

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to:	Executive Committee Meeting
Date:	23 January 2017
Subject:	Modernising Anglesey Schools – Moving the completion date of the statutory notices for Ysgol Rhyd y Llan and Ysgol Cybi
Portfolio Member(s):	Councillor Kenneth Hughes
Head of Service:	Delyth Molyneux
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Local Members:	Councillor Kenneth Hughes Councillor Llinos Medi Huws Councillor John Griffith Councillor Trefor Lloyd Hughes Councillor Jeffrey Evans Councillor Dafydd Rhys Thomas

A – Recommendation(s) and Reason(s)

Reasons:

In order to comply with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code, the Authority published **Statutory Notices** of its intention to:

- combine three schools - Ysgol Llanfachraeth, Ysgol Ffrwd Win and Cylch y Garn - in to one new school on a site in Llanfaethlu and for that school to be a community school.
- combine three schools - Ysgol Y Parchedig Thomas Ellis, Ysgol Llaingoch and Ysgol Y Parc - in to one new school on the former Ysgol Cybi site and for that school to be a Church in Wales voluntary controlled school.

The **Statutory Notices** were published on June 19 2015 and a period of 28 days to object to the proposals followed and the objection period came to an end on July 17, 2015. No objections to either proposal was received. However, the implementation date of both proposals was February 1, 2017. Delays have pushed the start date of both projects back (archaeology in Rhyd y Llan and the listed status of the old Cybi building) meaning that neither building will be ready by that time. Rather, the aim is to open both schools on 1 September 2017.

Part 6 of the School Organisation Code 2013 states: "Where proposals have received approval by the local authority ... proposers can make a determination to delay, bring forward or abandon a proposal. Any such application for agreement must be made in writing with the proposer's reasons clearly set out. Notification of any determination to delay, bring forward or abandon a proposal must be given to relevant parties ... within seven days of it being made." Accordingly, there is a need for the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Executive Committee, as the proposer of both proposals in the statutory notices, to agree to delay the implementation date of both proposals to 1 September 2017.

It is recommended that the Executive Committee:

i. Approve the delaying of the of the implementation date of both proposals to complete Ysgol Rhyd y Llan ac Ysgol Cybi until 1 September 2017.

Conditional upon i. above, officers will the notify the "relevant parties" of the decision to delay the implementation date of the proposals for Ysgol Rhyd y Llan and Ysgol Cybi.

Background:**Ysgol Rhyd y Llan**

In January 2012, the Isle of Anglesey County Council Board of Commissioners authorised officers from the Authority's Lifelong Learning Department to visit primary schools in North West Anglesey to consult on options for the primary school education provision in the area. After receiving this authorisation, officers of the Lifelong Learning Department held consultation meetings with staff, governors and parents in October 2012 and a 6 week consultation period followed and came to an end on November 20, 2012. Many responses were received and a report detailing these was compiled by officers of the Lifelong Learning Department and presented to the Isle of Anglesey County Council Education and Leisure Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on January 15, 2013. At that meeting on January 15, 2013, the Education and Leisure Scrutiny Committee resolved:

- To recommend Option 5 (A new area school for Llanfachraeth, Llanfaethlu and Llanrhuuddlad) to the Executive as the Committee's preferred option for formal consultation on the review of primary education provision in North West Anglesey subject to the identification of both funding and a suitable site for the development prior to the commencement of the formal consultation process.

At its meeting on February 11, 2013, the Isle of Anglesey County Council Executive Committee resolved to support Option 5 (namely a new area school for Llanfachraeth, Llanfaethlu and Llanrhuuddlad) as the Executive's preferred option for formal consultation on the review of primary education provision in North West Anglesey subject to the identification of both funding and a suitable site for the development prior to the commencement of the formal consultation process. The statutory or formal consultation period ran from March 31, 2014 to May 19, 2014. The Authority consulted with pupils, parents, governors, staff, local community and any other interested groups.

A site was purchased in Llanfaethlu for the new school. As part of the process to assess the suitability of the land, archaeological remains were discovered at the site. This meant a delay in the process so that construction work could not begin until May 2016 and as a result of this, pushes the implementation date of the statutory notice back.

Ysgol Cybi

At its meeting on December 10, 2012, the Isle of Anglesey County Council Executive Committee agreed to the merger of 3 schools i.e. Ysgol y Parc, Ysgol Llaingoch and Ysgol Parch. Thomas Ellis in a new school as the Executive's preferred option for formal consultation and that the new primary school in Holyhead be located on the Cybi site.

On May 19, 2014, officers were authorised to move to the formal consultation process. The proposal being consulted upon was for a primary school for 540 pupils and 75 nursery pupils by merging Ysgol Y Parchedig Thomas Ellis, Ysgol Llaingoch and Ysgol Y Parc in a new building on the Cybi site. The status of the new school is for it to be a Church in Wales Voluntary Controlled school (in the same manner as Ysgol Y Parchedig Thomas Ellis).

At its meeting on November 3, 2014, the Executive Committee resolved: "To merge the three schools - Ysgol Y Parchedig Thomas Ellis, Ysgol Llaingoch and Ysgol Y Parc - in a new building on the Cybi site and for the new school to be a Church in Wales Voluntary Controlled school."

A site for the new school was decided upon i.e. the old Cybi building. Many conservation issues arose as part of the planning process as the building is listed. This meant delays in the process so that the construction work could not start until January 2016 and as a result of this, pushes the implementation date of the statutory notice back. Other factors such as the national tests held every May were considered and moving the pupils at that time would have a negative effect on these tests.

B – Which other options did you consider and what were your reasons for refusing them and/or for choosing this option?

Ysgol Rhyd y Llan

Consideration was given to not changing the implementation date of the statutory notice but the school would not be ready February 1 2017. It is hoped the construction work will be complete by July 2017. The summer holidays will then follow and so 1 September 2017 is a suitable date to open a school at the start of a new school year.

Ysgol Cybi

Consideration was given to not changing the implementation date of the statutory notice but the school would not be ready February 1 2017. It is hoped the construction work will be complete by April 2017. Transferring the pupils in May would negatively affect the pupils' national tests. The summer holidays will then follow and so 1 September 2017 is a suitable date to open a school at the start of a new school year.

C – For what reason is this a decision for the Executive Committee?

The Executive Committee is responsible for school organisation matters.

D – Is this decision in keeping with the policy approved by the full Council?

Yes

DD – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?

Yes – It is one of the plans in the Strategic Outline Programme approved by the Executive Committee in its meeting on January 13, 2014.

E – With whom did you consult?		What were their comments?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Management Team (SMT) (mandatory)	No comment
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	No comment
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	No comment
5	Human Resources (HR)	Any staffing issues arising from the recommendations should be addressed in accordance with recognised consultation and human resources processes. If HR's assistance in terms of consulting is required, there's a need build in the unit's capacity to accommodate this workload.
6	Property	The Architectural Services Manager agrees with the recommendation
7	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	No comment
8	Scrutiny	Not applicable
9	Local Members	No comment
10	Any other external body/bodies	The Shadow Governing Bodies of both schools agree with the revised implementation dates of the statutory notices

F – Risks and any mitigatory steps (if relevant)		
1	Economic	Not applicable
2	Anti-poverty	Not applicable
3	Crime and Disorder	Not applicable
4	Environmental	Not applicable
5	Equalities	An equality impact assessment was completed as part of the statutory impact assessments for both schemes
6	Result Agreements	Not applicable
7	Other	Not applicable

FF - Appendices:

G – Background Papers (please contact the Report’s author for any further information):
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minutes of the Executive Committee for 10 December 2012, February 11 2013 and November 3 2014. 2. Statutory Consultation Document 3. Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) submitted to the Welsh Government in December 2013. 4. Letter from Welsh Government dated January 31 2014. 5. Report to the Executive Committee held on November 3, 2014. 6. School Organisation Code sections 1.2 to 1.6 and part 6.