. The land on the school site earmarked for extra care housing would be put to better use by a social housing development whilst retaining the school on a reduced footprint.
- The perception within the community is that the matter, including the future of the school has been predetermined. For the engagement process to be meaningful, the Council should listen to the views of the community and those of the Local Members and be prepared to change approach on the basis of what the local people are saying. The majority of the community who expressed an opinion do not think Ysgol Beaumaris is the right site for the ECH development; many do not want to see neither Ysgol Beaumaris nor Haulfre Residential Home closing. The decision needs to take account of those feelings.

The Committee considered the information presented and it sought clarification/ explanation of the matters noted below –

- The Committee noted that it is the local community's view that that the future of Ysgol Beaumaris and the development of the Extra Care Housing facility are interlinked and that many in the community believe that coming to a decision on the ECH development before the consultation on the future of the school has ended means that the fate of the latter has already been determined. The Committee sought clarification of the thinking behind the timing of the consultation and decision- making processes with regard to both matters. The Chief Executive said that the ECH facility is being considered before the future of the school has been determined because the two are not interdependent. The Officer's report makes it clear that the ECH scheme can proceed were the school to remain open or were it close. The Leader and Portfolio Member for Social Services said that she had sought to align the two consultation processes when the engagement on the ECH facility had been completed much sooner.
- The Committee noted the support by many within the local community for the retention of Haulfre Residential Home. The Committee also noted there is a view locally that the Haulfre site could be used for developing Extra Care Housing. The Committee sought clarification of the reasons for not designating Haulfre, Llangoed as a preferred option. The Head of Adults' Services said that the Haulfre site was one of 7 sites considered for the ECH scheme. However, its distance from amenities and lack of access to public transport (which are important BREEAM standards in the context of ECH) mean it did not score as highly as the school site which is more central to the wider area. This is why extra care provision is often located in or near to towns.
- The Committee noted that the ECH development is to be funded through the Housing Revenue Account. The Committee sought clarification of the reasons for utilising the

HRA as the funding source for the scheme and whether the risks are greater in going down this route. The Head of Function (Resources) and Section 151 Officer said that the HRA is wholly separate from the Council's other budgets and is designated for Council housing purposes only. There can be no cross- subsidisation between the HRA and the Council's other budgets. The Council's decision to opt out of the HRA subsidy system and to become self-financing means that it has more freedom regarding how it manages its housing including the ability to borrow (albeit up to a capped amount) to develop new housing. The proposed ECH scheme in Beaumaris will have to be self-sustaining i.e. the rental income it generates will be used to support it, hence the need for the scheme to be able to maximise its rental income by ensuring full occupation. The Head of Housing Services confirmed that Welsh Government social housing grants for ECH schemes such as was used to fund the Penucheldre ECH development in Holyhead have reduced significantly and the latest ECH scheme in Llangefni is being funded by private loans taken out by the Housing Association. The greatest risk to the HRA is from there being a large number of voids in the ECH scheme; the risk is reduced in locating the scheme in an urban setting.

- The Committee noted that it is intended that Haulfre residential home should close and that its residents where appropriate, will transfer to the new ECH facility in Beaumaris. The Committee sought clarification and assurance that there will also be appropriate and adequate provision for those residents whose care needs cannot be met by the ECH facility and that they will be suitably looked after. The Committee further sought clarification of the impact which the closure of Haulfre Residential Home is likely to have on the Gerddi Heulfre and Blaen y Coed provision for people with learning disabilities. The Head of Adults' Services said that the service is aiming to extend the options available to people whose needs may be more acute e. g. in Garreglwyd where there is a new resource for people with dementia. The service's strategy does not state that there will never be a need for residential care provision, but in acknowledging this, the strategy does seek to provide more options to allow people to live independently e. g. ECH. People who have specialist needs will be provided for through specialist residential care, through nursing care and/or EMI nursing care – the Officer said that he was confident that these forms of provision are continuing but notwithstanding they may have to be accessed beyond the individual's immediate community. The learning disability service is under review as a whole with the objective of establishing the best model for the delivery of learning disability provision; it would therefore be premature to predict the outcome of the review with reference to Gerddi Haulfre and Blaen y Coed.

Councillor Lewis Davies proposed the following amendments to the recommendations in the Officer's report –

- Due to the strength of feeling among the local community and Local Members, that the Council re-considers establishing Extra Care Housing on the site of Haulfre, Llangoed
- That Haulfre Residential Home is incorporated within the scheme in order to provide for those who are no longer able to live independently
- Due to the shortage of land for housing for young people in Beaumaris, that the Ysgol Beaumaris site is developed for social housing whilst retaining a smaller school.

The Committee was advised, and it noted, that as the statutory consultation on the future of Ysgol Beaumaris remains open, it is not able to consider any proposals which reference the primary school. Councillor Lewis Davies subsequently withdrew the reference to the school from the third of his proposals.

In the ensuing vote, the first and third of the amendments above were carried by a majority of the Committee's members. From the Officer's recommendations, the Committee accepted that the ECH scheme be funded through the Housing Revenue Account.

**The Committee, having considered the information presented both verbally and in writing along with the representations made at the meeting, RESOLVED to recommend to the Executive -**

- **That due to the strength of feeling among the local community and Local Members, the Council re-considers establishing the Extra Care Housing development in the Seiriol area on the site of Haulfre, Llangoed.**
- **That due to the shortage of land for housing for young people in Beaumaris, the Ysgol Beaumaris site is used to develop social housing.**
- **That the ECH development is funded through the Housing Revenue Account.**

**NO ADDITIONAL ACTION WAS PROPOSED**

### **3 CHILDREN'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PLAN – PROGRESS REPORT**

- The report of the Head of Children and Families' Services setting out the progress to date on implementing the Children's Service Improvement Plan was presented for the Committee's consideration. The report set out progress thus far with regard to the following areas of focus –
  - Service Re-structure
  - Recruitment and Retention
  - Policy and Guidance update including the Workforce Strategy
  - Quality Assurance
  - Working with Partners

The Leader and Portfolio Member for Social Services reported that a great deal of work has been done so far and is ongoing. Attached at Appendix 3 to the report is a detailed self-assessment summarising the strengths, achievements and areas remaining to be improved against each of the recommendations of CSSIW's Inspection report from its inspection of the Council's Children's Services in November, 2016. A letter from CSSIW's Head of Local Authority Inspection dated 11 January, 2018 notes that although the pace of change has been slow there has been positive incremental improvement overall and that significant progress has been achieved in implementing the new service structure. The letter acknowledges that there is continuing corporate commitment to securing improvement in Children's Services and that increased scrutiny and challenge from elected members has been a positive development. The Regulator states that it will continue to monitor progress ahead of a more formal review by way of re-inspection later in 2018.

The Head of Children and Families Services said that he was pleased with the Regulator's letter which recognises the continuing progress made by the Council to implement the recommendations of the inspection and to improve its Children and Families Service. The Officer, in acknowledging that much work remains to be done said that reforming practice does not happen overnight. However, the service is aware of the areas it needs to focus on and is prioritising accordingly.

- A report by the Scrutiny Manager incorporating a progress update on the work of the Children's Services Improvement Panel was presented for the Committee's consideration. The report provided a summary of the matters which have received the

Panel's attention over the course of November and December, 2017 along with an updated version of the Panel's work programme to May 2018.

Councillor Richard Griffiths, the Corporate Scrutiny Committee's representative on the Panel reported that all work-streams pertaining to the Service Improvement Plan appear to be on target thus far. However, the Panel wishes to bring the Corporate Scrutiny's attention to the fact that although good progress has been made on implementing the revised staffing structure, some social worker posts remain filled by agency workers. This needs to be addressed as soon as possible.

The Committee considered the information presented and was assured by the feedback received from the Panel and the areas covered by it during the reporting period as set out in section 2.2 of the report. The Committee noted that the Panel had observed that there had been a significant reduction in the service's dependency on agency staff in filling vacancies but that 4 social worker posts continued to be filled by agency staff and needed to be filled on a permanent basis. The Committee therefore sought an update on the recruitment position, particularly in relation to whether the service had taken the step as previously suggested by the Committee to be more proactive in its approach to recruitment and to advertise more widely.

The Head of Children and Families Service said that the Guardian (on-line) and Community Care (a social work journal) which the service has used to advertise vacancies are recognised sources of social work advertisement and recruitment. The service has started to offer taster placements aimed at sparking the interest of sixth form pupils for example and there are two internal members of staff who are following the traineeship programme to become qualified social workers which it is hoped could be a recurring feature in future years. Social worker recruitment is a national issue and many of Wales's 22 local authorities depend to varying degrees on agency staff. Additionally, 5 of the service's staff have been trained as social care ambassadors to go out to local colleges and sixth forms to talk about social care work.

**It was RESOLVED that the Committee -**

- **Takes assurance from the progress report and is satisfied with the steps taken to progress implementation of the Service Improvement Plan and the pace of progress.**
- **Notes the progress made to date with the work of the Children's Services Improvement Panel and that all work-streams pertaining to the Service Improvement Plan appear to be on target thus far.**
- **Notes the Panel's concern that some social worker posts continue to be filled by agency staff and notes also, that the service is taking steps to broaden and diversify its recruitment approach.**

**NO ADDITIONAL ACTION WAS PROPOSED**

#### **4 THE SMALLHOLDINGS ESTATE – MATTER REFERRED TO SCRUTINY BY FULL COUNCIL**

The report of the Head of Service (Highways, Waste and Property) was presented for the Committee's consideration. The report provided an overview of the position with regard to the Council's smallholdings estate following the completion of the 5 year Improvement Plan which sought to address the deteriorating physical condition of the rural estate.

The Portfolio Member for Highways, Property and Waste reported that the Council's Smallholding Estate is currently made up of 98 holdings in total analysis of which is provided in section 5.13 of the report. 51% of the total holdings are held on the more

modern Agricultural Tenancy Act 1995 agreements or Farm Business Tenancies while the remaining 49% are held on the stricter Agricultural Holdings Act 1996 tenancies. As holdings become vacant, they are transferred to the newer AHA tenancy agreement which are fixed term agreements on open market rents. Since commencing on the improvement programme, the rent income generated by the holdings has increased by £120k.

The Principal Valuation Officer said that he considered the Improvement Programme overall to have been a success; the value of the estate has been significantly optimised and the condition of a large proportion of the estate has been improved.

The Committee considered the information presented and made the following points:

- The Committee noted the current age profile of the Council's smallholdings estate and noted particularly the aging demographic trend of tenants with only 10% of tenants aged 40 and under, 30% aged 51 to 60 and 25% aged 61 to 70. Whilst it accepted the reasons for this as set out in the report, it sought clarification of whether there is recognised practice elsewhere among Wales's local authorities which the Council could draw upon to promote mobility and increase opportunities for new entrants. The Principal Valuation Officer said that the Welsh Government's report – Welsh County Farms: Way Forward Initiative - highlights Anglesey's policy with regard to the management of its rural estate as being positive and proactive in comparison to the minimalistic approach of other authorities in Wales.
- The Committee noted that the discussion at Full Council had been about not selling smallholdings without the approval of the Council. The Committee therefore sought clarification of the current approach taken to the sale of smallholdings. The Portfolio Member for Highways, Waste and Property confirmed that the right to sell resides with the Portfolio Member but that any such decisions are taken in consultation with the Officers. Disposals have been necessary both to generate the capital to fund the improvement programme and in terms of the management of the estate – in order to remove from the portfolio, assets that were under-performing and assets that were surplus to requirements.

**It was RESOLVED to note the information presented with regard to the current position of the Council's Smallholdings Estate following the completion of the 5 year Improvement Programme.**

**NO ADDITIONAL ACTION WAS PROPOSED**

## **5 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was considered and RESOLVED under Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on item 6 on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the said Act and in the Public Interest Test as presented.

## **6 SCHOOL TRANSPORT – MATTER REFERRED TO SCRUTINY BY THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

The joint report of the Head of Learning and the Head of Highways, Waste and Property was presented for the Committee's consideration. The matter was referred to the attention of Scrutiny by the Audit and Governance Committee in the wake of an Internal Audit review of school transport which had resulted in a Limited Assurance opinion meaning that significant weaknesses had been identified in the system of internal controls with regard to School Transport.

The Highways Service Support Manager reported that the Internal Audit review report on School Transport was presented to the Audit and Governance Committee on 21

September, 2017. The report included an Action Plan setting out 16 items which required addressing over a period of time, according to priority. As well as the Internal Audit action plan, the Head of Resources/Section 151 Officer, Head of Learning and the Head of Highways, Waste and Property met in August, 2017 to establish a programme of short, medium and long-term actions. The Learning Service has appointed a Consultant to work as a Project Manager on this matter. The Learning Service also benefits from the specific time allocation of an officer in the Transformation Service team who has specialist knowledge of IT systems and who will work with other authorities in North Wales which already utilise the Transport ONE software system to which Anglesey has also subscribed. The ONE system is designed to enable bus and taxi routes to be tracked to ensure that the optimum routes are adopted thereby providing better value for money.

The Officer proceeded to highlight the progress made since September, 2017 as set out in the report including progress against the recommendations made in the Internal Audit action plan.

The Head of Learning reported that an internal audit review of school transport arrangements was requested after over-expenditure on the school taxi services was identified in 2016/17. The school bus service continues to spend within budget and in terms of expenditure per head, is the cheapest in Wales. The demand for school transport is constantly changing with a significant increase in the number needing a school taxi service; consequently, a review of school transport policy will be held to ascertain whether in some cases, a service is being provided unnecessarily or is being duplicated. However, work over the past few months means that the service is now better informed as to the nature and extent of the demand for transport and is working on putting in place the systems to better enable it to manage the demand in line with statutory requirements. Work on evaluating and tracking bus and taxi routes has begun and as a result, it is anticipated that the overspend will be reduced this year. This is before work on systems has commenced. The Education Service has received funding through the Council's Invest to Save initiative to improve business processes. This will be used to establish a system to help plot bus and taxi routes digitally to achieve economy in the use of the service. This work is currently being undertaken manually. There is some data cleansing work to be undertaken before the Transport ONE software system can be fully utilised to ensure that the database from which the system will draw is up to date and accurate. It is expected that this work will be completed by July this year with a view to fully implementing the ONE system by September, 2018.

The Committee considered the information presented and made the following points –

- The Committee noted the progress made since the presentation of the Internal Audit review report in September, 2017. The Committee noted and welcomed the measures being taken to make the transport to school service more efficient and cost-effective.
- The Committee further sought clarification of the actions taken to ensure that the safeguarding elements of the school transport system are compliant and up to date. The Head of Highways, Waste and Property explained the arrangements with regard to DBS both for bus and taxi operations in terms of certification, renewal and spot checking. Safeguarding awareness sessions have also been arranged by the Human Resources Service for bus and taxi operators. The Head of Learning said that the Council's safeguarding thresholds are appropriately high and that continuing efforts are made to improve safeguarding arrangements as far as is possible.

The Committee noted the information presented and assurances given and was satisfied that the Highways, Waste and Property Service and the Learning Service are jointly taking actions to address the issues raised by the Internal Audit review of school transport and are putting in place measures to improve the School Transport service's efficiency, accountability and value for money. The Committee requested a

further update on progress for its June, 2018 meeting ahead of the scheduled completion of the action plan in September, 2018.

**It was RESOLVED that the Committee –**

- **Notes the Internal Audit Action Plan with regard to School Transport dated September, 2017.**
- **Notes and is satisfied that progress is being made against then recommendations contained in the Internal Audit report and that there is a commitment by both services to complete the action plan by September, 2018**
- **Notes that the Corporate Safeguarding Arrangements Board has already considered the Internal Audit Report at its meeting on 8 December, 2017 and is monitoring the safeguarding issues.**
- **Notes the recommendation made by the Audit and Governance Committee that an action plan be created and monitored and overseen by a Project Team.**
- **Refers the matter back to the Audit and Governance Committee following Internal Audit's monitoring of the action plan. The Committee notes that the IA service has in place a follow-up and monitoring process to ensure that the management steps in relation to all reports with a Limited Assurance opinion have been implemented effectively and that the Head of Audit and Risk will report to the Audit and Governance Committee on progress within the specific timetable agreed.**

**ADDITIONAL ACTION PROPOSED: That the Corporate Scrutiny Committee be updated on progress at its June, 2018 meeting ahead of the scheduled completion of the Action Plan in September, 2018**

*The Committee was in open session for the following item*

## **7 ITEM FOR INFORMATION - THE LIBRARY SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17**

The report of the Head of Learning incorporating the Annual Report of the Library Service for 2016/17 setting out performance against the fifth quality Welsh Public Library Standards 2014-17 was presented for the Committee's information.

The Head of Learning reported that the Welsh Government via its policy division MALD (Museums, Archives and Libraries Division) requires that the Council submits an Annual Report on performance towards fulfilling the Public Library Standards for Wales. The Annual Report contains a summary of Library and Information Service performance during 2016/17 and has been submitted to MALD in draft form due to the assessment timetable. The Assessment shows the service to be performing well and that it has met 17 of the 18 core entitlements in full thereby maintaining its performance in 2015/16. Of the 7 quality indicators, the Isle of Anglesey achieved 4 in full and 3 in part which is similar performance to that in 2015/16. However, MALD expresses concerns in some areas particularly in relation to staffing. Performance is broadly similar to last year, with some notable improvements in usage levels. The ongoing issue of low staffing levels remains an area of concern especially during a period of planning changes for the future. The Officer said that notwithstanding, the service has succeeded in maintaining the quality of the service and that in moving towards the sixth quality framework of the Welsh Library Standards the transformation process bodes well for the service's being able to sustain performance against those standards.

The Committee acknowledged the performance of the Library Service in difficult times and in a period of transition.

**It was RESOLVED that the Committee –**



- Suggests that the Portfolio Member FOR Education, Libraries, Culture and Youth approves the Welsh Public Library Standards Annual Report for 2016/17.
- Notes the Welsh Government's (MALD) assessment of the Library Service's 2016/17 Annual Library Report and the issues arising therein.

**NO ADDITIONAL ACTION WAS PROPOSED**

**Councillor Aled Morris Jones  
Chair**

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## CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the meeting held on 5 February, 2018(Budget Meeting)

**PRESENT:** Councillor Aled Morris Jones Jones (Chair)  
Councillors Lewis Davies, Richard Griffiths, Richard O. Jones, Alun Roberts, J. Arwel Roberts, Nicola Roberts  
Co-opted Member: Mr Keith Roberts (The Catholic Church)

#### Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

Councillors G.O. Jones, Kenneth Hughes, Margaret M. Roberts, Dafydd Roberts, Robin Williams

#### Portfolio Members

Councillor Llinos Medi Huws (Leader and Portfolio Member for Social Services), Councillor John Griffith (Portfolio Member for Finance), Councillor R. Meirion Jones (Portfolio Member for Education, Libraries, Culture & Youth), Councillor R.G. Parry, OBE, FRAgS (Portfolio Member for Highways, Property and Waste), Councillor Richard Dew (Portfolio Member for Planning and Public Protection), Councillor Carwyn Jones (Portfolio Member for Major Projects and Economic Development) Councillor Dafydd Rhys Thomas (Portfolio Member for Corporate Services), Councillor Alun Mummery (Portfolio Member for Housing and Supporting Communities), Councillor Ieuan Williams (Portfolio Member for Service Transformation and the Welsh Language)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive  
Assistant Chief Executive (Partnerships, Community and Service Improvement)  
Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Business Process Transformation)  
Head of Function (Resources) and Section 151 Officer Programme, Business Planning & Performance Manager (GM)  
Head of Adults' Services  
Head of Learning  
Head of Housing Services  
Head of Highways, Waste & Property Services  
Head of Regulation and Economic Development  
Head of Children and Families Services  
Head of Democratic Services  
Scrutiny Manager (AGD)  
Committee Officer (ATH)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Dylan Rees

**ALSO PRESENT:** Representatives of the Citizens' Panel and Anglesey Youth Council (Llais Ni)

The Chair welcomed all Members and Officers to the meeting and he extended a particular welcome to representatives of the Citizens' Panel and Anglesey Youth Council (Llais Ni).

## **1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

No declaration of interest was received.

## **2 MINUTES OF THE 21 NOVEMBER, 2016 MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meetings of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee held on 13 November, 2018 and 14 December, 2018 (call-in meeting) were presented and were confirmed as correct.

## **3 2018/19 BUDGET SETTING (REVENUE AND CAPITAL)**

The report of the Scrutiny Manager was presented for the Committee's consideration. The report outlined the context to the 2018/19 Budget setting process along with the key issues and questions for Scrutiny in evaluating the final Budget proposals in light of the outcome of the public consultation thereon, and it incorporated the following documentation –

### **3.1 The report of the Head of Function (Resources) and Section 151 Officer on the Medium Term Financial Plan and the proposed Revenue Budget for 2018/19. The report provided a position statement on the key financial considerations which have influenced how the final budget proposals have been shaped (Appendix 1)**

The Portfolio Member for Finance thanked the Finance Service for its work since the outset of the 2018/19 budget setting process, and also Heads of Service, departments, and Elected Members for their contribution to a process which has taken many months and has involved debate, discussion and challenge. Thanks are also due to Llais Ni and the Citizens' Panel for their participation in the scrutiny process. The Portfolio Member reported that the largest contribution to the Council's budget comes in the form of Welsh Government (WG) funding and although the final settlement figure for Anglesey saw an increase of £0.888m (0.7%) from the provisional figure, it is not enough to fully respond to the effects of both general and pay inflation nor to meet the increasing pressure on the Council's budgets, hence the need to find savings and to apply that requirement in as fair as way as possible across the Council's services. At its meeting in November, 2017 the Executive approved a standstill budget based on the provisional WG settlement, the savings proposals put forward at that time and an increase of 5% in the Council Tax (with 1% of this increase earmarked for Children's and Social Care services being areas where the budget pressures are most acute). The report as presented refers to a revised standstill budget of £133.127m, based on a final WG revenue grant settlement of £95.812m, savings of £3.3m with the remainder being generated by the Council Tax. The challenge which the Council faces annually in seeking to balance its budget is a significant one. The continuing climate of austerity means that the need to find savings is ongoing with little certainty as to the nature and extent of future challenges. The Council must therefore consider all options in order to ensure that its services remain as efficient as possible within the resources available and with the least possible impact on Anglesey's residents.

The Scrutiny Manager reported that this is the Corporate Scrutiny Committee's second meeting dedicated to the 2018/19 Budget, the first having been in October, 2017 when the Committee scrutinised the initial budget proposals as presented at the time. The Committee in October asked the Finance Scrutiny Panel to look in detail at the budget proposals. Today's meeting provides the Committee with a final opportunity to consider the budget proposals before they are presented to the Executive on 19<sup>th</sup> February and then to the Council on 28<sup>th</sup> February to be adopted as the budget for the following financial year. The documentation which forms the basis for the Committee's consideration of the final budget proposals draws together four elements of the budget setting process including the financial context; the response from the public consultation exercise; an impact assessment of those

savings proposals that directly affect the public and commentary by the Citizens' Panel and Llais Ni on the budget and scrutiny process.

The Head of Function (Resources) and Section 151 Officer said that the context for the 2018/19 Revenue Budget was set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2018/19 to 2021/22 approved by the Executive in September, 2017. The Plan identified the need for savings in the region of £8m over three years with approximately £4m of those savings having to be found in 2018/19. This was based on the assumption that the total Aggregate External Funding (AEF) to the Council would reduce by 2% in 2018/19, by 1.4% in 2019/20 and by 0.5% in 2021/2022 and that Council Tax would rise by 4% over the three year period. Initial budget proposals were approved by the Executive in November, 2017 leading to a standstill budget of £132.337m with a Council tax increase of 5% (1% or £330k of which was to be ring-fenced to Social Care) leaving a funding gap of £1.99m. The initial draft proposals identified potential revenue savings of £3.296m which would be sufficient to ensure that a balanced budget could be set.

The Officer said that the provisional standstill budget of £132.337m has been reviewed and updated since the proposals went out to public consultation in order to reflect changes that have occurred since that time, the main one being the current pay offer to NJC staff which is higher than the 2% allowed for in the original standstill budget thereby increasing costs by an additional £485k. Also, the Welsh Government published its final Revenue Grant settlement figures on 20 December, 2017 which increased the Council's AEF by £888k (£173k of which is to cover the loss of income which the Council will incur by increasing the capital threshold for nursing and residential care clients from £30k to £40k). The report refers at paragraph 3.1 to additional budget pressures which the Council is facing in the form of new funding requirements and/or curtailment of existing grants which were not included in the original draft budget. The upshot of meeting these in 2018/19 is to increase the standstill budget by £439k. Table 2 in the report compares Anglesey's Council Tax band charges with those of other North Wales authorities whilst Table 3 sets out the impact of varying increases in the level of Council Tax for 2018/19. Table 4 summarises the level of savings required for differing increases in Council Tax in order to deliver a balanced budget. The initial savings proposals totalling £3.396m have been reviewed and consequently adjusted down to £3.315m. These are listed individually in Appendix 2 of the report and those that have an effect on the public are accompanied by an equality impact assessment.

The Officer referred to section 6 of the report which updates the Council's general reserves position in light of actual and expected utilisation of reserves. Taking into account the adjustments noted in section 6, the estimated Council balances as at 31 March, 2018 will be £6.2m; having regard to the rule of thumb that general balances should be at least 5% of the net revenue budget (which for Anglesey is around £6.5m), £6.2m is deemed an acceptable level moving forward.

Given that the Council planned for a 2% cut in its AEF in 2018/19, the eventual 0.7% increase in the AEF has had a significant impact on the MTFP. However, estimating future changes in the AEF is difficult and is dependent on a number of factors some of which are outside the Welsh Government's control. Paragraphs 7.5 and 7.6 of the report set out the best and worst case revenue budget scenarios up to 2021/22. In any event, continuing pressures on budgets, price inflation and an increase in pay costs coupled with uncertainty as to future levels of funding means that savings will still have to be found over the course of the next three years and the sum required could be as much as £6m.

The proposed capital budget for 2018/19 is based on the capital strategy approved by the Executive in October, 2017. The strategy set out a number of principles for capital expenditure and outlined the 6 main sources of funding on which the capital programme would be based. The proposed capital programme and funding is shown in Table 5 of the report. The Executive will also be asked to consider two projects put forward by the Leisure Department as described in paragraph 8.5 of the report.

Councillor Robin Williams reported on the input which the Finance Scrutiny Panel had had into the budget setting process. The Panel had looked carefully at the budget consultation document and had suggested a number of improvements with regard to how the questions for the public could be framed and worded to make them more understandable. The Panel also looked at the process whereby the budget is set annually at national level; the subsequent allocations to Welsh councils via the Revenue Support Grant and how that funding is then apportioned within the Council itself.

### **3.2 The report of the Programme, Business Planning and Performance Manager summarising the key messages from the Public Consultation exercise on the Authority's 2018/19 Budget proposals which was conducted during the period 7<sup>th</sup> November to 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 (Appendix 2)**

The Programme, Business Planning and Performance Manager reported that the 7 week consultation period focused on approximately 40 proposals which were the result of the annual budgetary process. These were then split into themes as noted in paragraph 1.3 of the report. These proposals were publicised in various ways as described in paragraph 1.5 of the report. Similarly, citizens, partners and staff were asked to respond to the consultation through different means including an on-line survey, e-mail or by letter. As well as these, the Council held focus group meetings for young people and sessions with partners, town and community councils and Head Teachers and School Managers. Around 700 responses to the consultation were received again this year with the online survey proving to be the most popular channel for replying. However, this year also saw an increase in the number of responses via letter and e-mail. The use of social media to promote the consultation has enabled the Council again this year to reach a considerable audience from a wide range of towns and areas on the Island as well as from abroad.

The Officer said that the results of the consultation this year have been positive and balanced on the whole with viewpoints for and against a number of proposals. An outline of the substance of the responses under the main themes is provided in section 3 of the report. Additionally, and new to this year's consultation was the request for the public's suggestions on how the Council might increase income or make further savings – a wide range of ideas was received in response.

There were three areas which elicited a strong response as follows –

- A further 4% increase in Council Tax and an additional 1% for protecting Social Services

The majority (72%) were against the 4% increase on the basis that living costs are already high and that any increase in associated costs would make day to day living more difficult. However, around 28% of the responses noted that they would be happy with the increase if it meant that services were protected. Llanfairpwll Community Council agreed with this stance.

- Changing the current music provision to reduce management costs

There were approximately 100 objections to this proposal with the greatest concern being the uncertainty over the impact of the proposed change on the provision for children on Anglesey.

- Reduction in culture grants

Almost 100 e-mail responses were received rejecting this proposal with several respondents noting the importance of the grants to the culture of the area and the Welsh language.

- There was a feeling of frustration felt by young people with regard to the proposal that school budgets be maintained at the 2017/18 level and that schools be asked to fund the costs of pay awards and inflation from their existing budgets (£563K).
- There were also concerns about the proposed transfer of public toilets to others with the general feeling being that these are important facilities in the context of Anglesey as a tourist destination and as such they need to be kept open.

### **3.3 The report of the Citizens' Panel and Youth Council on their involvement with regard to improving public engagement with scrutiny (Appendix 3)**

Jenny Porter, on behalf of the Citizens' Panel addressed the Committee with regard to the arrangements made to explore and to clarify the role which the Panel and the Youth Council could play in the scrutiny process around the Budget Consultation. She referred to the process followed to recruit to the Citizens' Panel; to a session held at Anglesey Council to meet with key personnel and Members; to the conclusion of the evaluation of the day and the follow-up steps; to a questions and answer exercise held by e-mail; to the lessons learnt from the process and the next steps in order to build on the experience and to further develop and mature citizen engagement with the scrutiny process.

The Leader and Portfolio Member for Social Services said that budget planning is part and parcel of Council life and is now an ongoing process. The consultation on the 2018/19 budget was undertaken with the aim of reaching as many people as possible, and the exercise has been valuable with the sessions held with young people, groups and partners proving especially stimulating. The development of the Citizens' Panel is particularly important to future engagement. The Council is at the point of having to make savings in order to deliver a balanced budget; it has sought through the consultation process to have a dialogue with the public, and to gather the public's views on how those savings might be made.

The Committee considered the information presented and made the following points –

- The Committee sought clarification of whether any other authority is proposing to set aside a percentage of Council Tax increase to protect a particular service as Anglesey is proposing to do with regard to Social Services.

The Head of Function (Resources) and Section 151 Officer said that Denbighshire County Council is consulting on an additional 2% in the Council Tax for Social Services but that he could not confirm whether this forms part of the Council's final proposals.

- The Committee noted that the Council Tax premium on empty homes and second homes in Anglesey currently stands at 25% of the standard rate of Council Tax and that this is incorporated within the Budget figures. The Committee further noted that at a time when there is a great deal of pressure on the Council's budget and an expectation that services find year on year savings, raising the premium would bring in much needed additional revenue to the Council specifically to help those local communities where there is a dire need for affordable housing, to remain viable.

The Head of Function (Resources) and Section 51 Officer said that it was the Executive's decision which was ratified by Full Council that a review of the premium be undertaken during 2018/19 to establish if it has met the aims for which it was introduced in terms of use, effects and collection rate. Despite initial objections, most of those liable to pay the premium have done so; there is however a risk that in raising it, people will refuse to pay with a resulting impact on Council Tax collection generally. This is an assessment that will have to be made at the time of review.

- The Committee noted that it is proposed that school budgets remain at the 2017/18 level by requiring schools to fund the cost of pay awards and inflation from existing budgets. The Committee sought clarification of whether arrangements have been put in place to risk assess schools which as a consequence, might be in danger of not being able to balance their budgets without loss of teaching staff, and whether support will be provided to those schools and their governing bodies with their budgets going forward.

The Head of Function (Resources) and Section 151 Officer said that it is the Executive that will determine how the cut (if implemented) is allocated across each sector – the figure of £563k covers an amount for inflation across the three school sectors (primary, secondary and special). The primary sector in Anglesey has at present balances in the region of £1.7m which are among the highest in Wales, whilst in the secondary sector one school is in a position of deficit and two are close to being in deficit meaning the pressure on the secondary sector is that much greater. The financing arrangements for schools require each school to be treated equally with the budget being allocated through an agreed formula. The Authority is not able to target budgets to support individual schools who are experiencing financial difficulties; schools as separate legal entities, are expected to set their own budgets and it is for them to decide how they do so.

- The Committee further sought assurance that the Council is able to provide support for schools that find themselves having to reduce teaching staff, in managing that process.

The Head of Learning said that the support provided to schools with regard process is clear. The Human Resources Service will advise on any process which may include having to lose staff and an information pack has been distributed to schools for that purpose. A number of meetings between Head Teachers, Chairs of Governing Bodies and Council Officers have taken place to discuss arrangements. Support for schools in implementing changes is therefore available and is provided.

- The Committee noted and was concerned, that some schools may have reached a tipping point and will not be able to make further reductions to their budgets without affecting the quality of the education provided. The Committee sought clarification whether in proposing a cut in school budgets, the Authority has considered the impact this may have on standards at a time when there is an emphasis on improving schools, the quality of teaching and educational outcomes.

The Head of Learning whilst sympathising with the point made, highlighted that the greater part of the Council's budget is vested in schools. Whilst many Head teachers are frustrated by their situation and feel cornered, the percentage cut on schools has been much less by comparison with that imposed on central services in recent years. The Officer said that although the last thing she wanted to see was schools with less teachers and less classroom assistants, the situation has been reached wherein the cuts on other central budgets have been so severe that it is now impossible for the Council to move forward without considering imposing cuts and savings on schools. In previous years in order to protect schools, the Council has been through a process of rationalising central education services e.g. school cleaning budgets. The Youth Service and the Library Service have borne budget cuts and both are going through a process of restructuring. It is a difficult decision to have to make and in deciding, the Council has to take account of the possible effects in the future and also the ramifications of not making the decision. As regards standards, evidence from research into class sizes indicates that class size does not directly influence standards and that the quality of leadership, teaching and learning are more significant factors than the number of children in a class. Nevertheless, the Authority does not wish to see a reduction in the number of teachers and key school support staff without its being forced to; such a course could pose a risk



to the Council's ambitions of raising school standards on the Island. However, alternative savings options have all but been exhausted over the past three year period; the Education Service is already overspent in some areas and that is because the demand for services continues to grow whilst budgets are shrinking. Added to this is the reduction in other sources of funding such as education grant funding and the fact that the Education Service no longer has any resources in reserve centrally to plug the funding gap.

- The Committee noted that it is proposed that 1% of Council Tax increase be earmarked to ease pressures in Social Services particularly in relation to Children's Services and Social Care budgets. Whilst recognising that managing demand led budgets such as these is challenging, the Committee sought clarification of the inroads the service is making to reduce expenditure on high cost, out of area residential care placements.

The Head of Children and Families Services said that the service has commenced this process; ideally children which the Authority looks after would be placed on the Island but a shortage of foster care placements means that that is not always possible. The Service is also considering ways of promoting the recruitment of foster carers as well as providing small group placements for no more than 2 children. Out of area placements are sometimes necessary for children whose needs are such they can only be met by specialist provision which is not available locally.

- The Committee noted that the budget savings proposals include reducing staff numbers. The Committee sought assurance that cutting staff will not have an adverse effect on the continuity of service to the public and that the departments so affected are resilient enough to be able to support the saving.

The Chief Executive said that service resilience is an important consideration in the context of staff reduction. Savings proposals that have an effect on the public are accompanied by an Equality Impact Assessment which seeks to assess the implications of the saving proposed. Whilst it is not considered that the savings proposals pose a risk to the Council's ability to fulfil its statutory duties, the cumulative effect of savings over time, could have an effect on the quality of services. This will have to be assessed carefully as the Council plans its service provision for the future. With regard to schools, the Council's expenditure on the primary sector is among the highest in Wales. Whilst some schools are experiencing financial difficulties, others are successfully providing education of a high quality within the resources available to them. The education funding arrangements are consistent to all schools i.e. funding is allocated per head; there is therefore an expectation that as well as being effective, schools are also efficient in the use of resources.

Having sought clarification of the proposed savings presented, a proposal was made that a 5.2% Council Tax increase be recommended to the Executive with 1.2% of the increase to be earmarked for Children's Services. The Head of Function (Resources) and Section 151 Officer advised that there is an informal understanding that local authorities should not raise Council Tax by more than 5%; notwithstanding one local authority is proposing to do so and has sought the Welsh Government's view on the proposal. The Officer said that he understood that Welsh Government would not oppose it.

The proposal that a 5.2% increase in Council Tax be recommended to the Executive was not seconded.

**Having considered and deliberated on the information presented both in written form and orally at the meeting, and having regard to the views presented by respondents to the public consultation on the 2018/19 Budget proposals and the impact of the**

proposals on citizens, the Corporate Scrutiny Committee **RESOLVED** to support and recommend to the Executive at its meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 –

- **Revenue Budget proposals presented based on a Council Tax rise of 5% to include a 1% increase ring-fenced for Social Care.**
- **A proposed capital budget for 2018/19 as set out in Table 5 of Appendix 1.**

**ADDITIONAL ACTION PROPOSED: Information about the Council's expenditure on the secondary schools sector to be circulated to the Committee's Members.**

#### **4 FINANCE SCRUTINY PANEL**

A report by the Scrutiny Manager incorporating a progress update on the work of the Finance Scrutiny Panel was presented for the Committee's consideration. The report provided a summary of the matters which have received the Panel's attention over the course of December, 2017 and January, 2018 along with an updated version of the Panel's work programme to March, 2018.

Councillor Robin Williams reported that the Finance Scrutiny Panel has now met on six occasions and during that time the Panel has looked at several aspects of Council expenditure and has received external specialist input by CIPFA Wales. Two reports have been commissioned by the Panel in relation to Children's Services and the Learning Service being two areas where there is pressure on specific budgets and where there is consequent overspending. Those reports were presented to the Panel at its meeting on 2 February, 2018 and the Panel noted that both services are working on ways of bringing the over expenditure down as a priority. Whilst continuing to monitor Children's Services and the Learning Service, the Panel will also be extending its financial scrutiny over the coming months to other areas to include Adults' services, Leisure services and Waste services.

**It was resolved to note –**

- **The progress made to date with the work of the Finance Scrutiny Panel.**
- **That processes pertaining to budget monitoring for 2017/18 and budget setting for 2018/19 appear to be on track thus far.**
- **The financial scrutiny development programme for Panel members which is being delivered by CIPFA Wales.**
- **The Panel's concern regarding the overspend in Children's services and the Learning service. The Committee notes also that as a first step the Panel has invited the Assistant Chief Executive, Head of Children's Services and Head of Learning to provide an explanation of the financial situation in both services along with the mitigation measures proposed to be put in place to control the overspend and further notes that the Panel will report back to the Committee on its findings in due course.**

**NO ADDITIONAL ACTION WAS PROPOSED**

#### **5 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The report of the Scrutiny Manager incorporating the Committee's Forward Work Programme to June, 2018 was presented for review and comment.

The Chair updated Committee with regard to the following –

- That the items on the Committee's agenda for the 12 March, 2018 meeting will include the Corporate Scorecard for Q3 2017/18; the Schools' Modernisation

Programme in the Seiriol area; the Schools Modernisation Programme in the Llangefni area (Talwrn & Y Graig); Child Care/ Play Sufficiency Assessment and the Forward Work Programme.

- That the Committee's 9<sup>th</sup> April meeting may be re-scheduled for later in the month on a date to be confirmed.

**It was resolved to accept and to note the Forward Work Programme with the changes as reported.**

**NO ADDITIONAL ACTION WAS PROPOSED**

**Councillor Aled Morris Jones  
Chair**

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<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>	<b>CORPORATE SCRUTINY</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>MARCH 12<sup>th</sup> 2018</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>SCORECARD MONITORING REPORT - QUARTER 3 (2017/18)</b>
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR ALED M JONES</b>
<b>Portfolio Holder(s):</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR DAFYDD RHYS THOMAS</b>
<b>Head of Service:</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Report Author:</b>	<b>GETHIN MORGAN</b>
<b>Tel:</b>	01248 752111
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:GethinMorgan@anglesey.gov.uk">GethinMorgan@anglesey.gov.uk</a>
<b>Local Members:</b>	n/a

<b>1 - Recommendation/s</b>	
<b>1.1</b>	This is the third scorecard of the financial year 2017/18.
<b>1.2</b>	It portrays the position of the Council against its operational objectives as outlined and agreed collaboratively between the Senior Leadership Team / Executive and in consultation with the Shadow Executive.
<b>1.3</b>	The Committee is requested to scrutinise the scorecard and note the areas which the Senior Leadership Team are managing to secure improvements into the future. These can be summarised as follows –
<b>1.3.1</b>	<i>Underperformance is recognised and managed with mitigation measures completed to aide improvement –</i>
<b>1.3.1.1</b>	Children’s Services to continue to prioritize the improvements noted with particular emphasis placed on improving the timely assessments undertaken within regulations (PM24 / SCC/025) and ensuring that the average length of time for all children who were on the CPR during the year, and who were de-registered during the year decreases and improves even further during Q4.
<b>1.3.1.2</b>	<i>Adults Services will improve the issues during the forthcoming quarter by –</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>working towards a new Domiciliary Care contract to be in place in the next 6 months.</i></li> <li>• <i>work to move clients from hospital to spaces available in Garreglwyd at the earliest opportunity.</i></li> </ul>

**1.3.1.3** *The Learning Service will improve by:*

- *monitoring underperforming schools performance in the School Progress Panel and the BAS (County Quality Board) fortnightly*
- *Work on reducing the gap between forecasts and actual performance*
- *Continue to seek better consistency across the 5 schools in sharing best practice, harmonizing and ensuring accurate assessments, and use of assessments to plan appropriate intervention / teaching.*
- *Continue to provide support to teachers in order to improve Teacher Assessments in the Foundation Phase*
- *Continue to improve target setting processes*

**1.3.2** *To continue with the regular service sickness challenge panels with an emphasis on adhering to policy expectations and support provided to those specific services who have missed their targets.*

**1.3.3** *Social Services (Adults and Children's) are encouraged to improve the way by which complaints are dealt with and that they ensure that written response to Stage 1 complaints are completed within timescales. This should be operationalized through changing current working practices.*

**1.3.4** *A review of how joint complaints involving Social Services and Health is undertaken to establish how the Service can improve on the response rate to joint complaints.*

**1.4** The Committee is asked to recommend the mitigation measures outlined above.

## **2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities**

Used as part of the monitoring of the Council Plan

## **3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members**

**To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-**

**3.1** Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [**focus on customer/citizen**]

**3.2** A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [**focus on value**]

**3.3** A look at any risks [**focus on risk**]

**3.4** Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [**focus on performance & quality**]

**3.5** Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:

- Long term

- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Involvement

**[focus on wellbeing]**

#### **4 - Key Scrutiny Questions**

1. This Qtr3 performance monitoring report gives further consideration to performance issues in Children's Services. What additional role should the Children's Services Improvement Panel play in constructive scrutiny and monitoring improvements?
2. The report discusses pupil performance at Foundation Phase and Key Stage 4. What additional contribution should the Schools' Progress Review Scrutiny Panel make in constructive challenge and monitoring of improvements in schools?
3. Financial management data in the scorecard estimates a significant overspend by year end. What measures have been introduced to bring these budget pressures under control?

#### **5 – Background / Context**

1.1 Under the Wales Programme for Improvement the way by which the Council secures and realises continuous improvement across its services can be evidenced and is presented on an annual basis, by a performance report which is published by end of October. Last year's publication noted that as a Council we have improved in a number of areas and that our progress can now be confidently compared to other like-minded Council's across Wales.

1.2 This scorecard was developed in parallel to the annual report to identify and inform Council leaders of progress against indicators on a quarterly basis which explicitly demonstrates the successful implementation of the Council's day to day work. It also assists in providing the evidential base from which the performance report is drafted.

1.3 The scorecard continues to develop and embed, reflecting those changes that have been undertaken to traditional systems and practices within the Council. This year's indicators included within the scorecard (similar to previous years) have been decided via a workshop held during the second quarter of, 2017/18 with members of the Senior Leadership Team, the Executive and Shadow Executive.

1.4 The scorecard (Appendix A) portrays the current end of Q3 position and will be considered further by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee and the Executive during March.

#### **6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]**

n/a

#### **7 – Financial Implications**

n/a
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<b>8 – Appendices:</b>
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Appendix A - Scorecard Quarter 3 Appendix B – Programmes and Projects Performance Dashboard – Quarter 3 Appendix C – Service Financial Breakdown – Quarter 3
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<b>9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):</b>
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2017/18 Scorecard monitoring report - Quarter 2 (as presented to, and accepted by, the Executive Committee in November 2017).</li></ul> |
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## **SCORECARD MONITORING REPORT – QUARTER 3 (2017/18)**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Under the Wales Programme for Improvement the way by which the Council secures and realises continuous improvement across its services can be evidenced and is presented on an annual basis, by a performance report which is published by end of October. Last year's publication noted that as a Council we have improved in a number of areas and that our progress can now be confidently compared to other like-minded Council's across Wales.
- 1.2 This scorecard was developed in parallel to the annual report to identify and inform Council leaders of progress against indicators on a quarterly basis which explicitly demonstrates the successful implementation of the Council's day to day work. It also assists in providing the evidential base from which the performance report is drafted.
- 1.3 The scorecard continues to develop and embed, reflecting those changes that have been undertaken to traditional systems and practices within the Council. This year's indicators included within the scorecard (similar to previous years) have been decided via a workshop held during the second quarter of, 2017/18 with members of the Senior Leadership Team, the Executive and Shadow Executive.
- 1.4 The scorecard (Appendix A) portrays the current end of Q3 position and will be considered further by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee and the Executive during March.

### **2. CONSIDERATIONS**

- 2.1 This is the fifth year of collating and reporting performance indicators in a co-ordinated manner. The Council is seeing trends establish themselves with regards to a number of those indicators and SLT / Scrutiny and Executive comments are having an impact on operational delivery.
- 2.2 It is important to note that the formulation of this year's scorecard at the above noted workshop requested –
  - 2.2.1.1 The addition of the new PAM (Public Accountability Measures) national performance indicators that are collected on a quarterly basis into the Performance Management Section;
  - 2.2.1.2 The inclusion of a Service breakdown for some of the Financial Management indicators as an attachment to this report (Appendix D);
  - 2.2.1.3 The People Management section now includes the breakdown for Primary and Secondary schools Sickness data as recommended in the WAO report on sickness management; and
  - 2.2.1.4 The Customer Service section on responses to complaints within timescale is now split in two, Corporate Complaints and Social Services Complaints.

### **2.3 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT**

- 2.3.1 The scorecard for Performance Management shows performance against indicators outlined and requested by the Senior Leadership Team, Executive and Shadow

Executive. Targets for which have been reviewed in comparison with the publication of the national comparator data published on the 13<sup>th</sup> of September (excluding Social Services data).

**2.3.2** At the end of Q3 it is encouraging to note that the majority of indicators are performing well against their targets but we note that 5 indicators are underperforming as Red against their annual target for the year.

**2.3.3** One indicator within Adult Services now shows an underperformance for Q3 –

- (i) 04) – PM19 - The rate of delayed transfers of care for social care reasons per 1,000 population aged 75 or over is RED on the scorecard with a performance of 4.61 compared to a target of 1.5. This performance is a decline on Q2 figures of 2.9, however an improvement on the performance of Q3 2016/17 which was 5.8.

A lack of EMI beds is having an impact on the current figures but extra dementia care spaces are now available in Garreglwyd, which will allow clients suffering from EMI to leave hospital sooner. Also a new Domiciliary Care contract will be in place in the next 6 months.

**Mitigation** – to improve the issues during the forthcoming quarter the service will –

- work towards a new Domiciliary Care contract to be in place in the next 6 months.
- work to move clients from hospital to spaces available in Garreglwyd at the earliest opportunity.

**2.3.4** Four indicators within Childrens Services show an underperformance on the scorecard –

- (i) 07) SCC/025: The % of statutory visits to looked after children due in the year that took place in accordance with regulations which is RED on the Scorecard with 62.76% compared to a target of 85%.

There has been a slight improvement month on month in this PI. The service is fully aware of the need to significantly improve its performance in this area and significant work is being done to assist Social Workers in planning this work. As a result of this work, results are anticipated to have improved further by end of Q4 and it is worth noting that the current data would suggest that a high percentage of Looked After Children are not seen in line with Statutory obligations, however this is not the case following further interrogation of the data set. For example in November 2017, out of 140 Looked After Children 72 were seen in timescale; 22 were seen but out of timescale; 9 were not seen and 37 were not due to be seen in that month. This equates to the fact that 94 out of a total of 103 LAC have been seen during November (91%). The service continues its drive to focus on ensuring that all LAC who should be seen are being seen accordingly.

- (ii) 08) PM24 - The percentage of assessments completed for children within statutory timescales (42 working days) which is RED with a performance of 71% against a target of 90% for the quarter. This is a significant drop from the 92.67% reported during Q3 2016/17.

Quarter 3 is the first quarter this year where the Service can produce qualitative data on this PI due to a number of reasons, including the implementation of WCCIS and new forms within the new solution. The under-performance here is also related to the fact that certain staff members were not completing the assessments when required. These members of staff no longer work for the Council.

The continued drive to improve with regards to this data-set is on-going and under the remit of the new Head of Service it is anticipated further improvements will be seen during Q4.

- (iii) 09) – PM32 - The percentage (%) of looked after children who have experienced (1) or more changes of school, during a period or periods of being looked after, which were not due to transitional arrangements, which is AMBER with performance of 19.5% compared to a target of 15%.

Although this is high after 9 months, the reasons for moving school are as part of long term planning for the children e.g. adoption, therapeutic placements, new placements and therefore no mitigation is required.

- (iv) 11) PM28 - The average length of time for all children who were on the CPR during the year, and who were de-registered during the year (days), which is RED with a performance of 375.5 Days against a target of 250 Days

This PI refers to children who have been deregistered only and it does not refer to the total number of children on the register. Therefore caution must be exercised when analysing the data.

We have seen a period during which some children who had been on the register for some time were deregistered as the figures for quarter 2 included children who had been on the register for 4 years. It is to be welcomed that their circumstances have improved leading to their names now being removed. This meant however, that those children de-registered during that time took with them approximately 1200 days each against this indicator and as a result, skews the figure for the year. Improvements to this figure on a quarterly basis sees a decrease in the number of days from 376 to 326.

In addition the number of children on the Child Protection Register has decreased significantly over the last 6 months with 56 children currently on the Register compared with 102 at the end of March 2017. As a result, by April 2018 the Service will have a comprehensive and correct overview of the number of children on the CPR and this improvement is to be welcomed.

**Mitigation** for all 4 of the above PIs - to improve the issues during Q4 and into 2018/19 the service will –

- continue to prioritise the improvements noted with particular emphasis placed on improving the timely assessments undertaken within regulations (PM24 / SCC/025) and ensuring that the average length of time for all children who were on the CPR during the year, and who were de-registered decreases and improves even further during Q4.

**2.3.5** Two indicators from the Learning Service underperformed for the year –

- (i) 16) KS4 - % 15 year olds achieving L2+ performed at 50.5% for the 2016/17 Academic year. This is a 8.3% drop from the performance in 2015/16 of 58%.

The performance for this indicator dropped nationally due to the change in the measurement and nature of GCSE courses. Switching of the measures includes the best between Maths and Numeracy, English Language and Welsh Language only, where previously English and Welsh Literature was considered. The Welsh National Average slipped in performance against KS4 indicators to 53.2%, whilst performance slipped 6.4% in the region on average with Anglesey 4<sup>th</sup> of the 6 Counties. Although the performance was highly variable across the 5 schools there are intensive support plans in place to improve the situation.

**Mitigation** – To improve this indicator for 2017/18 the service will:

- Monitor underperforming schools performance in the School Progress Panel and the BAS (County Quality Board) fortnightly
- Work on reducing the gap between forecasts and actual performance
- Continue to seek better consistency across the 5 schools in sharing best practice, harmonizing and ensuring accurate assessments, and use of assessments to plan appropriate intervention / teaching.

- (ii) 19) FPh - % pupils achieving CSI/FPI performed at 85.8% for the 2016/17 Academic year. This is an improvement on the 84.7% achieved during 2015/16 however it less than the target of 88.4%.

The reliability of teacher assessments in the Foundation Phase has improved slightly, despite the intervention, as a result the performance in the FPh is slightly better than last year. However, Anglesey's performance has improved to 17<sup>th</sup> nationally, compared to 20<sup>th</sup> in 2016 and 15<sup>th</sup> in 2015

**Mitigation** – To improve this indicator for 2017/18 the service will:

- Continue to provide support to teachers in order to improve Teacher Assessments in the Foundation Phase
- Continue to improve target setting processes

**2.3.6** The scorecard also evidences where improvements or good performance occurs across the board. One such indicator within Adult Services which was Red on the scorecard for Q2 has now improved and is Green on the scorecard at the end of Q3 –

- (i) 02) – LI/18b: The percentage of carers of adults who requested an assessment or review that had an assessment or review in their own right during the year with a performance of 93.3% against a target of 93%. This is a significant improvement from the 83.4% reported in the Q2 scorecard and the 87.5% reported in Q3 2016/17.

**2.3.7** Whilst the remaining indicators reported for Q3 are all ragged **GREEN** or **YELLOW** within the performance management section it should be noted that this does not mean that our position on a national basis will improve across all areas.

**2.3.8** The Social Services indicators (01-11) PI results for 2016/17 were released late by the Welsh Government during Q3. Because of the inconsistency of statistics provided by Authorities across Wales this release has now been released as experimental statistics. Further information can be found here <http://gov.wales/docs/statistics/2017/171031-social-services-performance-measures-2016-17-en.pdf>

**2.3.9 The SLT recommends –**

**2.3.9.1** *Underperformance is recognised and managed with mitigation measures completed to aide improvement during Q3.*

**2.3.9.2** *Children’s Services to continue to prioritise the improvements noted with particular emphasis placed on improving the timely assessments undertaken within regulations (PM24 / SCC/025) and ensuring that the average length of time for all children who were on the CPR during the year, and who were de-registered during the year decreases and improves even further during Q4.*

**2.3.10** Appendix B shows the whole programme of work which the two Corporate Transformation Programme Boards are overseeing. Whilst some of the programmes / projects are ragged as RED it is important to state that the issues highlighted are being managed and tracked accordingly via the Boards which meet on a quarterly basis.

**2.4 PEOPLE MANAGEMENT**

**2.4.1** With regard to People Management, it is noted that the performance of the Council’s sickness rates (*indicator 3 on scorecard under people management*) at the end of Q3 of 6.88 shows a further improvement when compared with the same period for 2016/17 of 7.21. This indicates that the projected end of year sickness level (if trends continue as indicated over the past two years) would equate to 9.81 days per FTE.

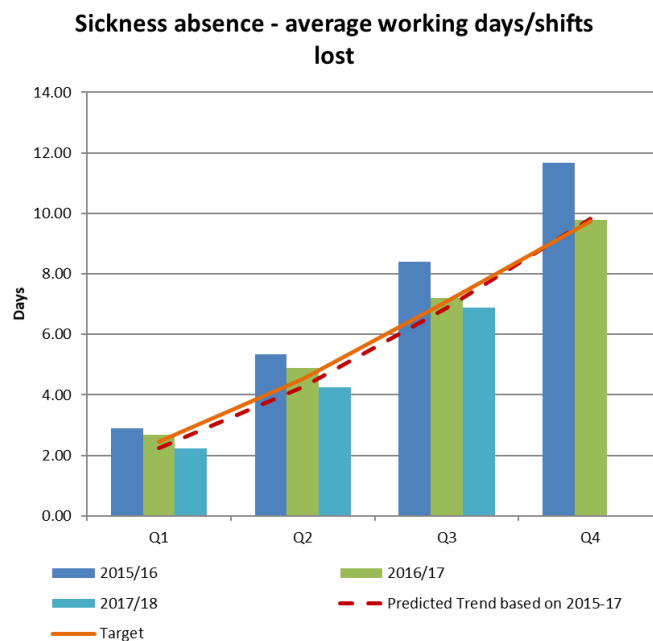


Table 1

**2.4.2 Service Performance against these targets for Q3 indicate that only 2 Services are RED compared to their targets for the quarter:**

**2.4.2.1 Regulation & Economic Development – RED – 6.87 Days Sick per FTE (Target 5.18).** Sickness issues within Leisure have now improved and the Service are under target for the October to December period (1.79 Days Sick per FTE against a Target of 2.11 Days Sick per FTE). The main reasons for continuing to be RED on the Scorecard are to do with the high sickness levels during the first half of the year, and because this is a cumulative indicator (April to December) this means the service will be over target for the year.

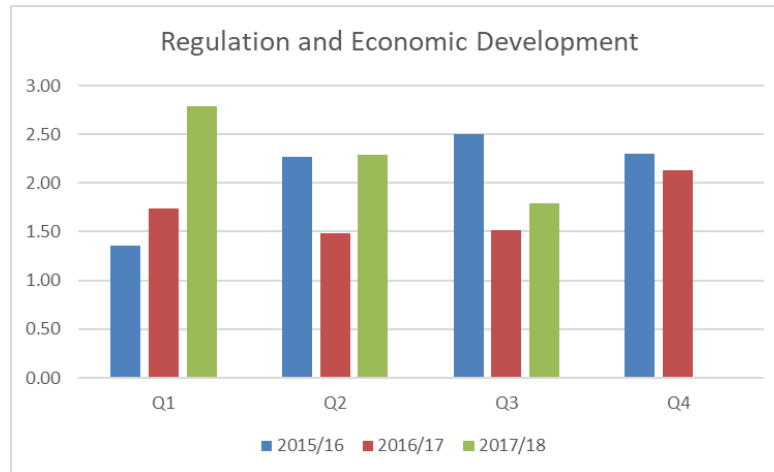


Table 2

**2.4.2.2 Adult Services – RED – 10.45 Days Sick per FTE (Target 9.15).** The main reason for the decline in the sickness is as of a result of Long Term sickness cases in the Provider Unit, which equates to 2011 Days Sick of the Service total of 3882 Days sick (52%). This is an increase of 0.89 Days Sick per FTE (3.96 Days sick per FTE) for the October to December period when compared to the same period in 2016/17 (3.07 Days Sick Per FTE). The increase can be seen in table 3 below:

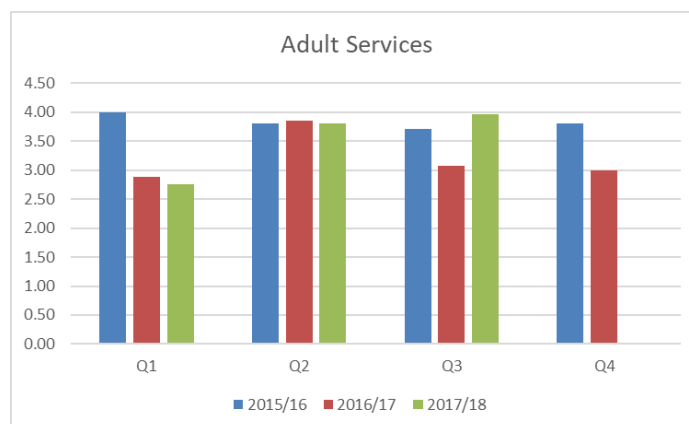


Table 3

**2.4.2.3 Adult Services** have approx. 16.5% of the workforce for the Council and therefore any changes in sickness levels have a big impact on the overall Council Sickness Rates. If the pattern shown in Q3 was to continue for

the remainder of the year then the Council’s overall sickness could well be above target for the year.

**2.4.2.4** However, Adult Services as with Health Services have experienced an increase in sickness cases during Q3 on a national level and due to the nature of their work this service is amongst the most at risk of illness when out working in the community.

**2.4.3** Associated with sickness rates is the ‘management’ of sickness. An integral part of the management process within the Council is staff’s compliance with corporate sickness policies which includes the undertaking of return to work interviews and Attendance Review Meetings (*indicators 7 & 8 on scorecard*).

**2.4.4** The Council continues to embed this working practice across its services and by the end of Q3 1735 of the cumulative Return to Work (RTW) interviews were held within timescale (73%). This is a similar improvement seen in Q2 where 72% were within timescale. However, this continues to be below the target of 80% and continues to be AMBER on the Scorecard (Table 4). The total RTW interviews held (within and out of timescale) is also low at 86% (2036 RTW interviews) compared to a target of 95%, this continues to show the same trend as Q2.

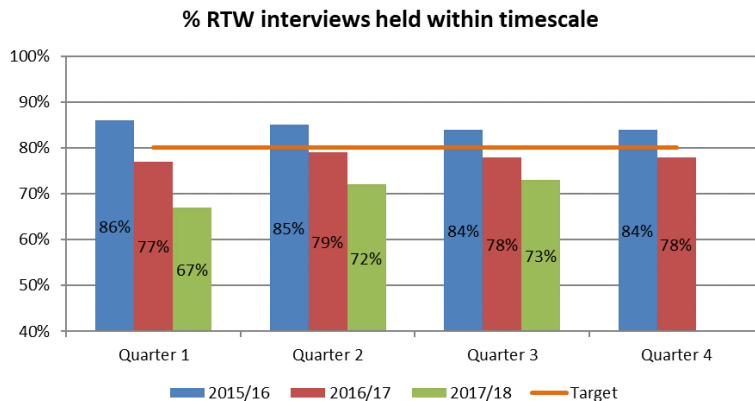


Table 4

**2.4.5** By the end of Q3 the services which failed to hit the Corporate RTW Target of 80% within timescale were Adult Services 76%, Childrens Services 71%, Learning 70% and Resources 70%.

**2.4.6** The only service that was Red (more than 10% below target) on the total % RTW interviews held (within and out of timescale) was Learning at 81% completed. Two Services were Amber (between 5% and 10% below target), Childrens Services with 86% and Resources with 90% completed. The remaining services are within 5% of the targets.

**2.4.7** The ARM figures for Q2 at 83% (50 of the 60 ARMs due) have improved on the 59% seen in Q2 and is now GREEN on the Scorecard (point to note - these figures do not include Schools).

**2.4.8** Whist improvements can still be made with the adherence to the Absence Management Policy, i.e. RTW and ARMs, it is encouraging to note that the overall sickness target has been achieved for the 5<sup>th</sup> quarter running and if this trend continues we anticipate a result of 9.81 Days per FTE (based on a 3 year average).

**2.4.9** *The SLT therefore recommends –*

**2.4.9.1** *To continue with the regular service sickness challenge panels with an emphasis on adhering to policy expectations and support provided to those specific services who have missed their targets.*

## **2.5 CUSTOMER SERVICE**

- 2.5.1** During Q3, users used AppMôn technology to submit 1.5k reports (including fly tipping, faulty street lighting, compliments or complaints, broken pavements, sports club database forms and ordering recycling bins). 81% of these reports have come through the website, a similar level to Q2 where 83% of reports were submitted via the website.
- 2.5.2** Further work is required to secure the amount of downloads of AppMôn from the supplier. Gaining these figures from the supplier continues to be a challenge but work will continue to confirm these statistics and intelligence during Q4.
- 2.5.3** The remaining indicators within the Digital Services Section focus on the website and on our social media presence. We had an increase of 65k unique visits up to the end of Q3 compared to the same period last year (460k for 17/18 and 395k for 16/17). Our social media presence has also resulted in a total of 25k social media accounts following us on Facebook (11k followers) and Twitter (14k followers). The Council now have a presence on Instagram where 332 people currently follow the page. These modes of communication are continuing to increase and the flow of information distributed and received via these channels it is envisaged will only increase.
- 2.5.4** Regarding Customer Complaints Management, due to long term sickness within the team who collates the statistics on behalf of the Council, we are unable to report on Customer Complaints or FOI for the quarter (excluding Social Services who report differently). Whilst we do not have the statistics available from the services collated on behalf of the council, the Services continue to monitor the Complaints and FOI requests in the same manner as they have done in the past.
- 2.5.5** There were 8 Stage 2 Complaints in Social Services (Childrens Services [4] and Adult Services [4]) and 38 Stage 1 Complaints (Childrens Services [28], Adult Services [10]) received up to the end of Q3.
- 2.5.5.1** Of the 38 Stage 1 complaints up to the end of Q3, a total of 47%, which is a decline on the 53% reported in the Q2 report, have been responded to in writing within timescale. There were 18 late written responses in total up to the end of Q3 with 13 in Childrens Services and 5 in Adult Services.
- 2.5.5.2** Performance was better for Stage 1 discussions, with a discussion being offered to the complainant within timescale for 24 of the 28 complaints to Children's Services, and 6 of the 10 complaints to Adult Services in up to the end of Q3.
- 2.5.5.3** The complaints to Adult Services included 2 complaints that were joint complaints with the Health Board and two of the discussions had yet to be held and at the end of Q3 and were overdue. Because of this it was not possible to say if a written response would be sent within 5 days of the discussion taking place. This will be reported in the Q4 Scorecard report.



- 2.5.5.4** Underperformance within Childrens Services is in relation to sending written responses within timescale, although 2 out of the 3 complaints received between October and December were provided with a written response within timescale.
- 2.5.5.5** Underperformance in Adult Services is in relation to failure to provide a written response to any of the 5 complaints received between October and December within timescale, although statistics were not available the 2 joint complaints at the end of Quarter 3.
- 2.5.5.6** For 30 of the 38 (79%) complaints received by Adult and Children Services had held a discussion with the complainant was offered within timescales which is a decline on the performance in Q2 (87%).

**2.5.6 The SLT therefore recommends –**

- 2.5.6.1** *Social Services (Adults and Children's) are encouraged to improve the way by which complaints are dealt with and that they ensure that written response to Stage 1 complaints are completed within timescales. This should be operationalised through changing current working practices.*
- 2.5.6.2** *A review of how joint complaints involving Social Services and Health is undertaken to establish how the Service can improve on the response rate to joint complaints.*

**2.6 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

- 2.6.1** A total overspend of £1.624m is projected for the year-ending 31 March 2018.
- 2.6.2** This is an improvement on of £300k from Quarter 2. £2.461m of this is on service budgets, which are made up of a number of over and underspends. The Services that are still experiencing significant budgetary pressures are similar to 2016/17 (Children and Families Service and Learning). The Heads of Service are aware of the issues and are working to reduce the level of overspending which is within their control at the year-end. Corporate Finance is expected to underspend by £0.503m and Council Tax, which includes the Council Tax Premium, is forecast to collect a surplus of £0.334m. The overall overspend is, therefore, reduced to £1.624m. The projected level of overspend is 1.29% of the Council's net budget. There is concern about the impact of this level of overspend on general balances should the overspend materialise. However, the general balances are currently sufficient enough to sustain the overspend without impeding on the minimum level target of £6m set by the full Council on 28 February 2017.
- 2.6.3** Forecasts are subject to change as new information becomes available. However, with regular scrutiny from SLT and if remedial action is taken by Heads of Services, these will help the services manage within the budgets they can control.
- 2.6.4** Further information on financial management can be seen in the 'Revenue Budget Monitoring Report for Q3' which has been discussed in The Executive meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> February.

**3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1** The Committee is requested to scrutinise the scorecard and note the areas which the Senior Leadership Team are managing to secure improvements into the future. These can be summarised as follows –
- 3.1.1** *Underperformance is recognised and managed with mitigation measures completed to aide improvement –*
- 3.1.1.1** Children’s Services to continue to prioritise the improvements noted with particular emphasis placed on improving the timely assessments undertaken within regulations (PM24 / SCC/025) and ensuring that the average length of time for all children who were on the CPR during the year, and who were de-registered during the year decreases and improves even further during Q4.
- 3.1.1.2** Adults Services will improve the issues during the forthcoming quarter by –
- 3.1.1.2.1** working towards a new Domiciliary Care contract to be in place in the next 6 months.
- 3.1.1.2.2** work to move clients from hospital to spaces available in Garreglwyd at the earliest opportunity.
- 3.1.1.3** The Learning Service will improve by:
- 3.1.1.3.1** monitoring underperforming schools performance in the School Progress Panel and the BAS (County Quality Board) fortnightly
- 3.1.1.3.2** Work on reducing the gap between forecasts and actual performance
- 3.1.1.3.3** Continue to seek better consistency across the 5 schools in sharing best practice, harmonizing and ensuring accurate assessments, and use of assessments to plan appropriate intervention / teaching.
- 3.1.1.3.4** Continue to provide support to teachers in order to improve Teacher Assessments in the Foundation Phase
- 3.1.1.3.5** Continue to improve target setting processes
- 3.1.2** To continue with the regular service sickness challenge panels with an emphasis on adhering to policy expectations and support provided to those specific services who have missed their targets.
- 3.1.3** *Social Services (Adults and Children’s) are encouraged to improve the way by which complaints are dealt with and that they ensure that written response to Stage 1 complaints are completed within timescales. This should be operationalised through changing current working practices.*
- 3.1.4** A review of how joint complaints involving Social Services and Health is undertaken to establish how the Service can improve on the response rate to joint complaints.
- 3.2** The Committee is asked to recommend the mitigation measures outlined above.

Appendix A - Cerdyn Sgorio Corfforaethol - Corporate Scorecard Ch-Q3 2017/18

Gofal Cwsmer / Customer Service	CAG / RAG	Tuedd / Trend	Canlyniad / Actual	Targed / Target	Canlyniad 16/17 Result	Canlyniad 15/16 Result
<b>Starter Gofal Cwsmer / Customer Service Charter</b>						
01) No of Complaints received (excluding Social Services)	-	-	-	-	71	59
02) No of Stage 2 Complaints received for Social Services	-	-	8	-	5	5
03) Total number of complaints upheld / partially upheld	-	-	-	-	25	21
04a) Total % of written responses to complaints within 20 days (Corporate)	-	-	-	80%	93%	64%
04b) Total % of written responses to complaints within 20 days (Social Services)	-	-	-	80%	63%	-
05) Number of concerns (excluding Social Services)	-	-	-	-	191	261
06) Number of Stage 1 Complaints for Social Services	-	-	35	-	54	53
07) Number of Compliments	-	-	426*	-	566	712
08) % of FOI requests responded to within timescale	-	-	-	80%	77%	67%
09) Number of FOI requests received	-	-	-	-	1037	854
10) % of telephone calls not answered	Gwyrdd / Green	⇒	12%	15%	13%	12%
11) % of written communication replied to within 15 working days of receipt (Mystery Shop)	Gwyrdd / Green	-	78%	-	67%	-
12) % of written responses in the customers language of choice (Mystery Shop)	Gwyrdd / Green	-	100%	-	100%	-
13) % of telephone calls answered bilingually (Mystery Shop)	Gwyrdd / Green	-	83%	-	77%	-
14) % of staff that took responsibility for the customer query (Mystery Shop)	Gwyrdd / Green	-	87%	-	90%	-
<b>Newid Cyfrwng Digidol / Digital Service Shift</b>						
15) No of AppMôn users (annual)	-	-	-	-	-	-
16) No of reports received by AppMôn	-	↑	1.5k	-	1k	-
17) No of web payments	-	↑	11k	-	10k	-
18) No of 'followers' of IOACC Social Media	Gwyrdd / Green	↑	25k	21k	21k	-
19) No of visitors to the Council Website	Gwyrdd / Green	↑	460k	406k	541k	-

Rheoli Pobl / People Management	CAG / RAG	Tuedd / Trend	Canlyniad / Actual	Targed / Target	Canlyniad 16/17 Result	Canlyniad 15/16 Result
01) Number of staff authority wide, including teachers and school based staff (FTE)	-	-	2253	-	2258	2310
02) Number of staff authority wide, excluding teachers and school based staff(FTE)	-	-	1245	-	1250	1303
03a) Sickness absence - average working days/shifts lost	Gwyrdd / Green	↓	6.88	7.07	9.78	11.68
03b) Short Term sickness - average working days/shifts lost per FTE	-	-	3.02	-	4.72	11.68
03c) Long Term sickness - average working days/shifts lost per FTE	-	-	3.86	-	5.06	6.79
04a) Primary Schools - Sickness absence - average working days/shifts lost	Melyn / Yellow	↓	6.81	6.76	-	-
04b) Primary Schools - Short Term sickness - average working days/shifts lost per FTE	-	-	3.16	-	-	-
04c) Primary Schools - Long Term sickness - average working days/shifts lost per FTE	-	-	3.65	-	-	-
05a) Secondary Schools - Sickness absence - average working days/shifts lost	Gwyrdd / Green	↓	6.69	6.76	-	-
05b) Secondary Schools - Short Term sickness - average working days/shifts lost per FTE	-	-	3.5	-	-	-
05c) Secondary Schools - Long Term sickness - average working days/shifts lost per FTE	-	-	3.19	-	-	-
06) % of RTW interview held within timescale	Ambr / Amber	↑	73%	80%	78%	84%
07) % of RTW interview held	Ambr / Amber	⇒	86%	95%	91%	-
08) % of Attendance Review Meetings held	Gwyrdd / Green	↑	83%	80%	57%	-
09) Local Authority employees leaving (%) (Turnover) (Annual)	-	-	-	-	10%	-
10) % of PDR's completed within timeframe (Q4)	-	-	-	80%	80%	-
11) % of staff with DBS Certificate (if required within their role)	-	-	-	-	91.40%	98%
12) No. of Agency Staff	-	-	12	-	15	26

Rheolaeth Ariannol / Financial Management	CAG / RAG	Tuedd / Trend	Cyllideb / Budget	Canlyniad / Actual	Amrywiad / Variance (%)	Rhagolygon o'r Gwariant / Forcasted Actual	Amrywiad a Ragwelir / Forcasted Variance (%)
01) Budget v Actuals	Coch / Red	-	£96,137,000	£98,145,000	2.09%	-	-
02) Forecasted end of year outturn (Revenue)	Coch / Red	-	£126,157,000	-	-	£127,781,000	1.29%
03) Forecasted end of year outturn (Capital)	-	-	£39,184,000	-	-	£21,717,000	-44.58%
04) Achievement against efficiencies	Ambr / Amber	-	£2,444,000	-	-	£1,646,250	-32.80%
05) Income v Targets (excluding grants)	Gwyrdd / Green	-	-£15,083,310	-16848740	11.70%	-	-
06) Amount borrowed	-	⇒	£12,377,000	-	-	£8,317,000	-32.80%
07) Cost of borrowing	-	⇒	£4,257,000	-	-	£4,095,000	-3.81%
08) % invoices paid within 30 days	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
09) % of Council Tax collected (for last 3 years)	Gwyrdd / Green	↑	-	98.90%	-	-	-
10) % of Business Rates collected (for last 3 years)	Gwyrdd / Green	↑	-	98.80%	-	-	-
11) % of Sundry Debtors collected (for last 3 years)	Melyn/Yellow	↑	-	97.20%	-	-	-
12) % Housing Rent collected (for the last 3 years)	Gwyrdd / Green	-	-	101%	-	-	-
13) % Housing Rent collected excl benefit payments (for the last 3 years)	-	-	-	102%	-	-	-

Rheoli Perfformiad / Performance Management	CAG / RAG	Tuedd / Trend	Canlyniad / Actual	Targed / Target	Canlyniad 16/17 Result	Canlyniad 15/16 Result	Chwartert 16/17 Quartile
01) SCA/002b: The rate of older people (aged 65 or over) whom the authority supports in care homes per 1,000 population aged 65 or over at 31 March	Gwyrdd / Green	⇒	19.06	22	20.51	20.3	-
02) LI/18b The percentage of carers of adults who requested an assessment or review that had an assessment or review in their own right during the year	Gwyrdd / Green	↑	93.3	93	94.4	90.8	-
03) PM18 - The percentage of adult protection enquiries completed within statutory timescales	Gwyrdd / Green	↑	92.93	90	90.48	-	-
04) PM19 - The rate of delayed transfers of care for social care reasons per 1,000 population aged 75 or over	Coch / Red	↓	4.61	1.5	6.05	-	-
05) PM20a - The percentage of adults who completed a period of reablement and have a reduced package of care and support 6 months later	Gwyrdd / Green	↓	59.09	40	62.6	-	-
06) PM20b - The percentage of adults who completed a period of reablement and have no package of care and support 6 months later	Gwyrdd / Green	↑	64.57	62	33.3	-	-
07) SCC/025: The % of statutory visits to looked after children due in the year that took place in accordance with regulations	Coch / Red	↑	62.76	85	79.35	82.79	-
08) PM24 - The percentage of assessments completed for children within statutory timescales (42 working days)	Coch / Red	↓	71	90	89.17	-	-
09) PM32 - The percentage of looked after children who have experienced (1) or more changes of school, during a period or periods of being looked after, which were not due to transitional arrangements, in the year to 31 March	Coch / Red	↓	30	15	17.53	-	-
10) PM33 - The percentage of looked after children on 31 March who have had three or more placements during the year	Melyn / Yellow	↓	7.86	5	5.04	-	-
11) PM28 - The average length of time for all children who were on the CPR during the year, and who were de-registered during the year (days)	Coch / Red	↑	326	250	266	-	-
12) Attendance - Primary (%)	-	-	94.98	-	94.8	95.1	-
13) Attendance - Secondary (%)	-	-	93.63	-	94.6	94.5	Uchaf / Upper
14) No. of days lost to temp exclusion - Primary	-	-	10	-	-	-	-
15) No. of days lost to temp exclusion - Secondary	-	-	35.5	-	-	-	-
16) KS4 - % 15 year olds achieving L2+ (Q3)	Coch / Red	↓	50.5	63.4*	58.8*	56.9*	Canolrif Isaf / Lower Median
17) KS3 - % pupils achieving CSI (Q3)	Melyn / Yellow	↑	88.9	90.1	87.6	84.5	Canrif Uchaf / Upper Median
18) KS2 - % pupils achieving CSI (Q3)	Gwyrdd / Green	↑	91.4	91	89.4	91.8	Uchaf / Upper
19) FPh - % pupils achieving CSI/FPI (Q3)	Ambr / Amber	↑	85.8	88.4	84.7	86.2	Isaf / Lower
20) LCL/001b: The no. of visits to public libraries during the year	Gwyrdd / Green	↓	212k	210k	288k	289k	Uchaf / Upper
21) LCL/004: The no. of library materials issued, during the year	Melyn / Yellow	↓	193k	195k	272k	284k	-
22) The number of applicants with dependent children who the Council secured non-self contained bed and breakfast accommodation	Gwyrdd / Green	⇒	0	0	0	-	-
23) % tenants satisfied with responsive repairs	Melyn / Yellow	↓	89	92	90.2	89.5	-
24) Productivity of workforce- % time which is classified as productive	Melyn / Yellow	↓	79.32	80	80.1	74.6	-
25) The average number of calendar days to let lettable units of accommodation (excluding DTLs)	Gwyrdd / Green	↑	17.7	23	28	33.7	-
26) PAM/013 - Number of empty private properties brought back into use	Gwyrdd / Green	↑	53	52	-	-	-
27) PAM/014 - Number of new homes created as a result of bringing empty properties back into use	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
28) PAM/015 - Average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)	Gwyrdd / Green	↑	181.4	200	-	-	Canolrif Isaf / Lower Median
29) STS/005b: The percentage of highways inspected of a high or acceptable standard of cleanliness	Gwyrdd / Green	↓	94.3	94	93.4	95.1	-
30) STS/006: The percentage of reported fly tipping incidents cleared within 5 working days	Gwyrdd / Green	↓	99.67	100	97.31	98.5	-
31) WMT/009b: The percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycled	Gwyrdd / Green	↓	73.24	67	65.79	59.5	Uchaf / Upper
32) WMT/004b: The percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill	Gwyrdd / Green	↓	0.47	5	6.6	16.9	Canolrif Isaf / Lower Median
33) THS/011c: The % of non-principal (C) roads that are in an overall poor condition (annual)	-	-	-	10	10.1	13.5	Canolrif Isaf / Lower Median
34) No. of attendances (young people) at sports development / outreach activity programmes	Gwyrdd / Green	-	32k	30k	113k	132k	-
35) LCS/002b: The number of visits to local authority sport and leisure centres during the year where the visitor will be participating in physical activity	Gwyrdd / Green	-	364k	319k	464k	458k	Isaf / Lower
36) PAM/023 - Percentage of food establishments that meet food hygiene standards	Gwyrdd / Green	-	98	80	98	-	Uchaf / Upper

\* based on the old curriculum

## Appendix B

This document is contained within the quarterly scorecard monitoring report which is presented to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee and The Executive every quarter to provide a brief high-level update as to the status of work which is applicable and reports to both the -

- ***Partnerships, Communities & Service Improvement Transformation Programme Board and the;***
- ***Governance & Business Process Transformation Programme Board***

The key ragging for the said document is as follows –

RAG:

Completed

Project has been completed

On Track

Project is developing as expected and is on track

Behind Schedule

The Project needs key decisions / support

Late

The project is late and is falling behind expected timelines

White

The Project has not started to date

<b>Partnerships, Communities &amp; Service Improvement Transformation Programme Board</b>		
<b>Programme/Project</b>	<b>Related Projects</b>	<b>RAYG and brief Update</b>
<b>School Modernisation</b>	<b>Bro Rhosyr a Bro Aberffraw</b>	The timeline for building Ysgol Santes Dwynwen at Newborough has slipped to March 2019.  Ysgol Parc y Bont building adaptations for a new classroom completed December 2017
	<b>Llangefni Area</b>	Following a pause & review on the Llangefni area and Banb B funding confirmation, a statutory consultation is currently ongoing with Ysgol Henblas, Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir included.
	<b>Seiriol + South East</b>	The formal consultation process is currently being undertaken
<b>Adult Social Care -</b>	<b>Llangefni Extra Care</b>	Good progress is being made with the construction work and the builders are confident that they adhere to the timetable and the work be completed by June 2018.
	<b>Amlwch Extra Care</b>	An assessment is being undertaken by the Housing Service to look at housing needs more widely within the area that includes considering Extra Care
	<b>South of the Island Extra Care</b>	Decision to be agreed by the Executive in Q4
	<b>Housing with Internal Support</b>	The new aim of the project is to retain the service internally within the Council but to re-model in order to achieve financial savings. Examples of how we intend to re-model the service include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• restructure of the staffing cohort</li> <li>• review of care over 24 hours</li> <li>• confirmation that the number of hours support provided, supported independence</li> <li>• more use of telecare equipment.</li> </ul>
	<b>Housing with External Support</b>	PID and Project Plan were submitted to the Adults Services Transformation Board in Q3
	<b>Re-tendering of Home Care Services</b>	Looking at the North Wales framework for Home Care. This tender is now live as at Feb 2018.
	<b>In house day Services</b>	Proposed Project considered by the SLT during Q3

<b>Transformation of Libraries, Youth Services, Museums, Culture and Market Hall</b>	<b>Transformation of Museums and Culture</b>	New timetable to be agreed by the Project Board in Q4
	<b>Remodelling of Library Service</b>	The Executive Committee held on 18/12/2017 resolved as follows :  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt the draft Library Service Strategy 2017-2022</li> <li>• That the proposed changes in the Draft Library Service Strategy 2017-2022 be actioned</li> <li>• Implement Option C within the Draft Library Service costings - retain 22 hours or 2/3 of the staffing from the closed libraries within the staffing structure to help with mitigation and sustain performance against WPLS standards.</li> </ul>
	<b>Review of Youth Services</b>	New structure in place and operational in Q4
	<b>Market Hall</b>	Slightly behind schedule with building works
<b>Leisure</b>		Draft Strategy being drafted
<b>Energy Island</b>		Six week public consultation on an updated Wylfa Newydd Supplementary Planning Guidance during Q4 ( <a href="http://www.anglesey.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/consultations/wylfa-newydd-spg-2018-consultation/133459.article">http://www.anglesey.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/consultations/wylfa-newydd-spg-2018-consultation/133459.article</a> )
<b>Gypsy Traveller sites</b>		
<b>Prevention Strategy</b>	<b>Early Intervention</b>	
	<b>Implementing Tackling Poverty Strategy</b>	
<b>Increase levels of recycling</b>		Please see Scorecard KPIs 31 + 32 for Q3 achievement
<b>Flood alleviation work</b>		The recent major flood event of the 22/11/2017 has highlighted the need to persevere with such schemes, with problems at Beaumaris, Menai Bridge, Llanfairpwll, Llangefni, Dwyran and numerous other places. FLWMA Reports are being prepared for all areas where properties have been affected. It is hoped that funding will be received from WG to resolve some of these issues.  A Flood Consultation event was held at Beaumaris on the day before the flood event, with only 20 people attending. However, the consensus was

		<p>very much in favour of providing pipes from Castle Meadow to the sea rather than constructing a huge dam in the field. An amended Project Appraisal Report has been prepared and sent to WG with the hope for an early start of works..</p> <p>The flood defence fund that was constructed in Castle Meadow worked well in holding back 8,000 cubic metres of flood water that would otherwise have been in Beaumaris High Street.</p> <p>Discussions with NRW to proceed with a flood defence scheme for Afon Cefni at Llangefni and the service has offered to take over the responsibility for the Afon Cefni in Llangefni from NRW, in order to expedite matters.</p>
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<b>Governance &amp; Business Process Transformation Programme Board</b>		
<b>Programme/Project</b>	<b>Related Projects</b>	<b>RAYG and brief Update</b>
<b>Resource Plan – Northgate</b>		<p>MyView Dashboard rolled out to all 6 care homes</p> <p>Timesheets and Web Expenses function configured in TEST for pilot.</p> <p>Aprox 500 extra staff receiving electronic payslips in Q4</p> <p>Web Recruitment currently being tested</p>
<b>Customer Service Excellence</b>	<b>Cyswllt Môn Expansion Programme / Face to Face Contact</b>	Two pilot schemes have been agreed
	<b>Customer contact Centre</b>	Discussions underway to merge existing call centres
	<b>Contact over the phones + Channel Shift</b>	Contact Centres currently being tested by the services. Revenues next to be LIVE.
	<b>CRM</b>	The Waste and Recycling Module was implemented in Q3.
	<b>Improving Business Processes</b>	Group have decided to concentrate efforts on the VOIDS element of the housing service VOIDS Service Manager has scoped current process for scrutiny by group at forthcoming meeting



Appendix B

	<b>Compliance and Satisfaction</b>	
<b>Energy Efficiency</b>		Work is ongoing through the Refit programme to develop potential projects. A bid for Capital funding from the Invest To Save project will be submitted in January.
<b>Implementation of ICT Strategy</b>		The Digital IT Strategy – ‘Digital Island’ has been approved and covers 2016-2020. Strategy being revised following new Council Plan.
<b>Scrutiny Improvement Plan</b>		Good progress has been made against the 22 individual improvement actions with 13 ragged Green and fully implemented. The remaining 9 are on track to be completed to timescale and as such ragged Yellow.
<b>Communication Strategy</b>		With the new Council Plan 2017-22 now in place, this will also help shape our priorities in terms of communications over the coming years.

**Projected Revenue Outturn for the Financial Year Ending 31 March 2018 – Quarter 3**

Service/Function	2017/18 Annual Budget	Q3 2017/18 Budget Year to Date	Q3 Actual & Committed spend	Q3 2017/18 Variance	Q3 Estimated Expenditure to 31 March 2018	Q3 Estimated Outturn 31 March 2018 over/(under)	Q2 Estimated Outturn 31 March 2018	Q1 Estimated Outturn 31 March 2018	2017/18 Projected Over/(Under)spend as a % of Total Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
<b>Lifelong Learning</b>									
Delegated Schools Budget	44,021	33,848	33,848	(0)	44,021	0	0	0	0.00%
Central Education	2,811	1,618	2,185	567	3,689	878	618	618	31.23%
Culture	1,355	1,117	1,076	(41)	1,248	(107)	(70)	20	(7.90%)
<b>Adult Services</b>	22,456	17,390	17,941	551	22,515	59	191	299	0.26%
<b>Children's Services</b>	8,035	6,596	8,015	1,419	9,779	1,744	1,899	2,106	21.70%
<b>Housing</b>	1,036	1,462	1,441	-21	1,036	0	0	0	0.00%
<b>Highways, Waste &amp; Property</b>									
Highways	6,567	6,499	6,846	347	6,653	86	100	3	1.31%
Property	1,143	1,019	1,051	32	1,136	(7)	-11	-33	(0.61%)
Waste	6,294	5,756	5,679	(78)	6,274	-20	-25	30	(0.32%)
<b>Regulation &amp; Economic Development</b>									
Economic Development	1,942	1,679	1,561	(118)	1,972	30	110	80	1.55%
Planning and Public Protection	2,202	1,657	1,195	-462	2,142	-60	-97	-14	-2.72%
<b>Transformation</b>									
Human Resources	1,204	903	888	(15)	1,174	(30)	0	0	(2.49%)
ICT	1,746	1,312	1,459	147	1,846	100	100	100	5.73%
Corporate Transformation	935	641	547	(95)	766	(169)	(30)	0	(18.07%)
<b>Resources</b>	2,797	2,387	2,398	11	2,841	44	40	32	1.57%

Service/Function	2017/18 Annual Budget	Q3 2017/18 Budget Year to Date	Q3 Actual & Committed spend	Q3 2017/18 Variance	Q3 Estimated Expenditure to 31 March 2018	Q3 Estimated Outturn 31 March 2018 over/(under)	Q2 Estimated Outturn 31 March 2018	Q1 Estimated Outturn 31 March 2018	2017/18 Projected Over/(Under)spend as a % of Total Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
<b>Council Business</b>	1,615	1,168	1,359	190	1,872	257	207	50	15.91%
<b>Corporate &amp; Democratic costs</b>	1,922	1,811	1,606	(205)	1,658	(264)	(248)	(172)	(13.74%)
<b>Corporate Management</b>	761	556	494	(61)	681	-80	(80)	(70)	(10.52%)
<b>Total Service Budgets</b>	108,843	87,421	89,589	2,168	111,304	2,461	2,706	3,049	2.26%
Levies	3,335	3,335	3,332	-3	3,335	0	0	0	0.00%
Discretionary Rate Relief	60	0	0	0	60	0	0	0	0.00%
Capital Financing	8,158	3,867	3,746	(120)	7,950	(208)	(194)	(235)	(2.55%)
General & Other Contingencies	1,045	1,045	794	(251)	794	(251)	(213)	0	(24.01%)
Corporate Savings	(227)	(227)	0	227	0	227	227	150	(100.00%)
Support Services contribution HRA	(678)	0	0	0	(678)	0	0	0	0.00%
Benefits Granted	5,622	698	684	(14)	5,351	(271)	(152)	(149)	(4.82%)
<b>Total Corporate Finance</b>	17,314	8,716	8,556	(160)	16,812	(503)	(331)	(234)	(2.90%)
<b>Total 2017/18</b>	126,157	96,137	98,145	2,008	128,115	1,958	2,374	2,815	1.55%
<b>Funding</b>									
NDR	(23,002)	(15,920)	(15,925)	(5)	(23,002)	0	0	0	0.00%
Council Tax	(32,941)	0	0	0	(33,028)	(87)	(189)	(348)	0.26%
Council Tax Premium	(564)	0	0	0	(811)	(247)	(261)	(347)	43.71%
Revenue Support Grant	(69,650)	(48,205)	(48,219)	(15)	(69,650)	0	0	0	0.00%
<b>Total Funding 2017/18</b>	(126,157)	(64,124)	(64,144)	(19)	(126,491)	(334)	(450)	(695)	0.26%
<b>Total out-turn including impact of funding</b>	0	32,012	34,001	1,989	1,624	1,624	1,924	2,119	1.29%

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<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Corporate Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>12 March 2018</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Modernising Schools on Anglesey – Report on the Statutory Consultation in the Seiriol area.</b>
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	<b>To make a recommendation to the Executive to move the school modernisation programme forward so as to be able to meet the need for spaces in schools where they're required, improve standards and achievement and provide modern resources in relation to schools and educational resources.</b>
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	<b>Councillor Aled Morris Jones</b>
<b>Portfolio Holder(s):</b>	<b>Councillor R. Meirion Jones</b>
<b>Head of Service:</b>	<b>Delyth Molyneux</b>
<b>Report Author:</b>	<b>Delyth Molyneux</b>
<b>Tel:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Local Members:</b>	<b>Councillor Lewis Davies Councillor Carwyn E. Jones Councillor Alun Roberts</b>

<b>1 - Recommendation/s</b>
<p>The Corporate Scrutiny Committee is asked to recommend the following to the Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Close Ysgol Beaumaris and for the parents of the pupils on roll at the time this decision is made by the Executive to state their preference for either Ysgol Llandegfan or Ysgol Llangoed in line with the schools' admission policy.</li> <li>2. Review the current catchment areas of the three schools with a view to implementing any changes when Ysgol Beaumaris closes.</li> <li>3. Refurbish Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgol Llandegfan, and</li> <li>4. Consider whether to federate Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgol Llandegfan at the end of this process.</li> </ol>

<b>2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities</b>
<p><b>Objective 1 PLAN 2017 - 2022 - ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL</b>  <b>Ensure that the people of Anglesey can flourish and achieve their long-term potential</b></p>

**We will continue to raise education standards and ensure that our people have Young people have the right skills for employment and training.**

1. Continue our school modernization program by publishing a revised strategy that will address the long-term sustainability of primary and secondary education across the Island. This will include the possibility of 3 - 18 year old learning campuses at specific locations.
2. Complete the work on Santes Dwynwen, Newborough School and Seiriol and Llangefni areas.

### **3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members**

**To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-**

**3.1** Impact the matter has on individuals and communities **If the proposed scheme comes to fruition, its possible effect on the community has been assessed.**

**3.2** A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality **If the proposed scheme comes to fruition, it will lead to revenue savings as outlined in the report.**

**3.3** A look at any risks **If the proposed scheme comes to fruition, it will lead to risks such as possible lack of support for the project, possible problems to do with the costs. A risk register has been prepared for the school modernisation programme.**

**3.4** Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role **If the proposed scheme comes to fruition, the Authority is very confident that it will lead to higher educational standards. The building will conform to 21<sup>st</sup> Century building standards and will conform to Building Bulletin 99.**

**3.5** Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:

- Long term –. The school modernisation programme seeks to respond to today's needs but also fully considers the need to satisfy future generations.
- Prevention – If the scheme is approved, the business plans that will follow will give attention to preventive measures and there will also be emphasis to work corporately on preventive measures.
- Integration - If the scheme is approved, the schools under consideration will be a central point for effective integration of services to ensure that the schools provide resource to the community.
- Collaboration – it will promote co-working during the project and after its completion.
- Involvement – The engagement process with stakeholders will continue for the life of the project and beyond.

### **4 - Key Scrutiny Questions**

Does the Corporate Scrutiny Committee recommend approving the proposal under consideration?

### **5 – Background / Context**

The background to the scheme is described in the report

#### **6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]**

An Impact Assessment was conducted as part of the statutory consultation process. The possible effect of fulfilling the proposal on the Welsh language, equality and the community were assessed.

#### **7 – Financial Implications**

The possible effect of on the Authority's financial situation is assessed in the report.

#### **8 – Appendices:**

There are 10 appendices to the report

#### **9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):**

1. Statutory Consultation document
2. Letter from the Welsh Government dated 8 December 2017, confirmation of Anglesey's Band B in principle
3. Executive Committee meeting minutes 30 October 2017
4. Non-statutory Consultation document
5. Strategic Outline Programme (SOP Band B) presented to the Welsh Government in July 2017.
6. Scrutiny Committee meeting minutes for 2 October 2017.
7. Executive Committee meeting minutes for June 20, 2016.
8. Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) presented to the Welsh Government in December 2013.
9. Letter from the Welsh Government dated January 31 2014.



**OFFICIAL – SWYDDOGOL**

***REPORT ON THE STATUTORY CONSULTATION – SEIRIOL  
AREA***  
**ADRODDIAD AR YR YMGYNGHORIAD STATUDOL – ARDAL  
SEIRIOL**

***20 November 2017– 6 February 2018 /  
20 Tachwedd 2017– 6 Chwefror 2018***



***ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL / CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN  
LIFELONG LEARNING DEPARTMENT / ADRAN DYSGU GYDOL OES***

**[www.ynysmon.gov.uk](http://www.ynysmon.gov.uk) / [www.anglesey.gov.uk](http://www.anglesey.gov.uk)**



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## 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Isle of Anglesey County Council is committed to providing the best possible education for all children and young people on the island.

As part of this commitment, the Council acknowledges that modernising education and ensuring that our school buildings create a pleasant learning environment that motivates children and young people to become effective learners and develop life skills, is a high priority.

In this context, the Council wants to modernise schools in order to:

- improve educational results for children and young people breaking the link between deprivation and low educational attainment
- further improve the standards of leadership and the quality of the teaching and learning,
- provide schools and leading sector standards in each community.

To achieve this ambitious modernisation programme there will be a need to merge schools through a combination of federalizing schools, re-organizing extensive catchment by remodelling school buildings that are there already or raise new area schools and close schools that are not suitable for the purpose

## 2. CHANGE DRIVERS FOR MODERNISATION THAT WILL INFLUENCE DECISION REGARDING THE BEST PROVISION FOR THE AREA

Some of the modernisation drivers that will influence decision regarding the best provision for the area are noted as follows:

### *Raising educational standards*

The Council is committed to raising standards considerably if it is to reach its objective of being one of the 5 best Local Authorities in Wales. According to current research work, it is suggested that it is difficult to link standards with school size. However, recent reports suggest that larger primary schools [over a 100 (or 105) pupils or more] have leadership teams with more capacity to ensure improvements; teachers with more specialism in specific areas that in turn influence other teachers' practices and in so doing have possible influence on the standards of pupils' work. In smaller schools [around 50 or less] mixed age classes include up to four age groups, and sometimes span key stages. This places a considerable challenge for teachers if they are to ensure that every pupil is extended to the extent of his ability. The school modernisation strategy aims to abolish examples of classes with more than 2 age groups.

### *Reduce the variation in pupil cost*

The pupil by pupil cost varies considerably, from £2,795 to £10,828 across the county's primary schools. The county's expenditure on primary schools in 2017-18 [£3,962 per pupil on average] is the highest but one in Wales. The modernization programme will need to give attention to normalizing the cost per pupil across the authority and reconcile it with the whole of Wales average.

### *Ensure that school buildings create the best possible learning environment*

Improving the quality of school buildings and ensuring the best possible learning environment [that reflects those in our latest school building- Ysgol y Graig – used as a benchmark] for our pupils is essentially important to meet teaching and learning needs in the

twenty-first century. This kind of environment includes teaching and learning facilities of the best quality, first grade ICT facilities, suitable play areas, appropriate staffing and administration areas, along with safety for the school buildings and the school site. Estyn notes that “improving the quality of the buildings has a very beneficial effect on the quality of the teaching and the staff morale that, in turn, have a positive effect on pupils’ performance.” Every pupil will have access to suitable facilities so that a full range of educational experiences can be provided.

It is not possible for the Council to maintain a large number of school buildings that are ageing and are costly to maintain. A new pattern of schools that do away with the shortcomings that there are in the present buildings will have to be set up, including considerable health and safety matters connected to the building or the site. There is a need to develop a system of schools where maintenance arrangements for them are sustainable.

*Create the conditions so that Headteachers succeed – increase the leadership capacity*

Effective schools are well-lead. Successful schools have strong leadership on every level, including the Governors. The challenges involved with leading and managing a school have increased considerably in recent years and the expectations continue to increase. A Headteacher needs adequate non-contact time, with the support of a deputy headteacher or senior management team, to ensure that the teaching and learning are of the highest grade, to appraise and raise standards, to develop thorough self-appraisal procedures and to ensure the staff’s continuous professional development. These are considerable expectations. There is a need to ensure that Headteachers have at least 50% non-contact time. This means that a school [or federation of schools] needs to have at least 100 pupils if the necessary time for the Headteacher to achieve the leadership role successfully is to be provided.

*Ensure an adequate supply of Headteachers for the future*

Over the next five years it is likely that nearly 50% of our primary headteachers will retire. Because many of them lead small schools, the Council will have to consider the most effective and sustainable leadership models for the future. The number of candidates for the posts of headteacher have reduced and this is a subject of concern. The school modernisation programme needs to modernize schools to try and answer the problem by ensuring suitable opportunities to develop leadership in individual schools. Our schools need excellent leaders. The modernisation programme will give attention to succession planning matters and safeguard and develop leadership talents that we have in our schools.

*Community use of the school building*

Research suggests that schools with additional services such as breakfast clubs, after-school clubs, child care, summer and weekend activities achieving higher standards and better links with parents and the community. Schools are also expected to be a resource for the local community in order to promote community activities that include parents, members of the community and local groups. This kind of activity is important to develop the link between schools and the local community. Schools that are developed as part of the modernisation programme act as an area school i.e. provide a range of services and activities that often take place outside the school day, to assist in meeting the needs of pupils, their families and the wider community.

### *Reduce the number of surplus places*

In January 2016, the number of surplus places in primary schools in Anglesey was 12.6%. Even so, there are 32% empty places in the 3 schools in question, that is considerably more than the Welsh Government target [15% on Authority level and 10% in individual schools]. Even so, the Council needs to continue to reduce the number of empty places in order to meet Welsh Government expectations and respond to one of Estyn's criticisms in the 2012 report. This means that there is a need to aim for a situation where schools are more than 85% full aiming that 90% of the places have been filled across the primary sector.

### *Welsh-medium and bilingual provision*

Any arrangement developed as part of the modernisation programme gives priority to strengthening and safeguarding Welsh / bilingualism.

## **3. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS**

The Council has consulted with parents, governors and staff in the three schools in the area, local councillors and with the Welsh Government and other stakeholders. The consultation period ran from 20 November 2017 until 6 February 2018.

The purpose of the statutory consultation process was to invite the local community to give their views on the proposal for the provision of primary education in the Seiriol area i.e. Ysgol Beaumaris, Ysgol Llandegfan and Ysgol Llangoed.

Consultation meetings were arranged with school stakeholders over this period:

<b>School</b>	<b>Date (in 2017)</b>	<b>Meeting with</b>		
		<b>Staff</b>	<b>Governors</b>	<b>Parents</b>
<b>Llangoed</b>	<b>Monday 27 November</b>	<b>3.30</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>6.30</b>
<b>Beaumaris</b>	<b>Wednesday 29 November</b>	<b>3.45</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>6.00</b>
<b>Llandegfan</b>	<b>Thursday 30 November</b>	<b>3.45</b>	<b>5.30</b>	<b>6.30</b>

When the Welsh Government contributes to financing a new school, their Investment needs to meet investment aims namely:

1. reduce empty places
2. increase non-contact time for teachers
3. for the school to be of twenty-first century school standard
4. improve educational outcomes
5. reduce maintenance backlog
6. improve energy efficiency

The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 allows parents to choose which school their child will attend. Whatever the outcome of the non-statutory consultation and the statutory consultation, perhaps there will be a need to review the current catchment areas and form new catchment areas. In accordance with the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998, the Authority cannot force parents to move their children to another school. This would increase the risks of a high level of surplus places in any new primary school.

Comments and a letter from the Governing Body of Ysgol Beaumaris were presented to the Scrutiny Committee by the Chair of Governors at its meeting on the 02/10/17. In addition comments and a paper were presented By Rhian Jones on behalf of Beaumaris Primary School Consultation Response Committee. The Head of Learning sent a reply to both parties on the 18/10/17.

The matter was discussed by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 2 October 2017. The draft minutes state: It was resolved that the Corporate Scrutiny Committee –

- Accepts the report on the non-statutory consultation in the Seiriol area and recommends the report to the Executive.
- Supports the recommendations in the report in relation to the preferred options, namely to undertake a statutory consultation upon the following -

Option 2 – Close Ysgol Beaumaris and give the parents the choice to send their children to the other two schools, renew both schools and possibly federalise them;

Option 3 – Close Ysgol Beaumaris and give the parents the choice to send their children to the other two schools and review the catchment areas.

#### **4. OBSERVATIONS FROM THE CONSULTATION MEETINGS**

Some comments and concerns from each one of the meetings are summarised below (these are not minutes of the meetings). There are further comments on part 5 of this document..

##### **Ysgol Llangoed**

- Concern about the school being ‘open plan’.
- Enquiries were received about the possible timetable of the work.
- Concerns were raised about the safety of pupils during any potential building work.
- Concerns were raised about traffic and parking near the school.
- Uncertainty concerning the federation process

##### **Ysgol Beaumaris**

- Concern about jobs
- A feeling that a town should have a school.
- A need to repair the roads to Beaumaris and invest in the Seiriol area
- Concerns about the possible effect of closing Ysgol Beaumaris on the town
- Doubts about the maintenance backlog figures

##### **Ysgol Llandegfan**

- Enquiries were received about the possible timetable of the work.
- Concern about staff jobs
- Uncertainty concerning the federation process
- A feeling that there is a need to consider the roads to the school

## 5. RESPONSES FROM YSGOL BEAUMARIS

- 5.1 A total of 58 responses from stakeholders were received as well as an:
- an electronic petition which 543 had signed (see part 5.3 below),
  - a paper petition which 363 has signed (see part 5.4 below).
- 5.2 The 58 responses were received in the following formats:
- Letter - 22 responses (38%)
  - Response form 26 responses (45%)
  - E-mail – 10 responses (17%)
- 5.3 A copy of an electronic petition was received on 6 February 2018 and 543 had signed it within the consultation period. Some of the signatories also sent a response to the consultation. The petition asked to keep the Beaumaris School open and the signatories "objected to any proposal that would mean the closure of Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris".
- 5.4 In addition, a petition on paper was received "opposing the closure of Beaumaris Primary School" and the signatories "strongly opposed the proposal to close Beaumaris Primary School". There were 363 signatures on the petition. The petition was presented to a meeting of the full Council on 28 February 2018.
- 5.5 A total of 28 respondents' (48%) felt that the school should remain open.
- 5.6 Twenty respondents (34%) felt that closing the school would be detrimental to the community. One resident said closing the school would "increase the demographic imbalance" in the town of Beaumaris. According to another respondent, the school football field is the only one in the town and it would be "a sad situation" if the school closes which could lead to the loss of the football field".
- 5.7 The closure of Beaumaris School according to 18 respondents (31%) would have an impact on transport - it would make it difficult for parents without a car to pick up their children from another school. Others from the 18 respondents thought that the Ysgol Beaumaris site was not suitable for extra care housing as it was "on top of a steep hill". They also considered the need to improve the road network in the Seiriol area.
- 5.8 The opinion of 15 respondents (26%) was that the whole process was unfair.
- 5.9 Thirteen respondents (22%) of respondents did not agree with the refurbishment costs for Ysgol Llandegfan and Ysgol Llangoed. Instead they thought that money should be invested in Ysgol Beaumaris. In addition, these respondents did not think that the Authority had "spent any money on it for a number of years."
- 5.10 Ten respondents (17%) thought that another school (Ysgol Llandegfan or Ysgol Llangoed) should be closed rather than Beaumaris School.
- 5.11 Nine respondents (16%) did not feel that closing the Beaumaris School would be a wise decision for the future considering factors such as population growth and major developments, Wylfa Newydd and local "educational attractions" e.g. Beaumaris Castle.

- 5.12 The opinion of 7 respondents (12%) was that the Beaumaris School could be federated with another school or could share a headteacher with another primary school.
- 5.13 The same number (7 respondents, 12%) were concerned about the potential impact of the closure of Beaumaris School on the posts of all staff at the school.
- 5.14 Constructing an extension on Beaumaris School was the suggestion of 6 respondents (10%) in the way forward.
- 5.15 The Welsh language was the concern for 5 respondents (9%). Their view was that "losing the school would be a serious blow to the character and future of the community in "a special town" ”.
- 5.16 Below are other comments received and the number of respondents presenting or agreeing with the comment:

Comment	No.	%
Smaller schools are better	4	7%
Breaking a tradition of a school in a town	4	7%
Health and safety	2	3%
Pre school club	2	3%
New school	1	2%

- 5.17 A letter was received from the Governing Body of Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris together with 7 appendices. Their comments can be seen in [Appendix 1](#) along with the alternative options in [Appendix 2](#).  
 Appendix A - Questionnaire for Parents  
 Appendix B - Community Impact Assessment  
 Appendix C - Petitions  
 Appendix D - Initial Analysis of the IoACC report  
 Appendix E - Revised Analysis of the IoACC report  
 Appendix F – Alternative Options  
 Appendix G - Support for Alternative Options
- 5.18 Below is a brief analysis of the options:

**Option A**

This option is similar to option 1.

It is mentioned that there would be no need to extend Ysgol Llandegfan but there would be a need to improve Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris where the backlog maintenance cost is £971,000 to fulfil Option A. There does not appear to be a full breakdown of the scoring in the Response Committee’s analysis. This option would still require keeping Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris open with its high carbon footprint.

The combined number of pupils in 2021 would be about 110 pupils which would mean surplus places would be about 23%.

### **Option B**

This option is similar to option 5

Space at the school is already currently used for “other community assets” e.g. Little Puffins, Mudiad Meithrin. Early Years teachers are also based at the school as opposed to being based at the Council’s offices in Llangefni.

SEN teachers have also been based at the school in the past.

This option would not fully address the backlog maintenance issues and pupil numbers would be about 110. It would not address the high carbon footprint of the school.

### **Option C**

Adventure, creativity and mindfulness are core attributes of the new Donaldson curriculum that will come into force from 2021. This means that these attributes would be emphasised in all school from 2021 and would thus not be unique. The situation with regard to the high backlog maintenance costs and high carbon footprint would not be addressed.

### **Option D**

The model proposed is a commendable ambition and the benefits mentioned are fairly well documented. However, the cost of “thorough modernisation of Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris” is not mentioned. The situation with regard to the high backlog maintenance costs and high carbon footprint would not be addressed.

- 5.19 A letter was received from one of the three elected members of the Seiriol ward. Their comments can be seen in [Appendix 3](#).
- 5.20 A letter was received from the three elected members of the ward. The 3 members said "the authority should develop and deliver a coherent corporate plan for south east Anglesey". They felt that “Ysgol Beaumaris should be kept open." See their comments at [Appendix 4](#).
- 5.21 A letter from the Chair of the Beaumaris Primary School Response Committee outlining the ways in which the Committee has raised awareness of the consultations and the ways in which residents were encouraged to respond. The headteacher’s comments can be seen in [Appendix 5](#).
- 5.22 A letter was received from Beaumaris Town Council. The Council was in favour of a solution that would keep the three schools open. Their comments can be seen in [Appendix 6](#).
- 5.23 A Community Impact Assessment conducted on behalf of the Response Committee was also presented to the Authority – it can be seen in [Appendix 9](#). Both Community Impact Assessments are compared in [Appendix 10](#).



## **6. RESPONSES FROM YSGOL LLANDEGFAN**

- 6.1 A total of 4 responses were received from stakeholders. The responses were in the following format:
- |               |                     |
|---------------|---------------------|
| E-mail        | - 2 responses (50%) |
| Response form | - 2 responses (50%) |
- 6.2 The Headteacher's comments can be seen in [Appendix 7](#).
- 6.3 The Chair of Governor's comments can be seen in [Appendix 8](#).
- 6.4 Should a new school be built near Beaumaris, respondents did not think that parents would travel in that direction as many parents worked in the Bangor area.
- 6.5 The other respondent did not think "federating Ysgol Llangoed with Ysgol Llandegfan as a good idea". They felt "expecting one head teacher to run two schools with different needs" would be unsuccessful.
- 6.6 A letter was received from the three elected members of the ward. The 3 members stated that "there was a severe need for the area for more social housing and a corporate plan for South East Anglesey" and for a "committed strategy to give the area the opportunity to prosper socially and economically." In addition, they asked "to keep the three schools across the ward and to invest in them". See their comments in [Appendix 3](#).

## **7. RESPONSES FROM YSGOL LLANGOED**

- 7.1 A total of 4 responses were received from stakeholders. The responses were in the following format:
- |               |                     |
|---------------|---------------------|
| E-mail        | - 2 responses (50%) |
| Response form | - 2 responses (50%) |
- 7.2 Two respondents questioned whether it would be possible to "sell or lease a part of Beaumaris School but keep the school open". In addition, they felt that "losing Llangoed School would have a detrimental impact on the whole community, not just children. They also said it would be bad for the environment.
- 7.3 According to the other two respondents, closing the school would be contrary to the aims of the Wellbeing and Future Generations Act. They did not see why "Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgol Llandegfan should be penalised for running successful schools".
- 7.4 A letter was received from the three elected members of the ward. The 3 members stated that "there was a severe need in the area for more social housing and a corporate plan for South East Anglesey" and for a "committed strategy to give the area the opportunity to thrive socially and economically." In addition, they asked "to keep the three schools across the ward and to invest in them". Their comments can be seen in [Appendix 3](#).

## 8. RESPONSES FROM THE ON-LINE SURVEY

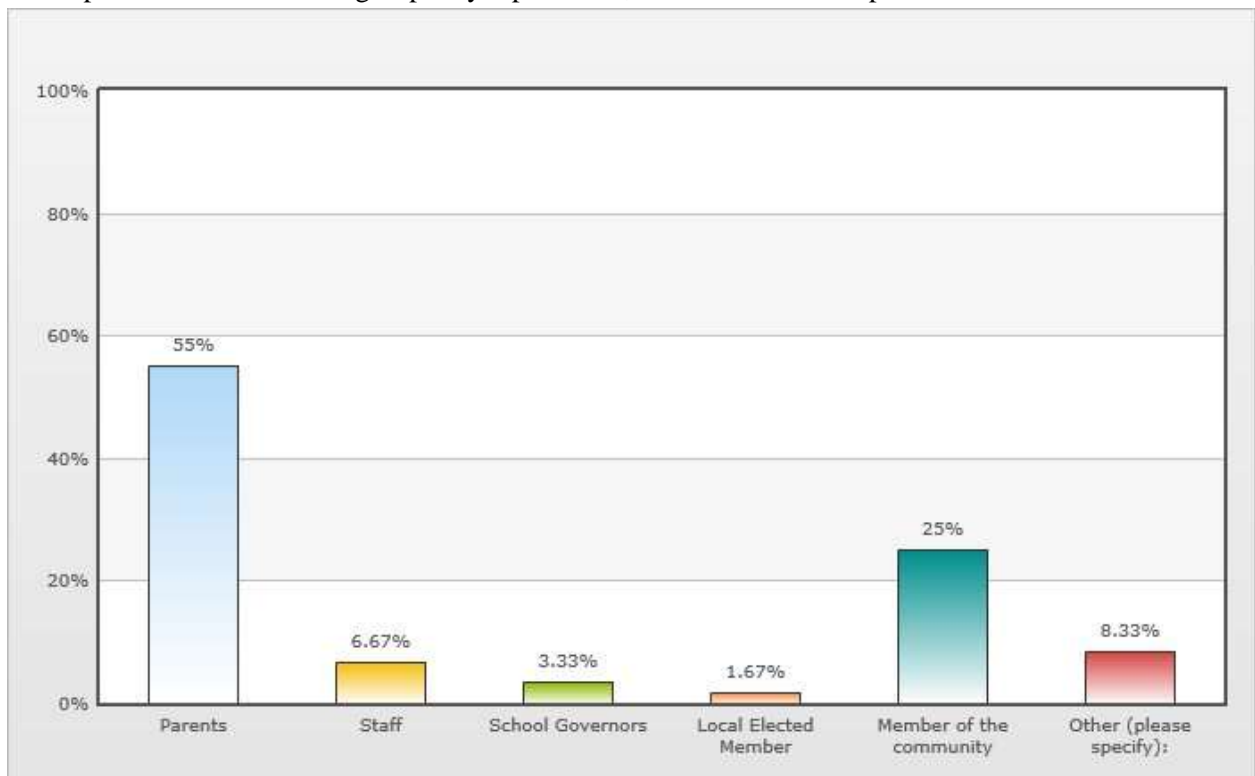
### Statutory Consultation on the proposal for the primary education provision in the Seiriol area

In addition to the report on the consultation, there was an opportunity for stakeholders to contribute through an online survey

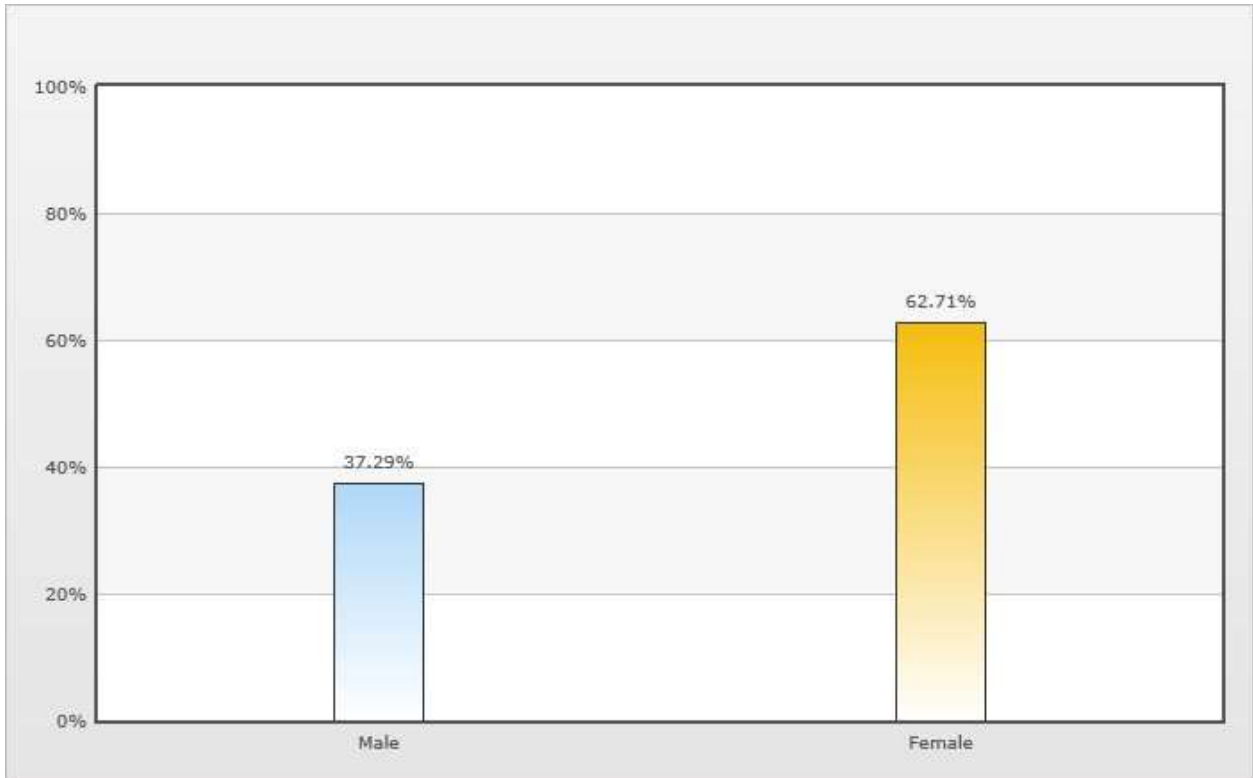
Below is a summary of the survey results.

We are grateful to the 62 people who participated in the survey, representations for the three primary schools under consideration.

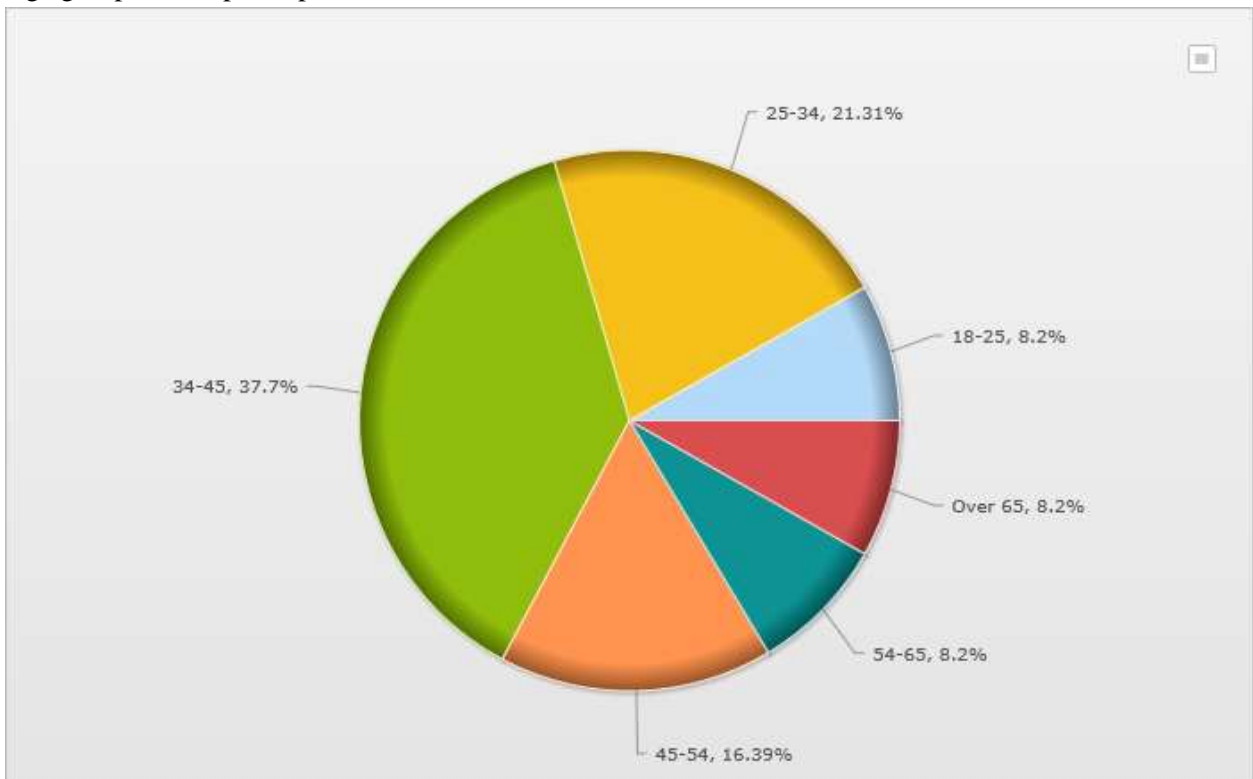
Participants were asked what group they represented, and this was the response:



Information about the individuals who have completed the survey:



Age groups of the participants:

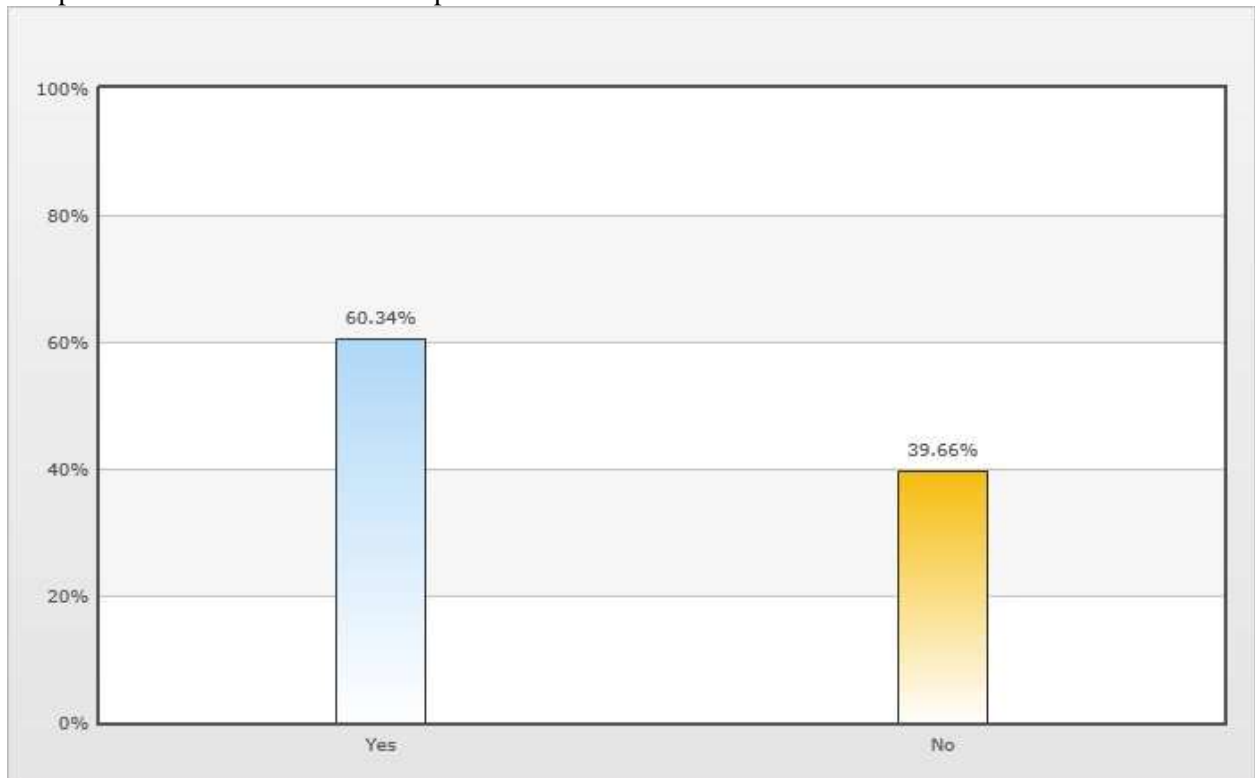


Participants were asked if they agreed with the reasons for change. The reasons for change set out in the consultation document were:

- to reduce the number of surplus places

- financial issues
- raising standards
- Ensure the latest resources in relation to schools and classroom resources
- break the link between deprivation and low educational attainment
- leadership and management capacity

A representative cross-section of responses can be found below:

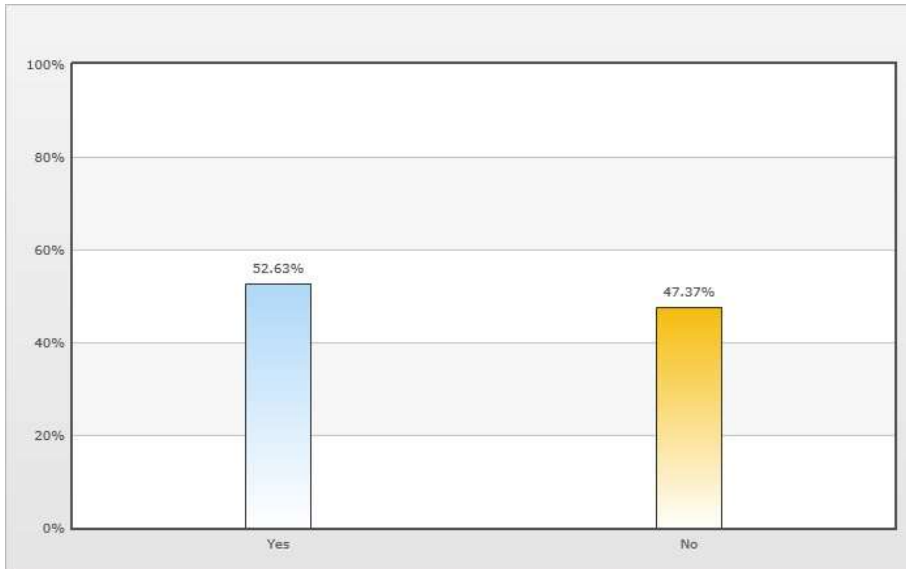


Participants were asked if they agreed with the proposal, namely:

‘Closing Ysgol Beaumaris and the parents of the pupils on the register at the time when the Executive makes the decision to confirm their choice for either School, Ysgol Llangoed or Ysgol Llandegfan in accordance with the school admissions policy.

- Review the existing three school catchment areas with a view to implementing any changes when Ysgol Beaumaris School closes.
- Renewal of Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgol Llandegfan; and
- consider federating Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgol Llandegfan at the end of this process.’

This was the response:



The Stakeholders were given the opportunity to suggest other proposals and the following were suggested.

Keep Ysgol Beaumaris open as it has the potential and plenty of room for children from other schools
I agree with all four of the alternative <sup>1</sup> options propped by the Beaumaris school governors and response committee
Keep Ysgol Beaumaris open. Invest to upgrade one school, rather than two.
Close Ysgol Llangoed and transfer the children from Ysgol Llangoed to Ysgol Beaumaris. Or close Ysgol Llandegfan and transfer the children of Ysgol Llandegfan to Ysgol Beaumaris.
Make Beaumaris school much smaller, on the same site. Keep Llangoed as it is with option to expand. Leave Llandegfan as it is. If necessary, have a head teacher to cover Llangoed and Beaumaris.
More homes for young people and families is desperately needed, there is sufficient room to build some accommodation on the site where the day centre is and part of the school grounds, currently the grounds are much larger than that of other schools and the children do not use a lot of this. Any increase in housing would increase the number of children in the school.  The situation could be reviewed in a few years time.
The school should be kept on site, possibly made smaller for now, but room left in the building in case there is a surge in pupil numbers.  The school governors have produced 4 other options regarding the school where 1 or all or just some of their proposals could be adopted so as to ensure the school continues to operate and can become an extremely viable proposition.

<sup>1</sup> The alternative options propped by the Beaumaris School Governors and Response Committee has been considered in the Report on the Seiriol Consultation.

IACC needs to thoroughly examine these 4 other options and score them up against their own proposals. Beaumaris Town Council fully supports all the school governors efforts, and proposals.
Close Llangoed school and bring the pupils to Beaumaris.
Keep Ysgol Beaumaris open, in a smaller form.
Build sheltered housing at Llangoed and social housing by the side of the school in Beaumaris this way keeping the school open.
Build a Seiriol Super School, like other areas of the Island have had.
Close Ysgol Llangoed and move the children to a larger Ysgol Beaumaris
Close Ysgol Llangoed and modernise Ysgol Beaumaris under the new name Ysgol Bro Seiriol
Close Ysgol Llangoed and make the necessary changes to Beaumaris and call it Ysgol Bro Seiriol
Close Ysgol Beaumaris, Llangoed and Llandegfan Schools and possibly Pentraeth schools and build a new Super School in Llansadwrn area
Yes, I would propose that Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris stays open and close Ysgol Llangoed This would achieve Welsh Assembly Government aims of Reducing the number of surplus places in the Seiriol area.
Alternative options A, B, C, D outlined in the Ysgol Beaumaris Governing Board's response.
Join all 3 schools including Porthaethwy, Llanfair PG and maybe Pentraeth. Build a new super school on the land near to Ysgol David Hughes  The school could use the facilities at the leisure centre and have access to the feed secondary school. Have transition days and even co-working days with the staff and pupils. This will help support the children during the difficult transition from primary to secondary.  It may be costly initially. However, the saving in the long run will be beneficial.

**A question was also asked if they wished to raise other matters to be drawn to our attention?**

Pupil numbers at Ysgol Beaumaris are increasing and the numbers at Ysgol Llangoed are decreasing
The scoring system is not fair and the figures presented by IACC on maintenance is wrongly estimated and not factual
There are flaws in the consultation
Look to build more Social Housing in Beaumaris area. Possibly spare land adjacent to Beaumaris School

<p>If Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris was to close, this would probably be the only Town in Wales not to have a school. Education has been in the town for over 400 years. It would be unlikely that parents would send their children to Ysgol Llangoed if YGB were to close. This is because Llangoed is in the opposite direction.</p> <p>Closing YGB could result in parents opting to send their children to schools in Gwynedd due to the over capacity issue in Menai Bridge.</p>
<p>I honestly feel that Anglesey County Council are not listening to the parents of Ysgol Beaumaris. Why close this school in order for the land to be used for the elderly? We already have plenty of homes for them in 3 different locations. A rethink is needed</p>
<p>A full life cycle study of the school has not been considered</p>
<p>Why is there not a "Super School" being built in the Seriol Ward. In other Wards (Holyhead, Llanfaethlu and Newborough) smaller schools have been closed and a new modern school built. Why is Seriol being treated differently?</p>
<p>The school in Beaumaris is outdated and the number of children is decreasing for a reason. House prices are too high for young families and Beaumaris is now a retirement Town. We should embrace this instead of challenging the inevitable.</p>
<p>A town the size of Beaumaris should have a primary school, unless you want it to become a playground for the rich and/or a retirement town. No school will mean that young families have to move or drive their children elsewhere, which makes no sense.</p>
<p>Parking in Beaumaris is dire</p>
<p>Pupil numbers are predicted to increase rapidly in the next 4 years</p> <p>There is a possibility that as a result of Wylfa Newydd pupil numbers should surge rapidly</p>
<p>Its unheard of – a town without a school</p>
<p>Every town needs a school</p>
<p>You don't ever listen</p>
<p>I strongly believe with the need to keep Ysgol Llangoed open. It is a crucial service for the community.</p> <p>As a member of the Governing Body at Ysgol Llangoed I look forward to work with the Council and other stakeholders to minimise disruption.</p>
<p>Ysgol Llandegfan is a successful school and is essential to the Welsh Language</p>
<p>Keep as much as you can in Llangoed, we have lost so much already</p>
<p>It makes sense to upgrade Llandegfan after reading your data on cost and performance. From a practicality issues, there's sufficient room to extend.</p>
<p>The Council's preferred option is actually more expensive than several other options, most notably to reduce the size of Ysgol Beaumaris, which would open the door to various innovative ways</p>

forward.

The high number of surplus places in Beaumaris is largely explained by demographic reasons: a high number of older people and a lot of holiday homes (and several affluent English-speaking families who prefer to send their children to English-language private schools). The fact that the number of pupils at the school is unviable should ring alarm bells about the demographic challenges for Beaumaris town. Simply switching off the alarm by closing the school won't address these at all. Beaumaris needs to be much more attractive to young families, which can only be achieved by increasing affordable housing and improving childcare provision. The school has already improved its childcare offer, and now parents can send their children there from 8.00am to 5.30pm. This will help attract further parents to send their children to the school, but the effect of such important considerations takes a while to translate into pupil numbers. However, the Council's own projections are that Beaumaris's numbers will increase, whereas they'll go down in Llangoed. By the time the changes are projected to be implemented, Beaumaris will be about to overtake Llangoed for pupil size, meaning the Council would be extending the school which is both smaller in terms of its pupil population and in size. This makes no sense, especially since Llangoed is out of the way for most of Ysgol Beaumaris's parents.

The Welsh Government is currently reviewing which schools are granted special protection as rural schools. That the Council should consider moving ahead with its own School Modernisation Programme without awaiting the results and implications of the Welsh Government's own consultation is highly worrying.

The school is currently the only community institution in Beaumaris, which actively contributes to the development of Welsh culture and Welsh language acquisition - and it does so with dedication and excellent results. My four-year-old son takes great pride in speaking Welsh even though his parents don't. The Welsh Government's ambition to increase the number of Welsh speakers is seriously undermined when local authorities make decisions such as this without considering how they might impact on Welsh culture in local communities.

On this note, it is shocking that the Council has done nothing to fully understand the potential impact on the community if its preferred option were to be implemented. It is disgraceful to formally propose an option that has been repeatedly criticised on the basis that it would destroy the town's future - and instead of trying to better assess these claims or take them seriously, the Council has conveniently dismissed them. The Community Impact Survey put together by the consultation response committee highlights the grave concern over both the town's present situation and its very future if the decision were to be confirmed by the Council.

I question the format of the above questions since though I understand the reasons for the council reviewing the primary school provision within the area, I cannot fully agree that I support the closure of the school in Beaumaris.

I am deeply saddened by the potential loss of a school in Beaumaris and the effects that will have on this town. I do not understand why it is not possible to look at providing for a smaller school in the town that would address the clear issue of excess spaces in the school.



Having said this I know that several children in the Beaumaris 'catchment' already choose to attend Ysgol Llangoed and am confident that the school can welcome further students in the future.

The old people home needs to stay

I wish to respond to the statutory consultation as a member of staff working in Ysgol Llandegfan. I wish to share that I strongly believe that a school should stay in Llandegfan.

The school is managed well and in good financial health. We have worked very hard to keep standards high and to ensure that the children are offered extensive experiences.

The school maintains a supportive and welcoming culture and has a strong ethos of continuous improvement. The school numbers is increasing with over 150 pupils to date. The school has a good reputation and it applications are made on a continuous basis, indicating strong support for the school.

I would like to share that I also believe it to be necessary to have a full-time Headteacher, and I do not believe that the Federation is the way forward.

I believe that the modernisation programme will be welcomed at Ysgol Llandegfan and will bring it up to the standards of the 21st century. The school grounds and the building offers potential for remodelling or extension.

I thoroughly believe that Ysgol Llandegfan continues to receive less responses to your consultations simply because the parents upon looking at your facts and data, simply assume that Ysgol Llandegfan is going to be safe.

Ysgol Llandegfan is an extremely good school and I truly hope that the lack of responses does not reflect the school in a negative way.

Makes no sense to get rid of Ysgol Llandegfan when all your data shows it is by far the best school

Ysgol Llandegfan is the heart of this community and must stay

My children have attended Llandegfan School and cannot praise the school enough.

Llandegfan is a fantastic school, staff are respected and children enjoy going to school. As a Llandegfan resident I would not take my child to Beaumaris school

Llandegfan school requires updating to bring it up to 21st century standards and also to accommodate children from Ysgol Beaumaris. Parking may be an issue and needs looking at as does the roads to and from Llandegfan in order to accommodate increased traffic.

Ysgol Llandegfan should have a full time headmaster.

Especially if the school is going to be extended and more pupils attending.

No federalisation please.

Certainly agree that Ysgol Llandegfan should remain in the village of Llandegfan.

Parents will not travel away from anglesey towards Beaumaris / Llangoed.

They will take their children towards Menai Bridge / Llanfair pwll and over the bridge to Bangor. This would then cause a problem for other schools in the area.

Ysgol Llandegfan may need modernising but I don't feel a lot of work would be needed. It would be significantly less than building a super school

Llandegfan school is the heart of the community and a wonderful asset, that should remain. It is vital to the Welsh language that the school continues to educate the children through the medium of Welsh. The school is very popular due to Welsh being the language of the playground.

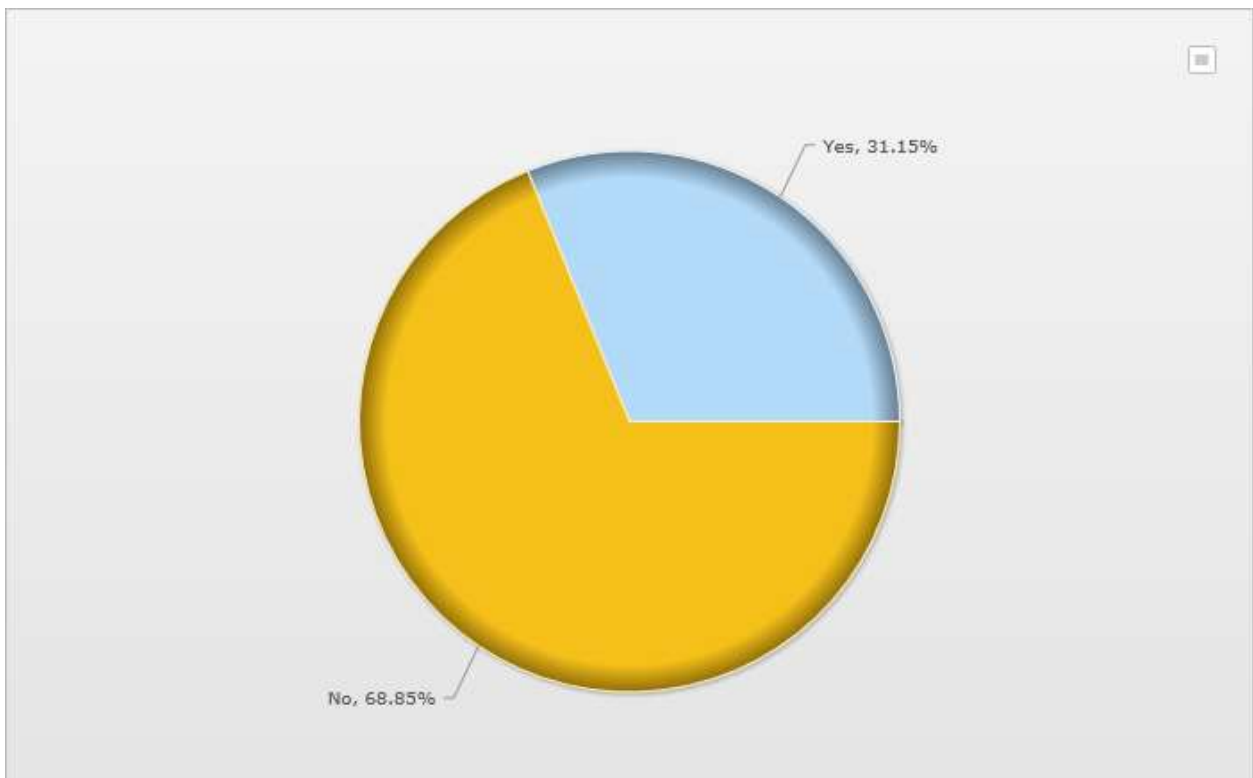
Llandegfan should be modernised to bring it in line with the schools of the 21st century. If extra pupils were to attend it would obviously need to be extended, to accommodate these children.

The need to sustain a community based school in Llandegfan. Without a school at it's heart, acting as a focus the village would suffer. It does not have the same resources as Beaumaris with its castle, restaurants, yacht club and community centre.

Llandegfan school is very important it is the heart of our community and is essential to the Welsh language. Llandegfan school should be modernised to bring it in line with the 21st century.

**Participants were also asked if closing Ysgol Beaumaris and transferring the children to either Ysgol Llandegfan or Ysgol Llangoed would have a detrimental effect on the use of the Welsh Language.**

31% believed it would have a negative effect and 69% did not believe it would have a negative effect.



**If respondents believed it would have a negative impact on the Welsh Language, participants were asked how this could be mitigated?**

Possibly improve the use of the language
<b>Keep Ysgol Beaumaris open. Keep strong Welsh presence in the town.</b>
Beaumaris school children represent a large proportion of the already reduced number of people able to speak Welsh in the town.
Job vacancies are being filled with less Welsh speakers in the town as the demand for it reduces.
This question is difficult to answer. A number of local residents use the Welsh Language daily in their family life. I'm not sure how many speak Welsh and I imagine that daily Welsh conversations contribute to securing the Language.
There will be no negative impact on the Welsh Language whichever option is pursued. The catchment areas of all the schools are less Welsh by now. On a county level, it is no secret that schools (one in particular) fail to follow the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Welsh Language Policy and if this continues, there is no relevance to this question in the consultation events in other parts of the county.
<b>Ensure the school in Beaumaris and continues on in its ethos of teaching pupils in the medium of Welsh</b>
Beaumaris is a Welsh school. We live in a country where knowing the Welsh language fluently is beneficial for jobs in the area. Learning from a young age is highly beneficial and easier for the children to pick up
A number of children now attending Beaumaris school will end up in Bangor schools if it closes as many parents work and travel there each day
Welsh Government target to have 1 million people speaking Welsh 2050. Closing the school will not attract young people to the Town or the area. The population of Beaumaris in 150 years could decrease as a result and the use of Welsh minimal. There are many second homes in Beaumaris which is having a negative impact on the Welsh Language. The town needs young families and more social housing built.
<b>Dilution</b>
Ysgol Beaumaris has a Silver Award and is working towards a Gold Award. It's a beacon of Welsh language and Welsh culture in the community. Keep it open and include emphasis on Welsh language in the alternative options!
Ysgol Llangoed has a strong and positive attitude to the Welsh language which is encouraged by the staff and enjoyed by the pupils. I believe extra pupils at the school will not harm this.
It may lead to the dilution of the Welsh language within Ysgol Llandegfan.
It would have an impact as the number of pupils with Welsh spoken at home is less.  Additional support for pupils needing to be supported?

**Respondents were asked –‘what impact will the proposal have on local families? Please state’**

Very damaging. Young families will look for more suitable places to live
It will be devastating for us local families I personally would not put a 4/5yr old child on a bus ALONE to travel to another school and I'm sure others wouldn't either ..many of these children are cared for by grandparents during the day and some can't drive ..what will happen if that child fell ill how would they get them home ? What about the roads to Llangoed /Llandegfan they aren't viable when we have any heavy rain or high tides we just get cut off . Will you bring my daughter home to me when that happens?
A great deal of change is being proposed. Families who rely on grandparents to collect children will suffer.
Shutting the school would mean that children would have to travel by bus or car - adding to the length of a school day. If a child is collected by grandparents or others, it could mean extra travel or changes in routine for them. Children having to integrate into larger schools which may not suit all. Smaller schools are very often more useful for children who get more individual attention.
Due to affordability of housing in and around Beaumaris very few young families settle in the area. If the school does close then literally no young families will contemplate settling in the area. Beaumaris will then become an old peoples retirement home area
If Beaumaris is closed it will have a highly negative effect
Families will move out of the area if the school closes it will also discourage families from moving to Beaumaris.
Through discussions with a number of them, they will not take their children to Llangoed or up to Llandegfan. Alternatively, they will take them in other direction i.e. Menai Bridge, Benllech, Moelfre, and over the bridge depending on the parents' place of work. They do not want to do this, but this would be the most suitable option in a situation that is forced on them. Of course this will have an effect on effect on the Council's possible savings calculations.
A massive effect, the road infrastructure from Beaumaris to llangoed or Llandegfan is poor, and dangerous in times of extreme weather which is now becoming very common in occurrence, minimum of once per year on average at present. It can be very dangerous on these roads at times.  Without a school, local families struggling to find work, will just move away from Beaumaris.
It will be catastrophic for some families when the grandparents are the main carers after school ....Some that I know do not drive so would find it very difficult if they were not in walking distance as they are now ...certainly would be awful if their charge was ill when put in another school other than Beaumaris.
Local young families will have no reason to stay or even settle in Beaumaris.

<p>If I have to move my daughter I will have to move her off the island as I don't drive and my husband works off the Island, if she was ill or school closed I could not pick her up, so this will have a big impact on myself</p>
<p>Taking them away from town. Cause difficulty traveling to a different school and getting them back to child minder who is in Beaumaris</p>
<p>You are turning Beaumaris into a sleepy hollow, we need a school along with jobs to encourage growth for the town.</p>
<p>It will drive the few remaining families out of town and prevent young families from moving to the town</p>
<p>It would have a positive impact on local families , to be able to send their kids to a school that's close to where they live.</p>
<p>We have no transport and there is no way i will put the children on a bus on there own to travel ,also travel expences..</p>
<p>Detremental effect.  Beaumaris will no doubt be killed off.  I personally would move from the area if there was no local school in beaumaris. I would even consider home schooling my children i feel so strongly against the proposal.  No families will want to move here without a school. FACT</p>
<p>It will slowly kill the Town</p>
<p>Local young families you mean !!!</p> <p>There won't be any if school closes as Beaumaris will become a "Retirement Town"</p>
<p>It would have a huge impact on local families if Ysgol Beaumaris was to close.  The number of Pupils are projecting to rise.</p>
<p>Families will no longer have the option to send their children to their local school and will instead have to travel to either Llandegfan or Llangoed . There have been several instances over the last few years where Beaumaris has been cut off because of landslides and flooding.</p>
<p>It will make Beaumaris entirely unattractive to parents and the flourishing playgroup unviable.  Many school children are regularly picked up by their grandparents, who live locally. It is unlikely that they would be able to be similarly involved in their grandchildren's lives if they had to go to a school that's not local. At best it would reduce the quality time available to them, at worst children would no longer be seeing their grandparents on such a regular basis.</p>
<p>It's going to be very difficult for everyone-  Getting children to school if a parent can't drive</p> <p>Parents that work in beaumaris are going to find it difficult to juggle getting to work on time with a longer school run</p> <p>Children won't be able to walk to school</p>

I cannot comment on the impact in Beaumaris but I hope that as a result of this consultation, there will be an opportunity to improve the building and wider educational provision at Ysgol Llangoed in a way that impacts positively both on existing and future students of the school.

It would not have an impact on the parents of Llandegfan school as the children and school provision would remain the same.  
It would however, affect the other two schools where parents would be obliged to seek transport for their children to attend school. Some families send their children to their local school as they can walk to school independently and safely.

The families in Llandegfan needs this school. Many children walk to school with their families. You have a good % out of this catchment area.

If Ysgol Llangoed remains open this will obviously be a massive relief on the 80+sets of parents who have children at the school. The disruption to the 95 children's education will be minimised and the continuity at the school will allow them to continue to prosper in a fantastic atmosphere. A slightly larger school and additional funding may allow further after school clubs and better facilities which can only be a good thing!

None if we keep Ysgol Llandegfan

Keeping the most populated school open will cause the least amount of distribution to families, as well as the long east amount of pupils needing to be relocated to an area/ school that they are unfamiliar with.

Again only positively if we keep Ysgol Llandegfan

If Llandegfan closes the whole community would suffer

It will impact us in a good way, Llandegfan school has always been the heart of our community

If Ysgol Llandegfan remains the only impact I envisage is the increase in traffic may disrupt members of the community closest to the school. But this is a very small price to pay for the school remaining in the village as it is a vital part of the community.

Llandegfan is a popular village for young families due to the proximity to work and social activities.  
Without a school the village would suffer.  
Children are able to walk to school and live and play with the children they know.  
The school has incredible support from local families and others beyond the catchment area.  
A popular school that people choose for their children.  
Without the school the village would be much poorer for sense of community.  
Its also incredibly important for driving welsh ethos in the village.

The number of pupils in Ysgol Beaumaris is significantly less than Llandegfan so I feel closing Beaumaris will have less of an impact

**Participants were asked ‘How will the proposal affect communities?’**

Negative
It will kill Beaumaris how can we attract young families to the area when all the houses that go up for sale here in Beaumaris are sold as holiday homes/lets. ....There won't be any children attending concerts in the town hall or Easter parades
<p>A town without a school is no longer a town.</p> <p>As a local having lived here all my life, I have seen demographics change. The school was one of excellence when I attended, a school that families would travel a good distance to take their children. Families flourished in Beaumaris, local children attended the Beaumaris Band, this is now filled with people from further afield. The local football team had local players, this team is now situated in Bangor. Pubs and restaurants had good weekday evening trade, this has seen to suffer.</p> <p>Community spirit as a whole has reduced due to less of a vested interest by property owners as their primary residence is often elsewhere.</p>
The community will become an "old " community and will not attract families back - they will choose to live in the communities were there is a school. The town relies on the tourist trade in the summer and the locals throughout the year. Schoolchildren contribute to the vibrancy of a town and in Beaumaris there is a wealth of history and nature right on the doorstep to help nurture them and help them learn without having to "bus" them in.
Transport, child care, safety, sense of community, family stability are all potentially affected negatively
Young people are needed in any town, a town with a majority of elderly residents can't function properly, young people are needed to support the elderly. If families move out should the school close most of these houses would be bought as holiday homes, this is bad for the shops, pubs, restaurants and cafes as the don't have support throughout the year. Tourists are a massive Benefit to the town but this has to be balanced with local residents of all ages .
Currently it is very difficult to quantify with the population of Beaumaris aging, there will be more pressure on local health services and fewer and fewer young families choosing to settle in the town. There is a need for a cross-section of people to make a community- it will have a far-reaching effect on Beaumaris's demography.
<p>Beaumaris is a town, with a doctor surgery, shops, a lifeboat station, fire station, a town council, a leisure centre, a yacht club, and many many more amenities that other villages don't have on a scale as large as Beaumaris.</p> <p>The schoolchildren are always welcome, and are encouraged to go to many of these amenities so as to ensure they are integrated into the community.</p> <p>Families will move away, children will attend different schools and will not interact the same as they do in Beaumaris at present.</p> <p>Beaumaris has 40% over 65 year olds,</p>

<p>Many house are now being bought by house rental companies to let out, this is harming the community, we need to encourage local people to stay in Beaumaris, offer them social housing and a school for their childrens future so that Beaumaris also has a future, and does not become a retirement village, or a summer holiday camp.</p> <p>Taking the school away will begin a vicious circle that will destroy the local community</p>
<p>It would ruin the town</p>
<p>Youngsters move away to look for jobs, and seriol get people looking for a happy retirement. You need to think about the impact this will have.</p>
<p>Negative effect on Beaumaris</p>
<p>In my opinion it would be best to close Beaumaris school. There is only about 30-40 children attending that school. There is nearly 100 children attending Llangoed school. So trying to relocate 30 children to eather Llangoed or Llandegfan school would be an easier task then trying to find spaced for nearly 100 kids.</p>
<p>Terrible. No young families will move here without a school</p>
<p>If Ysgol Beaumaris was to close it would have a massive impact on the community. Ysgol Beaumaris holds a place in a lot of people’s hearts especially the locals who have very fond memories growing up and bring taught there. It is a fantastic school with fantastic staff! We NEED a school in Beaumaris whether to downsize or to keep it as it is with some improvements is does not matter, we can Not have a Town with a school!</p>
<p>The town of Beaumaris needs a school like any other in Wales. The absence of a school will not attract families to the town</p>
<p>Very negatively, please see the Community Impact Survey Report by Marta Eichsteller for details.</p>
<p>I’m concerned that the closure of a the school in Beaumaris for the residents and future resilience of the town.</p> <p>However, I do believe that strengthening and improving the facilities/building/etc at Ysgol Llangoed has the potential to support communities living outside of Llangoed itself. A number of students already attend the school from outside Llangoed.</p>
<p>For a while it will have a sour impact on the communities as something has to ‘give’ and one school will have to close. No village wants to see their local school close.</p>
<p>By closing Ysgol Beaumaris and goving them the choice to attend Llandegfan or Llangoed, it will have a positive effect on the village. It will provide more jobs and an opportunity to improve the quality of the building</p>
<p>The closure to Beaumaris school will also be devastating for the parents and town causing disruption to all.</p>
<p>Again only positively if we keep Ysgol Llandegfan</p>
<p>Very little</p>
<p>It is very sad that Beaumaris may lose their school. Very difficult for all involved.</p>



But people from Beaumaris don't send their children there? Why is this? Why do they decide to take their children to other schools in the area?

Only concern is the traffic and how the school will cope with parking facilities

### Any further comments?

Yes ....Please reconsider this proposal to close our school ...Every town needs a school and we need our school . Personally I don't believe that the school and the Extra care project should be running simultaneously. .. In the 3 public meetings that have taken place I think that we have been treated pretty shabbily and not been listened to ..We were promised 'total transparency ' but there are too many flaws and inconsistencies in the report that it should have been thrown out at the first stage of this consultation.

Tourism shall suffer as a consequence.

Job vacancies will be filled by people from the mainland and their money will be spent elsewhere

Yes. Beaumaris is a wonderful town with several families who have lived here for many generations. Without being sentimental, it seems that it would be detrimental to the town to make a hasty decision that can never be rectified. People expect a town to have a school and the amount needed to maintain it will make a worthwhile asset for the community.

Personally, I feel that there is no purpose to continue the process in the Seiriol Ward in its present form, whatever option of the original ones they would have chosen. The savings do not make a significant impact on the overall savings at a county level. A much more radical and innovative solution is needed at a county level. Of course, the Seiriol Ward cannot avoid the modernisation process but a co-ordinated strategy is needed to benefit all the county's children and young people.

Over 90% of the people of Beaumaris do not wish to see the school close.

But they will accept a reduction in its size, and the introduction of social housing for local families to ensure a thriving future for Beaumaris

Please rethink your options ... A town with no school is unthinkable.

Start to listen to what people want.

If Beaumaris school does close , and the kids would join Llangoed school I think it would definitely benefit the school and parents to organise an afterschool club for the children. This would make it much easier for parents to juggle their work around and be assured the kids are cared for once school is finished.

Close Llangoed School move children ti Beaumaris which is less than three miles away. Then demolish Llangoed School and build Extra Care Facility on the site.

Please listen to the comments made on this survey by myself and others and act.

You have repeatedly stated that you're open to seriously consider any alternatives at any point. You now have 4 excellent and high-scoring alternative options presented by the Board of Governors.

Please live up both to the word and the spirit of your previous offer and let's jointly look at ways of saving the school whilst addressing as many of the Council's reasons for change as we can!

As a Governor of Ysgol Llangoed, I urge the Local Authority to continue to work closely with the school -teachers, parents and Governors- as work continues to address and improve the primary education resource for the area

I wish to respond to the statutory consultation as a member of staff working in Ysgol Llandegfan. I wish to share that I strongly believe that a school should stay in Llandegfan.

The school is managed well and in good financial health. We have worked very hard to keep standards high and to ensure that the children are offered extensive experiences.

The school maintains a supportive and welcoming culture and has a strong ethos of continuous improvement. The school numbers is increasing with over 150 pupils to date. The school has a good reputation and it applications are made on a continuous basis, indicating strong support for the school.

I would like to share that I also believe it to be necessary to have a full-time Headteacher, and I do not believe that the Federation is the way forward.

I believe that the modernisation programme will be welcomed at Ysgol Llandegfan and will bring it up to the standards of the 21st century. The school grounds and the building offers potential for remodelling or extension.

Ysgol Llandegfan is not only close to my heart but also the obvious option to keep upon looking at the facts and data you have provided.

Crucial that Ysgol Llandegfan remains with a full time headteacher.

No federalization.

The school needs to be lead by a dynamic and present head.

Standards should continue to be raised with a full time head in post.

## 9. OTHER RESPONSES

9.1 As well as meeting with staff, governors and parents, the consultation document was sent to the following stakeholders:

- Gwynedd Council;
- Welsh Government Officers;
- Regional and local Assembly Members
- Estyn;
- teachers' unions and ancillary staff's unions;
- the Regional Education Consortium namely GwE;
- the Regional Transport Consortium namely Journey (Taith);
- North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner;
- The Communities First partnership;
- Mudiad Meithrin;
- The Authority's Youth Service;
- Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni.

- 9.2 A response was received by the N.U.T. Their officer “appreciated the need for the Authority to modernise its school estate” but “regretted the need for compulsory redundancies as s happening in the Ysgol Santes Dwynwen reorganisation”.

## 10. RESPONSES FROM PUPILS

Cyfarfu swyddogion y Cyngor gyda disgyblion Ysgol Beaumaris, Ysgol Llandegfan ac Ysgol Llangoed. Y bwriad oedd cynnal cyfarfodydd byr gyda chynrychiolaeth o ddisgyblion o'r ddwy ysgol, er mwyn canfod eu barn am y cynnig i newid eu hysgol bresennol.

Eglurwyd i'r disgyblion fod ymgynghoriad wedi ei gynnal gyda'r oedolion yn y gymuned, ac roedd hyn yn gyfle i'r plant o'r ysgolion fynegi eu barn am gynlluniau'r Cyngor ar gyfer moderneiddio ysgolion. Pwysleisiwyd bod eu barn yn bwysig gan mai nhw sy'n mynychu'r ysgolion. Dywedwyd wrthynt bydd y wybodaeth a gyflwynir ganddynt yn cael eu trosglwyddo i ffurf adroddiad a'i gyflwyno i Gynghorwyr y Cyngor fel rhan o'r Ymgynghoriad Statudol.

Eglurwyd mai'r rhesymau dros foderneiddio oedd:

- Mae gan ysgolion Ynys Môn gormod o lefydd gwag neu dim digon o lefydd mewn rhai o'u hysgolion
- Angen gwneud yn siŵr bod yr holl ddisgyblion yn cael addysg dda
- Angen gwneud siŵr fod yr ysgol yn fodern ac yn cynnig offer da
- Bod y Cyngor yn gwario eu harian ar ysgolion mewn ffordd deg

Gofynnwyd y cwestiynau canlynol i'r plant:

1. Beth oedd y disgyblion yn hoffi am eu hysgol bresennol?
2. Beth yw eich barn am y cynnig i gau Ysgol Beaumaris, a throsglwyddo'r plant i Ysgol Llangoed ac Ysgol Llandegfan?
3. A oeddent yn cytuno gyda'r rhesymau dros newid
4. Unrhyw sylwadau eraill

**The School Council's viewpoints - Ysgol Llangoed**

**28 November 2018**

**Question – What do you like about your current school?**

I like the work

I have a lot of friends

The teachers

School dinner

Play time

Urdd Activities

Physical Education

Information Technology

Books

Colouring

Music –a number of lessons

People from the community coming to talk to us i.e. Dwr Cymru recently visited

Playing outside on the field

Access to ‘Mathletics’

Nature and visiting a pond that’s close to the school grounds

The Greenhouse we built ourselves out of plastic bottles

Park – outdoor playing areas

Christmas Show

Art lessons with Miss Jordan

Christmas Fair and Summer Fair

Library

Lot of opportunities to perform and take part

Ordinary Men Show to raise money

Eisteddfod

Remembrance Service

**Question – what is your opinion on the proposal to close Ysgol Beaumaris, and transferring the children to Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgol Llandegfan?**

The situation will be different to all of us

It won’t be fair on the teachers, as it will be additional work for them

We have friends in Ysgol Llangoed. The children of Beaumaris might lose friends

A lot more children will be in the school

I previously attended Ysgol Beaumaris for a period , therefore I know a lot of the children

The school will feel different  
It will be more difficult for our teachers  
The school will be bigger therefore we will require more teachers  
It will be good to have more children  
I'm happy about the proposal  
I feel confident

**Do you agree with the reasons for change:**

**The need to plan for the appropriate number of places**  
**Ensure that everyone continues to receive good education**  
**Modern school and good resources**  
**Spending money on our schools in a fair way**

Everyone agreed and understood the reasons

**Further information presented by the children**

The teachers and children have a lot of fun here at present  
A lot of opportunities available in the school  
The school is Welsh and we work on the Welsh Charter. The status of the school's Welsh Charter is 'silver'.  
I like that the star of the week can sit in a different table at dinner time  
The star of the week can go on the scooter  
We have an Eco Council, it is separate to the School Council  
We can talk to our teachers if we have any problems. They are easy to talk to

**Consultation with the School Council Ysgol Llandegfan 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2017**

Comments from the School Council

**Question – what do you like about your current school**

Excellent sport activities  
Excellent teachers  
A lot of children at the school (one child refereed to the current number of 154)  
The size of the school is sufficient. Not too big or too small.

Making cakes

When we get hurt – there's someone there to care for us

Fun activities

Good food

We work together

Opportunities to do fun things

Good classes

Lot of Urdd activities

Opening the Book sessions to learn about Jesus and the Bible. People from the community come to the school – one is Welsh and the other is English

The Welsh Language

Stairs in the School

Fun with each other

Good friends

Plenty of room in the classrooms

Making crafts and taking them home

Music lessons

Star of the week and teams that succeed

School Captains

Good pencils and equipment

Supporting each other

Enough children to be friends with each other

There's always someone here if we require help

Friendly children

Eco Council – and we have won a platinum award, the first to receive it on Anglesey

Healthy School

Enough outside area

The School Council can buy resources for the outdoor area

The school asks for the children's opinion

**Question – What is your opinion on the proposal to close Ysgol Beaumaris, and transfer the children to Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgol Llandegfan?**

Good idea – there will be more children for us to be friends with and play with

Good idea – Ysgol Beaumaris is small (numbers)  
We will require more teachers in Ysgol Llandegfan  
We will welcome the children from Ysgol Beaumaris and help them to feel comfortable

**Do you agree with the reasons for change:**

**The need to plan for the appropriate number of places**  
**Ensure that everyone continues to receive good education**  
**Modern school and good resources**  
**Spending money on our schools in a fair way**

Everybody agreed with the reasons for change, and understood

**Further information presented by the children**

A question was asked if Ysgol Beaumaris would re-open in the future  
No one will make fun of the children that come here from Ysgol Beaumaris  
As school was closed in my village (Llanddona) because not enough children attended the school and I understand that, and I'm aware of ongoing discussions about the use of the school in the future

**Consultation with the School Council of Ysgol Beaumaris 21/12/17**

The School Council's comments

**Question – what do you like about your current school**

Toys in the playground  
Football field  
Urdd  
Big playground for everyone to play  
Friends  
Breakfast Club  
Nice Teachers

Learning new things  
After school club  
Physical Education  
Children and parents went to see a pantomime together in Llandudno (close community)  
School Trip  
Christmas Show  
Nice food  
Dancing in the hall with a student  
Members of the community reading with us  
Easter Parade  
Reading in groups in the morning  
Film nights organised by the Friends of the School  
Learning about the Celts  
Art Work  
Going on the computer  
Making models  
Looking after the younger children  
Singing  
Disco  
Music Lessons  
The School is big  
Film night  
Biking down to the school  
Periscope  
The school is close to my house and I Can walk there  
Playing with clay  
Creating Celt work  
School sports day  
Swimming in Llangefni  
Making sunglasses

**Question – what is your opinion on the proposal to close Ysgol Beaumaris, and transferring the children to Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgol Llandegfan?**

Sad



Afraid

It's not fair that we are only closing Ysgol Beaumaris

I feel angry about the proposal

I feel sad

**Do you agree with the reasons for change:**

**The need to plan for the appropriate number of places**

**Ensure that everyone continues to receive good education**

**Modern school and good resources**

**Spending money on our schools in a fair way**

We understand the reasons. It might not be a modern school but the technology and resources are modern in this school.

**Further information presented by the children**

Build apartment in the Elderly Block at the end of the school's site, that's currently empty

Make Ysgol Beaumaris a super school – get more children to come here

Get more children to the houses nearby

Old people live in Beaumaris

Create more affordable homes and think of possible sites – the Woodland possibly?

Build houses on the school field

The children referred to the school they would potentially attend if Ysgol Beaumaris was to close - Ysgol Pentraeth, Ysgol Benllech and Ysgol Llangoed

I am not sure how I would get to another school. My Father works and my Mother does not drive.

We would require a bus to another school.

## **Casgliad**

Cafwyd trafodaethau aeddfed iawn gyda'r disgyblion yn y dair ysgol. Mynegwyd pryderon gan blant Ysgol Beaumaris. Roedd rhai'n gofyn i'r Cyngor ystyried peidio â chau Ysgol Beaumaris. Roedd disgyblion y ddwy ysgol arall yn cytuno gyda'r cynnig.

## **11. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

A total of 28 original options were evaluated above were evaluated from a financial perspective in the report on non-statutory consultation. The following were considered for all options - capital costs, revenue savings, transport costs, capital receipts and borrowing costs.

The assumptions for these calculations should be noted. Borrowing:

- Will be at a fixed rate.
- will take place over a period of 50 years using the most recent interest rates.
- is taken in its entirety i.e. at one time because the expenditure/date of profiling available. In simple terms, this calculation is the cost of funding that amount for 50 years.

These calculations only take into account the unsupported borrowing of the 21st century schools programme.

It should be noted that these costs and savings are *best estimates* currently available. A number of the options, if realised, will create short-term costs such as, appointing a head teacher before the school opens, severance costs, pay protection costs, and maintenance costs of buildings until they are sold. These costs will be part of a business case, if the option is realised, when the number of options have been reduced.

As the Executive Committee agreed to consult on option 2/3, only this option will be considered:

**Option 2/3: Close Ysgol Beaumaris and for the parents of the pupils on roll at the time this decision is made by the Executive to state their preference for either Ysgol Llandegfan or Ysgol Llangoed in line with the schools' admission policy.**

Option	Capital cost	Additional costs	Transport costs	Capital receipts
2/3	£1,330,000	£0	£27,000	£342,000

Additional costs	£27,000	Net project costs	£988,000
		Cost to be financed	£323,000

The estimated net savings from this option are £85,000 and the estimated net project cost is £323,000. Annual costs would be about £13,986.

A summary of the figures for the options is presented below:

Option	Cost to be financed	Cost or net (saving)	Annual borrowing cost
2/3	£323,000	(£85,000)	£13,986

## 12. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Authority's Executive adopted the Energy Strategy in 2017. The aim of the strategy is to reduce carbon emissions by 15% by 2022.

The information below shows the Authority's spending on fuel and electricity over the past three financial years for the three schools:

<b>Expenditure (on electricity and fuel)</b>				
<b>School</b>	<b>2014-2015</b>	<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>2016-2017</b>	<b>Average (per year)</b>
<b>Beaumaris</b>	£21,192	£17,630	£19,617	£19,480
<b>Llangoed</b>	£7,066	£7,441	£9,308	£7,938
<b>Llandegfan</b>	£17,340	£4,562	£10,995	£10,966

The table below shows the carbon dioxide emissions from the schools over the past three financial years:

<b>Tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> (electricity and fuel)</b>				
<b>School</b>	<b>2014-2015</b>	<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>2016-2017</b>	<b>Average (tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>)</b>
<b>Beaumaris</b>	93	88	92	91
<b>Llangoed</b>	29	29	29	29
<b>Llandegfan</b>	39	35	33	36

The figures show that the expenditure on fuel and electricity is highest in Ysgol Beaumaris and it also has the highest carbon dioxide emissions of the three schools.

### **13. RECOMMENDATION**

Following consideration of the factors above and that pupil projections in the area are comparatively low, the Authority cannot keep Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris and Ysgol Llangoed open.

Therefore, it is recommended that:

- **Close Ysgol Beaumaris and for the parents of the pupils on roll at the time this decision is made by the Executive to state their preference for either Ysgol Llandegfan or Ysgol Llangoed in line with the schools' admission policy.**
- **Review the current catchment areas of the three schools with a view to implementing any changes when Ysgol Beaumaris closes.**
- **Refurbish Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgol Llandegfan, and**
- **Consider whether to federate Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgol Llandegfan at the end of this process.**

YSGOL GYNRADD BEAUMARIS

Head Teacher

Maes Hyfryd  
BEAUMARIS  
Ynys Môn / Anglesey .  
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3rd February 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: STATUTORY CONSULTATION — SEIRIOL AREA

We are writing to formally object to the following proposai laid out in the Statutory Consultation - Seiriol Area document published on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017:

- Close Ysgol Beaumaris and for the parents of the pupils on roll at the time this decision is made by the Executive to state their preference for either Ysgol Llandegfan or Ysgol Llangoed in line with the schools' admission policy.
- Review the current catchment areas of the three schools with a view to implementing any changes when Ysgoi Beaumaris closes.
- Refurbish Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgoi Llandegfan, and
- Consider whether to federate Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgoi Llandegfan at the end of this process.

Firstly, we believe that no school in the Seiriol area can be considered for closure until the roads between the towns and villages in the area receive substantial improvement works to ensure the safety of pupils, parents and staff on their journeys to and from school. At the moment the A545 from Beaumaris to Menai Bridge is undergoing essential repair due to the most recent landslide and it is well publicised that this road is no longer fit for purpose and is in need of substantial investment an improvement works. The B5103 from Beaumaris to Llangoed is regularly closed due to flooding at times and heavy rain and high tides. Ysgol Llandegfan has well publicised issues with traffic and parking around school drop off and pick up times and any extra traffic would only make a potentially dangerous situation even more hazardous. The roads between Beaumaris and Llandegfan are also regularly closed due flooding and are single track in places, making hem unsuitable for an increase in traffic. A 21<sup>st</sup> century road network should be the priority of the authority before they can recommend that pupils are transported to neighbouring villages to attend school.

As Governors we are concerned at the number of inaccuracies and misleading statements found in the Statutory Consultation document. During the meeting with parents at Ysgoi Beaumaris on 29<sup>th</sup> November a number of errors in the documents were highlighted to the officers present. Firstly, the English version of the document contained a meeting date of Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November instead of Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November. The officers in attendance didn't seem to think that this was an issue due to the number of people in attendance that evening but none the less it was an error and some interested parties may have missed the meeting due to the error. During the meeting the misleading use of bullet points on p.3 of the document, which suggested that the Council's Executive meeting had resolved to close Ysgol Beaumaris was also questioned by several attendees. One lady

pointed out that the way that the document has been written led her to believe that the decision to close Ysgol Beaumaris had already been made. She was reassured by the officers that this was not the case and "had 3 or 4 bullet marks been removed, then the document would have been accurate". It was requested that the document be corrected and re-issued but we were quite categorically told that this would not happen. This causes great concern as while those people present that evening heard the explanation from the officers, who knows how many people read the document online and believed that the decision to close Ysgol Beaumaris had already been made. During the meeting a request was also made to extend consultation period which was due to end on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017. It was felt that the authority had failed to enter into the spirit of the consultation and make allowances for the Christmas period, a time of year when people are busy, have lots of other things on their mind and are maybe away from home visiting family and simply don't have time to sit and read through the consultation document and then pen a response. The Christmas season is also a time of joy and excitement for children, which was overshadowed by their anxieties about what will happen to their school, which seems particularly cynical given the Council's insistence throughout the consultation period that it acts in the best interest of pupils. We were informed by the Chief Executive that there was no possibility of an extension as the authority were complying with the requirements for the minimum length of time given to respond to the consultation. While this is true it was felt that the authority could have taken the time of year into consideration and allowed a few more weeks for responses to be gathered. Then on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017 at 16:32, after the staff and pupils has left school to start the Christmas Holidays, an email was sent [REDACTED] to advise us that the council had decided to extend the period of consultation to February 6<sup>th</sup> 2018. While this extension was welcomed it came too late for some who had already rushed to send in responses and it was difficult to spread the word to all parents and other interested parties clue to the Christmas Holidays. it should also be noted the official response form on the council website showed the end of the consultation period as 31<sup>st</sup> December until our Vice Chair contacted [REDACTED] on February 1<sup>st</sup> to request that the date was changed. This should have been altered as soon as the decision was taken to extend the consultation period as people may have failed to respond thinking that the consultation had already ended.

The consultation documents for both the non-statutory and statutory consultation period made only minor references to plans to build an extra care facility on the site of Ysgol Beaumaris. This was very briefly mentioned in the non-statutory document (p3):

*Developing possible Extra facilities on this site will not affect the result of the consultation on the future of Ysgol Beaumaris. It is foreseen that this development can be located on the same site as the present school conditional upon the usual considerations.*

The statutory consultation confirmed this by stating 'that the preferred site for this development is the site of the current Ysgol Beaumaris either co-located or with an adapted school or as the prime use for this land,' (p.4). What is unfortunately omitted is a statement included in the reports on the non-statutory consultation presented to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee and the Executive respectively, which state (pp.14):

*NOTE — If option 6.1.8 took place, there would be room for a few additional care homes behind the school. Even so, the site would be very busy during the building period. On the advice of the Authority's Property Officers, the school would need to be emptied and there would be a need to locate the Ysgol Beaumaris pupils on another site for the building period namely up to 2 school years. This would be an additional cost for the Authority.*

The admission that building the extra care facility and keeping the school open are incompatible was confirmed by Council officers at the meeting for parents on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017, where the accuracy of the above statement was acknowledged and officers confirmed that it was hard to imagine that the school would reopen after being emptied for 2 years. We believe that the formal consultation document has been misleading by suggesting that the extra care facility could be co-located with the school. The consultation process on the Ysgol Beaumaris's future should never

have been run parallel with the consultation process on the extra care facility. We have been told repeatedly that neither the education or extra care consultations rely on the result of the other yet how can this be the case? If the extra care was given approval to be built on the school site how could the option of extending the school to incorporate the pupils of Ysgol Llandegfan and Ysgol Llangoed have been possible as the extensive grounds required for the extra care facility would have severely impacted on the space available to make any necessary adaptations to the school?

The consultation process has shown a bias against Ysgol Beaumaris from the outset in other ways too. For instance, whilst the Council has provided cost estimates for bringing both other Seiriol schools up to 21<sup>st</sup> century school standards, there is no such estimate for Ysgol Beaumaris. There is subsequently no basis for suggesting that an extension of both other schools would be cheaper than a thorough upgrade to Ysgol Beaumaris in order to accommodate the pupils from Llandegfan and Llangoed.

We also believe that the authority have assumed that parents of pupils, currently attending Ysgol Beaumaris, will send their children to either Ysgol Llangoed or Ysgol Llandegfan if Ysgol Beaumaris was to close. The extension and improvement work at Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgol Llandegfan are projected to cost in excess of £1.3 million yet no work has been undertaken to engage with parents of Beaumaris pupils to establish how many of the current pupils would transfer to one of the extended schools. As Governors of Ysgol Beaumaris we distributed simple questionnaires to parents to establish their thoughts on the closure and to gain an indication as to which schools they would consider sending their children to if Ysgol Beaumaris was to close. The information from the 17 questionnaires that were returned by the pre-Christmas deadline has been collated and full results are available in *Appendix A*. From the responses we received only two parents stated that they would consider sending their children to Ysgol Llangoed and six to Ysgol Llandegfan. It is concerning that eight of the parents that responded said that they would take their children to a school in Bangor. It would be outrageous if the closure of a school lead to children leaving the island to be educated in a neighbouring authority and possibly move on to secondary education there too. We believe that the reason only two parents selected the option of possibly attending Ysgol Llangoed isn't because there is an issue with the school itself but purely because it would involve travelling a couple of miles out of their way to Llangoed and then returning to Beaumaris to then make their onward journey to work. Travelling to Llangoed in the morning is simply against the flow of traffic for most people travelling to work. We all know that time is a precious commodity and for parents working in Bangor or further afield it would be more convenient and time saving for their children to attend a school along their route to work. This is reflected in the results as seven parents opted for Ysgol Y Borth and eight for Bangor. We believe it would make far more sense for the pupils of Llangoed to travel to Beaumaris to go to school as lots of parents from Llangoed already have to travel through Beaumaris to make their journey to work.

The potential closure of Ysgol Beaumaris has a much more wide reaching effect than just on the staff, parents and pupils currently attending the school. The loss of the school would be detrimental to the community as a whole and following the period of informal consultation there were concerns that the County Council were unaware of the potential effects. The Beaumaris Primary School Consultation Response Committee therefore initiated its own community impact survey undertaken, pro bono, by a social sciences researcher at Bangor University (*Appendix B*). The aim of the survey was to better understand how residents of Beaumaris and the wider area felt about the Council's proposals regarding the school as well as the extra care facility, and what potential impact they expected these decisions may have. This survey was distributed as a paper copy among the community and was also available for completion online. The survey was closed on 17/12/2017 to allow time for data to be analysed in time for the original consultation end date of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 and by this time 217 responses were received. According to this survey, the people of

Beaumaris feel very strongly about the primary school. Had we known that the consultation period was to be extended then we could have allowed more time for more responses to be collected. The findings indicate that Beaumaris needs a primary school (96% agree) and that the possible loss of

the school would have a negative impact on the community more widely (92% agree) and young families in particular (94% agree). The survey also shows that people consider Ysgol Beaumaris to be a part of the town's history (94% agree) and acknowledge the school's vital role in nurturing Welsh culture (91% agree). The author of the Community Impact Survey concludes that this community impact survey strongly supports the case for keeping Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris open, highlighting a broad variety of concerns about the adverse impact on families and the wider community if the school were to close. The survey findings, outlined in the executive summary, show clearly that both the Council's proposal to close the school and to build an extra care facility on the site of Ysgol Beaumaris are very widely opposed, with only a fraction of respondents being in favour of these. The survey also indicates that the lack of a primary school would likely deter young families from moving to Beaumaris (93%) or force young families to move away from Beaumaris (89%), thus exacerbating the town's aging demographics.

As part of a consultation undertaken by Welsh Government on a Revised School Organisation Code we have submitted a response arguing for Ysgol Beaumaris to be included in the register of rural schools. The Welsh Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kirsty Williams, has repeatedly highlighted the importance of rural schools for communities and stated that these must be protected wherever possible. The consultation period ended on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and we are confident that Ysgol Beaumaris meets all criteria for inclusion as a rural school. It therefore seems premature of the Council to propose the closure of a school before the Revised School Organisation Code is published. The Beaumaris Primary School Response Committee also produced an online and paper petition to oppose the closure of Beaumaris Primary School which will shortly be presented to Kirsty Williams (*Appendix C*). At the time of writing this report, the petition has in excess of 800 signatures highlighting the strong objection to the closure of Ysgol Beaumaris felt in Beaumaris and surrounding areas.

One of the reasons for change raised in the consultation document is a drive to raise standards. The results of all three schools are mixed at the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 e.g. in 2016 two of the three schools in the bottom quarter of schools based upon Foundation Phase results and all three schools in the bottom quarter based on Key Stage 2 results whereas in 2015, Ysgol Beaumaris was the only school to achieve the highest quarter of schools (Foundation Phase results). The Formal Consultation document fails to convince that any combination of federation/closing would impact positively on standards. Another driver for change is cutting the link between deprivation and educational outcomes - is not addressed adequately by the consultation. In fact, the Welsh Government's strategy to tackle this by way of the Pupil Deprivation Grant is not linked to school size leadership / results but merely the number of pupils that are in receipt of free school meals. Therefore to link modernisation to closing the attainment gap is at odds with the Government's own strategy. If the Council believes that modernisation will close the attainment gap, the only option that may potentially address this is option 6.4.1, whereby a new area school could provide a properly co-ordinated solution. Also, this would provide a real 21st Century School solution that may not be possible with the other options as Ysgol Llangoed and Ysgol Llandegfan are in category B in terms of condition of buildings.

Whilst the Council may consider they have done enough to consult with the pupils at Ysgol Beaumaris, as a Board of Governors we find its attempt is inadequate. We have consulted with the Office of the Commissioner for Children's Rights in Wales, which referred to the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010. Part 1 Chapter 2 states:

#### 12 Participation of children in local authority decision making

- 1) A local authority must make such arrangements as it considers suitable to promote and facilitate participation by children in decisions of the authority which might affect them.

- 2) A local authority must—
  - a. publish information about its arrangements under subsection (1), and
  - b. keep the information published up to date.

None of the consultation documents for the non—statutory and statutory consultation make any reference to arrangements to promote and facilitate children’s participation. We are aware that the school council was consulted with, but it is unclear what weight the Council will give to their views. Furthermore, the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 is not the only legal document obliging the Council to consult adequately with children in this matter. It falls short of the expectations outlined in the Schools Organisation Code, section 3.3 which requires that:

*Proposers must also make suitable arrangements to consult with pupils of any affected school (or part of a school in the case of provision reserved for children with SEN) and, where possible, with children and young people who are likely to attend those schools. As a minimum, this must include consultation with the school councils of the affected schools, but should also include consultation with individual learners where this is appropriate and practicable. Governing bodies must help facilitate this aspect of the consultation.*

*The information given to children and young people must be presented in such a way that it is relevant to their age and level of likely understanding and allows them to reach an informed opinion. The agreed children and young people’s participation standards for Wales are available on the Welsh Government’s website; proposers **should** refer to these and act in accordance with them.*

*If consulting with individual learners, proposers should produce and distribute a version or versions of the consultation document appropriate to the age/ages of the children and young people affected. The consultation document **should** also clearly explain to children and young people the difference between the consultation and objection periods and how and when they can object to proposals. Where necessary, proposers should provide assistance to children and young people who wish to submit a consultation response."*

This serves to show that the Council did nothing more than the very bare minimum, ignoring the participatory spirit of the Schools Organisation Code. As far as we are aware there was no attempt to consult with children and young people who are likely to attend the school, such as those currently attending the Little Puffin’s playgroup. The Governing Body has collaborated with the teaching staff and parents to encourage sensitive discussions of the matter within the school and at home. This would have been easier had we been provided with age appropriate versions of the consultation document and guidance on how the views of children would be taken into consideration. From our engagement with them, it is clear that pupils wish for their school to remain open and cannot really understand the Council’s rationale for proposing the closure of their school.

At the Scrutiny Committee meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017 the Chair of Ysgol Beaumaris Governors presented an Initial Analysis report (*Appendix D*) that highlighted a number of concerns that we had identified with the scoring system used during the Non-statutory Consultation stage. While some reasoning was given to these issues by [REDACTED] at the time, we still feel that more time should have been taken to scrutinise the inconsistencies that we highlighted before a proposal was put before the Executive Committee. We have further clarified the concerns about the informal consultation report and these are presented in a revised analysis document (*Appendix E*).

When the Non-statutory Consultation was discussed at the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017 and during the Executive meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017 it was repeatedly pointed out by the Education Portfolio Holder that the council were still prepared to listen to and consider



any other viable options that were presented to them. This message was again repeated at the meeting with parents on 29<sup>th</sup> November. Following several meetings with staff, parents, Town Councillors and extended community members the Governors of Ysgol Beaumaris have developed four viable options that would see Ysgol Beaumaris remain open (*Appendix F*). These options stem from comments, suggestions and opinions of the community of Beaumaris made during a number of open meetings and discussions. The Governors also held a public meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> December where the four options were presented to the public to ensure that they were supportive of the options and happy for us to continue to present these to the authority as viable options that would keep Ysgol Beaumaris open. It was during that meeting that an important point was raised; the four options are not individual or exclusive and any number of the options could be combined as required. The four alternative options were then also presented to parents and family members attending the Christmas concerts, with a view to gauging their support for the different options. By and large, most parents support all four options (*see Appendix G*).

The four options are:

- A. Close Ysgol Llangoed and modernise Ysgol Beaumaris to become Ysgol Bro Seiriol.
- B. Make Ysgol Beaumaris a smaller school and use part of the building for a nursery or other educational provision.
- C. Develop a very different educational offer at Ysgol Beaumaris to attract more pupils from across the region — based on adventure, mindfulness and creativity.
- D. Develop an Innovative model where Ysgol Beaumaris pupils and older people at the extra care facility learn together and undertake shared activities.

Whilst Option A would sadly mean the closure of one school in the Seiriol ward which is something we have sought to avoid if possible, there are some rational arguments for it. The Council's projected timescales would see Ysgol Beaumaris close in summer 2021, at the time when Beaumaris and Llangoed are projected to have the same number of pupils, according to the report to the Executive. From 2022 onwards, Beaumaris would in fact have a higher number of pupils than Llangoed, and it seems more logical to close the smaller school at the time when the closure would actually be enacted. Further, by keeping Ysgol Beaumaris open and making use of its spacious, Grade II listed building, and expensive extensions to the other two schools can be avoided.

We have used the drivers for change and the scoring system used at the informal consultation stage to compare how our options would compare with those initial twenty options that have already been scored. The full breakdown of scoring is available within each option in appendix F but we would expect our options to score in the range of 77 and 84 points making them equal to or higher scoring than the authorities highest scoring option of closing Ysgol Beaumaris and transferring pupils to either Ysgol Llandegfan or Ysgol Llangoed.

I'm sure that you will appreciate that a great deal of time and effort has gone in to engaging with the community in and around Beaumaris to ensure that we have captured the thoughts, concerns and suggestions of the full community regarding the possible closure of Ysgol Beaumaris. Engaging with the community via open meetings, questionnaires, petitions, surveys and general discussion on the street has only served to highlight to us the strong feelings of opposition that there are to the possible closure of the school. We would now urge Anglesey County Council to listen to the voice of the people of Beaumaris and re-consider their proposal to close Ysgol Beaumaris. Please fully consider the options that we are putting before you that would see a school remain in Beaumaris.

Yours Sincerely

Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris Board of Governors

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS' ALTERNATIVE OPTION A

### Close Ysgol Llangoed and modernise Ysgol Beaumaris to become Ysgol Bro Seiriol

#### Outline:

This alternative option is broadly similar to option 1 in the report to the Executive, in that it would entail closing Ysgol Llangoed and transferring the children to Ysgol Beaumaris. However, as Ysgol Beaumaris is current large enough to accommodate the number of pupils from Llangoed, it would not be necessary to extend Ysgol Llandegfan (unlike described in the Council's option 1). The school in Beaumaris could then be modernised and renamed as Ysgol Bro Seiriol to show its broader geographical scope and be more inclusive to neighbouring communities. This option would potentially increase pupil numbers to 119 and therefore bring down surplus places. If the school were to be relaunched as Ysgol Bro Seiriol this could attract pupils from nearby Llanddona as well. In addition (unlike the Council's option 1) possible federation with Ysgol Llandegfan could increase leadership capacity.

Whilst this option would sadly mean the closure of one school in the Seiriol ward, which is something we have sought to avoid if possible, there are some rational arguments for it. The Council's projected timescales would see Ysgol Beaumaris close in summer 2021, at the time when Beaumaris and Llangoed are projected to have the same number of pupils, according to the report to the Executive. From 2022 onwards, Beaumaris would in fact have a higher number of pupils than Llangoed, and it seems more logical to close the smaller school at the time when the closure would actually be enacted. Further, by keeping Ysgol Beaumaris open and making use of its spacious, Grade II listed building, expensive extensions to the other two schools can be avoided. The Council could also show that it is eager to protect jobs, as most teaching staff from Ysgol Llangoed could move to the new Ysgol Bro Seiriol.

Ysgol Beauaris has a slightly higher proportion of children from Welsh-speaking families than Ysgol Llangoed (20% vs 18%), meaning that this option would also strengthen Welsh provision. Ysgol Beaumaris has recently achieved the Silver Award for the Welsh Charter and is currently working towards its Gold Award.

#### Anticipated Score :

Using the Council's scoring system, we expect this option to score between 77 and 80 points with thorough modernisation. This is based on the Council's scoring for option 1, but with 10 points respectively for drivers 4 (ensure that school buildings will create the best possible learning environment) and 5 (ensure that school buildings are in good condition and that no health and safety issues), which seems a fair assumption if renovations are undertaken thoroughly. We also anticipate 7 points for driver 7 (community use of school building) as a result of renovating Ysgol Beaumaris, which was the score given by the Council for option 9 (make an application to finance to renovate Ysgp; Beaumaris). Driver 8 (provision of Welsh and bilingual medium) should be revised to 10 points as the Council's scoring inaccurately states the Ysgol Beaumaris is a bilingual rather than Welsh medium school and subsequently scored us significantly lower compared to the other two schools. As outlined above, Beaumaris has a higher population of pupils from Welsh-speaking families and the school is working towards its Welsh Charter Gold Award, thus justifying the same score (10) given by the Council for its option 11 (Close Ysgol Beaumaris and transfer the pupils to Ysgol Llangoed).

The Council has also suggested in the consultation documents that federalisation would increase leadership capacity, but its scorings of options do not reflect this. However, it stands to reason to expect that this alternative would increase leadership capacity (driver 6) from 2 to at least a moderate 5, which would bring the overall score for this alternative up to 80 points.

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS' ALTERNATIVE OPTION B

### Make Ysgol Beaumaris a smaller school and use part of the building for a nursery or other educational provision

#### Outline

This alternative option has similarities with the Council's own option 5 in the report to the Executive. We have, however, further developed this option to make it a viable alternative to the Council's preferred option. There is no doubt that Ysgol Beaumaris is currently too large for the population it serves. At the same time, there are ways in which to make the school more attractive as part of a wider strategy to make Beaumaris a more attractive town for families to move into. Our alternative proposal B is to reduce the size of Ysgol Beaumaris to make it more fit for purpose and to use the remaining space to attract other important community assets. For instance, having a nursery on site, which would share the building with the school and scale up the existing very popular Little Puffins playgroup, would make the town much more attractive to young professionals with children, for whom childcare provision is a crucial factor. Children would benefit from seamless transitions between nursery and school, and for parents with more than one child a joint site would make drop-offs and pick-ups easy to arrange. This alternative would seem in line with the Welsh Government's plans to offer 30 hours of free childcare to working parents of 3- and 4-year olds.

Option B could also succeed by partnering with other learning institutions, for instance as a small satellite campus of Coleg Menai, or attract other local businesses to use part of the building. This could be achieved though a social enterprise modelled on the success of the Canolfan in Beaumaris.

The option could be further strengthened by federating all 3 schools to increase leadership capacity and notionally increase their size by effectively having one school across three local campuses. As all schools would remain open, it would be necessary to modernise all 3 schools - however, without the need to build costly extensions. Also, only part of Ysgol Beaumaris would require modernisation, thus dramatically reducing the funds required, some of which would be subsidised from rental income.

Overall, this option would offer an opportunity to create an innovative community learning hub around Ysgol Beaumaris, making use of the purpose-built school building. Given the anticipated increase in pupil numbers and the potential for a nursery to attract even higher numbers of pupils in the future, the actual size of Ysgol Beaumaris could be flexible, making it possible to expand as and when needed to take into account developments such as Wylfa, which may positively affect the number of families residing in Beaumaris.

#### Anticipated Score:

Using the Council's scoring system, we expect this option to score around 78 and up to 84, and it must be emphasised that several of its merits are not captured by the scoring system. Our anticipated score for this option is based on the Council's option 5 (reduce the size of Ysgol Beaumaris), but due to federalising with

Ysgol Llandegfan the score for driver 1 (raise educational standards) would increase to 6 - as in option 14 (federalise Ysgol Llandegfan with another school). Further, we have scored 6 points for driver 2 (reduce surplus places) as the flexibility suggested in this option could effectively bring down surplus places at Ysgol Beaumaris to close to 0, so 6 is a conservative score. We have given 8 points for driver 3 (reduce the variation in costs per pupil) as this score seems inconsistent. For most other options it is 8, for some it is 6, and only for the option of reducing the size of Ysgol Beaumaris it seems to be 2. It stands to reason that by making the school more attractive and generating additional revenue from the space not used by the school, the per pupil costs can be brought down effectively. Driver 8 (provision of Welsh and bilingual medium) should be revised to 10 points as argued above in option A.

The Council has also suggested in the consultation documents that federalisation would increase leadership capacity, but its scorings of options do not reflect this. However, it stands to reason to expect that by federalising all 3 schools, leadership capacity (driver 6) would be comparable to those options which envisage a new school. Consequently, the score should increase from 2 to at least 8, which would bring the overall score for this alternative up to 84 points.

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS' ALTERNATIVE OPTION C

Develop a very different educational offer at Ysgol Beaumaris to attract more pupils from across the region - based on adventure, mindfulness and creativity

Outline:

This option is structurally similar to our alternative option B, so both are compatible. With this option we concentrate on making ours a school of choice by offering something very different to any other primary schools in the region, so that we can attract children from families across the region who like the school's approach to education that encompass the creative pedagogical opportunities that the Donaldson curriculum offers. Educationally, this would focus on building important soft skills that give children the best chance to enjoy a meaningful life, seek out learning opportunities, develop positive relationships with themselves, others and their environment, and become active citizens who take responsibility. In close collaboration with the teaching team, we propose to shape the educational offer around 3 inter-related strands such as:

- **Mindfulness:** Using mindfulness as a key principle and skill to educate children the importance of paying attention to the present moment - to their own thoughts, feelings and to the world around them - to counter modern trends of constant sensory overload, negative stress and distraction. This has both educational benefits in the classroom, can increase group dynamics, reduce bullying, and improve mental health. Importantly, it would develop children's capacity to look after their own mental health, which is increasingly considered a crucial skill (currently, NHS Wales spend over 11% of its total budget on mental health problems). This strand could draw on Bangor University's Centre for Mindfulness Research and Practice.
- **Adventure:** Drawing on small and big adventure opportunities at the doorstep of the school, this could include a combination of forest school, emphasis on sports and physical activity as well as other experiential learning approaches. It would seek to nurture in children a love for life and their environment, intrinsic motivation and joy, teamwork and social skills, and it would also have numerous physical and mental health benefits. This strand could build on North Wales's world-leading adventure industry and expertise, helping to create the next generation of adventurers who can keep North Wales on the global map.

- Creativity: in the modern world, creativity is one of the most important skills — the World Economic Forum, and a recent IBM study, ranked creative thinking and complex problem solving as top skills that executives want to see in their employees. The school would nurture children’s creativity by strengthening divergent thinking and problem-solving (head), encouraging pupils to express themselves creatively and experience the joy, mental and emotional health benefits of creative processes (heart), and developing a broad range of creative skills and talents in children (hands).

This would clearly differentiate Ysgol Beaumaris from other schools in the region. It has the potential to speak to a broad range of parents who feel this could be a positive educational option for their child(ren). It could use the expertise and ideas of Ysgol Beaumaris's fantastic staff team and offer a positive challenge with opportunities for staff development and active involvement at a critical time for the school. It would also broaden the council's educational offer, effectively piloting a different approach to 21<sup>st</sup> century education. In addition, it would leave the other 2 schools in the Seiriol area untouched.

As we foresee that this educational model would benefit from a low-hierarchy distributed leadership approach in order to maximise the level of ownership and involvement of the entire staff team in shaping such an innovative model, this option would be incompatible with federation.

#### Anticipated Score:

Using the Council’s scoring system, we expect this option’s score to be around 81 to 84. Our anticipated score for this option is based on the Council’s option 5 (reduce the size of Ysgol Beaumaris), but due to its innovative educational provision focussed on nurturing crucial soft skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the score for driver 1 (raise educational standards) would increase to 6. This is a moderate score as the essential rationale behind this option is to raise educational standards by conceptualising education in its broadest sense. Further, we have scored 6 points for driver 2 (reduce surplus places) as the school size would be slightly reduced and more pupils would be attracted through targeted advertising and an educational provision that stands out. We have given 8 points for driver 3 (reduce the variation in costs per pupil) as this score seems inconsistent. For most other options it is 8, for some it is 6, and only for the option of reducing the size of Ysgol Beaumaris it seems to be 2. It stands to reason that, by making the school much more attractive (and potentially generating additional revenue from the space not used by the school as in alternative option B), the per pupil costs can be brought down effectively. As explained above, this option would implement a distributed approach to leadership, which would both strengthen leadership potential and increase leadership capacity (driver 6), thus suggesting that the score should be between 5 and 8. Driver 8 (provision of Welsh and bilingual medium) should be revised to 10 points as argued above in option A.

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS' ALTERNATIVE OPTION D

### Develop an innovative model where Ysgol Beaumaris pupils and older people at the extra care facility learn together and undertake shared activities

#### Outline

Whilst the recent Corporate Scrutiny Committee rejection of the proposal to build an extra care facility on the site of Ysgol Beaumaris may make this alternative option unlikely to come to fruition, We have included it here to demonstrate that We have a spectrum of viable alternatives that can fit with various Council plans. This option is also broadly based on the Council's option 5 with regards to reducing the school size and seek ways to maximise the opportunities for intergenerational learning and relationship-building if the proposed extra care facility were to be built here. Based on several other pilot projects across the UK and in continental Europe, it would bring together pupils from Ysgol Beaumaris with the older people from the extra care facility to learn from and with each other, and undertake activities together, such as gardening, cooking, singing, playing, etc. This innovative approach has been demonstrated to have very positive benefits for both groups, and with the right support we could create a learning community across generations. Similar to option C, this has the potential to attract parents from across the region. It would offer a positive option, giving the teaching team opportunities to develop new ideas and models to make this work. It would likely bring positive media attention and potentially open up routes to access external funding.

The co-location would also enable shared use of various facilities, such as the school hall, kitchen, canteen as well as some of the outdoor space. This option should include thorough modernisation of Ysgol Beaumaris to bring it to the same standard as the extra care facility.

Whilst this alternative option has many merits, we would only consider this a viable option if construction of the extra care facility did not negatively impact on the day-to-day running of the school, let alone require its closure for 2 years (as mentioned in the report to the Executive).

The Council's scoring system would indicate an approximate score for this option of up to 83. However, this does not adequately reflect its greater potential benefits as the scoring system understandably focuses on the drivers for modernising schools and does not capture positive impacts on the older people housed in the extra care facility. Our anticipated score for this option is again based on the Council's option 5 (reduce the size of Ysgol Beaumaris). Different scores have been given to driver 1 (raise educational standards), which would increase to 6 due to the additional educational opportunities arising from the innovative approach to intergenerational learning. We have scored 6 points for driver 2 (reduce surplus places) as in options B and C and for the same reasons. We have also given 6 points for driver 3 (reduce the variation in costs per pupil) for the reasons stated above - as with option C, the co-located arrangement could give the school a higher profile and by sharing facilities with the extra care housing, per pupil costs should be lower. For drivers 4 (ensure that school buildings will create the best possible learning environment) and 5 (ensure that school buildings are in good condition and that no health and safety issues), the score should be 9 due to thorough modernisation work and potentially the use of some facilities within the extra care housing complex. Driver 6 (increase leadership capacity) could score slightly higher with a moderate 3 points due to new opportunities for distributed leadership, given that this option would require a more innovative educational approach. The community use of the school building (driver 7) would also be higher - scored at 9 - as facilities would be shared with the extra care facility. Driver 8 (provision of Welsh and bilingual medium) should be revised to 10 points as argued above in option A. Whilst there may be higher modernisation costs compared to options B and C (which we aim to keep cost-effective), the revenue potential of locating the extra care facility on the school site and sharing facilities should justify a score of 5 for costs (driver 10).

From: Carwyn Elias Jones

Sent: Dydd Mawrth, 6 Chwefror 2018 21:23

To:

Cc:

Delyth Molyneux  
Head of Lifelong Learning  
Isle of Anglesey County Council

06/02/2018

Dear Mrs Molyneux,

RE: Statutory Education consultation in the Seiriol Area

I have entered this process with an open mind and been through the consultation document, attended the local meetings, listened to all the views and opinions from parents, staff, Governors, local Cllrs and the community. I am fully committed to education and continuous improvement, and wish to see every child receive the best possible education to achieve their potential. My views below which I am conveying have been shaped by the people of the Seiriol Ward. I will be expanding on these comments when the Statutory Education consultation in the Seiriol Area is discussed in the Council.

4 years ago I was the Seiriol Ward Cllr who supported and spoke strongly in favour of keeping Ysgol Llanddona open and this time around I have again spoken out as a local elected member at the scrutiny committee and executive committee and urged the Council to keep all three schools open in the Seiriol Ward as this is the unanimous view I have gained from across the Seiriol Ward. The Seiriol ward has already lost Llanddona School and not seen any investment or modernisation to compensate for this.

Kirsty Williams AM has recently announced support should be given towards rural schools and Mark Drakeford announced investing an extra £62m into education, although I am yet to see evidence that any extra funds has in real terms been passed on to the authority.

As we are now, the proposal out to consultation is to Close Ysgol Beaumaris and for the parents of the pupils on roll at the time to state their preference for the children to either go to Ysgol Llandegfan or Ysgol Llangoed.

The Seiriol Ward education cost per head for 17/18 was reported as £4,124, this is only slightly above the Anglesey average of £3,962, whilst the Wales average is £3,690. The number of pupils within the Ward is predicted to rise over the next few years and would therefore more than likely bring the average below the Anglesey allocation per pupil figure.



I have during the consultation made a very strong representation that every possible way to keep the three schools open should be explored. Within the statutory consultation you could end up having a Town without a school, Town's are central to future place shaping strategies, there are 170 Towns in Wales and I would hazard all have a school. Every stone needs to be turned, even use the plenty of space at the school to do night classes in the community, specialist learning activities, specialist summer school etc.

The future projections of pupil numbers are very good and the growth projections have not factored in the potential from the Wylfa Newydd development and other Energy Island projects. There is also the Menai Science park opening soon which could well over the next decade create new employment opportunities. I foresee, as happened with Wylfa the first time around, many settling in the South East corner of Anglesey with their families. There is over the next ten years a lot of unknowns in terms of population changes facing Anglesey and to this extent Beaumaris School offers the Education capacity we might well crave in a few years.

Taking the spare capacity out now it could result in future problems for the Authority and very expensive and disruptive extensions being required in the future. As opposed to spending near £1m on refurb at this moment in time and closing Beaumaris, 'do nothing for now', and see how the numbers develop as we may very well need the future capacity in South East Anglesey.

Yours sincerely,

**Carwyn Elias Jones**  
**Cyngorydd Sir Ynys Môn**  
**Isle of Anglesey County Councillor**

Declaration:

As this consultation relates to the proposal above involving Beaumaris school, I need to declare again following instruction by the standards committee that I have an interest which is regarded by the code of conduct as personal and prejudicial in Beaumaris School as my first cousin has worked at the school for many years, I was given special dispensation to participate following a standards committee hearing on the 18th July 2017 (papers and record on IACC website).

### **3. A oes gennyh gynigion eraill? / Do you have any other proposals?**

Beaumaris School should be kept open. It serves a town community which has a good many children residing within the catchment area of the school. Numbers of children attending the school had fallen in recent years, mostly due to the continuous uncertainty caused by threats to close it. Despite this uncertainty, the numbers of children on the school's roll has started to increase again. The head teacher, staff, governors, parents and community as a whole are committed to keeping and improving the school. An increase in numbers in the Seiriol Ward is predicted and Beaumaris School, along with other primary schools in the area, will be needed in future in order to provide local children with a quality education near to their homes.

There is a shortage of affordable housing in Beaumaris. The school could be reduced in size to some extent (while retaining space for expansion when demand increases), and the land released nearby could be used for affordable housing. This would provide some funds for upgrading the school infrastructure and also result in Families with children moving into Beaumaris, thus more children attending the school, bringing with them the per capita funding each child attracts. These homes could be built without closing Beaumaris School during the period of construction, even if a barrier had to be built temporarily between the 2 parts of the site. I am against any temporary closure of the school at any time.

Further funding for upgrades to the more compact Beaumaris school infrastructure could be sought from central funds in the same way as has been suggested that other schools in the area might be expanded should Beaumaris School be closed. Other schools in the Seiriol ward could still be upgraded from central funds as necessary but without the cost of expansion. It may help to look into 'branding' the 3 schools as a Seiriol Ward 'Super-school' with 3 sites, although this is not something I know much about but could be considered from the point of view of funding and other benefits.

Ynys Mon has become renowned for championing the Welsh language. Beaumaris does not currently have as high a level of bi-lingual residents as the Island as a whole. Beaumaris School has offered a full bi-lingual primary education for many years. The school could be used to provide adult education in Welsh language. This could include input from agencies such as Prifysgol Bangor, Learn Welsh Coleg Menai etc plus the school could be the centre for events such as Beaumaris Eisteddfod, concerts art events choirs and regular meetings linking Welsh learners to the Welsh speaking community. Beaumaris School could become a flagship, with children and adults of all ages being encouraged in their Welsh learning by this fresh vibrant link between the generations. A case could also be made for this Welsh provision to be funded centrally.

Every town needs a variety of people of all ages in order to thrive. If the school in Beaumaris were to close, this would result in far fewer families choosing to live in Beaumaris. Ultimately there would not be enough younger people to do jobs that require energy, such as work as carers, waiters, construction workers mariners etc and many businesses would close. People in Beaumaris pay a relatively high rate of council tax and already appear to get relatively little in return. If the population and/or number of businesses were to decrease, so revenues to Ynys Mon council would also go down.

To close Beaumaris School would tear the heart out of this community and, for the reasons I have outlined, it is my view that it should remain open, even if there needs to be an initial financial outlay, which could itself be offset by funding as I have described. <630 words>

██████████

██████████

██████████

Dear ██████████

***Consultation - the future of education within the Seiriol Ward - closing Beaumaris School***

***We take the opportunity to send this Letter with some changes and updates since its first introduction. We do this because the messages we want to send it apply to us today as they were the first time we had to bring it forward.***

***We wish to make the following response in relation to this statutory consultation and in terms of any strategy and vision of the county council for the Seiriol Ward in the near future.***

***We have come into this process with an open mind and analyzed the statutory consultation document in detail. We have listened to the views of parents, staff, governors, local councilors and the community as a whole.***

***We are now in a position to convey a united response agreed by the 3 local elected counselors for the Seiriol Ward***

***Before moving forward, the context of our concerns regarding the position of the Seiriol Ward that has been conveyed and said by us over and over on several occasions during the administration of the old Council which expired May this year. The exact issues were raised this time again by parents and local councilors. In the public mind, it seems that this corner of Anglesey for some reason or another, is one that only loses services provided by the authority and not one that ennell new ones. The authority has recently closed Ysgol Llanddona and the day care center in Beaumaris and has diversified the leisure center into the care and management of the Community community. In addition, the toilets were placed in the hands of the Town Council and the authority is now in the process of transferring two assets of real historical and educational importance in the town, namely the jail and the prison, very recently as well , there was an uncertainty about the future of a library service in the town. Two years ago, the people of Israel were struggling to rescue Heulfre's residential home from being closed. This seems to be inevitable now and the location of the technical support units is not completely clear at present, especially from me how the ballot in the corporate screening panel has recently been made.***

*Anyway, it must be said that it is not all bleak in recent years because we have seen very positive steps in terms of investment in the ward with, for example, European funding is spent on projects such as the pier and the pontoon, flood alleviation work, etc. There was an outstanding commitment from the council's housing department in the ward in recent years as well. This has led to the construction of new social housing and large investments have been seen in council housing properties. Anyway, this is just like beginning. There is a real need for more social housing and a corporate plan that encompasses all of the south east of Anglesey.*

We are beginning to see a big investment in the way that connects Beaumaris, one of the 5 towns of the Island, with Menai Bridge. There is a real need for upgrading the infrastructure of this part of Anglesey. The council needs to develop a bring forward an economic development plan for the area that incorporates the Future Forward Act. There is a need for these jobs and, especially, for the young people in the area. From! In the 1960's, there were 900 0 each! Most of the people, are banned in Cammell Laird. Now, the sails are closed and anxious to anyone who travels past this old work. The development of this can be a catalyst for new economic development in the area.

We believe that, in the first instance, the authority should develop and present a coherent corporate plan for the south east of Anglesey. Such a strategy would help this area prosper socially and economically.

Within the consultation it was noted that the cost of education per head was Seiriol Ward for 16/17 was £ 4,356. This compares favorably and the island average of £ 4,869 and is only slightly higher than the Welsh average of £ 4,226. Already, the Seiriol Ward has lost Ysgol Llanddona. It is good to see that this building will have a future in the near future which will be of value to the local community.

We urge you to consider the response of parents, governors and residents who are of the unanimous view that Beaumaris School should be kept open. Local evidence strongly suggests that there are estimates of children's numbers for this school is good for the future. Yes, these should also include the effect of Wylfa Newydd on local demographic statistics As Local members, we are totally committed to all schools and education within the ward. We strongly believe in the process of continuous improvement within our schools and we want every child to get the best possible education to bring their potential.

*Yours sincerely*

***Coun. Carwyn Jones***

***Coun. Lewis Davies***

***Coun. Alan Roberts***

**Seiriol Ward**

4 February 2018

Programme Manager (Schools Modernisation)  
Education Service  
Council Offices  
Llangefni  
Isle of Anglesey  
LL77 7TW

Dear Sir / Madam,

### **STATUTORY CONSULTATION — SEIRIOL AREA**

In view of the Non—Statutory and Statutory Consultations regarding the provision of primary education in the Seiriol area, the Beaumaris Primary School Consultation Response Committee was established.

The Committee which comprises of members of the Governors, parents and members of the community, has raised awareness of the consultations and has encouraged responses in the following ways:

1. Created a website in Welsh and English ([cadwchysgolbeaumaris.wordpress.com](http://cadwchysgolbeaumaris.wordpress.com) / [savebeaumarisschool.wordpress.com](http://savebeaumarisschool.wordpress.com)) to distribute information and encourage response.
2. Arranged an on line and paper petition. The petition in response to the Non-statutory was signed by over 500 people. The petition in response to the Statutory Consultation has been signed by 1,010 people and will be presented to Welsh Cabinet Secretary: Kirsty Williams. A copy of the petition is attached.
3. Arranged a Community Impact Survey undertaken by a social sciences researcher at Bangor University. The Survey had the aim of better understanding how residents of Beaumaris and the wider area felt about the Council's proposals regarding Beaumaris School. A copy of the report is attached. Of the respondents, 95% did not agree with the Council's proposal to close Beaumaris School.
4. Attended public meetings, relevant committee meetings at Anglesey County Council and Beaumaris Town Council.

The Community Impact Survey Report highlights the degree of engagement within the community with the consultation process but also the level of frustration.

We trust that very careful consideration will now be given to all the responses received during the Statutory Consultation process.

Yours faithfully

Chair  
Beaumaris Primary School Consultation Response Committee

Encs

From:

Sent: Dydd Gwener, 19 Ionawr 2018 11:42

To:

Cc:

Subject: Beaumaris Primary School

Dear Sir/Madam

Members of Beaumaris Town Council wish to express their full support for the Governors of Beaumaris Primary School. They totally support their objectives to keep the school open, and welcome the introduction of the four innovative options that the Governors are submitting in response to the Statutory Consultation on the future provision of Primary Education in the Seiriol area.

Beaumaris is recognised as a major service centre for the residents of the Seiriol area in the new Joint Local Development Plan. As such, it is expected to provide facilities and services for the residents of the town and the local catchment area. The Primary School is a vital component of these facilities, and all possible options should be explored in order to ensure that it remains open. Indeed, the Welsh Government's proposed revision of the School Organisation Code aims to protect rural schools: clearly, there is an expectation that those in even smaller towns will not be under threat.

yours faithfully



Town Clerk



Dear Program Manager,

I would like to present my response to the Seiriol Area consultation as Head of Ysgol Llandegfan. Following my appointment to the School in September 2017, I have received enthusiastic support from all the School's stakeholders and have been able to have a sound overview of possibilities that exist here in Llandegfan.

We have an effective operational school, which provides wide ranging opportunities for all our pupils. Our numbers have risen continuously and we have now reached capacity. This shows the trust of our stakeholders in providing high quality education and proof that any investment here would build on the good work that is already happening here. This is a school that plays a leading role in community, by encouraging the pupils to take than and contribute to the growth of their society. We will support the events of the local Eisteddfod such as Fun Run, hosting activities in our religious organizations and also performing performances for a wide cross section of society. We strongly believe that there is a need to ensure that our pupils leave us with a strong understanding of their reliance within society following education and we believe by doing so we will foster conscientious, helpful and active citizens for the future.

We will be here at Llandegfan welcoming any investment to assist renewal here and be fully prepared to share our ideas on this if the decision within the document is made. We believe that there is a golden opportunity here in Llandegfan to continue to develop the School for the benefit of all stakeholders involved in the area.  
Yours faithfully

██████████

████████████████████

Headteacher of Ysgol Llandegfan

Firstly I am writing here on behalf of the Governing body with their views. I am declaring a personal and prejudicial interest in this matter and can confirm that following the standards committee hearing a dispensation has been granted to allow me to participate fully for the duration of this Council term on this matter but not to vote.

-----

[REDACTED]

22 January 2018

Dear [REDACTED],

RE: Statutory Consultation in the Seiriol Area – Llandegfan Governing Body Response

Further to the non-statutory response which is still valid in terms of points raised, the Governing body is still of a clear view that the School should remain located in Llandegfan, and this is supported by the proven strong demand by parents for their children to be educated at the school. The School is well managed and is in good financial health, the standards are high and the school maintains a supportive and welcoming culture and strong ethos of continuous improvement. The school plays an active part in the community and has been involved with Ras Hwyl Llandegfan and the Llandegfan Eisteddfod for a number of years. Llandegfan is a true community School and is the most densely populated settlement within the whole of the Seiriol Ward. The school is situated in a prime location at the heart of the community.

Llandegfan is a high achieving school and has 150 pupils, Llandegfan school is thriving and almost to full capacity. Reputation and word of mouth means requests are constantly being made and, as it is now, requests are likely to be turned down for many groups which are full.

The Governing body is of the view that the school needs a full-time head in charge and the Governing body do not see any benefit to the standards of diluting this capacity.

The Governing body would welcome a modernisation programme to bring Ysgol Llandegfan to the 21st century specification. The Governing body sees potential for remodelling the school and scope for an extension. The Governing body would welcome increasing the capacity to 180-200 as this would enable an additional full time teacher and a dedicated class per school year.

The Llandegfan Governing body is supportive of the principle of modernisation and would be willing to discuss proposals and share ideas we have for Ysgol Llandegfan.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Carwyn Elias Jones  
Ysgol Llandegfan Chairman on behalf of the Governing body

**Carwyn Elias Jones**  
**Cyngorydd Sir Ynys Môn**  
**Isle of Anglesey County Councillor**

# Community Impact Survey – Report to the Scrutiny Committee

Marta Eichsteller, Ph.D.

on behalf of the Beaumaris Primary School Consultation Response Committee

## Executive Summary

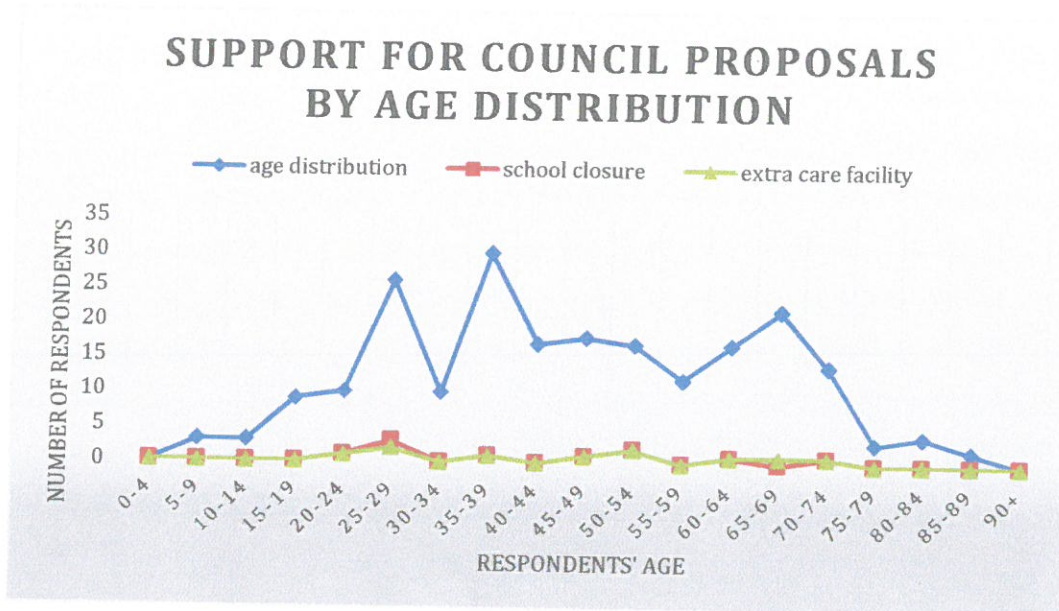
There are ongoing concerns that Anglesey County Council is insufficiently aware of the community impact if the proposed closure of Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris were to be realised following the statutory consultation. The Beaumaris Primary School Consultation Response Committee therefore initiated its own community impact survey undertaken by the author, a social sciences researcher at Bangor University. The survey (see appendix 1) sought to better understand how residents of Beaumaris and the wider area felt about the Council's proposals regarding the school as well as the extra care facility, and what potential impact they expected these decisions may have. The survey was distributed within the community of Beaumaris between 29/11/2017 and 17/12/2017 as part of the initial consultation period, with 217 questionnaires returned.

### *Attitudes towards the Council's proposal to close Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris*

When asked directly about their opinion to close Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris, 95% of respondents answered 'No', with the remaining 5% stating 'Yes'. A similar pattern can be observed when asking about the proposal to build an extra care facility on the site currently occupied by Ysgol Beaumaris, which 90% respondents were against and 5% in favour of.

Support for an extra care facility on the Ysgol Beaumaris site amongst the 65+ population was slightly lower, with just 4% agreeing with the Council's proposal. A detailed breakdown of age distribution and support for both proposals on the school and the extra care facility is shown below.

It is important to note that the respondents said 'No' to the extra care facility on the grounds of the school, not necessarily to building an extra care facility somewhere else.



#### *Relationship between Ysgol Beaumaris and the community*

In the consultation process it was often highlighted by the Council that the role of the school within the wider community will be taken into consideration in the decision-making process through stakeholder engagement and a community impact assessment. According to this survey, the people in Beaumaris feel very strongly about the school. The survey findings indicate that Beaumaris needs a primary school (96% agree) and that the possible loss of the school would have a negative impact on the community more widely (92% agree) and young families in particular (94% agree). The survey also shows that people consider Ysgol Beaumaris a part of the town's history (94% agree) and acknowledge the school's vital role in nurturing Welsh culture (91% agree).

The survey indicates that Ysgol Beaumaris also plays an important role in the future of Beaumaris. According to respondents, the absence of a primary school would likely deter young families from moving to Beaumaris (93%) or force young families to move away from Beaumaris (89%), thus exacerbating the town's aging demographics.

#### *Attitudes towards the consultation process*

The community impact survey indicates that 74% of respondents had previously taken part in the consultation process (attended public meetings, signed the petition or sent a letter), showing an impressive mobilisation within the community. But the survey indicates also a high level of frustration with the process. 71% of respondents were of the opinion that their voice as a community has so far not been heard by the Council.



## Methodology

The survey sample was n=217. The consultation period was initially set for 6 weeks in the period until 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2017, which limited the period during which it was possible to distribute the survey within the community to just 18 days (29<sup>th</sup> November until 17<sup>th</sup> December) in order to allow time to analyse the data collected and collate these in this report. An extension of a further six weeks was granted on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, at which time the data analysis had been completed and no further questionnaires were distributed or included in the analysis. The survey was distributed in two forms:

- 1) a paper based self-completion questionnaire (available in English and Welsh) available in key community based locations, such as Beaumaris school, library, local Spar and the Canolfan. The number of paper questionnaires submitted were n=119;
- 2) an online questionnaire (available in English and Welsh), distributed via the Friends of Beaumaris School Facebook group, the savebeaumarisschool.wordpress.com site, our online petition and other social media activities. The number of online questionnaires submitted was n=98.

The survey was designed to explore community attitudes towards the Council's proposal to close Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris and build an extra care facility on the school site. It aimed to explore the relationship between the community and the school, particularly the school's role within the community, and to inquire about the perception of the Council consultation process and outcomes (see survey form in appendix 1).

The structure of the survey covered four main areas:

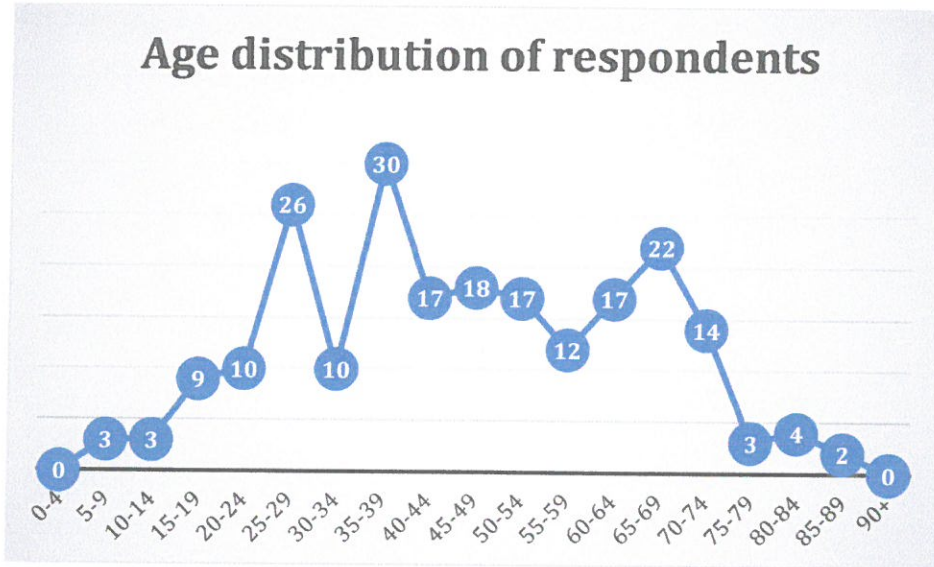
1. Demographic information about the sample, including age, gender, Welsh language ability, place of residence and relationship to school.
2. The community opinion about the Council's proposal to close Ysgol Beaumaris and the possibility to build an extra care facility on the grounds of the school.
3. The opinion of the community regarding the relationship between community well-being and the school's existence, including historical aspects as well as future implications for Beaumaris town.
4. Evaluation of awareness of and involvement in the Council's consultation process.

## PART 1 – Key distributions

The survey asked respondents for a few important details about themselves in order to be able to better analyse sample demographics and particular views on the Council’s proposals amongst certain groups.

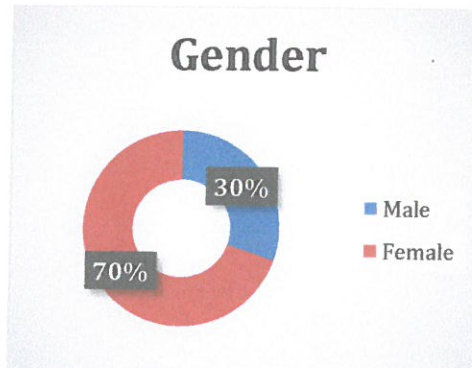
### Age distribution

The average age of responders in the survey is 46 and age median is 45. The age range of respondents is between 9 and 86. For comparison with the wider context, the census data from 2011 show that the average age among the inhabitants of Beaumaris was 47 and the median was 50. The sample is slightly younger, mostly due to the fact that it involves families with primary-school-aged children.



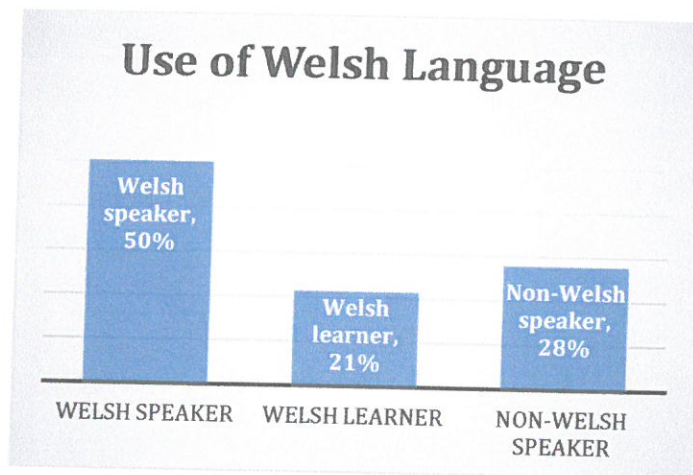
### Gender distribution

The respondents to the survey were mostly female (70%). Male respondents constitute 30% of the sample.



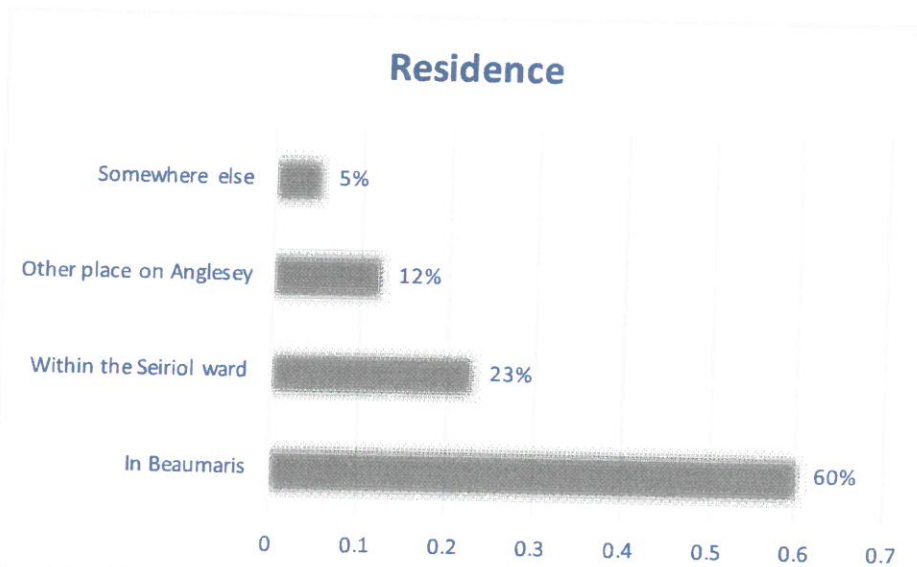
### Welsh language skills

In the sample 50% of the population declared themselves to be Welsh speakers (but only 3 people chose to do the survey in Welsh). 28% of the respondents are non-Welsh speakers, and 21% declared themselves as Welsh learners.



### Residence of respondents

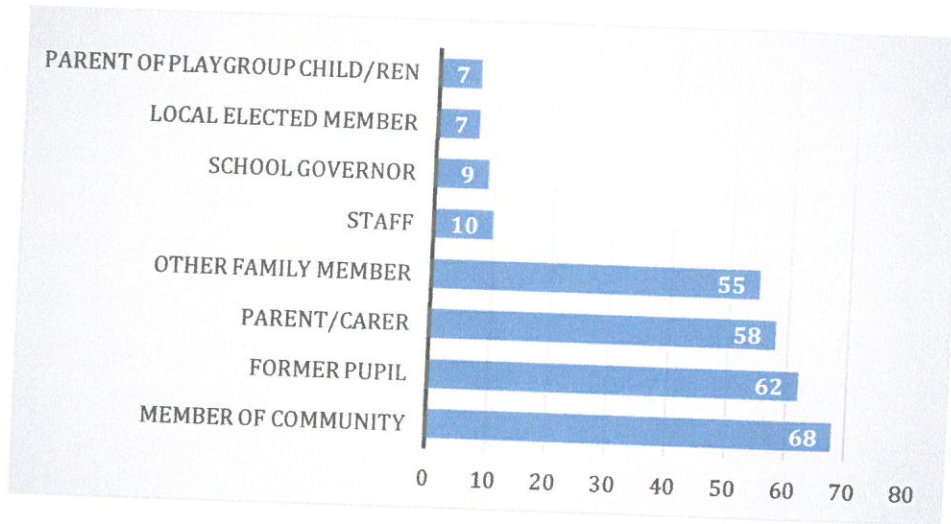
In terms of residence, 60% of respondents live in Beaumaris and a further 23% within the Seiriol ward. 12% of the respondents live elsewhere on Anglesey, and 5% stated that they live somewhere else. These are mostly other family members of Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris pupils.





### Relationship to school

Respondents were asked about their relationship to Ysgol Beaumaris, with multiple categories available to select from (all which applied). The graph below shows the total of selections by respondents.

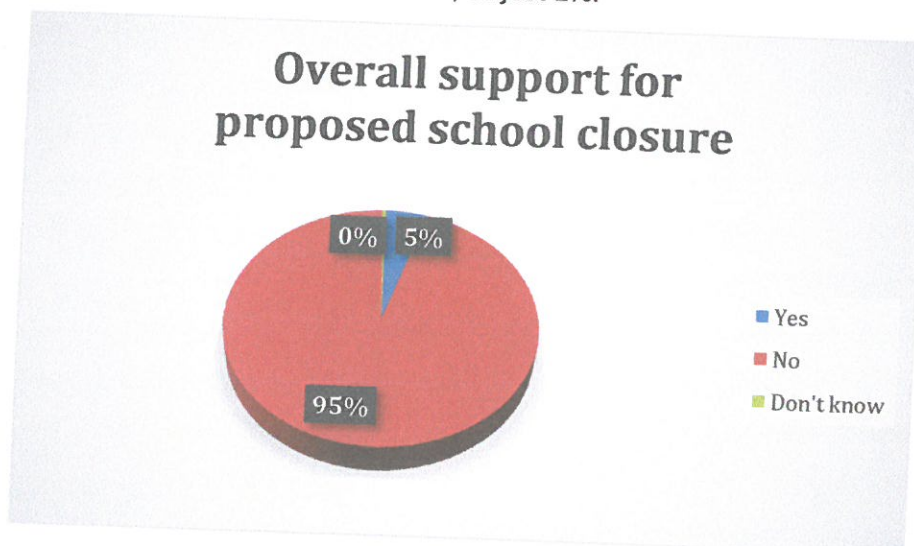


## PART 2 – Community attitude towards the Council’s proposal

The survey sought to identify the views of people within the community with regards to the Council’s two proposals.

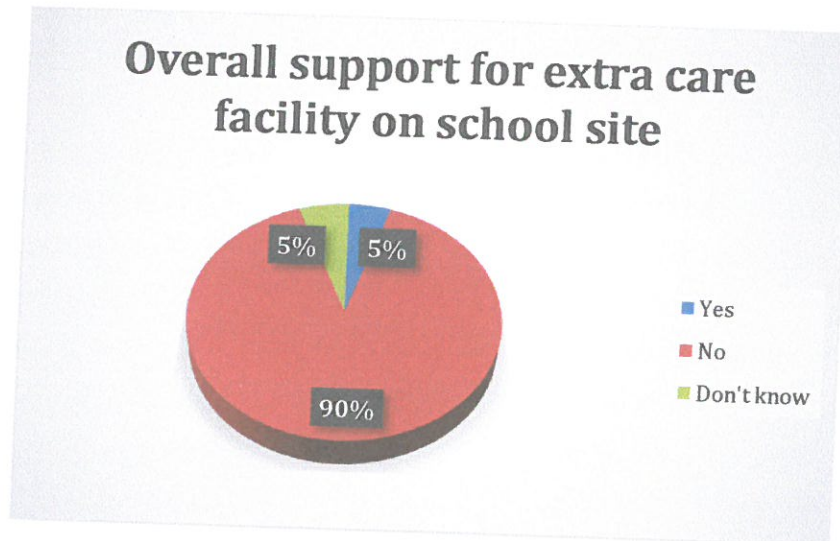
### Proposed school closure

In response to the question ‘Do you agree with the Council’s proposal to close Beaumaris Primary School?’ 95% of the respondents said No, and only 5% said Yes. Amongst the respondents who stated they were from Beaumaris support for the proposed school closure was even lower, at just 2%.



### Proposed construction of extra care facility on the school site

In answer to the question 'Do you agree with the Council's proposal to build an extra care facility on the site currently occupied by Beaumaris Primary School?' 90% of the respondents said 'No' and 5% said 'Yes'. 5% of the sample marked the answer 'I don't know'. Amongst respondents from Beaumaris, the views were weighted more strongly against the proposal, with 94% against, 2% in favour and 3% stating 'I don't know'.

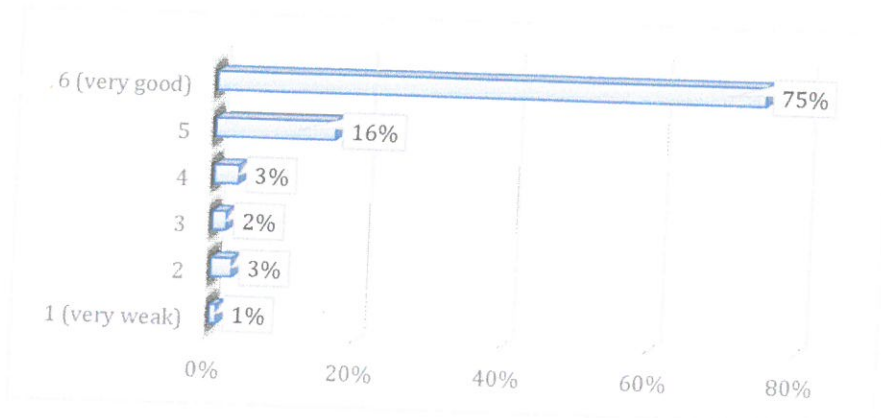


## PART 3 – Relationship between the Community and the School

The survey asked a range of questions aimed at better understanding how the relationship between the school and the community is perceived and what impact respondents therefore anticipate if the school were to be closed. Respondents were asked both about the potential impact on families and the wider community in Beaumaris, including historical aspects as well as future implications for the town.

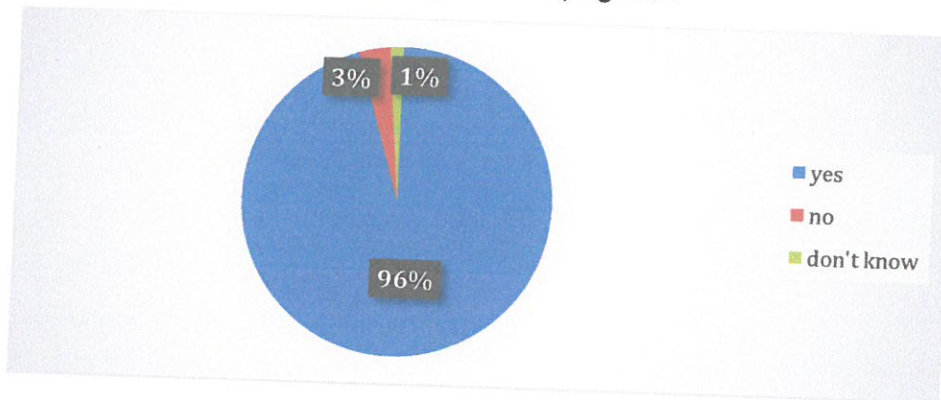
### Quality of relationship with the local community

In response to the question 'What kind of a relationship does the school have with the local community?', 91% of respondents scored this very positively (16% scored it as 5, and 75% as 6 on a 6-point Likert scale, with 1 being very weak and 6 being very good).



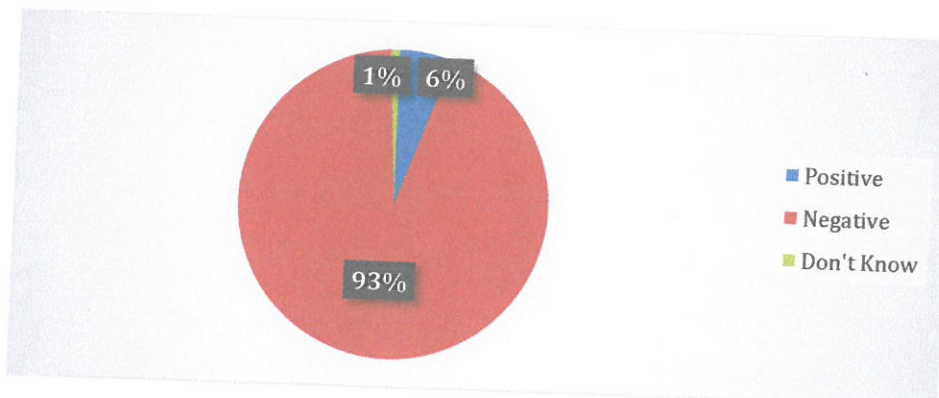
### Importance of school

When asked 'Do you think it is important for Beaumaris to have a primary school?', 96% of respondents stated 'Yes', with just 3% saying 'No'.



### Impact on local families

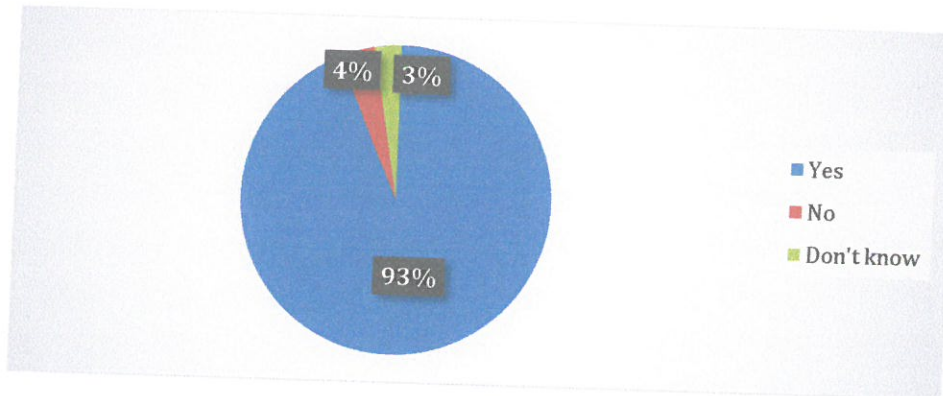
Respondents' views on the question 'In your opinion, will the proposal to close the Beaumaris primary school have a positive or negative impact on local families?' were clear, too, with 93% expecting a negative impact, 6% anticipating a positive impact and 1% saying 'I don't know'.





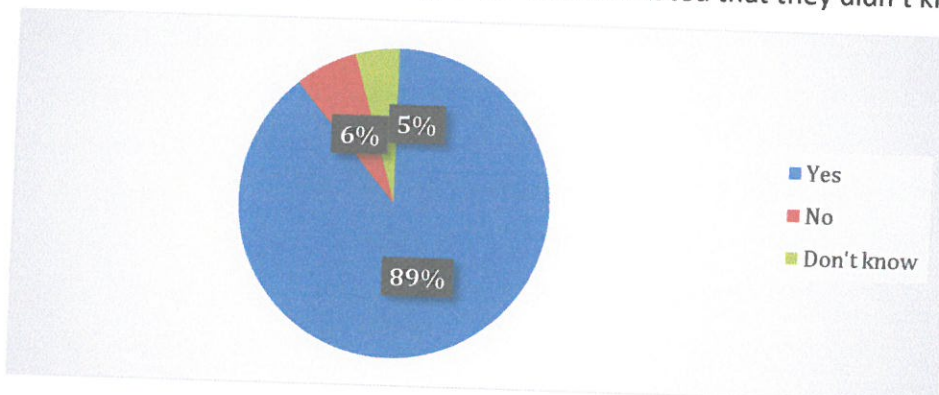
### Implications for families – moving to Beaumaris

In response to the question 'In your opinion, will it be difficult for young families to move to Beaumaris if the school is closed?', 93% answered with 'Yes', 4% with 'No' and 3% with 'Don't know'.



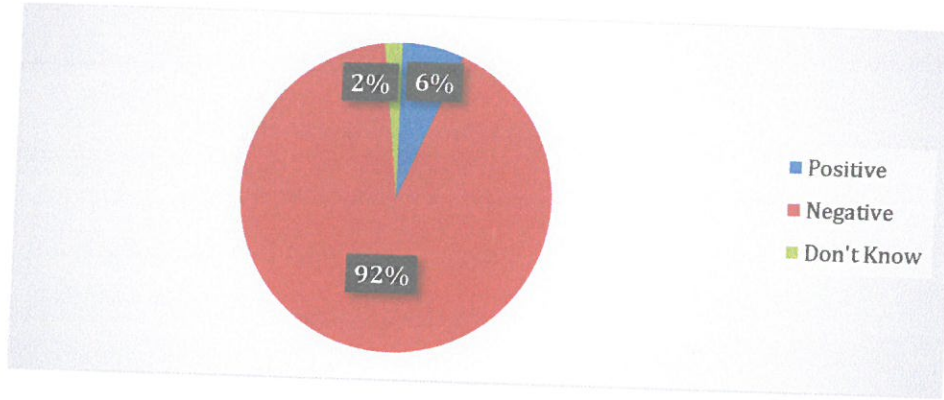
### Implications for families – moving away from Beaumaris

When asked 'Do you think that, if the school was closed, some of the young families may need to move away from Beaumaris to live closer to their new school?', 89% expected this to be the case, 6% thought 'No' and 5% stated that they didn't know.



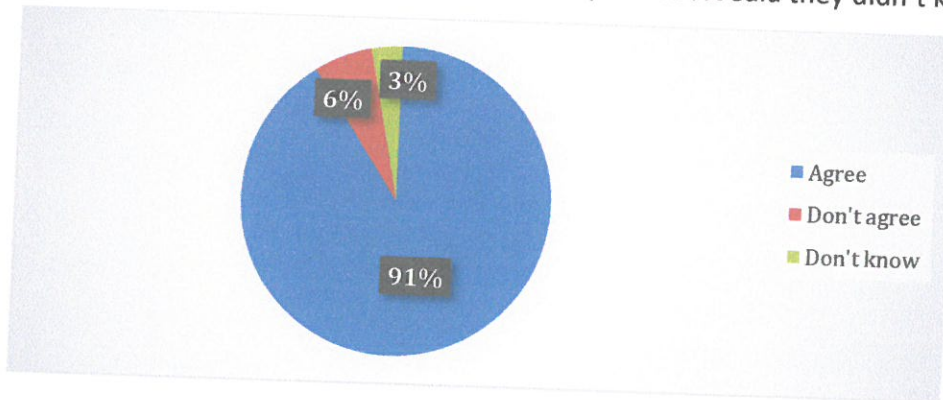
### Impact on local community

Respondents' views on the question 'In your opinion, will the proposal to close Beaumaris Primary School have a positive or negative impact on Beaumaris local community?' were again clear, with 92% expecting a negative community impact, 6% anticipating the impact to be positive and 2% stating they didn't know.



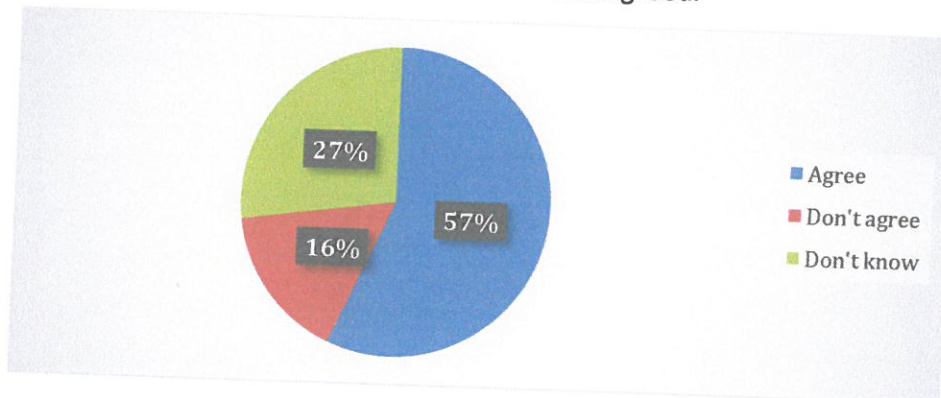
### Impact on Welsh culture

A majority of 91% of respondents stated to be in agreement with the statement that 'Beaumaris Primary School plays an important role in nurturing Welsh culture within the community', suggesting that the potential closure could have a substantial detrimental impact on Welsh culture in Beaumaris. 6% did not agree that the school plays an important part in nurturing Welsh culture, whilst 3% said they didn't know.



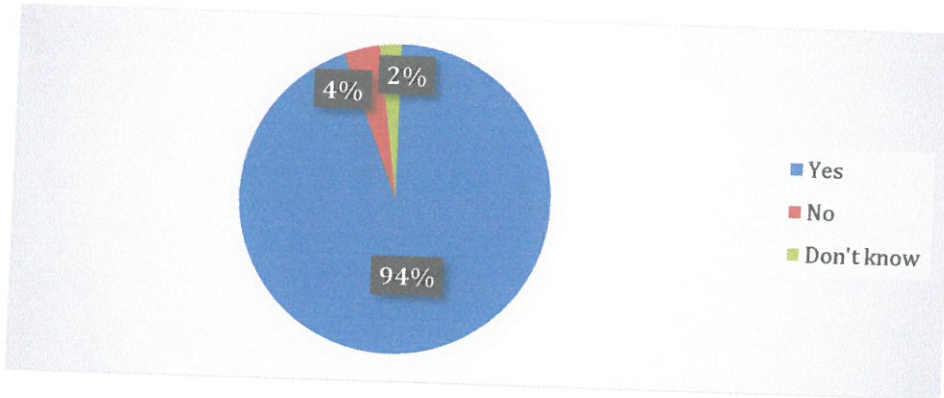
### Use of school building for community activities

When asked 'Would you agree with the statement that "the school building in Beaumaris is being used for other community activities in a sufficient way"?', 57% of respondents agreed, 27% did not know and 16% disagreed.



### Relevance for Beaumaris's history

In response to the question 'Would you agree that the primary school is an important part of Beaumaris's history?', 94% stated 'Yes', with a further 4% answering 'No' and 2% saying they didn't know.

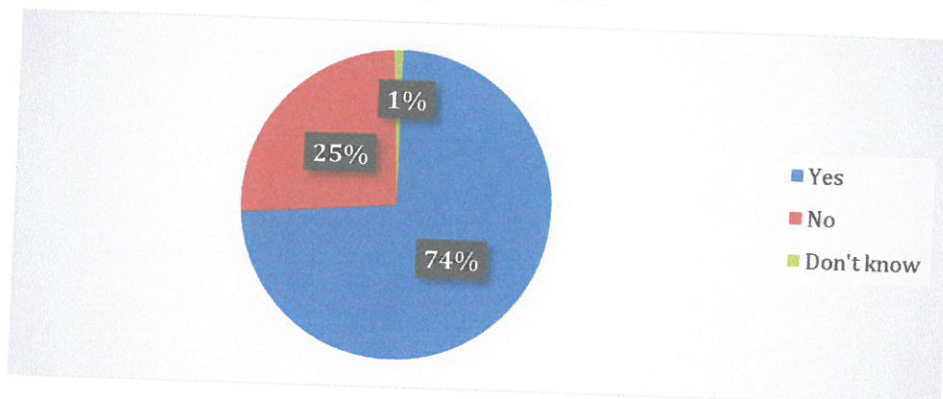


## PART 4 - Assessment of the consultation process

In the final part of the survey, respondents were asked their views about the consultation process in order to evaluate their engagement with the previous non-statutory consultation and to assess awareness of the Council's own online surveys on the two proposals.

### Participation in the non-statutory consultation

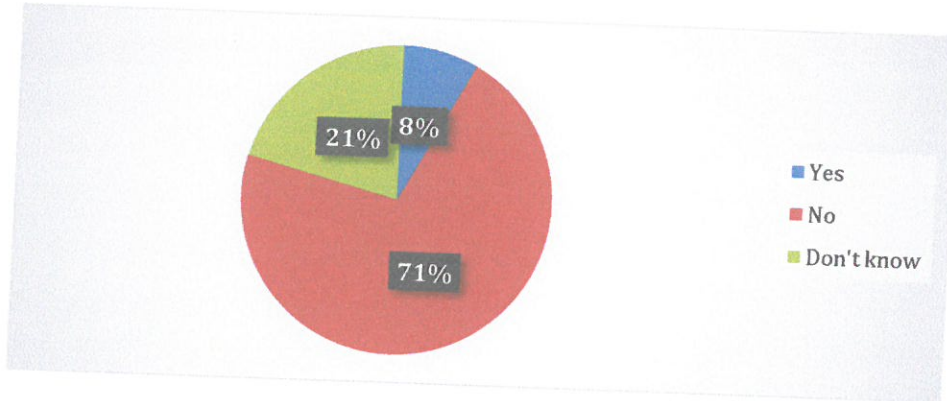
Survey participants were asked if they had 'taken part in the non-statutory consultation process on the school closure, such as attending meetings, sending a letter, signing petition, supporting the campaign'. 74% stated that they had, with 25% saying they hadn't and 1% ticking 'don't know'.





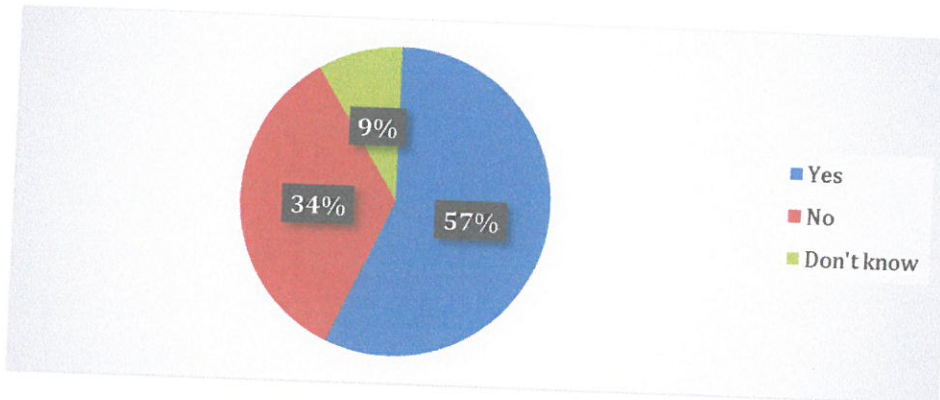
### Consideration of community views

In response to the question 'Do you think that the voice of the community in the non-statutory consultation process was heard?', 71% stated 'No' and only 8% said 'Yes'. 21% answered that they did not know whether the community views had been heard.



### Awareness of online survey

At the end of the survey respondents were asked 'Are you aware of the online survey on the statutory consultation process on the Council's website? 57% stated that they were aware, but 34% said they were not aware of the Council's own survey. 9% ticked 'don't know'.



### Conclusions

This community impact survey strongly supports the case for keeping Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris open, highlighting a broad variety of concerns about the adverse impact on families and the wider community if the school were to close. The survey findings, outlined in the executive summary, show clearly that both the Council's proposal to close the school and to build an extra care facility on the site of Ysgol Beaumaris are very widely opposed, with only a fraction of respondents being in favour of these.

## Appendix 1 – Community Impact Survey

As part of our response to Anglesey County Council's statutory consultation on Primary Education in the Seiriol area, we are asking people how they feel about the Council's preferred option to close Beaumaris Primary School and build an extra care housing facility in its place.

We would be grateful for your help by spending 5 minutes answering a few questions.

The survey is anonymous. The information you provide will be presented in summary form to the Council Executive in the hope of supporting our proposal to keep Beaumaris Primary School open.

1. How old are you?

2. Are you? Female  Male

3. Would you describe yourself as

Welsh speaker

Welsh learner

Non-Welsh speaker

4. Where do you live?

In Beaumaris

Within the Seiriol ward

Other place on Anglesey

Somewhere else

5. What is your relation to Beaumaris Primary School? (please tick all that apply)

Parent / carer

Other family member

Staff

Member of the community

School Governor

Local elected member

Parent of playgroup child/ren

Former pupil of the school

Other

6. Do you agree with the Council's proposal to close Beaumaris Primary School?

Yes

No

Don't know

7. Do you agree with the Council's proposal to build an extra care facility on the site currently occupied by Beaumaris Primary School?

Yes

No

Don't know

8. In your opinion, what kind of a relationship does the school have with the local community (where 1 is very weak and 6 is very good)?

Very weak

Very good

1	2	3	4	5	6
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

9. Do you think it is important for Beaumaris to have a primary school?

Yes

No

Don't know



10. In your opinion, will the proposal to close the Beaumaris primary school have a positive or negative impact on local families?  
Positive  Negative  Don't know
11. In your opinion, will it be difficult for young families to move to Beaumaris if the school is closed?  
Yes  No  Don't know
12. Do you think that, if the school was closed, some of the young families may need to move away from Beaumaris to live closer to their new school?  
Yes  No  Don't know
13. In your opinion, will the proposal to close Beaumaris Primary School have a positive or negative impact on Beaumaris local community?  
Positive  Negative  Don't know
14. Would you agree with the statement that 'Beaumaris Primary School plays an important role in nurturing Welsh culture within the community'?  
Agree  Don't agree  Don't know
15. Would you agree with the statement that 'the school building in Beaumaris is being used for other community activities in a sufficient way'?  
Agree  Don't agree  Don't know
16. Would you agree that the primary school is an important part of Beaumaris's history?  
Yes  No  Don't know
17. Have you taken part in the non-statutory consultation process on the school closure, such as attending meetings, sending a letter, signing petition, supporting the campaign?  
Yes  No  Don't know
18. Do you think that the voice of the community in the non-statutory consultation process was heard?  
Yes  No  Don't know
19. Are you aware of the online survey on the statutory consultation process on the Council's website?  
Yes  No  Don't know

*Thank you for your participation!*

*If you would like to find out more about our campaign and the consultation documents, please visit our website at [savebeaumarisschool.wordpress.com](http://savebeaumarisschool.wordpress.com)*

*If you have any questions about this survey please contact the Beaumaris Primary School Consultation Response Committee: [gabriel@eichsteller.com](mailto:gabriel@eichsteller.com) – 07552 518096*

During the Statutory Consultation on the primary provision in the Seiriol area between 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017 – 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018 - stakeholders were given the opportunity to contribute towards an electronic survey via the Isle of Anglesey County Council's website. The purpose was to ascertain the community impact of the proposal to 'Close Ysgol Beaumaris and for the parents of the pupils on roll at the time this decision is made by the Executive to state their preference for either Ysgol Llandegfan or Ysgol Llangoed in line with the schools' admission policy'. Stakeholders from the 3 schools under consideration were invited to contribute towards the above process.

During the statutory consultation period a 'Response committee for Beaumaris Primary School' , Prepared by **Marta Eichstelle** has also undertaken a community impact survey, targeted at the Beaumaris / Seiriol stakeholders. More than one method was used by the Response Committee to disseminate the survey. Paper and electronic questionnaires were distributed in buildings in the Beaumaris area and through their networks linked to Ysgol Beaumaris e.e. Friends of Beaumaris School Facebook page and the 'Save Beaumaris School' website. The Authority acknowledges receipt of a copy of the Community Impact Assessment prepared by **Marta Eichstelle**, on behalf of the Response Committee.

The Isle of Anglesey County Council has considered the findings of the Response Committee's impact assessment response but it is important to note that we are not comparing like for like surveys. The Authority's survey has focused on stakeholder responses from the catchment area of the 3 schools in question, and the Response Committee's survey has focused mainly on the responses of the Beaumaris stakeholders.

Below are some comparable responses from both the surveys:

Reposnse Committee to the Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris consultation's Community Impact Assessment by <b>[REDACTED]</b>	Community Impact Assessment Isle of Anglesey County Council
<p>Information about the survey's respondents:</p> <p>Number of completed surveys : 217 70% Female 30% Male</p> <p>The respondents were asked if they agreed with the proposal of closing Ysgol Beaumaris: 95% - No 5% Yes</p>	<p>Information about the survey's respondents:</p> <p>Number of completed surveys : 62 63% Female 37% Male</p> <p>The question was asked differently by the Isle of Anglesey County Council – do they agree with the proposal to close Ysgol Beaumaris and transferring the children to Ysgol Llandegfan or Ysgol Llangoed 47% - No 53% Yes (Please note that the survey</p>

<p>The recipients were asked about the impact the proposal of closing Ysgol Beaumaris would have on local families 93% - Negative 6% - Positive 1% - did not know</p> <p>The recipients were asked how the proposal would impact on communities. 92% - negative 6% - Positive 2% - No response</p> <p>The recipients were asked about the impact of the proposal on Welsh Culture: 91% respondents stated to be in agreement with the statement that 'Beaumaris School plays an important role in nurturing Welsh Culture within the community' 6% - don't agree 3% - Don't know</p>	<p>was targeted at the stakeholders from the 3 schools under consideration)</p> <p>The recipients were asked about the impact of the proposal under consideration would have on local families, and an opportunity to elaborate and include their comments. Please see appendix 9 for further details.</p> <p>The recipients were asked about the impact of the proposal under consideration would have on the community, and an opportunity to elaborate and include their comments. Please see appendix 9 for further details.</p> <p>The recipients were asked about the impact of the proposal on the Welsh Language: 31% - Yes 69% - No</p>
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The purpose of the table above was to outline how different target groups of the two surveys had different results. The findings of both surveys will contribute towards the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Community Impact Assessment document, for the School Modernisation in the Seiriol area.

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<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Corporate Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>12 March 2018</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Modernising Schools on Anglesey – Report on the Statutory Consultation in the Llangefni area – Ysgol Y Graig and Ysgol Talwrn</b>
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	<b>To make a recommendation to the Executive to move the school modernisation programme forward so as to be able to meet the need for spaces in schools where they're required, improve standards and achievement and provide modern resources in relation to schools and educational resources.</b>
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	<b>Councillor Aled Morris Jones</b>
<b>Portfolio Holder(s):</b>	<b>Councillor R. Meirion Jones</b>
<b>Head of Service:</b>	<b>Delyth Molyneux</b>
<b>Report Author:</b>	<b>Delyth Molyneux</b>
<b>Tel:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Local Members:</b>	<b>Councillor Nicola Roberts Councillor Bob Parry Councillor Dylan Rees</b>

### **1 - Recommendation/s**

The Corporate Scrutiny Committee is asked to recommend the following to the Executive:

1. To use the current Ysgol y Graig building for Key Stage 2 i.e. years 3 to 6 and adapt it
2. To build a new block or building for the Foundation Phase i.e. Reception Year and years 1 and 2.
3. To close Ysgol Talwrn and relocate the pupils to Ysgol Y Graig after the new building for the Foundation Phase opens and after the current building is modified
4. To consider relocating the Flying Start provision within the new provision.
5. To ensure that the wind turbine on the site is working by the opening date of the new building

This new building would be part of Ysgol Y Graig and not a separate entity.

### **2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities**

**Objective 1 PLAN 2017 - 2022 - ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Ensure that the people of Anglesey can flourish and achieve their long-term potential**

**We will continue to raise education standards and ensure that our people have Young people have the right skills for employment and training.**

1. Continue our school modernization program by publishing a revised strategy that will address the long-term sustainability of primary and secondary education across the Island. This will include the possibility of 3 - 18 year old learning campuses at specific locations.
2. Complete the work on Santes Dwynwen, Newborough School and Seiriol and Llangefni areas.

### **3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members**

**To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-**

**3.1** Impact the matter has on individuals and communities **If the proposed scheme comes to fruition, its possible effect on the community has been assessed.**

**3.2** A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality **If the proposed scheme comes to fruition, it will lead to revenue savings as outlined in the report.**

**3.3** A look at any risks **If the proposed scheme comes to fruition, it will lead to risks such as possible lack of support for the project, possible problems to do with the site and costs. A risk matrix has been prepared for the school modernisation programme.**

**3.4** Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role **If the proposed scheme comes to fruition, the Authority is very confident that it will lead to higher educational standards. The building will conform to building standards and BREEAM and will conform to the relevant Building Bulletins.**

**3.5** Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:

- Long term – the school is expected to be part of the community for at least 30 years. The school modernisation programme seeks to respond to today's needs but also fully considers the need to satisfy future generations.
- Prevention – If the scheme is approved, the business plans that will follow will give attention to preventive measures and there will also be emphasis to work corporately on preventive measures.
- Integration - If the scheme is approved, the school under consideration will be a central point for effective integration of services to ensure that the school provides resource to the community.
- Collaboration – it will promote co-working during the project and after its completion.
- Involvement – The engagement process with stakeholders will continue for the life of the project and beyond.

### **4 - Key Scrutiny Questions**

Does the Corporate Scrutiny Committee recommend approving the proposal under consideration?

**5 – Background / Context**

The background to the scheme is described in the report

**6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]**

An Impact Assessment was conducted as part of the statutory consultation process. The possible effect of fulfilling the proposal on the Welsh language, equality and the community were assessed.

**7 – Financial Implications**

The possible effect of on the Authority's financial situation is assessed in the report.

**8 – Appendices:**

There are 9 appendices to the report

**9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):**

1. Executive Committee meeting minutes for July 17, 2017
2. Executive Committee meeting minutes for December 19, 2016.
3. Statutory Consultation document
4. Executive Committee meeting minutes for June 20, 2016.
5. Non-statutory Consultation Document
6. Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) presented to the Welsh Government in December 2013.
7. Letter from the Welsh Government dated January 31 2014.



**SWYDDOGOL – OFFICIAL**

**ADRODDIAD AR YR YMGYNGHORIAD STATUDOL - ARDAL  
LLANGFNI (Ysgol Y Graig ac Ysgol Talwrn)  
REPORT ON THE STATUTORY CONSULTATION – LLANGFNI  
AREA (Ysgol Y Graig and Ysgol Talwrn)**

**26 Medi – 13 Tachwedd 2017 / 26 September – 13 November 2017**



**CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN / ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL  
ADRAN DYSGU GYDOL OES / LIFELONG LEARNING DEPARTMENT**

[www.ynysmon.gov.uk](http://www.ynysmon.gov.uk) / [www.anglesey.gov.uk](http://www.anglesey.gov.uk)



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## 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Isle of Anglesey County Council is committed to providing the very best educational provision for all the island's children and young people.

As part of this commitment, the Council recognizes that modernising education and ensuring that our school buildings create an attractive learning environment that motivates children and young people to become effective learners and life skills are a main priority

In this context, the council wants to modernise schools in order to:

- improve educational outcomes for children and young people and cut the link between deprivation and low educational attainment,
- further improve the standards of leadership and the quality of teaching and learning,
- introduce sector-leading schools and sector-leading standards for every community.

Presenting this ambitious modernisation programme requires uniting existing schools through a combination of school federations, reorganizing catchments extensively based on re-modelling existing school buildings or building new area schools and closing schools that are not suitable for purpose.

## 2. MODERNISATION CHANGE DRIVERS THAT INFLUENZE DECISION REGARDING THE BEST PROVISION FOR THE AREA

Some of the modernization drivers that will influence decision regarding the best provision for the area are noted below:

### *Raising school standards*

The Council is committed to raising standards considerably if it is to attain its objective of being one of best 5 Local Authorities in Wales. According to present Research work, it is suggested that it is difficult to link standards with school size. However, recent reports suggest that larger primary schools [over 100 (or 105) pupils or more] have leadership teams with more capacity to ensure improvements; teachers with more specialism in specific areas that in turn influence other teachers' practices and in so doing have a positive influence on children. In smaller schools [around 50 or less] with mixed age classes have up to four age groups, and sometimes span key stages. This poses a considerable challenge for teachers if they are to ensure that every pupil is extended to the extent of his/her ability. The school modernisation strategy aims to abolish examples of classes with more than 2 age groups.

### *Reduce the variation in pupil cost*

The pupil by pupil cost varies considerably, from £2,795 to £10,828 across the county's primary schools. The county's expenditure on primary schools in 2017-18 [£3,962 per pupil on average] is the highest but one in Wales. The modernization programme will need to give attention to normalizing the cost per pupil across the authority and reconcile it with the whole of Wales average.

### *Ensure that school buildings create the best possible learning environment*

Improving the quality of the school buildings and ensuring the best possible learning environment [that reflects somewhat in our latest school building - Ysgol y Graig - that is used as a benchmark] for our children is essentially important for meeting teaching and learning needs in the twenty first

century. This kind of environment includes teaching and learning facilities of the best quality, ICT facilities of the best degree, suitable play areas, appropriate staffing and administration areas, along with safety for the school buildings and the school site. Estyn notes that “improving the quality of the buildings has a very beneficial effect on the quality of the teaching and the morale of the staff that, in turn, has a positive effect on pupils’ performance.” Every pupil will have access to suitable facilities so that a full range of educational experiences can be provided.

It is not possible for the Council to maintain a large number of school buildings that are aging and costly to maintain. A new pattern of schools have to be set up that abolish the shortcomings in the current buildings, including considerable health and safety matters that are connected with the building or the site. There is a need to develop a system of schools where there are maintenance arrangements for them that are sustainable.

*Create the conditions so that Headteachers succeed – increase leadership capacity*

Effective schools are well led. Successful schools have strong leadership on every level, including the Governors. The challenges that are attached to leading and managing a school have increased considerably in recent years and the expectations continue to increase. A Headteacher needs adequate non-contact time, with the support of a deputy head or senior management team, to ensure that the teaching and learning are of the best degree, to appraise and raise standards, to develop thorough self-appraisal procedures and to ensure the staff’s continuous professional development. These are considerable expectations. There is a need to ensure that Headteachers have at least 50% non-contact time. This means that a school [or federation of schools] needs to have at least 100 pupils if it is to provide necessary time for the Headteacher to fulfil the leadership role successfully.

*Ensure an adequate supply of Headteachers for the future*

Over the next five years it is likely that over a third or 36% of the primary headteachers will retire. Because many of them lead small schools, the Council will need to consider the most effective and sustainable leadership models for the future. The number of applicants for headteacher posts have reduced and this is a subject for concern. The school modernisation programme needs to try and answer the problem by ensuring suitable opportunities for developing leadership in individual schools. Our schools need excellent leaders. The modernisation programme gives attention to succession planning matters and safeguards and develops leadership talents that we have in our schools.

*Community use of the school building*

Research suggests that schools with additional services such as breakfast clubs, after-school clubs, child protection, summer and weekend activities achieve higher standards and better links with parents and the community. Schools are also expected to be a resource for the local community in order to promote community activities that include parents, members of the community and local groups. This kind of activity is important to develop the link between schools and the local community. Schools that are developed as part of the modernisation programme act as area schools i.e. provide a range of services and activities that often take place outside the school day, to assist in meeting the needs of the children, their families and the wider community.

*Reduce the number of empty places*

In January 2017, the number of empty places in primary schools in Anglesey are 13.0%. and there are 1.9% of empty places in the 2 schools in question, this is a little less than the Welsh Government’s target [15% on Authority level and 10% in individual schools]. Even so, the

Council needs to continue to reduce the number of empty places in order to meet the Welsh Government's expectations and respond to one of Estyn's criticisms in the 2012 report. This means that there is a need to aim for a situation where schools are more than 85% full aiming that 90% of the places have been filled across the primary sector.

*Welsh-medium and bilingual provision*

Any arrangement developed as part of the modernisation programme give priority to strengthening and safeguarding Welsh/ bilingualism.

### 3. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

Meetings were arranged with stakeholders over this period:

The Council consulted with parents, governors and staff in the two schools in the area, local councillors and with the Welsh Government and other stakeholders. The consultation period ran from 26 September 2017 until 13 November 2017.

Consultation meetings were arranged with school stakeholders over this period:

School	Date (in 2017)	Meeting with		
		Staff	Governors	Parents
Talwrn	Monday 2 October	3.30	5.00	6.30
Graig	Wednesday 4 October	3.45	5.15	6.15

When the Welsh Government contributes to financing a new school, its investment needs to meet investment aims namely:

1. reduce empty places
2. increase non-contact time for teachers
3. for the school to be of twenty first century school standard
4. improve educational outcomes
5. reduce maintenance backlog
6. improve energy effectiveness

The idea was proposed by parents that a new primary school should be built in Llangefni. If this means building an additional new primary school, the Isle of Anglesey County Council would not support this because although the new primary school would be a twenty first century school, in accordance with the above criteria, it would not be:

- reducing empty places. Indeed it can lead to an increase in empty places
- change the situation as regards non-contact time for teachers of itself.
- improve educational outcomes of itself
- reduce maintenance backlog nor
- improve energy effectiveness. Indeed, an additional school and Building would lead to using more fuel.

In addition, it is very unlikely that the Welsh Government would contribute to a new primary school unless combining schools would be part of the process

The Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 allows parents to choose which school their child will attend. If a new primary school is built in Llangefni, there would be a need to review current catchments and form a catchment for the new primary school. In accordance with the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998, the Authority would not be able to force parents to move their children to the new primary school. This would increase the risk of a high level of empty places in the new primary school.

#### **4. OBSERVATIONS FROM THE CONSULTATION MEETINGS**

Some of the comments and concerns from the meetings conducted are listed below (these are not minutes of the meetings). Further comments can be seen in part 5 of this report.

##### **Ysgol Y Graig**

Concern about the size of the new building and facilities there  
Some asked about the possible timetable of the work  
Concerns about the safety of children during construction  
Concern about traffic and parking near the school  
Concern about the potential impact of staffing, jobs and the location of the new building  
Some asked about the possible impact of the work on Flying Start

##### **Ysgol Talwrn**

Concerns about staff posts  
Concerns about how much of a 'voice' governors of Ysgol Talwrn would have at the expanded Ysgol Y Graig.  
Some mentioned the Cabinet Secretary for Education's statement about rural schools  
Concerns about transport to any other primary school should Ysgol Talwrn close.  
Concerns about the potential impact of the closure of Ysgol Talwrn on the village hall and the local eisteddfod  
Some parents wish to have Ysgol Talwrn merged with Ysgol Llanbedrgoch or Ysgol Pentraeth as they are "rural schools"

See [Appendix 1](#) for the Isle of Anglesey County Council's definition of Twenty First Century school.

## 5. RESPONSES FROM YSGOL TALWRN

- 5.1 108 responses were received from the school stakeholders. Each one of them disagreed with the proposal to close Ysgol Talwrn.
- 5.2 Talwrn's Cylch Meithrin/Nursery Setting said that they did not support the option [ to close Ysgol Talwrn] and the Cylch hoped that the Authority would " invest in a new school in Talwrn." See the Cylch's observations in [Appendix 2](#).
- 5.3 The opinion of the officers and members of Capel Nyth Clyd, Y Talwrn was that they were "unanimous that the school should not be closed". They felt that the school is a foundation for the local community and that it also contributes widely to the village's social and religious life". Officers and members' comments are in [Appendix 3](#).
- 5.4 In his letter, the Secretary of Capel Siloam, Talwrn (Independent's Chapel) "expressed the opposition of the Chapel members to close Ysgol Gynradd y Talwrn". His wish was for the "school to stay open to serve the community". Please see the Secretary of Siloam Independents' Chapel's comments in [Appendix 4](#).
- 5.5 In their letter, the Supervisor of Siloam Sunday School, Talwrn (Independent's Chapel) "expressed the opposition of teachers, members and parents of the Sunday school members to closing Ysgol Gynradd y Talwrn". Their wish was for the "school to stay open to serve the community". Please see their comments in [Appendix 5](#).
- 5.6 The Talwrn Eisteddfod Committee "opposed the closing of Ysgol y Talwrn" and the Committee felt that "the school was a cornerstone for the village community and the area". They felt that the Eisteddfod "gave opportunities to nurture confidence by performing on stage,that is a skill that will be of assistance to individuals in future in their everyday lives". The Committee's opinion was that "the policy of closing rural schools was equivalent to a policy of cultural and social extinction". If Ysgol Gynradd y Talwrn closed, the Committee's opinion was that there would not be "any future for the Talwrn Chair Eisteddfod as indeed happened in the village of Llanddeusant". See the Committee's comments in [Appendix 6](#).
- 5.7 In a short letter from Talwrn's Branch of Merched y Wawr, the Secretary stated the Branch's opposition to the "intention to close Ysgol y Talwrn". The Branch said that "the community and the parents' wish was to see the school continuing as a central part of the village and the area". See the Branch Secretary's comments in [Appendix 7](#).
- 5.8 The staff were of the opinion that Ysgol Talwrn is a "key centre for the local area's children's services as well as the wider community". They were of the opinion that the "key advantage of a small school is the family element that underlines the importance of each individual in the school". The staff's feeling was that the school site "is ideal for" local "studies" and that it is in "a safe and ideal place". According to the staff, the "school's contribution over the years has been all important for keeping the Eisteddfod [the village] alive". In their opinion, "closing the school offended the future of the language in the local community and beyond". Please see the staff's observations in [Appendix 8](#).

- 5.9 Llanddyfnan Community Council’s response was that they were “in favour of keeping Ysgol Gynradd Talwrn open and supported the Welsh Assembly Minister’s recent announcement on keeping small schools open. As the school is 98% full, and primary schools in Llangefni are full, we see no reason to close the school”. Please see the Community Council’s observations in [Appendix 9](#).
- 5.10 In personal letters, members of Ysgol Talwrn’s governing body said that they felt that “the officers’ decision is to close the school” and that “there is no turning the decision”. The importance of the local Eisteddfod for the village and the community was mentioned by the Governors and they challenged the backlog maintenance figures and the cost of having a new cabin for the school.
- 5.11 A response was received by email from Talwrn’s Village Hall Committee that stated: “On behalf of the Village Hall Committee, we wish to state our disappointment that the school is being included in the consultation in the first place. The hall has been co-operating with Ysgol Y Talwrn for years, and the Hall is dependent upon support from the school pupils and parents to support fund raising activities that are regularly held towards essential maintenance costs. Additionally, a large number of societies such as the Cylch Meithrin (Nursery Setting), Grŵp Rhiant a Phlentyn (Parent and Child Group), Guides who meet in the Hall will suffer because of this.”
- 5.12 Before a meeting of the Full Council in December 2017, a petition was presented to the Council Leader. Those who had signed the petition:
  - Felt that “any threat to close Ysgol Talwrn is going to have serious results” for the village and the community.
  - Asked that “the signatories’ concerns are tabled in the Executive Committee in accordance with Future Generations’ Welfare Act (Wales) 2015
  - Encourage the Council not to close Ysgol Talwrn but to invest in it.
The petition was signed by 801 signatories.
- 5.13 89 respondents (82%) felt that Ysgol Talwrn is "small rural school" and therefore "essential for the community and to the Welsh way and the Welsh language" and that closing Ysgol Talwrn would “kill the community” and that the school maintains the traditional Welsh way of living and is the "heart" and "backbone" of the community.
- 5.14 The standard of education at Ysgol Talwrn was praised by 80 (74%) of the stakeholders and 53 of them (49%) cited the figures in the consultation document that were "better for Ysgol Talwrn than Ysgol y Graig" for Key Stage 2. They also felt that the education that is provided by the school "develops the children well".
- 5.15 The opinion of 56 (52%) of respondents was that the costs in the documents were doubtful and that the figure of £250,000 for a new cabin was unrealistic. They questioned whether a loan over 50 years to finance a new building for the Foundation Period would be "good value for money". Others said that as Ysgol Talwrn is full, "there is no need to close it".
- 5.16 Possible travel to Ysgol Y Graig is a concern and it was noted by 42 (39%) of stakeholders and they said that the journey to walk to Ysgol Y Graig is dangerous.

- 5.17 35 respondents (32%) wanted the Authority to build a new school instead of Ysgol Talwrn whilst 12 respondents (11%) thought that the Authority should consider federalizing Ysgol Talwrn with another primary school.
- 5.18 The traffic situation in Ysgol y Graig worried 24 (22%) respondents.
- 5.19 20 respondents (19%) felt that the consultation process would be unfair.
- 5.20 The local Eisteddfod would suffer if Ysgol Talwrn closed according to 19 respondents (18%).
- 5.21 The effect of the consultation process on the school staff was important to 17 (16%) of respondents.
- 5.22 9 respondents (8%) (10 November 2017) mentioned the Cabinet Education Secretary's recent statement on rural schools.  
Even so, according to the Welsh Government's definition, Ysgol Talwrn is not on its list of rural schools.
- 5.23 Other ideas and other points were proposed by various stakeholders namely:
- Use Ysgol Talwrn to train headteachers
  - Build a new primary school in Talwrn or modernize it
  - There is no mention in the consultation document of the possible effect of the plan on carbon emissions nor on the possible effect of realizing the proposal in question on parents' work patterns.
  - Merge Ysgol Talwrn with Ysgol Llanbedrgeoch or Ysgol Pentraeth.

## **6. RESPONSES FROM YSGOL Y GRAIG**

- 6.1 Response was received from 4 stakeholders namely a parent and 3 Governors.
- 6.2 What worried the parent were the current parking arrangements until they were a "concern" for them as a family. The parent's experience was that "cars were parking on double yellow lines at the end of the day, and since the new road opened parking places were more scarce again, and the traffic in the area had increased further. It stands to reason that the situation will become worse again when houses are built in the area and as school numbers rise". In addition the parent:
- It is hoped that consideration will be given to recruiting and employing escorts/lollipop men in considering the number of children and cars there are at the beginning and end of the school day.
  - Suggest that officers "visit the school during a variety of busy times in order to understand the seriousness of the situation before considering further building on the school site".
- If the plan goes forward, the parent thought that consideration should be given to the following:
- "Disregard the expectation that people who live within walking distance of the school walk" as "this is not true when the weather is poor".



- “The number of cars in the area on busy evenings e.g. Christmas shows or sports when two parents come from their work to see their children, and the need for adequate parking places for similar occasions”.
- According to the parent, the numbers who have access to the car park “are governed by the caretaker” but he “receives complaints from parents/taxi drivers because of this”. He hoped “that consideration will be given to staffing if human resources are needed to manage the traffic as recruiting assistants, caretakers and cleaners is challenging enough for schools without setting further requirements on them. It would be unfair to expect the school to take responsibility for staffing these situations”.

6.3 The Governors agreed with the reasons for change and supported the proposal in question. They drew attention to the following points:

1. “That there is a need for more than two classes for every age as the current classes are full”.
2. “There’s a need for a hall in the new block for lunch and physical education”.
3. “A need for Foundation Period staff to have an input and governors to have an input into the design”
4. “As the school is in a deprived area”, the governor’s feeling was that there should be additional rooms for pupils who find it difficult to cope in a mainstream class”.
5. The need to “solve problems that already exist e.g.’drainage’ and the wind turbine that does not work”
6. A need for “plenty of space in the classrooms in accordance with the standards of Twenty First Century Schools”.
7. “Parking and the need to resolve the parking situation by Ysgol Y Graig.”

## 7. OTHER RESPONSES

7.1 A response was received from Llanddyfnan Community Council i.e the community council for Talwrn and the surrounding area. Llanddyfnan Community Council’s response was it was “in favour of keeping Ysgol Gynradd Talwrn open and supported the Welsh Assembly Minister’s recent announcement on keeping small schools open. As the school is 98% full, and primary schools in Llangefni are full, we see no reason to close the school”. Please see the Community Council’s observations in [Appendix 9](#).

**NOTE** - Ysgol Talwrn is not on the list of rural schools published by the Welsh Government as part of the consultation on the School Organisation Code.

7.2 In addition to meeting staff, governors and parents, the consultation document was sent to the following stakeholders:

- Gwynedd Council;
- Welsh Government Officers;
- Members of the regional and local Assembly
- Estyn;
- teachers’ unions and ancillary staff unions;

- the Regional Education Consortium namely GwE;
- The Regional Traffic Consortium namely Taith/Journey;
- Police Commissioner and North Wales Crime;
- Communities First Partnership;
- Mudiad Meithrin;
- The Authority’s Youth Service;
- Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni.

7.3 There was response from the N.U.T.’s union officers. Their officer “appreciated the Authority’s need to modernise the school estate” but “deplored the need for compulsory redundancies as took place in Ysgol Santes Dwynwen’s reorganisation”.

## 8. FEEDBACK FROM PUPILS

Council officers visited Ysgol Talwrn and Ysgol y Graig in order to hold short meetings with representation of pupils from both schools, to ascertain their views on the proposal to change their current school.

It was explained to the pupils that consultation had been conducted with the adults in the community, and this was an opportunity for the children of the schools to express their opinions about the Council's plans for modernising schools. It was stressed that their views are important because they attend the schools. They were told the information presented by them would be transferred to the form of a report and submitted to the Council's Executive as part of the statutory consultation.

It was explained that the reasons for school modernisation were:

- Anglesey schools have too many surplus places or not enough places in some of their schools
- need to make sure that all pupils have a good education
- need to make sure that the school is modern and offers good equipment
- that the Council spend their money on schools in a fair way

The following questions were asked to the children:

What do the pupils like about their current school?

What do you think about the option of modifying Ysgol y Graig, closing Ysgol Talwrn and transferring the children of Ysgol Talwrn to Ysgol y Graig

Whether they agree with the reasons for change

Any other comments

The responses are presented below.

### Ysgol Talwrn

The School Council participated in the first instance, then a group of children from different age groups were invited to participate. The parents of those children had expressed an interest in involving their children in the consultation process.

<b>Question:</b> What do the pupils like about their current school?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ We receive a lot of attention</li> <li>▪ the school is surrounded by nature and we learn about nature.</li> </ul>

- We have the opportunity to participate in the Eisteddfod because the school is small.
- I'm worried about losing my friends, everyone knows each other in this school and each other's names.
- There is a lot of support in the school.
- I have been to Ysgol y Graig but I have good friends now in Ysgol Talwrn.
- There is an old train in the yard, we are not used to having modern things. The things that we have at present has helped us to learn.
- There is a football team at a school, and in a larger school only the best will be selected.
- We enjoy taking part.
- I live in the village and can walk to school.
- we have a tradition of hanging out in the village square on our way home from school.
- the Welsh Language is good here and we have opportunities to learn Welsh.
- All of our work are displayed on the walls. In larger schools only the best children's work will be displayed on the walls.
- We are able to see all of our friends in the playground in Talwrn during playtime.
- We have good toys here, Chromebooks and a train on the yard. We do not want to see these going to waste.
- I like coming to school here-I am happy here. I feel very sad that the school is closing.
- my family has been coming to this school for years and I live in Talwrn.
- There is a lot of choice in terms of activities here.
- We sing in the choir. We have a good relationship with the community here
- We have good teachers here, they are nice and looks after us.
- this school feel like a 'family'.
- members of the community come here to hold activities with us. We do not want to miss opportunities like this. One member of the community composes songs for us.
- I have been in a school similar to Ysgol y Graig, I do not like a lot of children in a school, it makes it difficult to make friends.
- the school is old but we are learning new things.
- There is an opportunity to learn about nature here, there will be no such opportunities in Ysgol y Graig.
- I like going to the woodland for a story.
- We are allowed to use bicycles on the yard

What do you think about the option of modifying Ysgol y Graig, closing Ysgol Talwrn and transferring the children of Ysgol Talwrn to Ysgol y Graig

- I'm worried I'm too shy to make friends
- I will need to learn where things are kept and where classes are located. Its so easy to get to classes at present
- Children from the juniors are friends with children from the infants at present. We want this arrangement to continue (the contact between the infant and junior department).
- We have a friend in the school that requires additional attention. We know her and look after her. We are worried that children from Ysgol y Graig will laugh at her.
- In the Eisteddfod and Thanksgiving concert, everyone gets involved. We wouldn't

have such opportunities then.

- I'm worried that the work will be hard then, and especially for some who experience difficulties already
- I want to keep this school open and this school is better.
- The playground Ysgol y Graig is very big and the corridors are long
- in a big school with lots of children, there will be a lot of arguing going on
- I don't want to lose good teachers

Do you agree with the reasons for change?

- Yes we agree, but we are more important and our personal viewpoints

Further comments

- All of this makes also makes me worry about transferring to the secondary school
- I want to keep Talwrn open
- A trial day in Ysgol y Graig would be useful
- What about transport- how will we travel to the school?

### Ysgol Y Graig

A representation was chosen from years 5 and 6 of the School Council, a total of 6 children.

**Question:** What do the pupils like about their current school?

- a lot of friends, and we feel like a family
- There is plenty of space in the school
- Good and fair teachers
- The school bright and large
- It look brand new and clean
- It's fun
- There are plenty of after school activities held
- There are a lot of people here to help the teachers




**Question:** What do you think about the option of modifying Ysgol y Graig, closing Ysgol Talwrn and transferring the children of Ysgol Talwrn to Ysgol y Graig

- I look forward to making new friends
- Do the children of Ysgol Talwrn have to choose Ysgol y Graig? We will help them if they feel sad here
- there will be more children to play football with us
- it's a good idea
- We don't want the new school to be located too far from the current school and its important to keep the connection between both buildings
- The children of Ysgol Talwrn require opportunities to become familiar with our



## Ysgol y Graig

Sut wyt ti'n teimlo am y newidiadau?

		
✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓	

## 9. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

All of the nine original options in the report on the non-statutory consultation document were evaluated financially. The following were considered for each option - capital costs, revenue savings, transport costs, capital receipts and borrowing costs have been considered for each option.

The assumptions for these calculations should be noted. Borrowing:

- will be at a fixed rate.
- will take place over a period of 50 years using the latest interest rates.
- is taken in its entirety i.e. at one time because the expenditure/date of profiling available. In simple terms, this calculation is the cost of funding that amount for 50 years.

These calculations only take into account the unsupported borrowing of the 21st century schools programme.

It should be noted that these costs and savings are *best estimates* currently available. The proposal if realised, may create short-term costs such as, appointing a head teacher before the school opens, severance costs, pay protection costs, and maintenance costs of buildings until they are sold. These costs will be part of a business case, if the proposal is realised, when the number of options have been reduced.

As the Executive approved statutory consultation upon the proposal, only this proposal will be considered:

## Proposal : Expand Ysgol Y Graig

The costs of the proposal as outlined in the document are:

Capital cost	Net revenue savings	Transport costs	Capital receipts
£4,840,660	£53,216	£28,000	£140,000

Additional costs	£28,000	Net project costs	£4,700,660
		Cost to be financed	£2,280,330

The additional estimated net costs from this proposal are £53,216 and the estimated net project cost is £2,280,330. The cost would be £103,073 per annum.

## 10. RECOMMENDATION

On considering the above the factors, the Executive agreed at its meeting on 17 July 2017 with officers' recommendation that:

- **further consultation will be required on adapting Ysgol y Graig to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Talwrn, and close Ysgol Talwrn.**

Therefore, after further consultation, rather than extending Ysgol y Graig, it is proposed:

1. To use the current Ysgol y Graig building for Key Stage 2 i.e. years 3 to 6 and adapt it
2. To build a new block or building for the Foundation Phase i.e. Reception Year and years 1 and 2.
3. To close Ysgol Talwrn and relocate the pupils to Ysgol Y Graig after the new building for the Foundation Phase opens and after the current building is modified
4. To consider relocating the Flying Start provision within the new provision.
5. To ensure that the wind turbine on the site is working by the opening date of the new building

This new building would be part of Ysgol Y Graig and not a separate entity.

## **Twenty First Century Schools**

It is likely that any new school will be a Twenty First Century School. The Council considers a Twenty First Century primary school as one which can provide the following:

### **Teaching and learning facilities**

Suitable teaching areas containing sufficient:

- Classrooms that are of suitable size with a feeling of space and light (in line with the current guidance from the Welsh Government and Building Bulletins)
- Suitable facilities for the Foundation Phase including areas outside (in accordance with the current guidance from the Welsh Government and Building Bulletins)
- Practical specialist areas, including an area technology for artistic activities
- Modern ICT equipment
- Adequate storage facilities (in accordance with the current guidance from the Welsh Government and Building Bulletins)
- Access to a learning resource room (in line with the current guidance from the Welsh Government and Building Bulletins)
- Smaller Rooms for smaller groups e.g. targeting and S.E.N
- Place outdoor learning in the school grounds
- A school hall and dining facilities of an appropriate size. (in accordance with the current guidance from the Welsh Government and Building Bulletins). Depending on the size of the school, it can be a dual use school hall. Spring floors may be needed for dual use school halls. There would be a need for dedicated storage for dining tables.

### **Community Facilities**

Be able to provide a range of services in the community during school hours, either through shared areas or areas. Consideration should be given to the possibility of wide community use whilst keeping child protection as a priority.

### **Play Facilities**

- Private and secure grassy area of sufficient size in the school grounds (in line with the current guidance from the Welsh Government and Building Bulletins)
- Hard play area (school yard) of sufficient size for the capacity of the school (in line with the current guidance from the Welsh Government and Building Bulletins)

### **Staff and administration areas**

- staff room(s)
- separate toilets for staff
- work area for staff (PPA)
- an office for the headteacher
- an office for a secretary/administrative office
- a medical examination or room for patients
- resource room/photocopying
- interview room



## General

- School buildings in excellent condition and are maintained at this level.
- Ensure that access for disabled people to the full range of facilities
- Safe building(s):
  - which has a reception area with signs to denote its location
  - which can be locked during the day with access to areas used by children through a single point of access and managed
  - with a secure fence around the site but allows public access to playing fields outside school hours and burglar alarm system
  - with a fenced area/enclosed for Foundation Phase activities
  - with cameras for supervision - internal and external
  - that conform to the current building regulations standards at the time of the building of the school
  - with fire detection systems and sprinklers
  - that comply with the Equality Act (2010) so that all the building is accessible to all.
  - access other than for vehicles and pedestrians
  - turning area/ 'drop off point' for buses (where appropriate)
  - with a safe area to keep bicycles
  - Sufficient parking places where that's possible
  - with no mobile classrooms or temporary learning spaces as part of a new school
  - with the appropriate number of wash rooms / toilets / cloak rooms for pupils
  - with renewable technology included where appropriate e.g. wind turbines, solar / photovoltaic panels, recycling facilities, ground source heat pumps and/or wood chip boilers to ensure compliance with BREEAM standards to reduce the carbon footprint.
  - all references to standards size / space should comply with the guidance for area produced by the Welsh Government contained in the appropriate Building Bulletins.

**Appendix 2**

Cylch Meithrin Talwrn  
Talwrn,  
Llangefni

Dear [REDACTED],

I am a Leader of Cylch Meithrin Talwrn and I am writing to you on behalf of the parents and children of the Cylch.

Several conversations have been held in which concern has been expressed about the future of the children's education at the Cylch and disappointment about the proposed plan / proposal in Option 7 - The Future of Llangefni Area Schools.

We are not supporting this option and hopefully you will draw attention our opinion and invest in a new school in Talwrn.

Yours sincerely,

Cylch Meithrin Talwrn.

CAPEL MC NYTH CLYD  
Y TALWRN

5 November 2017



Dear 

As officers and members of Nyth Clyd Chapel, Y Talwrn, we are unanimous that the school should not be closed. The school is the foundation for local society and also contributes widely to the social and religious life of the village.

Annually, the children are given the experience of holding a Thanksgiving service at the Chapel. This is but one example of the opportunity they get to build confidence and contribute to community life. Many today can be thankful for the opportunities they have had in a rural Chapel and school to develop confidence and to communicate clearly and purposefully.

Undoubtedly, if you decided to close that school, you would be guilty of refusing the opportunity to create responsible citizens. Something our society really needs today. We are aware that the level of education at the school is very high. According to the Consultation Document you presented, it is clear that KS 2 at Ysgol Y Talwrn is higher than at Ysgol y Graig, Anglesey and Wales. Neither can we ignore the excellent work school does in securing the future of the Welsh Language.

Y mae Ysgrifenydd Addysg Llywodraeth Cymru, Mrs Kirsty Williams, wedi cyhoeddi na ddylid cau ysgolion gwledig oni fod yna seiliau cadarn i hyn. Yn ein barn ni nid oes seiliau cadarn yn bodoli yma.

The Welsh Government's Education Secretary, Mrs. Kirsty Williams, has announced no rural schools should be closed unless there are sound foundations for this. We believe there is no sound basis here.

Also, the Council must accept the responsibility that, over the years, has not allocated money fairly towards the maintenance of the school.

It would be a tragedy to close the school and deny the children having the outstanding education presented by Ysgol Y Talwrn staff.

.

Yours sincerely

A thick black horizontal redaction bar covering the signature of the sender.

Officers

## INDEPENDENTS CHAPEL SILOAM TALWRN



[REDACTED]  
Anglesey Council, Council Offices, Llangefni, Ynys Môn LL77 7TW

12.11.2017

Dear [REDACTED]

I write to you on behalf of Capel Siloam Talwrn to express Chapel members' objection to closing Ysgol Gynradd Talwrn.

We wish to see Talwrn Primary School staying open to serve the community. Here is where the heart of our community beats strongest. A nation without language is a nation without heart and a community without a school is a community without children and without future.

Many of the present members of the Chapel are former pupils from Ysgol y Talwrn and have benefited greatly from that experience, They see value in keeping a school in a village not only for the education and individual development of a child but also for the children to be deeply rooted in what the whole community has to offer them.

Our language and traditions are very important to us and we believe it is in a school like the one in Talwrn that these can best be transferred to our children. As well as teaching basic information to children, we believe there is value in transferring information about the value of a village value, recognition and neighbors for children for them learn to respect others in their community.

The school's success over many areas over many years has been amazing. This school is a close community that contributes so much to the wider community. It is difficult to imagine the village without it. It would be so much poorer.

Villagers' desire and what the inhabitants believe is best for children are important considerations. Please do not, and you taking care of the education and wellbeing of our children, ignore this cry from the heart.

Yours sincerely,



Siloam Chapel, Talwrn

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SILOAM TALWRN



[Redacted]  
Anglesey Council, Council Offices, Llangefni, Ynys Môn LL77 7TW

Dear Programme Manager

write to you on behalf of Siloam Chapel (A.) Talwrn Sunday School to express the opposition of teachers, members and parents of Ysgol Sui to close Ysgol Gynradd y Talwm.

We wish to see the Ysgol Gynradd y Talwm staying open to serve the community.

There has been happy collaboration between the Sunday School and the School for many years especially at times such as Thanksgiving when the School comes here at request of the Chapel. In the same way the Sunday School will benefit from borrowing clothes etc from the School for the performance of the Nativity Play at Christmas

There has also been a deeper level of collaboration as the School and Sunday School reinforce each other's values Without the school in the village, it is unlikely that there would be a Sunday School. This would be a big loss to the area.

This small school contributes so much to the wider community and it is hard to imagine the village without it. The soul of our community would be ripped out.

The wishes of the members of the Sunday School and the parents of the children are an extremely important consideration. Please do not, with you caring for education and wellbeing of our children, disregard this cry that comes from heart.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted]  
[Redacted] Sunday School Siloam  
Talwm

[REDACTED]  
The Lifelong Learning Directorate  
Anglesey Council, Council Offices, Llangefni, Ynys Môn LL77 7TW

Dear [REDACTED]

**Consultation on the future of Ysgol y Talwrn – response from the Talwrn Eisteddfod Committee**

It's likely you will receive several letters objecting to the closure of Ysgol y Talwrn. Here's another one. We believe that the school is the cornerstone of the village and area society. The school can not be considered in financial and educational terms only, though those are valued. The bigger picture of wider decline that has taken place in our village for years now should be looked at for several reasons, including the policies of Governments in London and Cardiff.

In short, we firmly say that Ysgol y Talwrn is delivering much more than teaching children even though it does that well. It contributes extensively to the social life of the village, drawing people together for the benefit of the community. The connections made between parents are over the years foster social unity. The pupils see the value of collaborating on area and community level.

One example of this collaboration is the Eisteddfod, but it explains the ethos of a viable community. From the point of view of the Eisteddfod, the contribution of the children and their families to its success is central. And of course the Eisteddfod gives an opportunity to build confidence by performing on stage which is a skill and will be of help to individuals in the future in their everyday lives.

So the school achieves much more than just formal education, through this involvement between the pupils and the wider society. The community contributes to the children's education in its full sense of creating good and responsible citizens. It's unlikely that this contribution will be on the Council or Welsh Government's balance sheet.

The policy of closing rural schools is synonymous with a policy of cultural and social extinction.

The work of the Council and its officers is to protect the Island's communities. As you know, Welsh Government's Education Secretary, Kirsty Williams, has announced that there is now a presumption that rural schools will not be closed.

For information, here are some figures about Eisteddfod y Talwm. In 2016 in competitions for primary age children, 49 individuals from Y Talwrn Primary School competed on the Stage and only 19 from outside. There were 8 groups from the school competing and 0 from outside. In the literary work category, 65 competed from the school and 1 from outside and at the Art and Craft work there were 41 competing and 2 from outside.

In 2017 the competition for primary school aged pupils, there were 43 individuals from Ysgol Talwrn and only 12 from outside. There were 7 groups from the school competing 0 from outside. In the literary work, 41 competed from school and 0 from outside and in Art and Craft work were 53 competing and 0 out of the field.

We believe that if Ysgol Talwrn does not remain open there will be no future for the Talwrn Chair Eisteddfod as happened in the village of Llanddeusant. Once the Primary School there closed, the Eisteddfod also came to an end.

Yn gywir,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

## Appendix 7

Ysgol Gynradd Y Talwrn,  
Y Talwrn,  
Llangefni,  
Anglesey.

November 7 2017.

Dear [REDACTED],

We write to you to express our concerns about closing Ysgol y Talwrn in the near future.

The school is a key center for serving children in the local area as well as the wider community. The educational strategies were considered rigorously in the last inspection, and the school continues to provide high quality education. The school has an outstanding relationship with the community, and promotes far-reaching aspects in several curricular areas.

A key element for a small school is the family element that highlights the importance of every individual within the school, and how all the pupils enjoy personal experiences by being an essential part of any sport or essential member of a choir. Such opportunities would only happen to the most talented children in large schools.

It must be remembered that the school is located in an area that is ideal for local studies, including being within a stone's throw away interesting places of study such as Coed y Plas, Rhyd y Ddime river and Cors Bodeilio, where children can enjoy experiences directly, integrating the glory of nature that is near the school.



The school is located in an ideal safe place where every child has experiences and opportunities to thrive confidently in a happy and friendly atmosphere. The area is also full of local talents, including the contribution of Mrs E Olwen Jones, who has composed a chest of musical treasures, triggering local school children and offering the composer the opportunity to produce music for children of All Wales.

The composer's product is also based on local history, and is a special source for creating an archive of local events on a song for the future. Of course, the performances of the songs, which are specially composed for the local Eisteddfod, create a close partnership between the school, the community and the arts. This fits naturally with the Welsh Government's priority regarding Cwricwlwm Cymreig.

The importance of Ysgol y Talwrn's support to the local Eisteddfod held annually in the village should also be emphasised. The school's contribution over the years has been key to keeping that Eisteddfod alive, and the importance of local eisteddfodau that promote culture and not least keeping the Welsh language prosperous should not be disregarded. Closing the school would aggrieve the future of the language in the local community and beyond.

The right of a parent is to choose the best establishment for their child, whether it is a large school or small school in size. Once small schools disappear, parents will be deprived of this vitally important choice. Feedback from parents confirms this. The consultation document stated that 49% of children in the catchment area attended the school. This is a family choice in most cases. Is this not a clear proof that the provision of a small school suits their needs better?

We earnestly plea that you consider in detail the implications of closing the doors of this special school.

Yours sincerely,

Ysgol Y Talwrn Staff.



Merched y Wawr y Talwrn



[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

07 November, 2017

[Redacted]

Anglesey Council Offices  
Llangefni  
LL77 7TW

Dear [Redacted]

STATUTORY CONSULTATION DOCUMENT – LLANGEFNI AREA

On behalf of the Talwrn Branch of Merched y Wawr, I write to object to the intention to close Ysgol y Talwm. The parents' and the community's wishes are to see the school continue as a central part of the village and area.

Tours sincerely

[Redacted] Talwrn Branch

## Appendix 9

Comments from Llanddyfnan Community Council:

The Community Council is in favour of keeping Talwrn Primary School open and supports the Welsh Assembly Government's recent announcement on the keeping small schools open. The Council also supports the local opinion not to close the School. As the school is 98% full, and has had a total of 42 - 49 pupils over the past few years and primary schools in Llangefni are full, we do not see any reason to close the school.

Approximately 100 houses are being built in Llangefni. Will there be space for children from these properties at Ysgol y Graig?

Clerc/Clerk

Llanddyfnan Community Council

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<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>	Corporate Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date:</b>	12/03/18
<b>Subject:</b>	Review of Play Sufficiency Action Plan 2017-2018
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	Update members on progress with the action plan
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	Aled Morris Jones
<b>Portfolio Holder(s):</b>	R. Meirion Jones
<b>Head of Service:</b>	Delyth Molyneux
<b>Report Author:</b>	Bethan Hywel Jones
<b>Tel:</b>	<a href="mailto:BethanHJones@ynysmon.gov.uk">BethanHJones@ynysmon.gov.uk</a>
<b>Email:</b>	01407 767784
<b>Local Members:</b>	Applies to whole island

<b>1 - Recommendation/s</b>
<p>Seek Scrutiny Committee approval of the review of the Play Sufficiency Action Plan for 2017 – 18, before forwarding this to Welsh Government in accordance with the statutory requirement contained in “Wales – A Play Friendly Country“ July 2014 and Chapter 2, Section 11 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure, which sets out the duty on Local Authorities as regards Play Opportunities and the duty to review play sufficiency assessments.</p> <p>The Review is attached and the evidence base indicates that the authority is meeting the statutory requirements.</p>

<b>2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities</b>
<p>The Play Sufficiency Plan incorporates links to all three of the Council’s Corporate ambitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating the conditions for everyone to achieve their long-term potential.</li> <li>• Support vulnerable adults and families and keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible.</li> <li>• Work in partnership with our communities to ensure that they can cope effectively with change and developments whilst protecting our natural environment.</li> </ul>

### 3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members

To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-

**3.1** Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [**focus on customer/citizen**]

**3.2** A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [**focus on value**]

**3.3** A look at any risks [**focus on risk**]

**3.4** Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [**focus on performance & quality**]

**3.5** Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:

- Long term
- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Involvement

[**focus on wellbeing**]

### 4 - Key Scrutiny Questions

### 5 – Background / Context

This is a statutory responsibility and stems from a review of the Play Sufficiency Assessment conducted in March 2016. Funding for Play Sufficiency opportunities is received through grant funding from Welsh Government on an annual basis. The Play Sufficiency Action Plan ensures that communities, schools and other partners e.g. leisure and culture departments, and other third parties can collaborate to offer play development opportunities for young families and children during the year.

### 6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]

All activities are compliant with our corporate Welsh Language policy and all activities are planned to ensure equality of opportunity and access for as many children and young people as possible, in accordance to our statutory duties.

### 7 – Financial Implications

Welsh Government Grant allows activities to be financed on an annual basis, although the sum is variable, often with an additional sum available late in the financial year, for which we plan. This year the total sum is £37,000.

The funding of the previous Play Officer has changed. The post was previously funded through the Families First grant - but the terms of the grant will change from April 2018 and as this is a statutory requirement, the grant cannot be utilised for this purpose.

Consequently, the Learning department has incorporated the duties within its Supporting Families Unit and will combine the statutory responsibilities with those of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment. This will allow for cohesive delivery, targeting of resources and development across both sectors. Financing the officer post has been possible for 2018-2019 in collaboration with Children's Services.

**8 – Appendices:**

Play Action Plan for 2017-2018.

**9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):**



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

**Name of local authority: Anglesey County Council**

**Name of responsible officer: Bethan Hywel Jones**

**Job title: Family Support Unit Manager**

**Date of completion: 25 February 2018**



# Play Sufficiency Action Plan 2017-18

<b>Matter: A</b>		
<b>Criteria</b> (in accordance with the PSA toolkit)	<b>Actions 2017/18</b>	<b>Funding Source</b> (new or existing funding streams)
Secure community support in order to make provision for disabled Children and young people.	Extend clubs / opportunities.  Seek to progress holiday provision.	Youth Club funding/Child Disability Services/ Ysgol Y Bont/community groups such as Clwb Ni and Clwb Cybi.  Also, applications for available grants.
<b>Matter: B</b>		
<b>Criteria</b> (in accordance with the PSA toolkit)	<b>Actions 2017/18</b>	<b>Funding Source</b> (new or existing funding streams)

<p><b>Support rural areas and smaller villages to develop play opportunities in their areas.</b></p>	<p><b>Offer support to those areas in need so as to enrich play opportunities.</b></p>	<p><b>No financial certainty for this element but taking advantage of Government grants and referring groups to community grants, Lottery funding etc. to promote sustainability and responsibility.</b>  <b>Importance of collaboration with other organisations such as the Urdd, Youth Clubs, Menter Iaith Welsh Language Initiative, after school clubs etc.</b></p> <p><b>Grants to the value of £3000 offered in March 2017 and a further grant of £2000 in October 2017. The following were funded:</b>  49 community play schemes between April and September 2017  Twitter account for Anglesey Play has 290 followers  Launch of the Come and Play book providing details of play areas and activities for free</p> <p><b>An additional Government grant in February 2018 with additional funding for the following:</b>  Provide play pods for special school and primary school to promote play and soft play toys and activities  Fun days for families over the Easter holidays  Community grant to promote play in the community</p>
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<b>Matter: C</b>		
<b>Criteria</b> (in accordance with the PSA toolkit)	<b>Actions 2017/18</b>	<b>Funding Source</b> (new or existing funding streams)
Develop a structure for mapping play areas. “no ball games” signage removed. Replaced with “children playing” signage.	Joint Planning Policy Unit – as part of the Local Development Plan – starting an Open Space Assessment - policy ISA 4, on safeguarding existing open spaces and policy ISA 5, on creating new spaces, if required (where there is lack of provision) in relation to planning proposals for 10 or more dwellings. The Planning department is in the process of writing Supplementary Planning Guidance on ‘Open Spaces within Residential Developments’.	No funding currently available to implement this in terms of signage.  With regard to mapping, looking to utilising Council/ third sector mapping systems – considering the use of Web Mapping - GIS – and the facility to add local information at no cost.
<b>Matter: E</b>		
<b>Criteria</b> (in accordance with the PSA toolkit)	<b>Actions 2017/18</b>	<b>Funding Source</b> (new or existing funding streams)
Identify all provision in the county for the various needs, making sure that all information is accurate and up to date.	Promote the provision among agencies and make them aware that the appropriate form must be filled, and the ‘Data protection and authority to use’ part must be completed. Dewis Cymru is an information website which was originally developed to contain details of services for adults but has since been extended to cover children and families with the purpose of maintaining and containing general information on services etc. within the area. The Dewis website is a development to meet the requirements of Teulu Môn.	Part of the work of Teulu Môn.
<b>Matter: F</b>		

<b>Criteria</b> <b>(in accordance with the PSA toolkit)</b>	<b>Actions 2017/18</b>	<b>Funding Source</b> <b>(new or existing funding streams)</b>
<b>Identify free/low cost activities for groups providing play opportunities.</b>	<p><b>Ensure a wide choice of free provision. Ensure information is current and make it available to the public.</b></p> <p><b>Assist communities to apply for grants to run activities. Support areas which are deprived in terms of play provision.</b></p> <p><b>The Come &amp; Play booklet contains free activities. Information available on the Visit Anglesey website.</b></p>	<b>Part of the work of Teulu Môn.</b>

<b>Matter F</b>		
<b>Criteria (in accordance with the PSA toolkit)</b>	<b>Actions 2017/18</b>	<b>Funding Source (new or existing funding streams)</b>
<p><b>Co-operate with community safety agencies to develop schemes so that children can play outdoors in a safe environment.</b></p>	<p><b>Ensure risk assessments are held on play areas/ identify safe areas through mapping/link to the Local Development Plan adopted in July 2017/ training for the sector/town and community councils/</b> The Planning Service and National Planning Policy for Wales safeguard existing spaces and seek to provide further play/open spaces. Policy ISA5: 'Provision of Open Spaces in New Housing Developments' states that new housing proposals of 10 or more units in areas where existing open space cannot meet the needs of the proposed housing development, will be expected to provide suitable provision of open spaces.</p>	<p><b>Multi-agency funding. Police and Housing Department/ Education/ community groups.</b> <b>New planning applications to prioritise open spaces with costs to be met by the developer.</b></p>
<b>Matter G</b>		
<b>Criteria (in accordance with the PSA toolkit)</b>	<b>Actions 2017/18</b>	<b>Funding Source (new or existing funding streams)</b>

<p>Promote training on play issues to develop staff. Play development training for staff. Assessment of training needs within the sector</p>	<p>Hold at least 1 Conference / Workshop every year.</p> <p>Promote courses from the Play Wales page to childminders, Health Visitors and agencies working with families. Out of School Grant has funded Playwork Level 3 for 20 individuals who work in After School Clubs.</p>	<p>No core funding but unspent funds can be used. Also looking to fund this with grants. Out of School provision and joint planning across childcare and play.</p>
<b>Matter H</b>		
<b>Criteria</b> (in accordance with the PSA toolkit)	<b>Actions 2017/18</b>	<b>Funding Source</b> (new or existing funding streams)
Offer support and information on funding opportunities to agencies /communities providing play opportunities.	Continue to send out mailings on opportunities to apply for funding to develop areas and activities on Anglesey.	Specific provision within the Family Support Unit, ensuring coordination of statutory requirements in relation to children and play from January 2018 onwards.
Joint working with officers responsible for Active Anglesey to develop cross departmental working with Play, Leisure and Sports.	Provision of sports opportunities / physical activities for young people and making this work in partnership.	Collaboration between various departments.  Family Support Unit to ensure coordination of statutory requirements in relation to children and play from January 2018 onwards.
Maintaining regular contact via websites, social media etc.	Ensuring that information is accurate and up to date in relation to play materials and events and joint working on 3 play/leisure events before the Easter holiday.	Teulu Môn to run social media sites jointly with the Family Support Unit/County Council website.
<b>Matter I</b>		
<b>Criteria</b> (in accordance with the PSA toolkit)	<b>Actions 2017/18</b>	<b>Funding Source</b> (new or existing funding streams)

<p><b>Co-operate with schools to ensure an understanding of the importance / benefits of play.</b>  <b>Person identified on the Local Public Services Board to promote play.</b>  <b>Include play within the Anglesey Wellbeing Plan.</b></p>	<p><b>Support schools to provide ideas on ways to enrich play during and outside school hours.</b></p> <p><b>Ensure robust links with schools, School Councils and school Parents' Committees.</b></p> <p><b>Aim to include a heading within the Wellbeing Plan on the general wellbeing of children and individual plans for development.</b></p>	<p><b>To be promoted by the Healthy Schools Officer.</b></p> <p><b>Any specific plans under the Local Public Services Board and the Wellbeing Plan.</b></p> <p><b>Welsh Government grants where appropriate.</b></p>
<p><b>Ensure positive attitudes towards play are reflected within the media.</b></p>	<p><b>Ensure news on a monthly basis. Via Twitter, local press and on Môn FM.</b>  <b>Dewis website.</b>  <b>County Council website/ Facebook and Twitter</b></p>	<p><b>Usually done by community groups.</b>  <b>The Dewis website is funded by the Social Services.</b></p>





CYNGOR SIR  
YNYS MÔN  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY  
COUNTY COUNCIL



## **CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME: 2017/2018** **→ 2018/19**

Chair: Councillor Aled Morris Jones  
Vice-Chair: Councillor Dylan Wyn Rees

This document summarises the forward work programme of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for the period May 2017 onwards, as a rolling programme and purposeful Scrutiny planning tool. The forward work programme will be submitted to each ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee for the purpose of reviewing its content, consideration of new items or adjournment / withdrawal of items. Its purpose is also to ensure alignment with the forward work programmes of the Executive and Senior Leadership Team.

Contact: Anwen Davies (Scrutiny Manager)  
Tel: 01248 752578

E-mail: [AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk](mailto:AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk)

Date of Meeting	Item	Purpose
<b>May, 2017</b>		
<b>31 May 2017</b>	Election of Chair of the Committee	Effective governance arrangements
Committee Room 1 / 3.30pm	Election of Vice-Chair for the Committee	Effective governance arrangements
<b>June, 2017</b>		
<b>26 June 2017</b> [Qtr 4: 2016/17]	Corporate Scorecard [Q4] 2016/17 Report on Sickness by WAO included as appendix	Performance monitoring
Committee Room 1 / 2pm	Annual Report of the Statutory Director of Social Services 2016/17	Performance monitoring
	Empty Homes Strategy 2017/2022	Policy development
	Membership of Panels and Boards	Nominate Members
	Forward Work Programme - review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities
<b>July, 2017</b>		
<b>11 July 2017</b> [Extraordinary meeting]	Schools' Modernisation – Llangefni area Statutory Consultation	Pre-decision scrutiny
Committee Room 1 / 2pm	Schools' Modernisation – Strategic Outline Programme - Band B (2019/24)	Transformation
	Monitoring Progress – Children's Services Improvement Plan	Performance monitoring
	Membership of Panels and Boards – Nomination to the Schools Progress Review Scrutiny Panel	Nominate Members
<b>September, 2017</b>		
<b>4 September 2017</b> [Qtr 1: 2017/18]	Corporate Scorecard [Q1] 2017/18	Performance monitoring
Committee Room 1 / 2pm	Council Plan 2017/2022	Pre-decision scrutiny
	Monitor progress - Children's Services Improvement Plan Progress report - Children's Services Improvement Panel	Performance monitoring

Date of Meeting	Item	Purpose
	Forward Work Programme - review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities
	Item for Information: Social Services Annual Complaints Report (2016/17)	For Information / performance monitoring
<b>October, 2017</b>		
<b>2 October 2017</b> [Extraordinary meeting]  Committee Room 1 / 10am	Social Services Annual Performance 2016/17 (CSSIW)	Performance monitoring
	Annual Performance Report (Improvement Plan) 2016/17	Performance monitoring
	Extra Care Housing – Seiriol Area	Pre-decision scrutiny
	Schools Modernisation Programme – Seiriol Area	Pre-decision scrutiny
<b>31 October 2017</b> [Budget]  Committee Room 1 / 10am	2018/19 Initial Budget Proposals	Pre-decision scrutiny
	2018/19 Budget Consultation Plan	Pre-decision scrutiny
	Progress Report – Finance Scrutiny Panel	Performance monitoring
	Forward Work Programme – review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities
<b>November, 2017</b>		
<b>13 November 2017</b> [Qtr 2: 2017/18]  Committee Room 1 / 2pm	Corporate Scorecard [Q2] 2017/18	Performance monitoring
	Transformation of Library Services	Transformation
	Asset Management Strategy – Council Housing	Policy development
	Monitor progress – Children’s Services Improvement Plan Progress report – Children’s Services Improvement Panel	Performance monitoring
	Forward work programme – review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities
<b>December, 2017</b>		
<b>14 December, 2017</b> [Extraordinary meeting]	Transformation of Culture Service – Beaumaris Goal & Courthouse	Call in of decision by the Executive on 27/11/17 (called in by Cllrs Aled Morris Jones, Eric Wyn Jones, Kenneth Hughes, Bryan Owen & Peter Rogers)

Date of Meeting	Item	Purpose
<b>January, 2018</b>		
<b>31 January, 2018</b> [Extraordinary meeting]  Committee Room 1 / 1pm	Extra Care Housing – Seiriol Area (summary of feedback from engagement process)	Transformation
	Monitor progress – Children’s Services Improvement Plan Progress report – Children’s Services Improvement Panel	Performance Monitoring
	School transport	Referral from Audit and Governance Committee / Performance monitoring
	Small Holdings Improvement Programme	Notice of Motion from the Full Council
	Welsh Public Library Standards – Annual Report ( 2016/2017)	Performance monitoring – for information
<b>February, 2018</b>		
<b>5 February 2018</b> [Budget]  Committee Room 1/ 2pm	2018/19 Draft Budget	Pre-decision scrutiny
	Progress Report – Finance Scrutiny Panel	Performance monitoring
	Forward work programme – review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities
	Housing Revenue Account Business Plan (Finance Scrutiny Panel)	Pre-decision scrutiny
<b>March, 2018</b>		
<b>12 March 2018</b> [Qtr 3: 2017/18]  Committee Room 1/ 2pm	Corporate Scorecard [Q3] 2017/18	Performance monitoring
	Schools Modernisation Programme – Seiriol Area	Transformation
	Schools Modernisation Programme – Llangefni Area (Y Graig & Talwrn)	Transformation
	Play sufficiency Assessment	Pre-decision scrutiny
	Forward work programme - review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities
<b>April, 2018</b>		

Date of Meeting	Item	Purpose
<b>23 April 2018</b> Committee Room 1/ 2pm  <b>(to be convened w/c 23/04/18)</b>	Homelessness Strategy (to be confirmed)	Policy development
	Social Services Performance – progress on priority actions	Performance monitoring <small>[Scrutiny Committee resolution. 02/10/17]</small>
	Transformation of Learning Disabilities Services	Transformation
	Community Regeneration Plans – Amlwch & Beaumaris	Performance monitoring Scrutiny Committee resolution. 02/10/17
	Schools Modernisation Programme – Llangefni Area (Corn Hir, Bodffordd & Henblas)	Transformation
	Forward work programme – review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities
<b>June, 2018</b>		
<b>4 June, 2018</b> <b>[Qtr4: 2017/18]</b>  Committee Room 1/ 2pm	Corporate Scorecard [Q4] 2017/18	Performance monitoring
	Child Care Plan [to be confirmed]	Performance monitoring
	Annual report of the Statutory Director of Social Services	Performance monitoring
	School transport – progress report on implementation of action plan	Performance monitoring <small>[Scrutiny Committee resolution, 31/01/18]</small>
	Monitor progress - Children’s Services Improvement Plan Progress report - Children’s Services Improvement Panel	Performance monitoring
	Progress Report – Finance Scrutiny Panel	Performance monitoring
	Forward Work Programme – review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities
<b>September, 2018</b>		
<b>3 September, 2018</b> <b>[Qtr1: 2018/19]</b>  Committee Room 1/ 2pm	Corporate Scorecard [Q1] 2018/19	Performance monitoring
	Monitor progress - Children’s Services Improvement Plan Progress report - Children’s Services Improvement Panel	Performance monitoring
	Progress Report – Finance Scrutiny Panel	Performance monitoring
	Forward Work Programme – review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities

Date of Meeting	Item	Purpose
<b>October, 2018</b>		
<b>24 October, 2018</b> <b>[Budget]</b>	2019/20 Initial Budget Proposals	Pre-decision scrutiny
Committee Room 1/ 2pm	2019/20 Budget Consultation Plan	Pre-decision scrutiny
	Annual Performance Report (Improvement Plan)	Performance monitoring
	Forward Work Programme – review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities
<b>November, 2018</b>		
<b>5 November, 2018</b> <b>[Qtr 2: 2018/19]</b>	Corporate Scorecard [Q2] 2018/19	Performance monitoring
Committee Room 1/ 2pm	Forward Work Programme – review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities
<b>February, 2019</b>		
<b>4 February, 2019</b> <b>[Budget]</b>	2019/20 Draft Budget	Pre-decision scrutiny
Committee Room 1/ 2pm	Progress Report – Finance Scrutiny Panel	Performance monitoring
	Monitor progress – Children’s Services Improvement Plan	Performance monitoring
	Progress report – Children’s Services Improvement Panel	
	Forward Work Programme - review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities
<b>March, 2019</b>		
<b>11 March, 2019</b> <b>[Qtr 3: 2018/19]</b>	Corporate Scorecard [Q3]: 2018/19	Performance monitoring
Committee Room 1/ 2pm	Forward Work Programme – review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities

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Date of Meeting	Item	Purpose
<b>April, 2019</b>		
<b>8 April, 2019</b>		
Committee Room 1/ 2pm	Forward Work Programme – review	Effective forward planning / alignment with corporate priorities
<b>TOPICS TO BE SCHEDULED</b>		
TBC	Modernisation of Non-Statutory Leisure Service (3 year period)	Transformation
TBC (June, 2018)	Corporate Scorecard [Q4]: 2018/19	Performance monitoring
TBC	Energy Management	Performance monitoring (Scrutiny Committee resolution. 31/10/17)
TBC	Fuel Poverty – plans to support households	Performance monitoring (Scrutiny Committee resolution, 13/11/17)
TBC	Impacts of Welfare Reform	Performance monitoring
TBC (Sept/October, 2018)	Review of progress – the Council Plan (at the end of the 12 months)	Performance monitoring

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