	ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL
Report to:	The Executive
Date:	17 December 2020
Subject:	Report on the findings of the Statutory Consultation in the Llangefni Area - Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor R. Meirion Jones
Head of Service / Director:	Rhys H Hughes Director of Education, Skills and Young People
Report Author: E-mail:	Carol Sorahan <u>carolsorahan@ynysmon.gov.uk</u>
Local Members:	Councillor Bob Parry Councillor Dylan Rees Councillor Nicola Roberts

## A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

It is recommended that the Executive agree to :

- Build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is". (See section 7.4 of Appendix 1 – Llangefni Area Consultation Report -Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir)
- Authorise officers to implement the decision as soon as possible and to note that its implementation is outside the expectations of the School Organisation Code (011/2018)
- Authorise officers to re-publish the Impact Assessment on the proposal as part of assessing the proposal's ongoing impact on equality, the Welsh language and the community.

## Background

Between 6 February 2020 and 20 March 2020, a statutory consultation on the future of the two schools in question was held. Officials were authorised to carry out the consultation after the Corporate Scrutiny Committee and Executive considered the 'proposal paper' in January 2020. The consultation closed on the last day of school before the first lockdown period, as a result of the global pandemic that transformed education provision for a time.

It is important to note that the Council has received a letter from the Welsh Government (School Organisation and Admissions Branch) stating that Welsh Government Ministers are giving the Council an extension until 19 March 2021 to publish any proposal. The Council has operated in accordance with the School Organisation Code 2018 throughout the pandemic period.

As part of that consultation, the Council's original proposal to "**Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to** a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir" along with a number of other proposals were considered in detail.

Some examples of other proposals were :

- Federating Ysgol Bodffordd with Ysgol Corn Hir;
- Providing Nursery and Year 0-1 classes at Ysgol Bodffordd and Years 2-6 at Ysgol Corn Hir for both schools;
- Building an additional floor at Ysgol Bodffordd.

There were 823 online responses and paper responses to the consultation. Responses were also received from the Governors, Head teachers, Staff and children of both schools along with other responses from organisations and individuals. (Detailed analysis of the responses can be seen in section 5 of Appendix 1 - Llangefni Area Consultation Report -Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir).

The significant feedback from the majority of stakeholders associated with the two schools notes that they:

- Agree with the (original) proposal that the Ysgol Corn Hir building is too small, and that a new school needs to be built;
- Agree that a new school is needed for Corn Hir, but they question why should this be done at the expense of closing Ysgol Bodffordd?

As part of the process, other educational models were also received by stakeholders, and they were assessed by officers against the criteria and drivers of the current school modernisation strategy in preparing the consultation report. (See section 6.4 of Appendix 1 - Llangefni Area Consultation Report - Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir).

Examples of the type of other educational models presented were:

- To build a new school for Ysgol Bodffordd in Bodffordd. This would ensure the continued growth of the school and the community as the population grows;
- A new school for Ysgol Corn Hir modernisation / extension of Ysgol Bodffordd with one additional classroom (for 30 additional pupils) or two additional classrooms (for 60 additional pupils);
- To build a new Ysgol Bodffordd in Bodffordd with Ysgol Corn Hir merging with it on that site at Bodffordd;
- To build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is.

## Why has the proposal changed?

All responses were considered and a comprehensive analysis of their weaknesses and strengths was made against the drivers of the school modernisation strategy which include:

- improving educational standards;
- ensuring that school buildings are fit for purpose;
- ensuring sufficient capacity in the Llangefni area for the future:
- maintaining and improving Welsh-medium provision and;
- increasing the community use of school buildings.

The other reasonable alternative, proposed by stakeholders to "**Build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir** and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is" is believed to be the most appropriate way forward.

The Council believes that this other reasonable alternative to build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is, meets most of the key challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd, as discussed below and in section 6.5 of Appendix 1 - Llangefni Area Consultation Report - Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir.

This would therefore equate to a partial implementation of the original proposal, i.e. provide a new building for Ysgol Corn Hir, but it does not mean closing Ysgol Bodffordd and moving the pupils of Ysgol Bodffordd to the new school building.

Reasons

• Standards at Ysgol Bodffordd - Ysgol Bodffordd's category has improved from Amber in 2015 to Yellow (B) in 2019.

- Curriculum Delivery Ysgol Bodffordd is in a strong position to collaborate with other schools in the local area to deliver the curriculum.
- The Welsh Language With 60 pupils at Ysgol Bodffordd (85%) and 138 pupils at Ysgol Corn Hir (61%) speaking Welsh at home, (PLASC 2019) **Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir have the potential to sustain further develop the existing Welsh-medium provision**.
- Capacity the other reasonable alternative meets the capacity needs under consideration as part of the original proposal and therefore **meets the expected future increase** in pupil numbers.
- Travel arrangements This other reasonable alternative is unlikely to change pupils' current travel arrangements. Pupils from Bodffordd, who at present walk or cycle to school, are likely to be able to continue to do so, without probable changes to the carbon footprint.
- Bodffordd Community Centre There will be no change. As a result, the community centre at Ysgol Bodffordd can continue to be used as at present.
- School Organisation Code (2018) Ysgol Bodffordd is identified in the Code as a **Rural School**, and as a result the Council has followed a more detailed set of procedures and requirements in formulating this other reasonable alternative.

## B - What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?

See section 6.2 Appendix 1 – Llangefni Area Consultation Report -Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir which states what reasonable alternatives were considered by the Council as part of the consultation.

Also section 6.4 Appendix 1 – Llangefni Area Consultation Report -Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir the Council's consideration of other reasonable alternatives presented by stakeholders during the consultation.

## C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

The Executive is responsible for school organisation matters.

## CH – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?

Yes. It is in keeping and consistent with the Anglesey School Modernisation strategy 2018 (adopted by the Executive in October 2018) and Annual Delivery Document 2019/20 (adopted by Full Council).

## D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?

Yes – as part of the School Modernisation Programme Band 'A'.

## New school building for Ysgol Corn Hir

The cost of building a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir is estimated at around £9-10m. If the proposal is approved, it will be funded 50/50 by the Council and the Welsh Government through the 21st Century Schools 'Band A' programme.

If the current Ysgol Corn Hir building is sold, it is assumed that this could contribute approximately £160,000 towards the Council's contribution to costs.

The Council's contribution to the project is funded through unsupported borrowing. The annual repayments are estimated to cost around £208,000.

Building a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir will mean that the Council will need to add £36,000 to the schools budget, as the running costs of the new building will be around £36,000 higher. This is due to increased rates and cleaning costs for the new building.

If the Council did nothing, it is assumed that Ysgol Corn Hir and Ysgol Bodffordd would be over capacity, and therefore the Council would have to pay to transport pupils to schools with surplus places. This proposal creates additional capacity in the area, so pupils will not have to be transported out of the catchment area, and as a result the Council would avoid around £90,000 of transport costs, that it would have had to incur in the future if it did nothing.

Therefore, the annual net cost to the Council would be approximately £154,000 (£208,000 + £36,000 - £90,000)

The proposal will also remove current and projected future maintenance expenditure of £234,000 at Ysgol Corn Hir, but the current and projected future maintenance costs of £134,000 at Ysgol Bodffordd will remain.

If the Council funded the cost of £234,000 through an unsupported loan (over 20 years), it would cost around £18,000 a year to fund. It could be argued that this amount is therefore a saving.

## New school building for Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir (original proposal)

The cost of building a new school for Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir is estimated to be in the region of £9-10m, funded 50/50 by the Council and the Welsh Government through the 21st Century Schools 'Band A' programme.

If the Council had continued with the original proposal, it is estimated that there would be £320,000 of capital receipts to contribute to the Council's contribution towards costs.

Taking this into account, it is assumed that the costs of repaying the loan would be in the region of £213,000.

The budget allocation for schools would reduce by £15,000 (£51,000 lower than the new proposal), as there would be one fewer building to run and maintain.

Transporting pupils from the Bodffordd catchment to the new Ysgol Corn Hir would cost around  $\pounds$ 70,000 a year, as there is no safe walking route, so the saving against the transport heading would be around  $\pounds$ 20,000 ( $\pounds$ 70,000 less than the new proposal).

The annual Net cost to the Council would therefore be approximately £178,000 (£213,000 - £15,000 - £20,000)

This proposal would have removed current and projected future maintenance expenditure of £368,000 (Ysgol Bodffordd £134,000 and Ysgol Corn Hir £234,000). If the Council were to fund the cost of £368,000, through an unsupported loan (over 20 years) this would cost around £29,000 a year to fund, it could be argued that this amount is therefore a saving.

Fo build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir	The annual net cost to the Council would be approximately £154,000.
	Eliminate current and projected future maintenance expenditure of £234,000 at Ysgol Corn Hir, which equates to a saving of around £18,000 a year for 20 years.
To build a new school for Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir (original proposal)	The annual net cost to the Council would be approximately £178,000.
	Eliminate current and projected future maintenance expenditure of £368,000 Ysgol Bodffordd (£134,000) ac Ysgol Corn Hir (£234,000), which equates to a saving of around £29,000 a year for 20 years.

School balances have reduced significantly in recent years, from £2,089,338 at 31 March 2017 to £197,315 at 31 March 2020. At 31 March 2017, 4 primary schools and 1 secondary school were in deficit. At 31 March 2020, 9 primary schools, 3 secondary schools and 1 special school were in deficit. Ysgol Bodffordd has ended the past two financial years in a deficit situation, but has come out of deficit by balancing the 2020/21 budget.

E –	E – Impact on our Future Generations (if relevant)		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island	The proposal ensures the long term sustainability of education in part of the Llangefni area and ensures that there are sufficient school places to meet the needs now and into the future. It will also ensure that new school building for Ysgol Corn Hir is fit for purpose and meet 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools and BREEAM standards.	
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority. If so, how:-	Yes– The Llangefni area was prioritised as part of the school modernisation programme, due to insufficient school capacity. Any proposal to create additional capacity is likely to lead to additional costs, however the new building for Ysgol Corn Hir will enable children in the catchment area to attend a local school for the foreseeable future. The proposal will develop a new school building which will contribute to the school becoming a "Learning Organisation" (Education in Wales: Our National Mission 2017-2021). Pupils in turn should benefit from experiences at school that will support them in becoming young adults that are:	

E –	E – Impact on our Future Generations (if relevant)		
		<ul> <li>ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives</li> <li>enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work</li> <li>healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.</li> </ul>	
		The proposal will be financed 50/50 by the Council and Welsh Government through the 21 <sup>st</sup> century schools programme.	
		The Council's investment will be via a 50 year loan, part financed through the capital receipts. The proposal will eliminate the current and projected future maintenance spend at Ysgol Corn Hir and contribute to revenue savings.	
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision, if so, please advise whom:	Collaboration and information received from Estyn, GwE, Community Councils and the Schools has formed part of this proposal.	
		The following stakeholders have had the opportunity to contribute during the statutory consultation process: Local Elected Members Local Member of Parliament Local Senedd Member Regional Senedd Members GwE Estyn Police and Crime Commissioner The Welsh Government Welsh Language Commissioner Neighbouring Local Authority Local Town and Community Councils Teaching and staff trade unions representing Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir Cylch Meithrin Bodffordd and Corn Hir Headteacher Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni Isle of Anglesey County Council - Senior Officers Isle of Anglesey County Council - Principal Youth Officer Other interested parties	
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward? Please explain how:-	Yes - the recommendation arises from stakeholder responses to the statutory consultation held from 6 February 2020-20 March 2020.	
		The citizens of Anglesey have been given the opportunity to comment as part of the process during the consultation period noted above.	

E –	Impact on our Future Generations (if relev	ant)
5	What impact if any does this decision have on the Equalities agenda and the Welsh language	The Authority will ensure equal opportunities to all pupils and staff regardless of ability and background. The proposal has the opportunity to strengthen the use of the Welsh language at Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir (on its new site). The new Ysgol Corn Hir building will have a room available to the community, where activities could be conducted through the medium of Welsh. It is also envisaged that Ysgol Corn Hir on its new site will be able to offer more after school activities than on the existing site, which will also strengthen the use of the Welsh language.

Г

DD	– Who did you consult?	What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	Incorporated in this report.
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	Incorporated in this report.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	Incorporated in this report.
4	Human Resources (HR)	Any Human Resources issues that may arise from the recommendations should be dealt with in accordance with the recognised consultation and other HR processes.
5	Property	Incorporated in this report.
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	The standard of ICT equipment such as projectors and interactive whiteboards is low at both schools, the new building would benefit from a quality ICT infrastructure, together with modern audio-visual equipment meeting Welsh Government education digital standards - <u>https://hwb.gov.wales/support-centre/education-digital- standards</u> The network equipment at these schools is located in classes and offices which disrupts staff and pupils due to the noise produced by the equipment. A new building would offer a safe space to accommodate this equipment without disrupting the building users. A new building would be cabled to CAT6A standard which would enable better connection. The power supply to the network infrastructure at the schools and the location of the cabinets won't enable use of UPS equipment to ensure the running of core systems if there is an interruption in the power supply. An appropriate cabinet in storage would allow the setup of an appropriate UPS in the new school.

## F - Appendices:

## Appendix 1

Llangefni Area Consultation Report - Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir and Impact Assessment including Equality, Language, Community and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

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

School Organisation Code (11/2018).

Anglesey Schools Modernisation Strategy (revised) – October 2018.

The County Council's Delivery Document - 2019/20.

Letter from Welsh Government to the Isle of Anglesey County Council dated 7 May 2020 granting the Council an extension until 19 March 2021 to publish any proposal.

Welsh Government Document - Covid-19 Education Update - **Changes to the School Organisation Code in response to the Coronavirus crisis** (which provided guidance on consulting on school organisation proposals during the Coronavirus crisis).



# **CONSULTATION REPORT**

# SCHOOL MODERNISATION - LLANGEFNI AREA

# Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir

Outcome of the consultation undertaken between

## 6 February 2020 to 20 March 2020

On the proposal to:

"Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir"

public speaking at virtual Committee meetingsform, to speak at Scrutiny Committee Meetings.Please see the Protocol for public speaking at virtual Scrutiny Committee meetings
--

December 2020

Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh.

Hard copies of this report is available on request by sending an email to angleseyschools@ynysmon.gov.uk

#### CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. DISTRIBUTION OF THE CONSULTATION REPORT	
3. THE PROPOSAL	
3.1 The New Ysgol Corn Hir's Proposed Details	4
4. CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS	6
4.1 Methodology	6
4.2 Consultation Meetings	7
4.3 Consultation with Children and Young People	7
5. RESPONSES AND COMMENTS	8
5.1 Summary of responses from the on-line and paper response form	8
5.2 Summary of comments from the on-line and paper response form	. 11
5.3 Summary of responses received by email or post	. 17
5.4 Response by Cymdeithas yr laith	. 20
5.5 Response by the Governing Body of Ysgol Bodffordd to the Proposal	. 24
5.6 Response of the Governing Body of Ysgol Corn Hir to the Consultation	. 29
5.7 Telephone Survey -Ysgol Bodffordd	. 31
5.8 Response by the Headteacher of Ysgol Bodffordd	. 33
5.9 Response by the Headteacher of Ysgol Corn Hir	. 43
5.10 Response by the Staff at Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir	. 46
5.11 Views of children and young people at Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir	. 53
5.12 Estyn's Response	.59
6. COMMENTS RECEIVED IN RESPECT OF THE REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED	. 62
6.1 Key Challenges Faced by Ysgol Bodffordd	. 62
6.2 Reasonable Alternatives Considered as an Alternative to Closure for Ysgol	
Bodffordd	
6.3 Presumption Against the Closure of Rural Schools	
6.4 Other Reasonable Alternatives Suggested During The Consultation Period	
6.5 Conclusion - Other Reasonable Alternatives	
7. CONCLUSION	
7.1 Explanation of the assessment of the original proposal	. 93
7.2 How the assessment of the original proposal differs(if at all) from the earlier	02
assessment	
<ul><li>7.3 Assessment of any other reasonable alternatives</li><li>7.4 Confirmation whether to implement the original proposal (wholly or partly)</li></ul>	
7.4 Confirmation whether to implement the original proposal (wholly or partly) 7.5 Recommendation to the Executive	
	. 90

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Isle of Anglesey County Council has a statutory duty to secure sufficient and suitable places for children within the county's schools.

The Council has a responsibility under the School Organisation Code (011/2018) to consult with stakeholders when considering school reorganisation proposals that meet a specific criteria.

The Council from 6 February 2020 to 20 March 2020 held a statutory consultation process in respect of the following proposal to:

## "Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir"

The purpose of undertaking a statutory consultation was to seek the views of stakeholders/ interested parties on the proposal.

This consultation report now represents the Council's responsibilities in line with the School Organisation Code (011/2018) to produce a report to inform stakeholders/ interested parties of the outcome of the statutory consultation by means of:

- Summarising each of the issues raised by stakeholders/ interested parties;
- Responding to the issues by means of clarification, amendment to the proposal, or rejection to the concerns with supporting reasons;
- Setting out Estyn's view on the proposal with the Council's response;
- Express the views of children and young people affected by the proposal.

The publication of this report has been delayed due to the Coronavirus Pandemic outbreak.

## 2. DISTRIBUTION OF THE CONSULTATION REPORT

The consultation report was published on the Council's website <u>www.anglesey.gov.uk</u> and the following stakeholders / interested parties were informed directly of the publication of the consultation report.

- Staff (Teaching and Ancillary) of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir
- Governors and Parents/Guardians of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir
- Local Elected Members
- Local Member of Parliament
- Local Senedd Member
- Regional Senedd Members
- GwE
- Estyn
- Police and Crime Commissioner
- The Welsh Government
- Welsh Language Commissioner
- Neighbouring Local Authority
- Local Town and Community Councils
- Teaching and staff trade unions representing Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir
- Cylch Meithrin Bodffordd a Corn Hir

- Blodyn Tatws Nursery
- Headteacher Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni
- Canolfan Addysg Y Bont
- Isle of Anglesey County Council -Senior Officers
- Isle of Anglesey County Council- Principal Youth Officer

## 3. THE PROPOSAL

The Council consulted on the proposal to "**Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a** different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir"

The new school building would accommodate all pupils from the current Ysgol Corn Hir and Ysgol Bodffordd and meet estimated future demand including nursery provision. Ysgol Bodffordd would close.

For the purpose of this report the new school building will be known as the new Ysgol Corn Hir.

## 3.1 The New Ysgol Corn Hir's Proposed Details

New Ysgol Corn Hir proposed details		
Age range	3-11 years	
Pupil Places (4-11 years)	360 ( 4-11 years)	
Nursery Places ( 3-4 years , Part- time)	51	
Admission number per academic year	51	
Location	Land near Bryn Meurig Estate, Llangefni	
Category	Community	
Language Category	Welsh Medium	
Proposed facilities	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Primary School facility to realise the new Curriculum for Wales (CFW), including nursery and community provision.	
Anticipated Project Cost	Approximately £9-10m financed 50/50 through the Council's capital and Welsh Government 21 <sup>st</sup> century schools programme.	
Childcare unit	Provision for wrap around care for 2-4 year olds financed by a £640k grant from Welsh Government.	

The new Ysgol Corn Hir's proposed details are noted below:

It is proposed that the school design for the new Ysgol Corn Hir shall include:

## Childcare unit space

2 childcare unit spaces/classrooms

#### Nursery provision

- 1 Nursery Classroom
- 1 Pupil Changing Rooms off Nursery Classrooms
- 1 Set Toilets and Cloaks directly off Nursery Classrooms
- 1 Store Rooms Directly off Nursey Classrooms

Reception provision

- 5 Foundation Phase Classrooms
- 2 Set Toilets and Cloaks directly off Reception Classrooms
- 2 Store Rooms Directly off Reception Classrooms
- Junior provision

7 Key Stage two Classrooms / 1 Set Junior Pupil Toilets

- General Provision
- 1 Hall
- 1 Activity Studio
- 1 Teaching Resources Room
- 1 Learning Resources Room / Library Space
- 1 Nurture Group Room / Music Practice Room
- 1 Additional Learning Need (ALN) Small Group Room
- 2 Small Group Room
- 1 Head-teacher Office
- 1 Staff Room / Work Room
- 1 General Office
- 1 Copier/Reprographics
- 1 Sick Bay
- 1 Entrance/Reception
- 1 Pupil Support Room
- 1 Medical Inspection Room/SEN Therapy
- 1 Community Room / Store and Toilets
- 1 Kitchen with stores, Servery, Wash-up area, office and toilet
- 1 PE and Staging Stores
- 1 Cleaner's Store/General Store/Central Stock
- 1 IT Server Room
- 1 Hygiene Facility
- 1 set Staff Toilet areas

External areas would include – playing field, Multi Use Games Area, hard play areas, soft play areas and a garden area. Play areas for the nursery and pre-school nursery children would be segregated. As a result of these inclusions, it is proposed that -

- The new Ysgol Corn Hir would have sufficient places to meet demand.
- The new Ysgol Corn Hir would be purpose built to deliver the new Curriculum for Wales (CFW).
- The new Ysgol Corn Hir would be in a position to maintain their Estyn grading's of Excellent and Good and be expected to retain the Green(A) status categorisation held by the current Ysgol Corn Hir.
- The new Ysgol Corn Hir would be fully compliant with the Equality Act 2010.
- There would be a reduction in the average cost per pupil in the new Ysgol Corn Hir.
- In the new Ysgol Corn Hir, it is foreseen that the Head-teacher would have no specific teaching commitment
- The new Ysgol Corn Hir would be a 21<sup>st</sup> century building which will be designed to have low maintenance costs and a BREEAM Excellent rating

The Council proposes to provide free transport for pupils currently attending Ysgol Bodffordd to the new Ysgol Corn Hir for eligible pupils in accordance with the Council's transport policy for schools.

The Council would be committed to working with the community in Bodffordd to ensure the long-term viability of the present Community Centre.

The Council would provide appropriate help and support for pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN). Should parents with pupils' who are registered ALN have any questions regarding the support offered, individual meetings can be arranged with the Additional Learning Needs Manager, Email: <u>einirthomas@gwynedd.llyw.cymru</u>, telephone 01286 679007.

## 4. CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS

On the 20 January 2020 the Council's Executive authorised officers to conduct a statutory consultation in line with the requirements set out in the School Organisation Code (011/2018).

### 4.1 Methodology

The Consultation was held between 6 February 2020 and 20 March 2020. During this period stakeholders / interested parties were invited to express their views on the proposal to:

## "Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir".

The consultation document link was made available to all the stakeholders /interested parties listed in section 2 and the consultation document was published on the Council's website.

The Council raised awareness of the consultation via the Council's social media networks .Consultees were also advised of the following opportunities to respond to the consultation proposal or ask questions by:

- Sending an email to angleseyschools@anglesey.gov.uk or
- Completing the on line response form or
- Completing a paper response form and posting back to the Programme Manager (Schools Modernisation), Human Resource and Transformation Service, Council Offices, Llangefni, LL77 7TW

Hard copies of the consultation document or alternative formats were available on request.

## 4.2 Consultation Meetings

The following meetings/sessions were held to present the consultation documents and explain the consultation process to Staff, Governors, Parents/Guardians and all other interested parties who attended. Attendees were advised of the importance of responding to the consultation as described in section 4.1 as no formal minutes were taken at the consultation meetings.

Date	School/Location	Stakeholders	Time
12 February 2020	Ysgol Bodffordd	Staff	4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
	Ysgol Bodffordd	Governors	5:15 pm - 6:15 pm
	Ysgol Bodffordd	Parents/	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
		Guardians	
Date	School/Location	Stakeholders	Time
11 February 2020	Ysgol Corn Hir	Staff	4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
	Ysgol Corn Hir	Governors	5:15 pm - 6:15 pm
	Ysgol Corn Hir	Parents/	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
	-	Guardians	

## 4.3 Consultation with Children and Young People

The consultation process with Children and Young People was carried out in accordance with Section 3.5 of the School Organisation Code 011/2018.

Pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir participated in the consultation process. Officers from the Council met with both School Councils and other pupils during the consultation period. The information provided was presented to the participants in such a way that was relevant to their age and level of understanding and in accordance with practice agreed with both Headteachers beforehand.

The Council developed a child friendly A3 response form .The pupils completed the response form in groups, and they were given the opportunity to speak freely and ask questions.

A summary of the feedback received from children and young people can be seen in section 5.11 of this report.

## 5. RESPONSES AND COMMENTS

The following section summarises all the responses and comments received by stakeholders to the statutory consultation.

## 5.1 Summary of responses from the on-line and paper response form

The Council received the following number of responses to the statutory consultation from the following stakeholders via the on- line and paper response form:

Respondent category	Number of responses
School Governors	9
Staff	35
Parents / Guardians	442
Elected Member	0
Town / Community Councillors	9
Local Residents	125
Other e.g. Grandparents	193
Did not specify	10
Total	823*

\*Some stakeholders responded in more than one capacity e.g. responded as a parent and a governor

The School to which the respondent was connected to	Number of responses
Ysgol Bodffordd	344 (42%)
Ysgol Corn Hir	457(56%)
Did not specify	22 (2%)
Total	823

## Expected response numbers:

As at January 2019 there were 70 pupils at Ysgol Bodffordd and 226 pupils at Ysgol Corn Hir. All parents/guardians, staff and governors were made aware of the Consultation Document and a presentation on its content and the consultation process was given to both schools.

The number of expected responses which the Council anticipated to receive bearing the number of children present at both schools was as follows:

Ysgol Bodffordd	Ysgol Corn Hir
140 (assuming two responses per	452 (assuming two responses per
household	household
9 staff	21 staff
10 school governors	14 school governors
Total159	Total 487

From the amount of responses received from stakeholders, the responses connected with Ysgol Bodffordd is double the expected amount at 344, whilst the number of responses connected to Ysgol Corn Hir seems to be in line with the expectation.

#### Responses to the Questions in the on-line and paper response form

Response to the question "Do you agree with the proposal "Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir"

YES- in favour of the proposal 463 (56%)	NO- against the proposal 347(42%)
Did not specify	13 (2%)

Number of comments regarding the proposal to Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir"

448 comments were received, summarised in 5.2 below.

Did not answer 375

Number of other reasonable alternatives received for the continuation of Ysgol Bodffordd that addresses the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?

319 comments were received -see section 6 .4 of this report.

After analysing the responses, we conclude that 7 other reasonable alternatives had been suggested.

Did not answer 504

Number of other matters the Council should consider as part of the Impact Assessment

338 comments were received -see the Impact Assessment Appendix 1.

Did not answer 485

## 5.2 Summary of comments from the on-line and paper response form

The following table shows a summary of comments received from stakeholders in respect of the proposal, submitted on-line and via paper responses (all collated into themes) with the Council's response against each theme.

	Theme	Council's response
5.2.1	Agree with the proposal as the Ysgol Corn Hir building is too small. Build a new school. (Suggested by approximately 137 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	This is the proposal.
5.2.2	Agree Corn Hir needs a new school but why at the detriment of closing Ysgol Bodffordd? (Suggested by approximately 63 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	The Council in the consultation document stated why change is necessary and how challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd would be addressed by the proposal.
5.2.3	Closing Ysgol Bodffordd would have a detrimental effect on the community (Suggested by approximately 60 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	The Council stated in the consultation document that in order to mitigate against any detrimental effect on the community that it would want to work with the community in Bodffordd to ensure the long- term viability of the Community Centre.
5.2.4	Closing Ysgol Bodffordd would have a detrimental effect on the Welsh language (Suggested by approximately 21 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	The new Ysgol Corn Hir will be a Welsh medium school. There will therefore be no change in the language category of the new Ysgol Corn Hir as both Ysgol Bodffordd and the current Ysgol Corn Hir are designated Welsh medium schools. Realisation of the proposal would support Outcomes 1, 2 and 5 of the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020 (approved by Welsh Government in March 2018), namely: Outcome 1: More seven year old children being educated through the medium of Welsh Outcome 2: More pupils continuing to develop their Welsh language skills when transferring from primary to secondary education.

	Theme	Council's response
		Outcome 5: More pupils and students with higher skills in Welsh. The Council's Welsh Language Forum monitors the progress of the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) on a quarterly basis.
		Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir have also been successful in implementing the Welsh Language charter; it is expected that the new Ysgol Corn Hir will build on this solid foundation to ensure that Welsh is used outside of the classroom.
		It is also expected that pupils would be encouraged to participate in after school activities which will be held through the medium of Welsh.
5.2.5	Keep Ysgol Bodffordd Open -Why not extend / modernise Ysgol Bodffordd? (Suggested by approximately 46 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	The cost to extend Ysgol Bodffordd by one or two additional classrooms would be as follows: To provide <u>one</u> new additional classroom an extension at Ysgol Bodffordd (additional 90m <sup>2</sup> for 30 children with classroom / cloaks/ toilets) would be required. <b>Cost £738,030</b> . <u>Breakdown of cost</u> Current and Projected Future Maintenance spend = £ 150,000. (New kitchen, toilets, car park, fencing) 90m <sup>2</sup> Extension x £ 2,775/m <sup>2</sup> (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019), under the 21st Century Schools programme) = £249,750 IT and Fixtures Fittings and Equipment costs for extension 30 children x £ 1,776/child (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019) under the 21st Century Schools programme) = £ 53,280 Refurbishment works to bring the building up to 21st Century standard =£ 210,000 (New windows and doors, LED lighting, floor finishes,
		ceilings, painting) Extension to external hard play area following construction of the extension =£ 75,000

Theme	Council's response
	There is insufficient space within the current site to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas and meet the guidelines within which the school modernisation programme operates. No other available adjoining land is available to purchase. The current site has 2,578m <sup>2</sup> external area. The Building Bulletin 103 - Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools 2014 (which sets out the required building and site areas required when designing new schools) require at least 2,750m <sup>2</sup> external area for a school of this size. An extension of 90m <sup>2</sup> would reduce the external area to 2,488m <sup>2</sup> .
	To provide <b>a two new additional classroom</b> an extension at Ysgol Bodffordd (additional 180m <sup>2</sup> extension for 60 children with classroom / cloaks/ toilets) would be required. <b>Cost £ 1,116,060.</b>
	Breakdown of cost
	Current and Projected Future Maintenance spend = $\pounds$ 150,000. (New kitchen, toilets, car park, fencing)
	180m <sup>2</sup> Extension x £ 2,775/m <sup>2</sup> (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019), under the 21st Century Schools programme) = £ 499,500
	IT and Fixtures Fittings and Equipment costs for extension 60 children x £ 1,776/child (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019) under the 21st Century Schools programme) = £ 106,560
	Refurbishment works to bring the building up to 21st Century standard = $\pounds$ 210,000 (New windows and doors, LED lighting, floor finishes, ceilings, painting)
	Extension to external hard play area following construction of the extension = $\pounds150,000$
	There is insufficient space within the current site to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas and meet the guidelines within which the school modernisation programme operates. No other available adjoining land is available to

	Theme	Council's response
		<b>purchase.</b> The current site has 2,578m <sup>2</sup> external area. The Building Bulletin 103 - Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools 2014 (which sets out the required building and site areas required when designing new schools) require at least 2,975m <sup>2</sup> external area for a school of this size. An extension of 180m <sup>2</sup> would reduce the external area to 2,398m <sup>2</sup> .
		The Council concludes therefore that there is insufficient space within the existing Ysgol Bodffordd site to accommodate an extension, parking, playing areas and outdoor educational areas as proposed under this theme.
5.2.6	Why not extend Ysgol Corn Hir? (Suggested by approximately 5 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	In order to address the lack of spaces the current Ysgol Corn Hir would require a 3 class extension and new hall and toilets. (Increase the capacity to 300 pupils). <b>Cost £1,558,400</b> <u>Breakdown of Cost</u> Area required= $504m^2 \times £2,775 = £1,398,600$ (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards (2019) for new build schools under the 21st Century Schools programme). IT and Fixtures Fittings and Equipment costs for extension 90 children $x £ 1,776$ /child (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019) under the 21st Century Schools programme) = $£159,840$ There is insufficient space within the current site to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas and meet the guidelines within which the school modernisation programme operates. No other available adjoining land is available to purchase. The current site has $5,795m^2$ external area. The Building Bulletin 103 - Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools 2014 (which sets out the required building and site areas required when designing new schools) require at least $6,000m^2$ external area for a school of this size. An extension of $504m^2$ would reduce
		The Council concludes that there is Insufficient space within the existing Ysgol Corn Hir site to accommodate an extension,

	Theme	Council's response
		parking, playing areas and outdoor educational areas as proposed under this theme.
5.2.7	Proposal unfair to Bodffordd. Fairer to close both schools and build a new school to accommodate pupils from both. (Suggested by approximately 61 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	<ul> <li>The Council in the consultation document considered building a new 21st century school and closing both Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir.</li> <li>The Council rejected this reasonable alternative as: <ul> <li>There could be a risk that the good standards currently seen at the current Ysgol Corn Hir will not transfer over to the new school. (The current Ysgol Corn Hir is categorised as "Green A". (Green support category, and award A for the ability to improve according to the school categorisation procedure)</li> </ul> </li> <li>And <ul> <li>That the "Green A" categorisation status held by the current Ysgol Corn Hir could be is maintained in the new school.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In addition the Ysgol Corn Hir Headteacher responded to the consultation as follows:</li> <li>The proposal would safeguard the jobs of Ysgol Corn Hir staff, and remove months of potential uncertainty for them about their employment.</li> <li>This proposal reduces the risk of losing the schools' staff if any other proposal is put forward. Quite simply, job security will maintain the team that has proved over several years that they can maintain and continue to raise standards.</li> <li>According to the figures and the admission number for the new school, it is likely that additional staff will be required. As a school and Governing Body we are prepared to ensure opportunities for staff from neighbouring schools that will close to apply for jobs in accordance with the Council's usual arrangements.</li> </ul> <li>The Council concludes that this reasonable alternative is not considered further as it has already been considered in the Council also concurs with the Ysgol Corn</li>

	Theme	Council's response
5.2.8	Some pupils find it difficult to settle in a large school-a larger school would mean that staff and pupil relationships would become more impersonal. (Suggested by approximately 10 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	The Council has opened three new primary Schools on Anglesey since 2017, namely Ysgol Cybi , Ysgol Rhyd y Llan and Ysgol Santes Dwynwen. The Headteachers from these new schools in their experience expressed that pupils have settled well with the new arrangements. The Headeacher at Ysgol Corn Hir also responded to the consultation by stating: "We also realise that the pupils of Ysgol Bodffordd will face considerable change and we fully appreciate this. The staff of Ysgol Corn Hir want to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible for these children and we understand that they will have to adapt to new and different methods. To facilitate this we would be willing; with the agreement of Ysgol Bodffordd; to ensure they have the opportunity of joining the pupils of Ysgol Corn Hir to participate in our annual activity week, sports day, to go on joint trips; and at staff level, to ensure that staff from Corn Hir visit Ysgol Bodffordd could also come to Ysgol Corn Hir to have joint lessons. Pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd could also come to Ysgol Corn Hir to have joint lessons from time to time – all of this to ensure a smooth transition for all pupils from both schools. We would look to holding workshops for pupils to get to know each other and the staff e.g. a mixed choir with pupils from both schools."

## 5.3 Summary of responses received by email or post

Seven responses to the consultation were received by email or post. A summary of the comments can be seen in the table below together with the Council's response.

School	Summary of responses by email or post	Council's response
<b>5.3.1</b> Bodffordd - Interested party	Calls on the County Council to rescind this proposal, and then to relieve Ysgol Bodffordd from casting a shadow over the future of education in the vibrant rural community of Bodffordd.	Leaving Ysgol Bodffordd as it is, is considered in the other reasonable alternatives in section 6.4.2.
<b>5.3.2</b> Bodffordd - Parent	We, as always, want to find a way forward to work with Ysgol Corn Hir. It is possible to find a solution of working together, sharing resources to improve education and securing suitable buildings but in a way that everyone is happy.	Federation – multi site already considered by the Council in the consultation document and rejected.
5.3.3 Bodffordd - Parent	Why not use this money (21st Century Schools) to build an extension at Ysgol Bodffordd. There is plenty of room to renovate and extend the school to accommodate even more children. Extension on the backyard, where there is room to create two new classrooms.	There is insufficient space within the current site to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas. No other available adjoining land is available to purchase. (see 5.2.5)
<b>5.3.4</b> Bodffordd - Parent	Over recent years I feel that there has been a lack of expenditure, focus and attention given by the Council to Ysgol Bodffordd. This has resulted in a significant deterioration in the quality of the building.	See section 5.5.7 for detailed reply. In summary the current and projected future maintenance spend at Ysgol Bodffordd is comparable to other school buildings of similar size. This shows that Ysgol Bodffordd has not been treated less favourable than other schools.
	It would be much easier for the children of Ysgol Bodffordd to settle into the new school with their current teachers there and a familiar face welcoming her. Why can't these jobs be protected?	If the proposal is approved, there will be no changes for Ysgol Corn Hir staff, however staff at Ysgol Bodffordd will be at risk of redundancy and the Restructuring and Redundancy Policy for schools and Redeployment Policy for schools would be invoked.

School	Summary of responses by email or post	Council's response
		The Governing Body of Ysgol Corn Hir in response to the consultation (section 5.5.3) have also stated "Just as ensuring the employment of Ysgol Corn Hir staff is important to the Governing Body, if Ysgol Bodffordd is to close then we believe that it is equally important, at the earliest possible opportunity, to offer job security to the staff of Ysgol Bodffordd who will lose their jobs. As the new Corn Hir School will be bigger than the existing school more staff may be required. We are eager to work with the Local Authority to establish the new school's staffing structure and to appoint to the structure as soon as possible. Giving staff job security is a priority for the Governing Body at Ysgol Corn Hir".
	I sincerely hope that the new school will not be called New Corn Hir -there is a need to fully acknowledge that the catchment area of the new school will be much wider than just the current catchment area of Ysgol Corn Hir and that there needs to be a sense of ownership of the new School by the community and catchment area of Ysgol Bodffordd. To ensure ownership a new logo for a new school incorporating the wider catchment area and a new school uniform is essential.	This will be a matter for the Ysgol Corn Hir Governing Body. See their response to below: "The Governing Body of Ysgol Corn Hir is fully aware that it is not only the future of our school that is discussed in the proposal paper. If the Executive decides to close Ysgol Bodffordd then the Governors of Ysgol Corn Hir have discussed and agreed that it is essential to include the voice of Ysgol Bodffordd in any decisions concerning the new school. One idea that has been discussed is to adapt the membership of the Corn Hir Governing Body to include representatives from the Governing Body of Ysgol Bodffordd ".

School	Summary of responses by email or post	Council's response
<b>5.3.5</b> Bodffordd - Parent	Relying on evidence and data from four years ago does not fairly reflect the great strides made by staff to raise standards over recent years.	Data as at 2019 provided by GwE was provided in the Consultation document.
	Think about the impact, not only on the community and the village, but on the children themselves.	The Council stated in the consultation document that in order to mitigate against and detrimental effect on the community that they would want to work with the community in Bodffordd to ensure the long- term viability of the Community Centre.
<b>5.3.6</b> Bodffordd, Y Graig and Talwrn – Chair of governors	<ul> <li>The three chair's of governors met with the Senedd member Rhun Ap Iorwerth.</li> <li>This is a joint response from the chairs of the three schools:</li> <li>That a new School for Corn Hir was urgently needed</li> <li>The principle that it is not necessary to close other schools for this to happen</li> <li>Consultation needed to be truly transparent when seeking an alternative response</li> <li>We are prepared to help develop ideas that may make school closures unavoidable</li> <li>There was sympathy with the Council's position in terms of funding and national policy direction.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Their response will be considered as part of the overall decision making process and added to other stakeholder responses received in terms of:</li> <li>Agree there is need for a new school for Corn Hir (see 5.2.1)</li> <li>Why does building a new school have to be at the detriment of closing another? (see 5.2.2)</li> </ul>

## 5.4 Response by Cymdeithas yr laith

In this section comments received from Cymdeithas yr laith in response to the consultation are summarised together with the Council's response where required.

## 5.4.1 Cymdeithas Yr Iaith Comments

Summary of a counter-proposal from the Education Campaign Group of Cymdeithas yr laith

- As a matter of urgency, Relocate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir on a different site in immediate response to the obvious deficiencies (in terms of space and resources) of the current Ysgol Corn Hir site by initially planning for a school with capacity for up to 300 pupils.
- Early discussion with the governors of Ysgol Gymunedol Bodffordd about how best to carry out necessary works on the existing building with a moderate increase in capacity, again as part of a bid to the 21st Century Schools Fund.
- Commission a report during the current year on the potential process for establishing a Federation covering Corn Hir, Graig, Bodffordd, Talwrn and Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni, identifying the potential savings in terms of administration and procurement as a whole unit for the federation in its entirety, and identifying the potential for enhancing learner experiences and raising academic standards arising from co-ordinating the use of the whole pool of teachers and resources.

## Council's response

- The reasonable alternative to relocate Ysgol Corn Hir is considered in section 6.4.2 of this report;
- The situation regarding the current and projected future maintenance spend in response to the Ysgol Bodffordd's Governing Body comments is explained in detail in section 5.5.7;
- The reasonable alternative of federation both the secondary and primary schools in Llangefni has been considered in the consultation document and disregarded as not a viable alternative.

## 5.4.2 Cymdeithas Yr Iaith Comments

The Isle of Anglesey Council did not abide by the School Organization Code (2018 edition) when drawing up the proposal which is the subject of consultation, to close Ysgol Gymunedol Bodffordd.

- The Council has already fundamentally breached the requirements of the School Organization Code (2018 edition) in not having a presumption in favour of retaining a rural school (in the case of Bodffordd which is on the formal list)
- The Council has not fulfilled its duties prior to submitting the Proposal
- The Council has a presumption in practice against the creation of federations
- The Council has not conscientiously evaluated the alternatives to closing the rural schools

## Council's response

# The Council strongly disagrees with Cymdeithas Yr laith comments as demonstrated below:

- The School Organisation Code 2018 makes special arrangements in regard to rural schools establishing a <u>procedural</u> presumption against their closure. The Code states that "this requires proposers to follow a more detailed set of procedures and requirements in formulating a rural school closure proposal and in consulting on and reaching a decision as to whether to implement a rural school closure proposal." The Council are satisfied that the requirement of the code have been met.
- According to the School Organisation Code 2018, there is no statutory requirement for proposers to conduct informal consultations. Statutory and constitutional guidelines were followed for discussion of the proposal paper at the Scrutiny Committee on 14 January 2020 and by the Executive on 20 January 2020. The School Organisation Code 2018 states: "From time to time proposers will have conducted 'informal' consultation with particular stakeholders at an earlier stage in the development of proposals. Such consultation **must not** be seen as a substitute for any part of the formal consultation processes set out below.

In section 3.3 of the Code it states: "There is no requirement for proposers to hold consultation meetings although there will be circumstances where proposers will consider that meeting with certain groups of consultees will assist greatly in the dissemination of information and provide a suitable platform for the consultees to make their views known."

Therefore, there is no requirement for the Council to conduct an "informal consultation" prior to conducting a 'formal' or statutory consultation. Neither is there a requirement on the Council to "hold consultation meetings" but this was done to assist with the dissemination of information and provide a suitable platform for the consultees to make their views known.

- On 25 November 2019, the Council's Executive resolved to "conclusively confirm the proposal to federalise Ysgol Goronwy Owen and Ysgol Moelfre", to form the Gwêl y Glannau federation. This federation started operating in January 2020. The Council is not prejudiced against federations, as the Gwêl y Glannau federation demonstrates.
- The Council considered twelve reasonable alternatives to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd, each assessed against the school modernisation drivers, namely, Standards, Leadership and Management, School Building, School Spaces, Financial, Welsh Medium provision and Community use.

#### 5.4.3 Cymdeithas Yr laith Comments

OBVIOUS WEAKNESSES IN THE AUTHORITY'S PROPOSAL

- According to the Council's projections, the new school could be almost full in less than five years of opening - 345 pupils by September 2026 for a 360 capacity school. And the Council is almost certainly underestimating the potential number of pupils if the objectives of the Local Development Plan are realized.
- In the "disadvantages" of retaining Ysgol Gymunedol Bodfordd, reference is made to the age variation in a class, and to the fact that a head spends a proportion of his/ her time teaching. These are generic arguments against ALL rural schools or schools with fewer than 100 pupils.
- A presumption against Bodffordd and rural schools is to be found in the careful selection of facts interpreted e.g. in section (6.2) it is decided to emphasize that

academic standards have been lower in Bodffordd - rather than emphasizing that standards have been rising constantly for 3 years.

- In Section 6.3.3 when dealing with a federation arrangement between Corn Hir and Bodffordd Schools, it is only the model of federating the two schools WITHOUT investing in a new building for Ysgol Corn Hir which is analyzed. Of course there is a disadvantage of not investing £9million +! Why is there no analysis of the benefits of federating Ysgol Corn Hir in a new building with Ysgol Gymunedol Bodffordd also upgraded.
- The sections concerned with extending / improving Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd show that much can be achieved at very little cost. But they should be set in the context of securing a new building for Ysgol Corn Hir and a combined bid to the 21st century schools fund in order to secure an abundance of school places in the area for the future, and in the context of working towards an ambitious federation which would significantly rationalize administration costs and procurement policy. This is not dealt with at all. Nor is it self-evident why there is reference to the creation of 60 additional places at Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd as a much smaller, and therefore less expensive extension, would provide sufficient capacity.

## Council's response

- The Council in the consultation document gave a detailed account of projected pupil numbers if the proposal goes ahead, and has considered potential future housing developments - as advised by the Joint (Gwynedd and Môn) Planning Policy unit. The Council is satisfied that the assessment is thorough.
- Whilst the Council agrees that smaller primary schools have some factors in common, this consultation is concerned with Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir.
- The Council when referring to the standards at Ysgol Bodffordd included the GwE categorisation information which clearly shows the improvement from a category of Amber in 2015 to Yellow in 2019. The comparative standards for Ysgol Corn Hir have been Green since 2015 which demonstrates that the standards have been lower at Bodffordd over the past 5 years despite the noted improvement over the last 3 years.
- The consultation response form invited stakeholders to provide other reasonable alternatives that would address the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces. In section 6.4.2 other reasonable alternatives considered, the Council is considering a new building for Ysgol Corn Hir, and leaving Ysgol Bodffordd as it is. If the Executive decides on taking this proposal forward then the matter of federalisation could be considered by the schools Governing bodies at a later stage.
- In section 6.4.1 an additional classroom for Ysgol Bodffordd is considered. However, there is insufficient space within the current site to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas. No other available adjoining land is available to purchase. This has already been discussed in detail in point 5.2.5 and the conclusion reached that there is insufficient space within the existing Ysgol Bodffordd site to accommodate an extension, parking, playing areas and outdoor educational areas as proposed under this theme.

## 5.4.4 Cymdeithas Yr laith conclusion

3 simple facts remain:

- That a new school is desperately needed for Corn Hir. That the provision of a new school is therefore not dependent on the closure of Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd.
- The fact that the number of pupils in Bodffordd is steadily rising despite the threat for some years to the future of the school demonstrates the strength of parental and community attachment to the school. This should be treasured and factored into a development plan and proposal for submission to the administrators of the 21st Century Schools Fund.

## Council's response to the conclusion

- A new school for Corn Hir is considered in 6.2.2;
- The Council in the consultation document stated why change is necessary and how challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd would be addressed by the proposal. The Council has not been working off the principle that Ysgol Bodffordd must be closed to allow for a new building for Ysgol Corn Hir;
- The Council concurs with the fact that pupil number have been rising at Ysgol Bodffordd. Pupil numbers have also been rising at Ysgol Corn Hir and as January 2019 both schools were 11% over capacity.

## 5.5 Response by the Governing Body of Ysgol Bodffordd to the Proposal

In this section comments received from the School Governors of Ysgol Bodffordd in response to the consultation are presented in full together with the Council's response where required.

## 5.5.1 Governing Body Response

Our principle argument – We support Ysgol Corn Hir's request for a new school but this doesn't have to be achieved at the expense of closing Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd.

#### Council's response

This response is noted and has been also suggested by other stakeholders, see section 5.2.2.

## 5.5.2 Governing Body Response

Unfairness - The proposal is contrary to the 'Equality Act 2010' and it is totally onesided and unfair towards Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd. If this proposal is accepted, it is likely that all teaching staff from Bodffordd will lose their jobs, the school Governors will lose their jobs and our school's name and identity will disappear.

#### Council's response

The Council refutes the claim that the proposal is contrary to the Equality Act 2010. As stated in the consultation document should the proposal be approved Staff at Ysgol Bodffordd will be at risk and the Restructuring and Redundancy Policy for schools would be invoked.

The Governing Body for the new Ysgol Corn Hir will be the existing Ysgol Corn Hir Governing Body. The Council will consider either establishing a stakeholder engagement group or look to co-opt representatives from the Ysgol Bodffordd onto the Governing Body of Ysgol Corn Hir. (With the agreement of the current Ysgol Corn Hir Governing Body). Matters such as the school's name etc. will be a matter for the Ysgol Corn Hir governing body.

The Governing body of Ysgol Corn Hir has also stated the following in their response to the consultation. "If the Executive decides to close Ysgol Bodffordd then the Governors of Ysgol Corn Hir have discussed and agreed that it is essential to include the voice of Ysgol Bodffordd in any decisions concerning the new school. One idea that has been discussed is to adapt the membership of the Corn Hir Governing Body to include representatives from the Governing Body of Ysgol Bodffordd.

Just as ensuring the employment of Ysgol Corn Hir staff is important to the Governing Body, if Ysgol Bodffordd is to close then we believe that it is equally important, at the earliest possible opportunity, to offer job security to the staff of Ysgol Bodffordd who will lose their jobs. As the new Corn Hir School will be bigger than the existing school more staff may be required. We are eager to work with the Local Authority to establish the new school's staffing structure and to appoint to the structure as soon as possible. Giving staff job security is a priority for the Governing Body at Ysgol Corn Hir.

## 5.5.3 Governing Body Response

Why Relocate? – In presenting this proposal the Council has decided to '<u>relocate</u>' Ysgol Corn Hir but to 'close' Bodffordd. This is the fourth time that YGB has gone through a consultation process with the Council. What effect is this having on the welfare of our children, families, and the community and school staff. The negative focus of the agenda for closure is contrary to the 'Welfare of Children Act 2015'.

## Council's response

The Council is sympathetic to the effect the consultation process has on stakeholders. However, in order to plan and develop effective school organisation proposals for current and future generations of children across the island, the Council must consult with stakeholders in adherence with the School Organisation Code. It is also important to note that during the past 3 years within which the future of the school has been in question it has seen an improvement in standards which demonstrates a positive outcome for the benefit of children. This point is noted by Cymdeithas yr laith in their response to this consultation and was reflected in the consultation document.

## 5.5.4 Governing Body Response

School Organisation Code 2018 – The Council is breaching the requirements of the code in terms of a presumption against closing rural schools (Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd is no 1 on the formal list). The proposal itself is based on a presumption that a village / rural school should close in order to ensure that an urban problem is solved. If going against Kirsty Williams, the Education Minister's code is possible by closing YGB, then no rural school in Wales is safe and therefore this code is meaningless.

## Council's response

The School Organisation Code (011/2018) makes special arrangements in regard to rural schools establishing a procedural presumption against their closure. This requires the Council to follow a more detailed set of procedures and requirements in formulating a rural school closure proposal, which the Council has followed. The Council refutes the claim that it has breached the requirements of the code. The proposal is not based that a village school should close in order to solve an urban problem, it has been assessed in line with the key challenges Ysgol Bodffordd faces and aligned to the School Modernisation drivers. The list of rural schools in Annex F of the School Modernisation Code (011/2018) have been included in school numerical reference order and not in a priority order. All the schools listed in Annex F are assessed in the same way.

## 5.5.5 Governing Body Response

Standards – The report notes that standards are higher in Corn Hir and therefore that is the reason for relocating Corn Hir rather than closing it as is the case with YGB. In reality, these standards are 'historical' as they are based on the 2013 Estyn Report, and the school had a different Headteacher at the time. They are not up to date at all.

## Council's response

In accordance with the School Organisation Code (011/2018), the Council must provide information from the <u>most recent</u> Estyn reports for each school likely to be affected. The Council acknowledges that these reports are historic, and in this respect also provided GwE categorisation information as at November 2019 for Ysgol Bodffordd . The GwE information shows that Ysgol Bodffordd's categorisation has improved from Amber in 2015 to Yellow in 2019 whereas Ysgol Corn Hir information over the same time period shows a constant achievement of Green status.

## 5.5.6 Governing Body Response

We are given another historical snapshot by using old Estyn Reports. Since the last inspection and following the progress made post-inspection, standards at YGB have developed and improved and the capacity for leadership has developed and matured greatly. Current statistics are available that reflect this.

## Council's response

In accordance with the School Organisation Code (011/2018), the Council must provide information from the most recent Estyn reports for each school likely to be affected. The Council acknowledges that these reports are historic, and in this respect also provided GwE categorisation information as at November 2019 for Ysgol Bodffordd. The GwE information shows that Ysgol Bodffordd's categorisation has improved from Amber in 2015 to Yellow in 2019.

## 5.5.7 Governing Body Response

YGB Building- There has been a lack of investment in maintenance by the Council in recent years – the school is not to blame for this. There is plenty of outside space to build an extension to create space and to satisfy 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools requirements.

## Council's response

The Council does not have the financial resource to maintain 40 Primary Schools, 5 Secondary Schools and 1 Special School to the desired level in the current climate and following years of austerity.

The Council undertake a condition survey on all schools each year, and the work required at each school is put into a category (A-D) based on the priority for the work to be undertaken, taking considerations of aspects such as condition of the asset, and health and safety considerations. Work identified for category D and C will be prioritised, whereas works identified which falls into categories B and A will only be undertaken if there is funding remaining after the completion of all works in categories D and C.

The total current and projected future maintenance spend for all schools stands at approximately £22m. The total current and projected future maintenance cost for Ysgol Bodffordd is £134,000 – Approximately 0.609% (1/164) of the total.

The table below reflects the current and projected maintenance spend for the 8 school buildings that have an area of less than 600m2(for the purpose of this table the cost associated with the Portacabin at Ysgol Talwrn has been removed).

School	Pupil Numbers PLASC 2019	Area	Current and projected future maintenance spend £
Bodffordd	70	470	134,000
Talwrn	45	302	110,500
Carreglefn	23	224	46,500
Llanbedrgoch	24	320	168,500
Llangoed	69	572	114,000
Henblas	86	533	138,000
Pencarnisiog	69	575	98,000
Rhosybol	58	551	96,500
Average	56	443	113,250

The figures for 'Current and projected future maintenance spend' included within the table above covers expenditure such as, but not limited to:

Resurfacing of school yards / car parks Internal and External Re-decorating Replacement of doors and windows Refurbishment of kitchens, classrooms, toilets etc. New fencing, gates or other access systems. Lighting replacement Rewiring Roof Replacement

The table above shows that the current and projected future maintenance spend at Ysgol Bodffordd is comparable to other school buildings of similar size. This shows that Ysgol Bodffordd has not been treated less favourable than other schools.

The pojnt related to space to extend the current school has been discussed previously at point 5.2.5 and the Council's conclusion is that there is insufficient space within the existing Ysgol Bodffordd site to accommodate an extension, parking, playing areas and outdoor educational areas as proposed by Governors.

## 5.5.8 Governing Body Response

Surplus Places – Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd is very popular amongst parents and therefore there are no surplus places here.

Finance and per capita costs\_– The per capita cost for all pupils compares favourably with many other rural schools across the island, and in some cases they are even better!

## Council's response

The Council agrees that Ysgol Bodffordd do not have any surplus places. Ysgol Bodffordd is 11% over capacity.

Although the Cost per pupil at Ysgol Bodffordd (£4,274) is above the primary average at Anglesey (£3,988) for 2019/20, the Council agrees with the statement that the cost per pupil compares favourably with other rural schools on the island. The Cost per pupil at Ysgol Bodffordd ranks as the 4th lowest (2019/20) of the 17 schools identified as rural schools within Annex F of the School Organisation Code (011/2018).

## 5.5.9 Governing Body Response

Impact on the Welsh language – The Council's assessment/data concerning the effect of closure on the Welsh language must be questioned. YGB's rural children will move and associate with urban children where English is the language spoken in the playground. The proposal really is a threat to Welshness and pupils' use of the Welsh language.

## Council's response

The Council disagrees that the proposal is a threat to the pupils use of the Welsh language .41% of pupils who attend Ysgol Bodffordd come for outside the catchment area .As at October 2019, 10% of Ysgol Bodffordd pupils came from the Ysgol Corn Hir catchment area and 12% of Ysgol Bodffordd pupils came from the Ysgol Y Graig catchment area, which indicates that Ysgol Bodffordd pupils are already mixing with 'urban children' from Llangefni.

## 5.5.10 Governing Body Response

Effect on the Community – Once again, has a full assessment been completed? On what basis does the consultation propose that there will be no impact on the community? The Ganolfan (community centre) is used during the day and night by the community. If the site closed, will these people travel to other establishments in Llangefni to hold activities / meetings that reflect local activity and heritage? – The response of local people is "no". Therefore, it is important to consider the effect of closing YGB on the Ganolfan and the residents of Bodffordd and the surrounding area. Once again, this proposal is a negative reaction to the welfare of local residents.

## Council's response

At the consultation stage the Impact Assessments as stated are working documents. The Impact Assessment will be regularly updated throughout the development period so that the Council (if another risk arises) can put in place mitigation measures to overcome the risk or issue that arises in partnership with the local community. The Council has stated from the outset that in order to mitigate the effect of the potential closure of Ysgol Bodffordd, it wishes to work with the community in Bodffordd to ensure the long-term viability of The Ganolfan.

# 5.6 Response of the Governing Body of Ysgol Corn Hir to the Consultation

In this section comments received from the School Governors of Ysgol Corn Hir in response to the consultation are presented in full together with the Council's response where required.

# 5.6.1 Governing Body of Ysgol Corn Hir

The Governing Body of Ysgol Corn Hir support the proposal to:

'Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir'

The Governing Body has studied the 'Proposal Paper' in detail and has given serious consideration to the 11 reasonable alternatives for the school listed in the paper. The Governing Body considers that none of the alternatives proposed provides a better outcome for the children, teachers and wider community of Ysgol Corn Hir than the above proposal. The reasons listed below explain why.

The above proposal will:

- Ensure that all the children will get the new, modern building they deserve, on a suitable new site with adequately sized classrooms and suitable facilities for them and future generations.
- Safeguard the high standards of teaching and learning at Ysgol Corn Hir.
- Safeguard the jobs of Ysgol Corn Hir staff, and remove months of potential uncertainty for them about their employment.
- Provide the children and parents of Ysgol Corn Hir with the assurance that the current teaching arrangements will continue in future and ensure a smooth transition for the pupils from the old school to the new school. The only change for them would be the new site and building.
- Ensure that years of hard work undertaken by school staff to turn Corn Hir into a successful school will not go to waste. The staff will be able to continue to build on their work and they can look forward to working in a modern building that will facilitate rather than hinder their work.
- Ensure that Ysgol Corn Hir will be able to satisfy the requirements of the new Curriculum and that the building will not be a barrier to this.
- Allow the Leadership Team to plan for the future with certainty.

The Governing Body of Ysgol Corn Hir is fully aware that it is not only the future of our school that is discussed in the proposal paper. If the Executive decides to close Ysgol Bodffordd then the Governors of Ysgol Corn Hir have discussed and agreed that it is essential to include the voice of Ysgol Bodffordd in any decisions concerning the new school. One idea that has been discussed is to adapt the membership of the Corn Hir Governing Body to include representatives from the Governing Body of Ysgol Bodffordd.

Just as ensuring the employment of Ysgol Corn Hir staff is important to the Governing Body, if Ysgol Bodffordd is to close then we believe that it is equally important, at the earliest possible opportunity, to offer job security to the staff of Ysgol Bodffordd who will lose their jobs. As the new Corn Hir School will be bigger than the existing school more staff may be required. We are eager to work with the Local Authority to establish the new school's staffing structure and to appoint to the structure as soon as possible. Giving staff job security is a priority for the Governing Body at Ysgol Corn Hir.

To conclude our response to the consultation I wold like to remind Members of the Executive of the seriousness of the circumstances facing the Children and Staff of Ysgol Corn Hir. The increase in pupil numbers over the last seven years has overcrowded the school building. The further increase in pupil numbers expected over the next few years will make the work of staff impossible. Without a solution it will have an effect on the standards of teaching and learning and place the health and safety of everyone who uses the building at risk. We are asking Members for their support and to support the proposal to build a new Ysgol Corn Hir. This is a rare opportunity to secure investment and a special resource that will serve the local community and Anglesey for decades to come.

# 5.6.2 Council's response

The Council concurs with the Ysgol Corn Hir Governing Body that the proposal could meet the key challenges that Ysgol Corn Hir faces in terms of:

- Oversubscription the new Ysgol Corn Hir will have sufficient places to meet demand.
- Limited space to deliver the new curriculum -The new Ysgol Corn Hir will be purpose built to deliver the new curriculum.
- School building condition and the health and safety and well-being of all who attend.
- Risk of not being able to maintain high standards at the present site.

# 5.7 Telephone Survey -Ysgol Bodffordd

A telephone survey was conducted by the Vice-Chair of the Governing Body of Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd (Y.G.B.) and the findings below presented to the Council to be considered as a response to the consultation.

#### 5.7.1 Telephone Survey Methodology

A total of 50 sets of parents returned consent forms giving permission to be contacted and within the timeframe available 47 were contacted. All the parents who were contacted were encouraged to freely express their views and were assured that their comments would be anonymised. The 47 parents who were contacted represent 64 children who attend Y.G.B. The total number of pupils who attend the school is 70.

#### 5.7.2 Telephone Survey results

#### 1. Do you agree with the proposal in the consultation document?

#### (a) Yes (b) No(c) I don't know

A total of 42 (89%) parents stated that they <u>disagreed</u> with the proposal. 4 parents did agree with the proposal and 1 answered "don't know".

# 2. How satisfied are you with the standard of teaching your child receives at school?

# (a) very satisfied (b) satisfied (c) neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (d)dissatisfied (e) very dissatisfied.

A total of 39 parents (83%) stated that they were "very satisfied" with the standard of teaching their children received at the school. 3 replied "satisfied", 2 "neither satisfied nor dissatisfied", 2 "dissatisfied" and 1 "very dissatisfied".

#### 3. Were the school to close where you are then likely to send your child/children?

There were a range of responses for this question. Of the responses, a total of 18 (38%) said that they were likely to send their children to the new Corn Hir School (albeit reluctantly in many cases). However, 11 (23%) stated that they were likely to send their children to other schools e.g. Henblas, Gwalchmai, Llanerchymedd. 14 (30%) stated that they were unsure or hadn't decided and 4 (9%) stated that the situation wasn't applicable as their child would already have moved up to Secondary School education by the time the new school was ready.

#### 4. The Community Impact Assessment concludes

# *"The proposal would seem to have a neutral effect on the community". Do you:* (a) Agree (b) Disagree (c) Don't know

A total of 43 parents (91.5 %) disagreed with the conclusion that the proposal would have a "neutral effect on the community". 3 agreed with the conclusion and 1 didn't know.

The following is a snapshot of the comments received from those who disagreed:

"The community centre is the hub of the village life and is attached to the school so I don't see how they can say that the effect would be neutral if the school closed".

"Strongly disagree - the school is the hub of the community".

"They are in cloud cuckoo land if that's what they think".

"It's ludicrous to say the effect would be neutral".

"It's going to kill the community if the school closes."

"The village will be like a ghost town if the school closes".

"The only reason I know parents in the village is through the school".

"Totally disagree with that, there's nothing left in Bodffordd once the school closes".

# 5.7.3 Council's response

The feedback from parents as highlighted above from this survey will be considered as part of the overall decision- making process and added to other responses received in terms of agreeing with the proposal, standard of teaching, if the school closes where are Ysgol Bodffordd children likely to attend and the impact on the community.

# 5.8 Response by the Headteacher of Ysgol Bodffordd

In this section the Headtacher of Ysgol Bodffordd's response to the consultation is presented in full together with the Council's response where required.

The Headteacher of Ysgol Bodffordd submitted his reply in response to the following question on the response form:

# Q: Do you wish to make comments regarding the proposal to "Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir"?

# 5.8.1 Headteacher's response

It is extremely disappointing that Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd (YGB) is not referred to by its full name throughout the consultation documentation. We consider this to be a defect in compiling the documentation and it shows a lack of respect towards the area, its heritage and its history. YGB has the full and total support of parents, families and its pupils. The school is highly regarded. Its activities are excellently supported and the school has status within its community.

#### Council's response

Under Section 20 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, schools categorisations were changed which meant that the majority of primary schools on Anglesey became community schools including Ysgol Bodffordd. As the majority of the primary schools are community schools the term community (Gymuned) in the school's name is not usually included in the Council's documentation (e.g. in the Information for Parents 202/2021 handbook) .This in no way shows any lack of respect to Bodffordd, its heritage or community.

# 5.8.2 Headteacher's response

The proposal in its entirety is based on a PRESUMPTION to close YGB as a rural school. It also discounts the value, status, experience and credibility of all YGB staff. Neither the proposal nor the means of conducting the consultation does any good for the well-being and mental health of staff, parents and the residents of Bodffordd. The presumption to close the school is negative, repetitive and continues to disregard the views, stance and voices of local people. I can assure you that the Council's actions, the response of senior officers and some councillors is having an impact on mental health and is highlighting the concerns of staff, pupils, parents and in indeed, residents of the village.

Despite this, YGB staff are experienced and measured in their methods of fostering and promoting an ethos of collaboration. There are very few cases of complaints and dissatisfaction amongst parents with what the YGB does. Every school and Headteacher faces challenges that must be dealt with from time to time but there is resilience and sensitivity in the way we deal with matters that arise in YGB.

# Council's response

The Council disagrees that the proposal is based on the presumption to close Ysgol Bodffordd. The proposal has been formulated on the basis of the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces, aligned to the School Modernisation drivers for change.

The Council is sympathetic to the effect the consultation process has on stakeholders. However, in order to plan and develop effective school organisation proposals for current and future generations of children across the island, the Council must consult with stakeholders in adherence with the School Organisation Code.

# 5.8.3 Headteacher's response

The data used to compare YGB and YCH isn't current or contemporary. The data and information used is historical data. An opinion should not be based on data that is now out of date and which doesn't reflect the current situation. YGB was inspected 5 years ago, and since then a number of very positive reports have been presented by GwE and Estyn. Ysgol Corn Hir hasn't been inspected under the present Headteacher. That school was inspected 7 years ago.

# Council's response

In accordance with the School Organisation Code (011/2018), the Council must provide information from the most recent Estyn reports for each school likely to be affected. The most recent reports available were Ysgol Bodffordd (June 2015) and Ysgol Corn Hir (May 2013). The Council acknowledges that these reports are historic, and in this respect also provided GwE categorisation information as at November 2019 for Ysgol Bodffordd. The GwE information shows that Ysgol Bodffordd's categorisation had improved from Amber in 2015 to Yellow in 2019.

# 5.8.4 Headteacher's response

Every educator knows that every school doesn't suit every child. Each child has his or her own needs. Therefore, it must be accepted that a large school doesn't suit the nature of every child. I know of cases where children have difficulty in coping in a large school because of the space / environment. A medical condition / emotional need and trauma can mean that they don't feel safe in the school. This is exhibited in their behaviour. It is a fact that a number of children displaying challenging behaviour in our schools is increasing, and additional provision is required for the children, which is a costly provision. We see that children in small schools cope better. The quieter environment, smaller rooms and less hustle and bustle help them to feel safe which leads to a reduction in the need for additional provision. In considering the future of EDUCATION on Anglesey, priority must be given to what is best for all the Island's children.

# Council's response

Whilst not mentioned specifically, the response above implies that not every child would cope in a larger school (which would be built under the proposal consulted upon). In the case of a pupil finding it difficult to settle in the new Ysgol Corn Hir, the senior leadership team at Ysgol Corn Hir, under the Governing Body's oversight, would be responsible for overseeing the teaching approaches and for ensuring all

teachers have a good understanding of the issue and the pupil's development levels to enable all pupils to settle in their new surroundings.

The Headteacher at Ysgol Corn Hir has also stated in his response the need for a smooth transition if the proposal goes ahead. "As the school has more than 230 pupils, a number of vulnerable pupils, a number of ALN pupils and looked after children it is important that we ensure the stability that this proposal offers the pupils. We also realise that the pupils of Ysgol Bodffordd will face considerable change and we fully appreciate this. The staff of Ysgol Corn Hir want to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible for these children and we understand that they will have to adapt to new and different methods. To facilitate this we would be willing; with the agreement of Ysgol Bodffordd; to ensure they have the opportunity of joining the pupils of Ysgol Corn Hir to participate in our annual activity week, sports day, to go on joint trips; and at staff level, to ensure that staff from Corn Hir visit Ysgol Bodffordd to teach lessons. Pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd could also come to Ysgol Corn Hir to have joint lessons from time to time – all of this to ensure a smooth transition for all pupils from both schools ".

# 5.8.5 Headteacher's response

The consultation papers / impact assessment are based on prejudice rather than facts, and outdated data. It is clear from the proposal paper that prejudice exists that large schools offer education of a higher and better standard than small schools. Very recently, we have become aware of a large new school in Conwy going into special measures, following an Estyn inspection, due to leadership. However, at the other end of the scale, here in Anglesey there are small schools that have been judged excellent in their Estyn inspections despite the children being educated in an old building. The standard of EDUCATION is not based on a building. It is the staff and ethos created and maintained that provides the EDUCATION. The staff of Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd have experienced a developmental path towards offering a good standard of education to the children.

# Council's response

The Council has presented the data in the consultation document in accordance with the School Organisation Code (011/2018). The data and facts provided in respect of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir shows that in terms of standards that Ysgol Corn Hir has performed better than Ysgol Bodffordd. See below GwE's categorisation:

Year	Ysgol Bodffordd	Ysgol Corn Hir
2019	Yellow ( B)	Green (A)
2018	Yellow	Green
2017	Amber	Green
2016	Amber	Green
2015	Amber	Green

Categorisation – Source GwE November 2019

The above table acknowledges that Ysgol Bodffordd has improved from Amber in 2015 to Yellow in 2019.

# 5.8.6 Headteacher's response

It is misleading to state that children attending Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd from the Corn Hir / Llangefni catchment area are doing so because of a lack of places for them in urban schools. In the case of the majority of pupils from outside the catchment area, the parents have opted to send their children to YGB based on their wishes, previous experience of the school and its support, the school's good name and because of a local family network and a local private childcare provision. Care should be taken not to use data to distort the truth.

#### Council's response

The Council stated in the consultation document that as at October 2019, 41 % of Ysgol Bodffordd pupils came from outside the school's catchment area. The Council in the consultation document did not indicate that this was because there was a lack of places for them in urban schools.

# 5.8.7 Headteacher's response

Estyn's thematic report "Small Schools in Wales (2006)" notes that there is no real difference between education standards in small and large schools, but It can be harder for teachers in smaller schools to correspond the work to pupils' needs as pupils in a class can vary greatly in terms of age and stages of development. This is also true of large urban schools. It is a necessity and a fact of life and work in larger schools that teachers have to prepare work for a range of levels and for a number of different ages in classes to respond to the educational needs of the children in the classes, just as teachers in smaller schools succeed in providing for different age ranges. The children benefit greatly from associating and co-learning with children of different ages.

# Council's response

The Council concurs with the Headteachers comments.

#### 5.8.8 Headteacher's response

Attention is given to the early year's provision. Providing early year's education, childcare, after school and holiday provision would provide a wrap-around service for parents and ensure continuity of childcare. The provision would be available between 8am and 6pm every day, including school holidays and possibly in-service training days for teachers. This is a service that YGB could provide, and actually we would be pleased to offer. This remark once again is biased against small schools.

#### Council's response

The Council welcomes the Headteacher's offer of the provision of providing early year's education, childcare, after school and holiday provision along with a wraparound service for parents in order to ensure the continuity of childcare. The provision would be available between 8am and 6pm every day, including school holidays and possibly on in-service training days for teachers. This provision is not currently available at Ysgol Bodffordd. The Council refutes the claim that it is biased against small schools.

#### 5.8.9 Headteacher's response

YGB is very concerned about the expectation and requirement for children to travel to Llangefni Town (the site of a new school) and perhaps having to travel by bus. YGB parents also have concerns about this matter. Families from Bodffordd and YGB would be forced to travel. As a result, there would be an increase in travelling arrangements for parents of both schools, although environmentally friendly travel on buses and by walking has been mentioned. There is no safe walking route between Bodffordd and Llangefni. The Corn Hir area is extremely busy during school opening and closing times. There have been a number of accidents in recent years where children have been hit by buses/cars. Closing YGB and forcing children to travel to Llangefni would increase traffic in this area and increase the possibility of an accident.

#### Council's response

If the proposal is approved, it would mean longer travel distances for some pupils. Based on the current number of pupils on roll at Ysgol Bodffordd (June 2019), 34% would travel less to the new Ysgol Corn Hir site whilst 66% would have to travel further.

As the route from Bodffordd to Llangefni on the B5109 is classed as a hazardous route, the Council would provide transportation for these pupils (in accordance with the Council's transport policy for schools), meaning they would be unlikely to walk or cycle to school. The travelling time from Ysgol Bodffordd on a bus to the new proposed site for the new Ysgol Corn Hir is approximately 8 minutes.

The Council has looked back five years to April 2015, and there have been no accidents recorded where children of either Ysgol Bodffordd or Ysgol Corn Hir have been hit by cars/buses. (Source Accident Damage Incident Report - ADIR records).

A Traffic Impact Assessment of the effect of the potential new Ysgol Corn Hir on the travel arrangements of staff and pupils has been prepared. As a result of this, the walkway from the junction of the B4422 with the B5109 to the entrance of the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir will be widened and a crossing point will be provided over the B5109 to the proposed new primary school.

# 5.8.10 Headteacher's response

Class sizes – there is no guarantee that any new school / building will be able to keep to a maximum of 30 pupils per class. It is considered that bigger schools are in a better position to have efficient class sizes, i.e. the number of pupils in individual classes are close to 30. This can be challenged as it is now the norm for large schools to have classes of over 30 children, on an annual basis.

#### Council's response

The Council concurs with the Headteacher's comments that any new school/ building will be able to guarantee a maximum of 30 pupils per class. However, in the consultation document the Council stated that "Larger Schools are in a better position

to achieve class sizes which are closer to the optimum pupil teacher ratio, ensuring efficient class sizes."

# 5.8.11 Headteacher's response

The consultation document notes that cluster/collaboration agreements are slow to develop in Wales and are still in the pilot phase. It is also noted that federation would not improve standards. It is fair to note that there is very close collaboration between all schools in the Llangefni catchment area and consequently all schools share good practice and expertise and as a result, standards improve in every school. Additionally, all schools in the catchment area develop leadership skills amongst their staff, with teachers in every school given the opportunity to lead staff from their own school and other schools. This close collaboration has led to schools collaborating on School Development Plan priorities. The collaboration has led to the Llangefni Catchment Area being named at a GwE conference as an example of good practice that should be shared. Currently, and for the past two years, the Catchment Area Headteachers Forum has been chaired by the Headteacher of YGB and is driving this collaboration. Unfortunately, not all schools in the catchment area are as willing and open unless the idea / area is of benefit to that Headteacher's school. Some schools and Headteachers need to mature further in terms of the requirement to collaborate – despite this Headteachers in the Llangefni Catchment Area are leading on this aspect. The consultation document does not recognise this at all and therefore it is deficient with regard to this aspect.

# Council's response

The Council welcomes the collaboration between schools in the Llangefni catchment area.

# 5.8.12 Headteacher's response

I had the opportunity to visit Devon with Headteachers and Council officers to observe good practice in terms of federating schools. Up to 13 schools were part of 1 federation. The result of this was that there was 1 professional governing body, and every school was judged to be 'Outstanding' in their OFSTED inspection, whilst keeping small rural schools open and educating children in their local communities. It's a shame that Anglesey has not acted after seeing this very good practice. It is saddening that IOACC has a biased modernisation scheme – developing the school federation option hasn't been considered or acted upon. This would lead to a very different and more mature means of operating and of management and leadership. This would also lead to creating a more mature governing body that is more effective and having a professional status. This would also keep education within communities and support the future of Anglesey's fragile communities. Unfortunately, there is nothing but school closures in the Council's plans. An exercise to reduce expenditure. In essence this is a misleading exercise as building costs and providing match funding for any grant is going to increase expenditure and loan interest repayments.

# Council's response

The Council has given due consideration to federalisation in the reasonable alternatives presented in the consultation document. All reasonable alternatives were evaluated against 7 criteria identified within the School Modernisation Strategy,

namely; Standards, Leadership and Management, Pupil Places, School Building, Finance, Community Use, Welsh medium provision.

# 5.8.13 Headteacher's response

No consideration is given to establishing a LIFELONG Teaching Site. There is a loss of opportunity and a lack of initiative in the Council's modernisation plans. There doesn't seem to be a will or desire within the Council to rationalise surplus places in the county's secondary schools. The primary sector on the island has seen a lot of pressure / adaptations over recent years. It is high time for the secondary sector to come under scrutiny for modernisation and for that to happen urgently. It must be asked why Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni isn't part of any proposal concerning the Llangefni area, especially taking into account the most recent Estyn report, the condition of the building, surplus places, maintenance costs, community use of the building and Welsh medium provision?

# Council's response

This suggestion is considered in section 6.4.7 of this report.

# 5.8.14 Headteacher's Comments

It is misleading to assume that the YGB site / building cannot provide external learning environments to promote pupils' independent learning. Money can be received to upgrade existing schools to make them fit for the 21st Century. According to Kirsty Williams, there is no requirement to close schools to receive funding to build a new school.

# Council's response

The Council refutes this claim and proposes that the assessment was not misleading. The Council in the consultation document stated that "there was a potential that the school site could not provide the necessary learning environment to promote pupils independent learning and therefore establish the conditions to deliver the Curriculum for Wales in the medium to long term."

# 5.8.15 Headteacher's response

There's no denying that there is a lot of pressure in terms of leadership and learning on small village / rural schools, but there are many important positive factors that make it an interesting job that sharpens the mind – there is variety in the staff's work, the requirements and expectations are challenging and varied, all members of staff are developed in terms of leadership and management roles in a small school. It is much easier to ensure that everyone is moving in the same direction in a small school. Staff in small schools are sympathetic and have a good understanding of matters that influence children and families. The task of setting and maintaining an ethos and direction is much easier.

# Council's response

The Council welcomes the Headteachers comments in respect of leadership and learning in a small village/rural school.

**5.8.16** Here are the Headeacher's comments in response to the following question on the response form:

# **Q:** Do you wish to suggest other reasonable alternatives for the continuation of Ysgol Bodffordd that addresses the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?

- Build a new school for Corn Hir and adapt YGB by building 1 additional classroom.
- Adapt Ysgol Corn Hir, which isn't an old building, and adapt YGB by building 1 classroom.
- Federation.
- Build a 3rd Primary School in Llangefni, adapt Ysgol Corn Hir and extend YGB.

# Council's response

The reasonable alternatives suggested above are considered further in Section 6.4

**5.8.17** Here are the Headeacher's comments in response to the following question on the response form:

# Q: Are there any other matters the Council should consider as part of their impact assessment prior to coming to a decision?

I disagree with the view that closing Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd would have a neutral impact on the village. The document is based on opinion/prejudice rather than bare facts and raises questions about the depth of research into the impacts. The Impact Assessment document is based on opinions and prejudices – the closure of a village school would of course have an effect in the short term, the medium term but the long- term impact of losing a school such as YGB would be negative and would deprive the area of the activity created by young people. This can be seen across Wales, in those small villages where the local school has closed and the village has died. This negative impact is undeniable.

The Impact Assessment document notes "A more equal Wales – The project will ensure that the proposed new school is fit for purpose and it will that every pupil's capacity and potential to succeed is realised". This suggests that this would not be the case if Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd remained open. This is misleading and biased against small rural schools. Every child in a smaller school has the opportunity to be part of every curricular and extra-curricular activity – rugby teams, singing groups for eisteddfodau, taking part in concerts at Capel y Gad chapel etc. We have seen our children flourish and gain confidence as a result of these activities. As a school, we are concerned that many of the children will not have these opportunities in a large school. Only the best and most confident will have these opportunities – a much lower percentage compared to the percentage of pupils in smaller schools.

Closing the school would certainly have a negative effect on the Welsh language – By closing schools in Welsh speaking villages there is a danger that the Welsh language will become a school / class language and we will lose the language on the Island. This policy doesn't align with the Government's campaign for 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050. There is a real danger of people in this area taking the Welsh language for granted. We must work hard to support it and rural and village schools are trying and succeeding. As a school we take pride in the fact that our pupils socialise and play naturally through the medium of Welsh. Pupils learning the language at this school become bilingual very quickly and use the Welsh language to talk to their friends. Despite the efforts of large urban schools, English gains ground on the school yard and first language Welsh speakers talk to each other in English. Closing YGB would endanger the future of the Welsh language in this area as our children become overwhelmed in large schools.

#### Council's response

The Headteachers comments will be considered as part of the revised and updated Impact Assessment (see Appendix 1).

# 5.9 Response by the Headteacher of Ysgol Corn Hir

In this section comments received from the Headteacher of Ysgol Corn Hir in response to the consultation are presented in full together with the Council's response where required.

**5.9.1** I would like to offer the following comments in response to the Consultation on the proposal to:

"Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir"

It is obvious that the Ysgol Corn Hir building is now inadequate for providing 21st century education, especially when we consider all the exciting changes that face us in the near future – the advent of the new curriculum, new ALN arrangements, new professional standards etc.

As Headteacher of the school I am very keen to secure the best resources for the children and staff of this school and I fully support the proposal

The above proposal will:

- ensure that all the children will get the new, modern building they deserve, on a suitable site with adequately sized classrooms and suitable facilities for them and for future generations. At the moment, the classrooms are far too small and the building is unsuitable for the number of children attending the school. There is strong evidence showing that pupil numbers are continuing to increase, which means that class sizes will continue to increase, and as a result will further highlight the problem of a lack of space. As the numbers increase, the facilities such as the toilets are inadequate for the number of pupils and their needs. We have a duty to secure a suitable building for the children.
- safeguard the high standards of teaching and learning at Ysgol Corn Hir. The school's performance has been excellent over a consistent period and this proposal ensures that we have the opportunity to continue to achieve high standards and to improve them further. Standards will be maintained and improved as all them arrangements, systems, teaching and learning methods will continue to be provided by the school's special staff.
- safeguard the jobs of Ysgol Corn Hir staff, and remove months of potential uncertainty for them about their employment. This proposal reduces the risk of losing the schools' staff if any other proposal is put forward. Quite simply, job security will maintain the team that has proved over several years that they can maintain and continue to raise standards. According to the figures and the admission number for the new school, it is likely that additional staff will be required. As a school and Governing Body we are prepared to ensure opportunities for staff from neighbouring schools that will close to apply for jobs in accordance with the Council's usual arrangements.

- provide the children and parents of Ysgol Corn Hir with the assurance that the current teaching arrangements will continue in future and ensure a smooth transition for pupils from the old school to the new school. The only change for them would be the new site and building. As the school has more than 230 pupils, a number of vulnerable pupils, a number of ALN pupils and looked after children it is important that we ensure the stability that this proposal offers the pupils. We also realise that the pupils of Ysgol Bodffordd will face considerable change and we fully appreciate this. The staff of Ysgol Corn Hir want to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible for these children and we understand that they will have to adapt to new and different methods. To facilitate this we would be willing: with the agreement of Ysgol Bodffordd: to ensure they have the opportunity of joining the pupils of Ysgol Corn Hir to participate in our annual activity week, sports day, to go on joint trips; and at staff level, to ensure that staff from Corn Hir visit Ysgol Bodffordd to teach lessons. Pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd could also come to Ysgol Corn Hir to have joint lessons from time to time - all of this to ensure a smooth transition for all pupils from both schools. We would look to holding workshops for pupils to get to know each other and the staff e.g. a mixed choir with pupils from both schools.
- ensure that years of hard work undertaken by school staff to turn Corn Hir into a successful school will not go to waste. The staff and children have worked very hard over a number of years to achieve a series of recognised awards e.g. Healthy Schools, Green Schools, UNICEF School, Eco School, Fair Trade, and all of this has been done to promote the pupils' education and help them develop to be responsible and hard-working citizens. It isn't fair to ask the pupils to re-do all the good work that has already been done and to duplicate actions that have already involved investing time, effective collaboration and outcomes that have secured effective changes to the ethos and life of the school.
- ensure that Ysgol Corn Hir will be able to satisfy the requirements of the new Curriculum and that the building will not be a barrier to this. At present, it will not be possible to develop the new curriculum on the current site due to a lack of space and the fact that it is impossible to provide outside spaces for the junior department.
- allow the Leadership Team to plan ahead with certainty. We will be looking to
  ensure that there is a holiday care club, and outside provision for Key Stage 2, the
  possibility of having an ABC unit on the new site that will allow Canolfan Addysg y
  Bont to admit nursery pupils and allow the ABC Unit to focus on assessing
  borderline pupils. The possibilities of having a real effect on the wider community
  are considerable. We would be keen to develop community use that would be a
  focal point for serving the whole community that will be suitable to hold training
  and community events.
- develop staff and CPD opportunities with an increase in the number of staff there will be an increase in leadership and management opportunities and more opportunities to collaborate and share expertise. This can lead to raising standards further and providing future leaders.

The Governing Body of Ysgol Corn Hir is fully aware that it is not only the future of our school that is discussed in the proposal paper. If the Executive decides to close

Ysgol Bodffordd then the Governors of Ysgol Corn Hir have discussed and agreed that it is essential to include the voice of Ysgol Bodffordd in any decisions concerning the new school. One idea that has been discussed is to adapt the membership of the Corn Hir Governing Body to include representatives from the Governing Body of Ysgol Bodffordd to ensure that the voice of everyone involved with the school is heard.

To conclude our response to the consultation I would like to remind Members of the Executive of the seriousness of the circumstances facing the Children and Staff of Ysgol Corn Hir. The increase in pupil numbers over the last seven years has overcrowded the school building. The further increase in pupil numbers expected over the next few years will make the work of staff impossible. Without a solution it will have an effect on the standards of teaching and learning and place the health and safety of everyone who uses the building at risk. We are asking Members for their support and to support the proposal to build a new Ysgol Corn Hir. This is a rare opportunity to secure investment and a special resource that will serve the local community and Anglesey for decades to come.

# 5.9.2 Council's response

The Council concurs with the Headteacher that the proposal could meet the key challenges that Ysgol Corn Hir faces in terms of:

- Oversubscription the new Ysgol Corn Hir will have sufficient places to meet demand.
- Limited space to deliver the new curriculum-The new Ysgol Corn Hir will be purpose built to deliver the new curriculum.
- School building condition and the health and safety and well-being of all who attend.
- Risk of not being able to maintain high standards at the present site.

# 5.10 Response by the Staff at Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir

In this section replies to the consultation received from the staff of both schools in response to the consultation are summarises in line with the School organisation code (011/2018) with the Council's response where required.

# 5.10.1 YSGOL BODFFORDD STAFF

Ysgol Bodffordd Staff submitted comments in response to the questions on the response form which are summarised below.

# Q: Do you wish to make comments regarding the proposal to "Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir"?

- Staff Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd (YGB) staff are experienced in their methods of fostering and promoting an ethos of collaboration. Examples of complaints and dissatisfaction amongst parents concerning the work of YGB are few and far between.
- Pupils attending a large school A large school doesn't suit every child. There have been cases of children having difficulty in coping in a large school because of the space. Due to trauma / a condition, they don't feel safe in the school and this can be exhibited in their behaviour. The number of exclusions increases as a result of this, despite the action and support offered to these children. We see children coping better in small schools.
- Welsh Language -It is likely that the pupils of YGB will have to attend a large school, where they will play and socialise through the medium of English. Unfortunately, and increasingly, English is the language of choice for children when they are playing even though Llangefni schools try to promote the use of Welsh.
- School places It is misleading to state that children attending Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd from the Corn Hir / Llangefni catchment area do so because of a lack of places for them in schools in the town. In the case of the majority of pupils from outside the catchment area, the decision to come to YGB is based on the parent's wishes, previous experience of the school and its support, the school's reputation and on a local family network and the local private childcare provision.
- Comparison of Schools the thematic report "Small Schools in Wales (2006)" by Estyn noted that there is no real difference in education standards in small and large schools but that "it can be harder for teachers in smaller schools to align the work with pupils' needs as pupils in a class can vary greatly in terms of age and stages of development". This is also true of large urban schools. It is a necessity and a fact of life and work in larger schools that teachers have to prepare work for a range of levels and for a number of different ages within classes to respond to the educational needs of children in the classes, just as teachers in smaller schools succeed in providing for different age ranges. The children benefit greatly from associating and co-learning with children of different ages.
- Data-The data used to compare YGB and Ysgol Corn Hir isn't current or upto-date. The data and information used is historic. An opinion shouldn't be based on out-of-date data that doesn't reflect the current situation. The Estyn

report on Ysgol Gynradd Bodffordd is 5 years old and the school has made a lot of progress since then. The Estyn report following the follow up visit and GwE reports confirm this. Ysgol Corn Hir hasn't been inspected since 2013, when the school had a different headteacher.

- Early years provision Early years education would be provided along with childcare, after school and holiday provision giving parents a wraparound service and ensuring continuity in terms of childcare. The provision would be available between 8am and 6pm every day, including school holidays and possibly teacher training days. This provision could be offered in YGB.
- Class sizes there is no guarantee that any new school / building will be able to keep to a maximum of 30 pupils per class. It is considered that bigger schools are in a better position to have efficient class sizes i.e. the number of pupils in individual classes are close to 30. This can be challenged as it is now the norm for large schools to have classes of over 30 children each year.
- Cluster/collaboration arrangements It is fair to note that there is very close collaboration between all schools in the Llangefni catchment area and consequently all schools share good practice and expertise and as a result, standards improve in every school. The collaboration has led to the Llangefni Catchment Area being named at a GwE conference as an example of good practice that should be shared.
- Leadership and learning-There is no denying that there is a lot of pressure on staff in terms of leadership and learning in small village / rural schools, but there are many important positive factors that make the job interesting and sharpens the mind – the work of staff is varied, the requirements and expectations are challenging and varied, all members of staff are developed in terms of leadership and management roles in a small school
- School name It is extremely disappointing that Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd is not referred to by its full name throughout the consultation documentation. We consider this to be a defect in compiling the documentation and it shows a lack of respect towards the area, its heritage and history.

# **Council's Response**

The Council notes the comments provided by the staff at Ysgol Bodffordd, many of which have been presented by the Headteacher and will be considered as part of the consultation. See section 5.8 for the Council's response.

# Q:Do you wish to suggest other reasonable alternatives for the continuation of Ysgol Bodffordd that addresses the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?

- There is no need to close a school in order to build a new school.
- Adapting Ysgol Corn Hir and building a 3rd primary school in the town of Llangefni to ease the pressure on Ysgol Corn Hir and Ysgol y Graig and ensure sustainable education for a town that is continuing to grow.
- Establishing a LIFELONG Teaching Site in Llangefni

# **Council's Response**

The other reasonable alternatives suggested above are considered further in Section 6.4

# Q: Are there any other matters the Council should consider as part of their impact assessment prior to coming to a decision?

- The Impact Assessment document is based on opinion of course closing a village school would have an impact in the short and medium term, but the long-term effect of closing a school like YGB would be negative and would deprive the area of the activity created by young people. We don't agree at all with the opinion that closing YGB would have a NEUTRAL effect on Bodffordd.
- Regular use is made of the Community Hall / School Hall (and the school building sometimes) during the evening in YGB. A number of community bodies, groups and clubs use the building. It is unlikely that these activities would transfer to a different area to be held because their link with the village of Bodffordd is historical and indispensable. The nature of the culture in both areas is very different.
- Closing a village school would have a detrimental effect on any village, but in the case of Bodffordd the danger of losing the school and access to the support of pupils / local children would weaken the status and activity of the Eisteddfod.
- The Impact Assessment document notes "A more equal Wales The project will ensure that the proposed new school is fit for purpose and it will ensure that every pupil's capacity and potential to succeed is realised". This suggests that this wouldn't be the case if Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd remained open. There is misconception that children are given more opportunities in large schools. This misconception is used by people who have no experience of working in a small school or sending their children to one. In a small school every child has to be in the football/rugby team/choir etc. If no expertise is available in the school arrangements are usually made for a member of the community to come in to support/coach. In a large school, only the most confident/able pupils are given these opportunities. We can attest in YGB that many children have experiences that only the most prominent children have in larger schools. Equality of experience is more evident in smaller schools in terms of our experiences as staff.
- The Impact Assessment noted that Welsh medium community activities would continue in the new school. But there is a concern about who would open and lock up the school in the evenings / outside school hours as this already causes difficulties. Currently, the Headteacher of YGB ensures that Y
   Ganolfan and the school are open for users from the local area and beyond. It is misleading to state that the effect of the proposal on the Welsh language is "positive". This is an opinion and not a fact. We are sure that the proposal will have a negative effect on the Welsh language in our communities.
- YGB is very concerned about the expectation and requirement for children to travel to Llangefni town (the site of the new school) and perhaps having to do so by bus. YGB parents are also concerned about this issue. Parents from both schools would be forced to travel, although there has been mention of

environmentally friendly travel on buses and walking. There is already a lot of traffic in the Corn Hir area in the mornings, with people taking their children to the two other large schools in the area (Canolfan y Bont and Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni). There have already been a number of accidents in the area at the end of the school day, where children have been hit be vehicles.

# **Council's Response**

The staff's comments will be considered as part of the revised and updated Impact Assessment (see Appendix 1).

# 5.10.2 YSGOL CORN HIR STAFF

Individual responses were received from Ysgol Corn Hir staff. Here are some summarised extracts from their responses.

#### Extract 1

I support the proposal to:

# 'Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir".

I have studied the 'Proposal Paper' carefully and I am of the opinion that none of the alternatives offered will provide a better outcome for children, teachers and the wider community of Ysgol Corn Hir than the above proposal. The reasons listed below explain why.

The above proposal will:

- Ensure that all the children will get the new modern building they deserve, on a suitable new site with adequately sized classrooms and appropriate facilities for them and for future generations.
- Ensure that there is a designated space for PPA periods because at the moment teachers have to work in the staff room where staff have their breaks at different time, and where the only photocopier for the whole school, including the office, is located.
- Ensure that all children at the school know that they will be able to attend extra-curricular clubs throughout the year. Currently, there is a limit on the number of clubs we can offer as the hall is not available because the after school club is held there from 3pm to 5.30pm.
- Safeguard the school's high standards of teaching and learning. Despite the lack of space, the children's learning standards haven't been affected to date. Despite this, with the requirements of the new Curriculum, it would be extremely difficult for us to offer all the opportunities to our pupils under current conditions. A new building would ensure that we could meet the requirements of the new Curriculum.
- Ensure that the successful teaching and learning strategies that we have been trialling are transferred to the new school, which will ensure that pupils continue to achieve the high standards they currently achieve.
- Ensure that the number of pupils in a class is 30 or less. Having to teach 35 pupils in a class isn't fair on the pupils or the teacher. Currently, every class is over capacity and none complies with the space requirements for each class.
- Ensure that there is sufficient space for pupils to receive a full range of experiences in the expressive arts and the Curriculum as a whole.
- Ensure continuity in children's work from year to year, as the work plans already in place would transfer to the new school.

- Ensure that years of hard work undertaken by school staff to turn Corn Hir into a successful school will not go to waste. Without doubt, we would be able to continue to build on our good work by looking forward to working in a modern building that will facilitate rather than hinder our work.
- Ensure that parents will not face additional costs by having to buy a different school uniform.
- Ensure that the special awards the children have worked hard to achieve will continue, such as the Language Charter Gold Award, Healthy Schools Award, Eco School, Unicef School, Quality Mark and Fair Trade.

# Extract 2

I am writing to you to express my support for the building of a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir. The following points clearly outline the urgent need:

#### **IMPACT ON THE CHILDREN**

- Lack of space for activities / targeting pupils / counselling time
- · Lack of space to provide areas for various activities
- Playing on the yard lack of space is already a problem this will not improve with more pupils – results in injuries and arguments
- Space for peripatetic teachers there is no space for peripatetic teachers e.g. music – they have to teach in corridors and use the hall which prevents other use being made of the hall.

# **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- **Services** the hall is overfull if we have a service for the whole school we cannot ensure that the whole school can have collective services safely.
- **Physical Education** in the hall it isn't safe or practical to conduct a physical education lesson for more 30 pupils in the hall.
- Lunch at the moment we are able to have two sittings at lunchtime, however, if the school continues to grow, 3 sittings will have to be considered which would mean that lunchtime would start at 11.30 and finish at 13.00 or 12.00 to 13.30. We will not have to introduce 3 lunch sittings until the school has 250 pupils. However, we already split classes for lunch i.e. not everyone in the same class has lunch at the same time. 3 lunch sittings would mean having to employ more supervisors, at extra cost to the school.
- Playing on the yard the yard is already too small and there have been a number of incidences of pupils being injured due to too many children playing on the yard – there is no way of managing this further.
- **Concerts** we are already having to use Capel Moreia as the school isn't big enough to hold whole school concerts. By moving to Capel Moreial we have to pay transport costs for the pupils (rehearsals and performances) and pay for hire.

- Lobbies there aren't enough pegs for all the pupils even though we have installed more over the years. The school has already invested in suitable storage for lunch boxes in the year 5 & 6 cabin to ensure the lobby is as tidy as possible to reduce risks. It is not possible to use this sort of solution in the other lobbies.
- Toilets there is one toilet in the infants section for the reception class (for girls and boys) with 5 WC's, there is one boys toilet (2 urinals and 1 WC) and one girls toilet (2 WC's) for years 1 & 2. In the junior section there is one WC and 3 urinals for year 3&4. There is also a boys toilet in the year 5&6 cabin with 3 WC's. For the girls, there is only one toilet for all the girls in the junior section, which is in the main building and it has a total of 3 WC's.
- **Disabled Toilet**: The school has one disabled toilet that meets the requirements and it is located in the cabin. The one in the front lobby doesn't meet the requirements as it cannot accommodate a wheelchair and two assistants at the same time. This means that if the school accepted a pupil in a wheelchair it would mean using the toilet in the cabin i.e. going out to the toilet and the only way of doing that is by going out through the front of the school and then through two external gates.
- **Children's changing areas:** There is no designated changing room for children who have wet themselves the staff have to deal with this in the general toilets, trying to be as sensitive as possible to the child's privacy. The school has 12 entrances / fire exits but only 3 of these have a level access.
- Accessibility for the disabled the building isn't completely accessible to any disabled pupil. The doors aren't wide enough and not all entrances are suitable for a wheelchair. If a disabled pupils attends the school in future, with so many pupils in each class, they wouldn't be able to get into the classroom.
- **General condition of the school** the property department has surveyed the site in the past and has identified specific aspects that need to be improved.

# **Council's Response**

The Council notes the responses provided by the staff at Ysgol Corn Hir, many of which have been presented by the Headteacher and will be considered as part of the consultation. See section 5.9 for the Council's response.

# 5.11 Views of children and young people at Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir

The consultation process with Children and Young People was carried out in accordance with Section 3.5 of the School Organisation Code 011/2018.

Council officers visited both schools, to find out their views on the proposal. Officers explained that the Council are responsible for schools on Anglesey and that they work as part of a team to support schools, the aim of that work being :

- To give all children the best chance to learn in excellent schools on the island.
- Ensure safe and strong school buildings.
- Ensure money for children and schools on Anglesey is spent in a fair way.
- To give everyone the opportunity to have a say in decisions that affect them and to make sure those voices are heard.

The children were reminded of Article 12: The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child i.e. 'Children have the right to say what they think should happen, when adults are making decisions that affect them, and to have their opinions taken into account'.

It was explained that the information they submitted will be transferred to a report and presented to Councillors as part of the Statutory Consultation who will then make a decision.

Officers explained what change there may be and the children were asked the following questions:

- What do you like about your current school?
- Is there anything you would like to change / improve at your current school?
- How do you get to your current school?
- How would you feel about the proposal?
- What would you like about the proposal?
- What wouldn't you like about the proposal?
- Do you have anything else you would like to say?

Their responses are noted below. During some sessions, some children wrote their comments on paper and these are presented in the children's language.

# 5.11.1 YSGOL BODFFORDD

Ysgol Bodffordd 26.02.2020	School Council and others
How many children?	24 children (6-11years old) 12 Female / 12 Male
What would change?	Ysgol Bodffordd may close and pupils at Ysgol Bodffordd will move to the new Ysgol Corn Hir.
Question	Answer
What do you like about Ysgol Bodffordd?	<ul> <li>After school activities (such as darts, bingo, Urdd, art).</li> <li>Everyone knows each other because it's a small school.</li> <li>Small school therefore easier to sort out bulling problems faster.</li> <li>Easy to make friends and mix.</li> <li>Grown up in the village and have many friends.</li> <li>Feeling safe – like a family / team and company to each other.</li> <li>Collaborate / mix with everyone in school e.g. Big kids at school can help toddlers at school.</li> <li>Healthy school, keep fit / exercise, nice food</li> <li>Playtime</li> <li>Kind / nice / polite teachers that are trusted – comfortable with the teachers.</li> <li>Teachers know them and are willing to listen.</li> <li>Have fun at school.</li> <li>Everyone has the opportunity to take part e.g. competitions, sports.</li> <li>Large yard.</li> <li>Everyone is kind.</li> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd likes to work outside the comfort zone.</li> <li>We have a breakfast club and we play cards and games until the bell and that's when school starts.</li> <li>School in the centre of a village – able to walk to school.</li> <li>Family ties – an old school member of their family.</li> <li>Old and brand new equipment.</li> <li>Like everything.</li> </ul>
Is there anything you would like to change / improve here at Ysgol Bodffordd?	<ul> <li>Extension to the building – modernise the building.</li> <li>Not many places to play out.</li> <li>There are no things to play with on the yard.</li> <li>Not enough space in the classroom.</li> <li>Toilets are flooding constantly.</li> <li>Want more things to do at the breakfast club.</li> <li>More teachers.</li> <li>Fewer children.</li> <li>Nothing.</li> <li>Bullying / bickering / arguing.</li> <li>The equipment is old.</li> </ul>
How do you come to Ysgol Bodffordd?	<ul> <li>Walking</li> <li>Biking / scooter / skateboard – as the school is so close.</li> <li>Car</li> </ul>

Ysgol Bodffordd 26.02.2020	School Council and others
	• Taxi
How would you feel about closing Ysgol Bodffordd and moving to the new Ysgol Corn Hir?	<ul> <li>Concerned</li> <li>Shy</li> <li>Unhappy – teachers stop working here</li> <li>Fearful</li> <li>Angry</li> <li>Sad</li> <li>Hate</li> <li>Disappointed</li> <li>Nervous</li> <li>Mixed feelings.</li> <li>Some happy to see friends from Ysgol Corn Hir / make new friends.</li> </ul>
What would you like about moving to the new Ysgol Corn Hir?	<ul> <li>Make new friends and have fun with them.</li> <li>Mix with other children more.</li> <li>More space</li> <li>More things to play – climbing frame, park</li> <li>Rugby and football pitch.</li> <li>Mix up Ysgol Corn Hir's school uniform and ours.</li> <li>Modern school</li> <li>Trying new things.</li> <li>Nothing</li> <li>New equipment</li> <li>Music room</li> <li>Seeing friends.</li> <li>Some don't want to change the colour of the uniform but maybe have a new logo.</li> <li>Seeing new people</li> <li>Closer to my house.</li> <li>Large library.</li> </ul>
What wouldn't you like about moving to the new Ysgol Corn Hir?	<ul> <li>Big school – not much attention.</li> <li>Increased bullying.</li> <li>Teachers not giving attention to children who need attention.</li> <li>Less opportunity as there are more children.</li> <li>No mix of children in a class – can't mix with other children.</li> <li>Having to travel further.</li> <li>Only the best children would have the opportunity to play sports e.g. rugby, football – not fair on people who want a chance.</li> <li>Cost of moving house – some can only walk to school / these having to look to move house.</li> <li>Don't want to make new friends / mix with other children.</li> <li>Noise in a large school.</li> <li>Can affect children's mental health.</li> </ul>

Ysgol Bodffordd 26.02.2020	School Council and others
Do you have anything else you would like to say?	<ul> <li>Important for children to have their say.</li> <li>Not able to concentrate in a larger school because there are so many children in the class.</li> <li>Where would the Cylch Meithrin go?</li> <li>Not fair that Ysgol Bodffordd is closing and Ysgol Corn Hir is not – feel left out.</li> <li>Small extension to existing building and modernise.</li> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd to remain open and Ysgol Corn Hir to have a new Building.</li> <li>The Councillors who are going to make the decision to close the school does not know how special the school is.</li> <li>Don't understand why they want to close the school because it's small.</li> <li>Worried about the people who will lose their jobs - staff from this school not moving to the new school.</li> <li>Some of our friends will not go to the new school and go to other schools instead.</li> <li>Travel further.</li> <li>Room to talk if you feel scared / sad or angry about something 'chill zone'.</li> <li>Let the children design the logo.</li> <li>Have a snack after every lunch break.</li> <li>Cylch Meithrin is good.</li> </ul>

# 5.11.2 YSGOL CORN HIR

Ysgol Corn Hir	School Council and others
25.02.2020	
How many children?	20 children (6-11years old) 10 Female / 10 Male
What would change?	This may mean that we will build a new school for Corn Hir.
	And pupils at Ysgol Bodffordd may be moving to the new Ysgol Corn Hir as Ysgol Bodffordd is closing.
Question	Answer
What do you like about Ysgol Corn Hir?	<ul> <li>The school is a safe and secure place that's not close to the main road.</li> <li>The Dingle is close to the school site.</li> <li>We support charities.</li> <li>We support our language.</li> <li>We represent the school in sport.</li> <li>We learn about the dialect of Anglesey.</li> <li>We have a cosy hut for worried children.</li> <li>We use fair trade items.</li> <li>Children have an opportunity to Express their views e.g. School Council.</li> </ul>
Is there anything you would like to change / improve here at Ysgol Corn Hir?	<ul> <li>There are no toilets for the girls in the caban.</li> <li>The hall is not big enough for some activities.</li> <li>There is not enough space in the school.</li> <li>Water leaks into the reception class.</li> <li>We need more space to keep our coats.</li> <li>The climbing frame is dangerous as it is broken.</li> <li>The pegs in the caban are broken.</li> <li>There is not enough security at school.</li> <li>The hall roof tiles are breaking.</li> </ul>
How do you come to Ysgol Corn Hir?	<ul> <li>Scooters</li> <li>Bikes</li> <li>Walking</li> <li>Car</li> </ul>
How would you feel about moving to a new Building with Ysgol Bodffordd pupils joining?	<ul> <li>Nice to have more space.</li> <li>Exciting</li> <li>Shy</li> <li>Nervous</li> <li>Confident</li> <li>Uncomfortable to begin with</li> <li>Enterprising</li> <li>More friends</li> <li>Concerned about the behaviour of pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd.</li> </ul>
What would you like about moving to a new Building with	<ul> <li>Have a place for a Christmas show.</li> <li>Have more space to exercise.</li> <li>Have more friends.</li> <li>Getting new equipment (exercise equipment / IT equipment).</li> </ul>

Ysgol Corn Hir 25.02.2020	School Council and others
Ysgol Bodffordd joining?	<ul> <li>Keep the name 'Ysgol Corn Hir'.</li> <li>There will be more empty rooms (for after school club and meetings / art room etc.).</li> <li>Retain our gold awards.</li> <li>Have a music room.</li> <li>Keep our school clothes / or not.</li> </ul>
What wouldn't you like about moving to a new Building with Ysgol Bodffordd pupils joining?	<ul> <li>More cars will be coming to school.</li> <li>We will have to buy new equipment.</li> <li>Some children will be shy around new teachers and pupils.</li> <li>The Dingle will not be as close.</li> </ul>
Do you have anything else you would like to say?	<ul> <li>Have a minibus to school.</li> <li>A lot of parking space.</li> <li>Lockers to keep coats and bags.</li> <li>Have a scooter and bike storage hut.</li> <li>Some Bodffordd children will not be able to walk to school.</li> <li>Opportunity to design a new logo with Bodffordd children.</li> </ul>

# 5.11.3 Council's response

The response to the consultation provided by the children and young people at both schools will be considered with the other stakeholder responses received.

# 5.12 Estyn's Response

In accordance with the School Organisation code (011/2018) Estyn's response to the consultation is set out in full below.( The bold letters have been inserted by the Council).

Estyn's response to the proposal by Ynys Mon Council to re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir

This report has been prepared by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education and Training in Wales.

Under the terms of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and its associated Code, proposers are required to send consultation documents to Estyn. However, Estyn is not a body which is required to act in accordance with the Code and the Act places no statutory requirements on Estyn in respect of school organisation matters. Therefore as a body being consulted, Estyn will provide their opinion only on the overall merits of school organisation proposals.

Estyn has considered the educational aspects of the proposal and has produced the following response to the information provided by the proposer.

# Introduction

This is a proposal by Ynys Mon Council to re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site and to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir.

The proposer notes that the new school building will accommodate all pupils from the current Ysgol Corn Hir and Ysgol Bodffordd and will meet estimated future demand including nursery provision. Ysgol Bodffordd will close.

The proposer explains clearly the reasoning behind the proposal, set against the key drivers for change in the Ynys Mon School Modernisation Strategy. These include, improving education standards; ensuring that school buildings are fit for purpose; improving Leadership and Management; reducing the number of surplus places; reducing the overall cost of education and the variation in the cost per pupil; maintaining and improving Welsh medium provision and increasing the community use of school buildings.

# Summary/Conclusion

Estyn believes that the proposal is likely to at least maintain the current standards in terms of education, provision, and leadership and management.

# **Description and benefits**

The proposer has identified a clear rationale for the proposal and gives reasons why change is necessary, including the strengths and weaknesses of the status quo. The proposer has identified five main risks to the proposal and clearly outlined how they would be managed.

The proposer lists a number of advantages to the proposal set against the key drivers for change, such as, the increased opportunities for staff to develop subject specific expertise across the curriculum and to address the needs of all pupils including pupils with ALN and the more able and talented pupils. The Headteacher would have no specific teaching commitment, this would help to support and increase leadership capacity. The proposal would also address the need to improve the current school buildings to meet 21st Century school standards.

The proposer also lists the possible disadvantages to the proposal, such as, that the good standards that already exist in the current Ysgol Corn Hir would not necessarily transfer across to the new school and the longer travel distances for the majority of Ysgol Bodffordd pupils.

The proposer has given suitable consideration to other options, for example, establishing a formal federation, building one large primary school, and building a new all age school. Whilst the proposer recognises the advantages and disadvantages of each option, it concludes that there neither of these options are viable. In addition, the alternatives do not meet the drivers of the modernisation strategy or indeed the challenges which the schools currently face.

#### Educational aspects of the proposal

The proposer has given appropriate consideration to the effects of the proposal on the quality of outcomes, provision, and leadership and management. It has identified that a wider variety of facilities will be available, in addition to better access to resources and staffing. These are likely to have a positive impact on wellbeing and attitudes to learning of all pupils in the new Ysgol Corn Hir. It states that a larger team of staff will be able to provide a wider range of expertise in areas of the curriculum and in terms of leading whole school initiatives. It identifies that it will be able to provide more opportunities for staff to develop their skills to address the needs of more vulnerable and more able and talented pupils.

The proposal has given reasonable consideration to the latest Estyn inspection reports for the two schools. Estyn's report on Ysgol Bodffordd identifies the school's current performance as improving. The reports for Ysgol Corn Hir identify that the schools' current overall performance is good.

The proposer has undertaken a full impact assessment for each school in relation to the possible impact on the community, the travel arrangements for pupils and the quality of education. In order to mitigate against any adverse effects the authority is committed to providing transport for the majority of pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd to the new Ysgol Corn Hir in accordance with the Council's transport policy for schools. The proposer is committed to working with the community in Bodffordd to ensure the long-term viability of the present community centre. In addition, for both schools, it is anticipated that there would a positive impact on the quality and standards in education as teachers would be better able to manage classes where all pupils would be taught within the same key stage.

The proposer has undertaken a comprehensive impact assessment for its potential impact on equality, the Welsh language and the community. The conclusion indicates that the proposal would have a positive impact on equality and the Welsh language, it is

therefore reasonable to believe that there will be no negative effect on the Welsh language or Welsh-medium provision in the area. The proposer also shows how the proposal meets the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

# Council's Response

There were no issues identified within Estyn's response for the Council to respond to or clarify further.

# 6. COMMENTS RECEIVED IN RESPECT OF THE REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

In accordance with the School Organisation Code (011/2018) stakeholders were given an opportunity to make representations regarding the alternatives to closure identified by the Council (6.2) as well as the main proposal. Stakeholders were also given the opportunity to suggest other alternatives to closure which would address the key challenges Ysgol Bodffordd faces which the Council is seeking to address.

# 6.1 Key Challenges Faced by Ysgol Bodffordd

A description of the key challenges Ysgol Bodffordd faces and how they will be addressed by the proposal were presented in the consultation document and are available in following table.

Specific Factors	Key challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd	How they will be addressed by the proposal?
Pupil Numbers	<ul> <li>Insufficient capacity at Ysgol Bodffordd:</li> <li>Currently Ysgol Bodffordd is oversubscribed by approximately 11%.</li> <li>As at October 2019: Ysgol Bodffordd had 69 Pupils on the roll with 41 pupils attending from within the catchment area.(59%)</li> <li>10% not in the catchment area of Ysgol Bodffordd come from the catchment area of Ysgol Corn Hir [7 Pupils]</li> <li>Projected pupil numbers at Ysgol Bodffordd are expected to increase by September 2024.</li> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd – Capacity excluding nursery 63 /Projected 77 in 2024.</li> </ul>	The new Ysgol Corn Hir will have sufficient places to meet demand. In addition, pupils from Bodffordd will be taught in closer age-range classes. There will also be less movement of pupils across catchment areas.
Curriculum delivery	<ul> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd has limited space to deliver the Curriculum for Wales (CFW) in the medium to long term.</li> </ul>	The new Ysgol Corn Hir will be purpose built to deliver the new Curriculum for Wales (CFW). It will be better equipped to be able to deliver the full curriculum in an appropriate, differentiated, broad and varied manner which will benefit all pupils.
Cost per pupil	<ul> <li>Variation in the cost per pupil:</li> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd 2019/20=£4,274</li> <li>The Anglesey primary average cost per pupil for 2019/20 is £3,988</li> <li>There is a need to reduce the variation in cost per pupil across the Council. It could be argued that the smaller schools are receiving what is</li> </ul>	There would be a reduction in the average cost per pupil in the new Ysgol Corn Hir. The approximate projected cost per pupil in the new Ysgol Corn Hir would be £3,736.

Specific Factors	Key challenge	s faced by Ysgol Bodffordd	How they will be addressed by the proposal?	
	equal to additional finance to maintain minimum staffing levels and that the largest schools are losing out as a result.		This would lead to revenue savings for the Council.	
School building	Ysgol Bodffordd building has current and projected future maintenance of £134,000 (2019) and a condition rating B (Satisfactory, performing as intended but exhibiting minor deterioration). Ysgol Bodffordd building has some disabled access issues and only partially conform to the requirements expected under the Equality Act 2010.		A new 21 <sup>st</sup> century building will be designed to have low maintenance costs with an excellent BREEAM rating. The current and projected future maintenance spend for Ysgol Bodffordd building of £134,000 (2019) would be eliminated. The new Ysgol Corn Hir will be fully compliant with the Equality Act 2010.	
Standards	Schools receive support from GwE, the School Effectiveness and Improvement Service for North Wales). The table below highlights the GwE categories		The new Ysgol Corn Hir will be expected to retain the Green (A) status categorisation held by the current	
	from 2015-201 Year	Ysgol Bodffordd	Ysgol Corn Hir, and in a position to maintain	
	2019	Yellow ( B)	their Estyn gradings of Excellent and Good.	
	2018	Yellow		
	2017	Amber		
	2016	Amber		
	2015	Amber		
	(a school in thi days of suppor Ysgol Bodfford Amber in 2015 The current sta the short term (Yellow suppor	d's category has improved from to Yellow (B) in 2019. andards could be maintained in at Ysgol Bodffordd. Yellow B. t category, and award B for the ve according to the school		

Specific Factors	Key challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd	How they will be addressed by the proposal?
	The table shows a summary of Estyn inspections for Ysgol BodfforddInspection dateJune 2015StandardsAdequateWellbeingGoodand attitudes to learningImage: Cool of the standardsTeachingAdequateand Learning experiencesCoolCare,GoodSupport and LeadershipAdequateand managementAdequate	
Teaching Commitment of the Headteacher	Ysgol Bodffordd – average of 80% teaching commitment (Headteachers confirmation – September 2019). The need to balance the teaching commitment of 80% at Ysgol Bodffordd with general day to day leadership requirements is a real challenge.	In the new Ysgol Corn Hir, it is foreseen that the Headteacher will have no specific teaching commitment. It is possible to build on and develop a senior management team further which could improve leadership and management.
Finance	Ysgol Bodffordd - 3% over budget (2019/20) and will not make up the shortfall until 2021/22 when they expect pupil numbers to increase. The position above is at a time when the Local Council is looking to save approximately £6.7m over the forthcoming 3 years.	Larger Schools are in a better position to achieve class sizes which are closer to the optimum pupil teacher ratio, ensuring efficient class sizes.

# 6.2 Reasonable Alternatives Considered as an Alternative to Closure for Ysgol Bodffordd

In this section in accordance with the School Organisation Code (011/2018), the Council takes into account comments received during the consultation as an alternative to the proposal and the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd, and gives its response by way of clarification, amendment to the proposal or rejection of concerns with supporting reasons.

The reasonable alternatives seen below were presented by the Council to stakeholders in the consultation document. Over 450 stakeholders provided comments during the consultation period.

Reasonable Alternatives presented by the Council	Comments received from stakeholders during the consultation	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, or rejection of concerns with supporting reasons)
Build a new 21 <sup>st</sup> Century primary for Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir and close both schools. Based on approx. cost of £9.5m.	This option is fairer than the Councils proposal. It is fairer to close both schools and build a new school to accommodate pupils from both. The Council's proposal is unfair to Ysgol Bodffordd.	To build a new 21 <sup>st</sup> Century primary for Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir and close both schools is rejected by the Council as there is a risk that the good standards currently seen at the current Ysgol Corn Hir will not transfer over to the new school. The current Ysgol Corn Hir is categorised as "Green A". (Green support category, and award A for the ability to improve according to the school categorisation procedure).It is essential that this "Green A" categorisation status is maintained in the new Ysgol Corn Hir.
	(Suggested by approximately 61 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	
Retain the status quo - Leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is. Based on no capital costs incurred.	Provide a new School for Corn Hir - But Leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is (Keep Bodffordd Open).	The Council in 6.4.2 considers this alternative of a new school for Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is, as suggested by stakeholders.
	Suggested by approximately 40 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	
Federate Ysgol Bodffordd with Ysgol Corn Hir Based on no capital costs incurred.	Respondents suggested they would prefer the option of federation to the proposal. However most were keen to federate with another similar school rather	Federating Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir is rejected by the Council. This reasonable alternative alone does not address the key challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd or Ysgol Corn Hir. There would not be sufficient capacity within the Bodffordd/ Corn Hir area to accommodate the projected future pupil numbers. In addition, the Executive also resolved on 25 March 2019, that

Reasonable Alternatives presented by the Council	Comments received from stakeholders during the consultation	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, or rejection of concerns with supporting reasons)
	than Ysgol Corn Hir such as Ysgol Henblas	Ysgol Henblas be removed from the Llangefni area proposal, as assurances had been received in relation to improved standards and an increase in pupil numbers. Ysgol Henblas is therefore not part of this proposal.
Cluster / collaboration arrangement -Ysgol Bodffordd with Ysgol Corn Hir Based on no capital costs incurred.	There was some suggestion of the good collaboration between schools in the Llangefni area at present.	Cluster / collaboration arrangement -Ysgol Bodffordd with Ysgol Corn Hir is rejected by the Council. This reasonable alternative alone does not address the key challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd or Ysgol Corn Hir. There would not be sufficient capacity within the Bodffordd/ Corn Hir area to accommodate the projected future pupil numbers.
Establish a multi – site school, Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir Based on approx. £3.4m cost to extend both schools. (An extension would be required as both schools are oversubscribed).	Comments were received in relation to extending both schools on their current sites. (Suggested by approximately 50 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	Extending the footprints of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir was considered in the consultation document and rejected. There is insufficient space within the existing sites to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas. There is no other available adjoining land at either site available to purchase.
Address current and projected future maintenance spend at Ysgol Bodffordd Based on borrowing of £134k over 20 years.	There has been a lack of investment in maintenance by the Council in recent years – the school is not to blame for this. (Comment by the Ysgol Bodffordd Governors)	The Council does not have the financial resource to maintain 40 Primary Schools, 5 Secondary Schools and 1 Special School to the desired level in the current climate and following years of austerity. The Council undertake a condition survey on all schools each year, and the work required at each school is put into a category (A-D) based on the priority for the work to be undertaken, taking considerations of aspects such as condition of the asset, and health and safety considerations. Work identified for category D and C will be prioritised, whereas works identified which falls into categories B and A will only be undertaken if there is funding remaining after the completion of all works in categories D and C. The total current and projected future maintenance spend for all schools stands at approximately £22m. The total current and projected future maintenance cost for Ysgol Bodffordd is £134,000 – Approximately 0.609% (1/164) of the total. The table below reflects the current and projected maintenance spend for the 8 school buildings that

				A	APPENDIX 1
Reasonable Alternatives presented by the Council	Comments received from stakeholders during the consultation	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, or rejection of concerns with supporting reasons)			
		have an area of less than 600m <sup>2</sup> (for the purpose of this table the cost associated with the Portacabin at Ysgol Talwrn has been removed).			
		School	Pupil Numbers PLASC 2019	Area	Current and projected future maintenance spend £
		Bodffordd	70	470	134,000
		Talwrn	45	302	110,500
		Carreglefn	23	224	46,500
		Llanbedrgoch	24	320	168,500
		Llangoed	69	572	114,000
		Henblas	86	533	138,000
		Pencarnisiog	69	575	98,000
		Rhosybol	58	551	96,500
		Average	56	443	113,250
		<ul> <li>maintenance specovers expenditu</li> <li>Resurfacing of</li> <li>Internal and Ex</li> <li>Replacement of</li> <li>Refurbishment etc.</li> <li>New fencing, g</li> <li>Lighting replace</li> <li>Rewiring</li> <li>Roof Replacer</li> <li>The table above projected future of Bodffordd is com of similar size.</li> <li>This shows that treated less favo</li> <li>This reasonable Council as seen</li> </ul>	are such as, school yard kternal Re-d of doors and of kitchens gates or othe ement nent shows that maintenance parable to o Ysgol Bodffo urable than alternative v	but not ds / car lecoration l window, classro er acces the curr e spend other sc ordd ha other so	limited to: parks ng ws ooms, toilets as systems. Fent and d at Ysgol hool buildings s not been chools.
Extend footprint of Ysgol Bodffordd to make the school a	Extending the current Ysgol Bodffordd by one or two classrooms.	Extending the for considered in the rejected.			
larger learning environment	012201001115.				

Reasonable Alternatives presented by the Council	Comments received from stakeholders during the consultation	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, or rejection of concerns with supporting reasons)
Based on an extension to accommodate 60 additional pupils'. Based on approx. cost of £1.7m.	( Suggested by approximately 61 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	To make Ysgol Bodffordd a larger learning environment to accommodate 60 additional pupils, an extension of 180m <sup>2</sup> would be required. The current site has 2,578m <sup>2</sup> external area. The Building Bulletin 103 - Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools 2014 (which sets out the required building and site areas required when designing new schools) require at least 2,975m <sup>2</sup> external area for a school of this size. An extension of 180m <sup>2</sup> would reduce the external area to 2,398m <sup>2</sup> . Council is of the opinion that there is insufficient space within the current site to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas. No other available adjoining land is available to purchase.
Install temporary classrooms at Ysgol Bodffordd Based on borrowing £550k over 10 years.	Why not have a Portacabin on the Ysgol Bodffordd site to address the oversubscription. (Suggested by approximately 5 stakeholders out of over 450 responses)	To install temporary classrooms at Ysgol Bodffordd is rejected by the Council . There is no sufficient area available at the Ysgol Bodffordd site to locate a temporary classroom without impacting on the available external play areas.

Reasonable alternatives for the Llangefni area were also considered by the Council prior to deciding on the proposal for consultation.

Here are some of the Llangefni area reasonable alternatives presented to stakeholders in the consultation document with their comments and the Council's response.

Reasonable Alternatives presented by the Council	Comments received from stakeholders during the consultation	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)
Federate Ysgol Bodffordd, Ysgol Corn Hir, Ysgol Y Graig, Ysgol Talwrn with Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni (Secondary School). Based on no capital expenditure incurred.	Respondents suggested they would prefer the option of federation to the proposal. However, most were keen to federate with another similar school rather than Ysgol Corn Hir such as Ysgol Henblas	Federating the four primary schools with the Secondary school for Llangefni is rejected by the Council as noted in the consultation document reference 6.3.13. In addition, the Executive also resolved on 25 March 2019, that Ysgol Henblas be removed from the Llangefni area proposal, as assurances had been received in relation to improved standards and an increase in pupil numbers. Ysgol Henblas is therefore not part of this proposal.
Federate Ysgol Y Graig (YYG) and Ysgol Corn Hir (Move Ysgol Corn Hir (YCH) to a newly built school and increase capacity of Ysgol Corn Hir). Extend the federation later on to include Ysgol Bodffordd, Ysgol Talwrn and Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni under one governing body. Based on approx. £9.5m cost.	No specific comments received.	<ul> <li>This option would mean leaving Ysgol y Graig, Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Talwrn as they are.</li> <li>This reasonable alternative would not address: <ul> <li>The need for additional school places in the Llangefni area.Pupil projections including pupils arising from new housing developments show that there is likely to be 764 pupils at the 4 primary schools (Bodffordd, the new Corn Hir, Talwrn and Y Graig) whereas current capacity in the four primary schools would be 742 places, which leaves a shortfall of 22 spaces.</li> <li>The condition of the school buildings would not be improved.</li> </ul> </li> <li>This reasonable alternative is rejected and not considered further as noted in the</li> </ul>

Reasonable Alternatives presented by the Council	Comments received from stakeholders during the consultation	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)
		consultation document reference 6.3.14.
A new All-age School for Llangefni to include Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni, Ysgol Bodffordd, Ysgol Corn Hir, Ysgol y Graig and Ysgol Talwrn. An All-age school are those that combine primary and secondary education in one establishment. Based on approx £22.46m cost.	No specific comments received.However there were two suggestions of an All- age multi-site school for Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni , Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir	An All- age multi-site school for Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni , Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir is considered in 6.4.7
Extend all the primary schools. Based on approx. borrowing £7m over 50 years.	No specific comments received.	<ul> <li>This reasonable alternative was assessed and rejected as seen in the consultation document reference 6.3.16.</li> <li>There is insufficient space within the current Ysgol Bodffordd site to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas. No other available adjoining land is available to purchase.</li> <li>Additional land around the Ysgol Talwrn site would need to be acquired for the primary school to have sufficient parking space and sufficient educational play space that the new Curriculum for Wales requires and to bring the school up to near 21st Century School standard.</li> <li>There is insufficient space within the current Ysgol Corn Hir site to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas. No other available adjoining land is available to purchase.</li> <li>Extending Ysgol y Graig and increasing its capacity by 60 would not lead to sufficient capacity in the primary schools in the Llangefni area.</li> </ul>

Reasonable Alternatives presented by the Council	Comments received from stakeholders during the consultation	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)
Clustering, collaboration of primary schools in Llangefni area. Based on no capital expenditure incurred.	It was stated by the Ysgol Bodffordd Headtacher that "there is very close collaboration between all schools in the Llangefni catchment area and consequently all schools share good practice and expertise and as a result standards improve in every school". "This close collaboration has led to schools collaborating on School Development Plan priorities. The collaboration has led to the Llangefni Catchment Area being named at a GwE conference as an example of good practice that should be shared"	The Council welcomes the close collaboration between the Llangefni schools. This reasonable alternative alone does not address many of the key challenges for schools within the Llangefni area. There would not be sufficient capacity within the Llangefni primary schools to accommodate the projected future pupil numbers. This reasonable alternative was rejected by the Council as seen in the consultation document reference 6.3.17.

No specific comments were received from stakeholders during the consultation period on the following reasonable alternatives presented by the Council.

Reasonable Alternatives presented by the Council – No specific comments received

Accommodate Nursery, Years 0-1 at Ysgol Bodffordd and Years 2-6 at Ysgol Corn Hir, for pupils of both schools

Based on approx. £3.4m cost to extend both schools.

Use Ysgol Bodffordd as a community hub to accommodate/ support community services Based on no capital costs incurred.

**Co-locate local services within Ysgol Bodffordd** Based on no capital costs incurred.

Build another floor on Ysgol Bodffordd Based on approx. cost of £1.7m.

#### 6.3 Presumption Against the Closure of Rural Schools

The school organisation code (011/2018) makes special arrangements in regard to rural schools establishing a <u>procedural presumption</u> against their closure.

As the proposal included the possibility of closing Ysgol Bodffordd which is on the list of rural schools each reasonable alternative considered for Ysgol Bodffordd by the Council was also assessed in relation to the likely impact on:

- Quality and Standards in Education
- The community, and
- Travelling arrangements for pupils.
- **6.3.1** In response to the consultation, stakeholders provided further information/ comments in respect of the proposal and other reasonable alternatives considered (section 6.2) in relation to their impacts on quality and standards in education, the community, and travelling arrangements for pupils.
- 6.3.2 The Council has assessed the further information/comments from stakeholders in relation to their impacts on quality and standards in education, the community, and travelling arrangements for pupils on the proposal and the reasonable alternatives in (6.2) and the sets its response in accordance with the school organisation code (011/2018) in the table below. The table summaries stakeholder's comments.

Impacts	Further information / comments from Stakeholders	Council's further assessment/ response
Impact on Quality and Standards	<ul> <li>Estyn's thematic report "Small Schools in Wales (2006)" notes that there is no real difference between education standards in small and large schools, but "It can be harder for teachers in smaller schools to correspond the work to pupils' needs as pupils in a class can vary greatly in terms of age and stages of development". This is also true of large urban schools. It is a necessity and a fact of life and work in larger schools that teachers have to prepare work for a range of levels and for a number of different ages in classes to respond to the educational needs of the children in the classes, just as teachers in smaller schools succeed in providing for different age ranges. The children benefit greatly from associating and co- learning with children of different ages.</li> <li>It is fair to note that there is very close collaboration between all schools in the Llangefni catchment</li> </ul>	The Council in its original assessment considered that because standards at Ysgol Corn Hir are higher than the standards at Ysgol Bodffordd, that this would lead to a positive impact on Quality and Standards in terms of the proposal, and the possibility of a neutral/negative impact on Quality and standards in terms of the other reasonable alternatives. After reviewing the further information /comments from stakeholders the Council concludes that because standards at Ysgol Bodffordd have improved from Amber in 2015 to Yellow in 2019 (as seen in the table below), that leaving Ysgol Bodffordd as it is could lead to a positive impact on the quality and standards in education moving forward. (See other reasonable alternative 6.4.2).

-			
Impacts	Further information / comments from Stakeholders	Council's further assessment/ response	
	area and consequently all schools	Categorisation–Source GwE Nov19	
	share good practice and expertise and as a result, standards improve	Year Ysgol Ysgol Bodffordd Corn Hir	
	in every school.	Bodffordd Corn Hir 2019 Yellow (B) Green	
		2018 Yellow Green	
		2017 Amber Green	
		2016 Amber Green	
		2015 Amber Green	
		Schools receive support from GwE. Ysgol Bodffordd is categorised Yellow B (Yellow support category, and award B for the ability to improve according to the school categorisation procedure).	
Impact on the Community	The closure of a village school would of course have an effect in the short term, the medium term but the long- term impact of losing a school such as Ysgol Bodffordd would be negative and would deprive the area of the activity created by young people. This can be seen across Wales, in those small villages where the local school has closed and the village has died. This negative impact is undeniable.	The Council in its original assessment considered that the impact of closing Ysgol Bodffordd would have a neutral effect on the community as, the Council would want to work with the community to ensure the continuation of the community centre. The facilities in the new Ysgol Corn Hir would also be available for the Bodffordd community if additional capacity was required. The Council concludes that leaving Ysgol Bodffordd as it is would have	
		no impact on the current community centre. (See other reasonable alternative 6.4.2).	
Impact on different travelling arrangements	Ysgol Gymuned Bodffordd (YGB) is very concerned about the expectation and requirement for children to travel to Llangefni Town (the site of a new school) and perhaps having to travel by bus. YGB parents also have concerns about this matter. Families from Bodffordd and YGB would be forced to travel. As a result, there would be an increase in travelling arrangements for parents of both schools, although environmentally friendly travel on buses and by walking has been mentioned.	The Council in its original assessment considered that the impact of closing Ysgol Bodffordd would have a negative effect on the different travelling arrangement for some pupils, and acknowledged that there will be some additional travelling time for some pupils. October 2019 figures suggested that around <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub> will live closer to the proposed site [near Corn Hir] and therefore will benefit in terms of travelling arrangements. Around <sup>2</sup> / <sub>3</sub> of pupils, the majority from Bodffordd, would need to travel	

		· · · · ·
Impacts	Further information / comments from Stakeholders	Council's further assessment/ response
		further to the new proposed site near the Corn Hir area. As at October 2019, 41% of Ysgol Bodffordd pupils came from outside the catchment area which would suggest that some parents are prepared for their children to travel to school.
	There is no safe walking route between Bodffordd and Llangefni.	Our calculation based on October 2019 figures suggest that 27 children who attend Ysgol Bodffordd walk to school (based on a ½ a mile distance from the school to their home). As the route from Bodffordd to Llangefni on the B5109 is classed as a hazardous route, the Council would provide transportation for these pupils, meaning they would be unlikely to walk or cycle to school. The proposed travelling time from Ysgol Bodffordd on a bus to the new proposed site for the new Ysgol Corn Hir is approximately 8 minutes.
	There have been a number of accidents in recent years where children have been hit by buses/cars. Closing YGB and forcing children to travel to Llangefni would increase traffic in this area and increase the possibility of an accident.	According to the Council's accident and incident reporting system (ADIR), no incidents relating to children being hit by buses / cars in relation to children from Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir have been reported since April 2015. The Council concludes that leaving Ysgol Bodffordd as it is would have no impact on the current travelling
		arrangements. See other reasonable alternative 6.4.2).

- **6.3.3** Should the original proposal to close Ysgol Bodffordd be approved, the Council In order to mitigate against any adverse effects would be committed to:
  - Working with the community in Bodffordd to ensure the long-term viability of the present Community Centre [drawing on previous experience in another area of the Island], and
  - Providing transport for pupils attending Ysgol Bodffordd to the new Ysgol Corn Hir in accordance with the Council's transport policy for schools.
- **6.3.4** However if the Council decides not to close Ysgol Bodffordd and leaves it as it is, then in its further assessment concludes:
  - That leaving Ysgol Bodffordd as it is could lead to a positive impact on the quality and standards in education moving forward.
  - That leaving Ysgol Bodffordd as it is would have less impact on the current community centre.
  - That leaving Ysgol Bodffordd as it is would have less impact on the current travelling arrangements.

#### 6.4 Other Reasonable Alternatives Suggested During The Consultation Period

In accordance with the School Organisation Code (011/2018) stakeholders were given the opportunity to suggest <u>other</u> alternatives to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd which would address the reasons for closure (i.e. the key challenges Ysgol Bodffordd faces which the Council is seeking to address as stated in section 6.1 of this report).

The following table contains suggestions by stakeholders (from over 320 responses), as alternatives to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd, (not already considered by the Council in 6.2). The suggestions are considered as to whether they meet the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces or not, and the Council's response.

Other reasonable alternatives suggested by stakeholders to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd	Does the other reasonable alternative suggested meet the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)
<b>6.4.1</b> New school for Corn Hir - modernise /extend Ysgol Bodffordd with one extra classroom (additional 30 pupils) or two extra classrooms (60 additional pupils)	<ul> <li>This alternative could address the:</li> <li>Insufficient capacity at Ysgol Bodffordd , and</li> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd school building compliance with the Equality Act 2010</li> </ul>	The revised cost of building a new Ysgol Corn Hir with an increased capacity for 300 pupils would be £ 9,293,600 which is within the School Modernisation budget.
Approximately 140 stakeholders suggested this alternative or similar out of over 320 responses		classroom extension at Ysgol Bodffordd (additional 90m <sup>2</sup> extension for 30 children with classroom / cloaks/ toilets) the cost would be £738,030. Breakdown of cost
		Current and Projected Future Maintenance spend = £ 150,000. (New kitchen, toilets, car park, fencing)
		90m <sup>2</sup> Extension x £ 2,775/m <sup>2</sup> (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019), under the 21st Century Schools programme) = £249,750
		IT and Fixtures Fittings and Equipment costs for extension 30 children x £ 1,776 / child (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools ( 2019) under the 21st Century Schools programme)= £ 53,280

		AFFENDIA
Other reasonable alternatives suggested by stakeholders to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd	Does the other reasonable alternative suggested meet the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)
		<ul> <li>Refurbishment works to bring the building up to 21st Century standard =£ 210,000 (New windows and doors, LED lighting, floor finishes, ceilings, painting)</li> <li>Extension to external hard play area following construction of the extension =£ 75,000</li> <li>The current site has 2,578m<sup>2</sup> external area. The Building Bulletin 103 - Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools 2014 (which sets out the required building and site areas required when designing new schools) require at least 2,750m<sup>2</sup> external area for a school of this size. An extension of 90m<sup>2</sup> would reduce the external area to 2,488m<sup>2</sup>.</li> <li>This alternative is rejected because:</li> <li>There is insufficient space within the current site to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas. No other available adjoining land is available to purchase.</li> <li>The total cost of a new school for Corn Hir and one classroom extension for Ysgol Bodffordd would be £ 10,032m which is higher than the New Ysgol Corn Hir proposal cost of £9.527m.</li> <li>To provide a two new additional classroom extension at Ysgol Bodffordd (additional 180m<sup>2</sup> extension for 60 children with classroom / cloaks/ toilets) the cost would be£ 1,116,060.</li> </ul>

Other reasonable alternatives suggested by stakeholders to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd	Does the other reasonable alternative suggested meet the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)
		Breakdown of cost
		Current and Projected Future Maintenance spend = £ 150,000. (New kitchen, toilets, car park, fencing)
		180m <sup>2</sup> Extension x £ 2,775/m <sup>2</sup> (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019), under the 21st Century Schools programme) = £ 499,500
		IT and Fixtures Fittings and Equipment costs for extension 60 children x £ 1,776 /child (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019) under the 21st Century Schools programme) = £ 106,560
		Refurbishment works to bring the building up to 21st Century standard =£ 210,000 (New windows and doors, LED lighting, floor finishes, ceilings, painting)
		Extension to external hard play area following construction of the extension = £150,000
		The current site has 2,578m <sup>2</sup> external area. The Building Bulletin 103 - Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools 2014 (which sets out the required building and site areas required when designing new schools) require at least 2,975m <sup>2</sup> external area for a school of this size. An extension of 180m <sup>2</sup> would reduce the external area to 2,398m <sup>2</sup> .
		This alternative is rejected because:

AFFEINDIA			
Other reasonable alternatives suggested by stakeholders to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd	Does the other reasonable alternative suggested meet the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)	
		<ul> <li>There is insufficient space within the current site to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas. No other available adjoining land is available to purchase.</li> <li>The total cost for a new school for Corn Hir and two classroom extension at Ysgol Bodffordd would be £ 10,409,660 which is higher than the New Ysgol Corn Hir proposal cost of £ 9,527,360.</li> </ul>	
6.4.2 New School for Corn Hir - Leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is (Keep Bodffordd Open) Approximately 40 stakeholders suggested this alternative or similar out of over 320 responses	<ul> <li>This alternative could address the key challenges as seen below:</li> <li>Insufficient capacity at Ysgol Bodffordd. The school was oversubscribed by approximately 11 %.( PLASC January 2019.) However, the PLASC January 2020 figures show that the oversubscription has fallen to 5%. Some stakeholders also indicated that they would want to send their children to the new Ysgol Corn Hir, which may still be the case, even if Ysgol Bodffordd remains open.</li> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd could collaborate with neighbouring schools to deliver the Curriculum for Wales (CFW).</li> <li>Standards -Ysgol Bodffordd's category as indicated by GwE has improved from Amber in 2015 to Yellow (B) in 2019.Ysgol Bodffordd' s Headteacher also states "there is very close collaboration between all schools in the Llangefni catchment area and consequently all schools share good practice and expertise and as a result standards improve in every school."</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The revised cost of building a new Ysgol Corn Hir with an increased capacity for 300 pupils would be £9,293,600 which is within the school modernisation budget.</li> <li>The Council considers that this other reasonable alternative could address most of the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces, namely oversubscription, delivering the Curriculum for Wales, school standards, Leadership and management, school finances as indicated in the column alongside.</li> </ul>	

AFFENDIA I		
Other reasonable alternatives suggested by stakeholders to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd	Does the other reasonable alternative suggested meet the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)
	<ul> <li>Leadership and Management - The Headteacher of Ysgol Bodffordd states "There's no denying that there is a lot of pressure in terms of leadership and learning on small village / rural schools, but there are many important positive factors that make it an interesting job that sharpens the mind – there is variety in the staff's work, the requirements and expectations are challenging and varied, all members of staff are developed in terms of leadership and management roles in a small school "</li> <li>Although Ysgol Bodffordd was still in a deficit position at the end of 2019/20 financial year (as forecasted), the school has demonstrated that they will be in a surplus position by the end of 2020/21 financial year.</li> <li>This option would result in future cost avoidance of £90k for the council against the transport heading. Under the status quo, due to Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn forecasted to be overcapacity, 3 buses would be required to transport pupils to schools outside their catchment areas where there is spare capacity. Under this option, pupils would not need to be transported to schools outside their catchment areas.</li> </ul>	
<b>6.4.3</b> Review the catchment areas of Ysgol Corn Hir and Ysgol Y Graig to alleviate pressure at Ysgol Y Graig. Build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir with a capacity	<ul> <li>This alternative could:</li> <li>Maintain the current standards and leadership and management in Ysgol Bodffordd in the short term.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>This alternative is rejected</li> <li>because:</li> <li>The cost of building a new Ysgol Corn Hir for 420 pupils would be £10,966,371. The proposal cost for a 360 pupil school would be £9,527,360 a difference of £1,439,011 for the Council to fund.</li> </ul>

Other reasonable alternatives suggested by stakeholders to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd	Does the other reasonable alternative suggested meet the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)	
for 420 pupils, leave Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Y Graig as it is. <i>Approximately 20</i> <i>stakeholders suggested</i> <i>this alternative or</i> <i>similar out of over 320</i> <i>responses.</i>		<ul> <li>Could prove difficult to change the catchment areas so that the required number of pupils would transfer from Ysgol Y Graig to the new Ysgol Corn Hir.</li> <li>The Council would need to consider which school is geographically closest to a pupil's home when reviewing catchment areas.</li> <li>The Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 allows parents to choose which school their child will attend.</li> </ul>	
<b>6.4.4</b> Build a new Ysgol Bodffordd in Bodffordd. This would ensure the continued growth of the school and community as the population grows. <i>Approximately 3</i> <i>stakeholders suggested</i> <i>this alternative or</i> <i>similar out of over 320</i> <i>responses</i>	Could address the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces, however the alternative is not financially viable to build a new school for 90 children.	The cost of building a new school for Bodffordd on a location in the village / on the outskirts would be as follows: It is estimated that building a new school for 90 pupils would cost £3,041,400 (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019), under the 21st Century Schools programme). Land purchase and fees =£ 310,000 Archaeological and ecological surveys =£150,000 IT and FFE (Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment) costs 90 children x £ 1,776 = £ 159,840(based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019) under the 21st Century Schools programme) Total cost= £ 3,661,240 This alternative is rejected by the Council as it is not financially viable in the current climate to build a new school for 90 children.	
<b>6.4.5</b> Build a new Ysgol Bodffordd in Bodffordd and have Ysgol Corn Hir	Could address the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces, however the alternative is not economically viable to transport	The cost for a new school for 360 pupils would be £ 9.527 m (i.e. the cost would be the same as the proposal).	

Other reasonable alternatives suggested by stakeholders to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd	Does the other reasonable alternative suggested meet the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)	
amalgamate on that site in Bodffordd Suggested by 1 stakeholder out of over 320 responses	Ysgol Corn Hir children to a new school in Bodffordd.	<ul> <li>However there would be additional costs of transporting children from Ysgol Corn Hir to Bodffordd. The additional cost of this option compared to the status quo would be £ 90k.</li> <li>The Council rejects this alternative as it is not economically viable to transport all the Ysgol Corn Hir pupils to a site in Bodffordd.</li> </ul>	
6.4.6 Build a new 3rd Primary School in Llangefni, adapt Ysgol Corn Hir and extend Ysgol Bodffordd (one classroom). <i>Approximately 8</i> <i>stakeholders</i> <i>suggested this</i> <i>alternative or similar</i> <i>out of over 320</i> <i>responses</i>	Could address the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces, however there is insufficient space at the Ysgol Bodffordd site to accommodate a one classroom extension.	A 3rd primary school for Llangefni for 150 pupils would cost £4,163,000 (Based on Welsh Government standard cost and size document, but adjusted for other abnormal costs such as the potential purchase of land, and additional costs for services and surveys, for new build schools under the 21st Century Schools programme). Adapting the current Ysgol Corn Hir for 300 pupils would require a 3 class extension and new assembly hall and toilets. $504m^2 x \pm 2,775 = \pm 1,398,600$ IT and FFE( Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment) costs 90 children $x \pm$ $1,776 = \pm 159,840$ Total cost = £1,558,440 There is insufficient space within the current site to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas. No other available adjoining land is available to purchase. To provide <u>one</u> new additional classroom extension at Ysgol Bodffordd (additional 90m <sup>2</sup> extension for 30 children with classroom / cloaks/ toilets) the cost would be £738,030. Breakdown of cost	
		Breakdown of cost	

Other reasonable alternatives suggested by stakeholders to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd	Does the other reasonable alternative suggested meet the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)
		Current and Projected Future Maintenance spend = $\pounds$ 150,000. (New kitchen, toilets, car park, fencing)
		90m <sup>2</sup> Extension x £ 2,775/m <sup>2</sup> (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019), under the 21st Century Schools programme) = £249,750
		IT and Fixtures Fittings and Equipment costs for extension 30 children x $\pounds$ 1,776/child (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019) under the 21st Century Schools programme) = $\pounds$ 53,280
		Refurbishment works to bring the building up to 21st Century standard =£ 210,000 (New windows and doors, LED lighting, floor finishes, ceilings, painting)
		Extension to external hard play area following construction of the extension = £75,000
		The current site has 2,578m <sup>2</sup> external area. The Building Bulletin 103 - Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools 2014 (which sets out the required building and site areas required when designing new schools) require at least 2,750m <sup>2</sup> external area for a school of this size. An extension of 90m <sup>2</sup> would reduce the external area to 2,488m <sup>2</sup> .
		The total cost for this alternative would be £6,459,470
		This alternative is rejected because:

		AFFENDIA I
Other reasonable alternatives suggested by stakeholders to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd	Does the other reasonable alternative suggested meet the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)
6.4.7 All age school by adapting Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni - adapt and modernise existing Corn Hir and Bodffordd site Approximately 2 stakeholders suggested this alternative or similar out of over 320 responses	Could address the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces, however there is insufficient space at the Ysgol Bodffordd site to accommodate a one or two classroom extension.	<ul> <li>The availability of Land (at least a 5 acre site) to build a third primary school in Llangefni would be very difficult to find which was not too close to Ysgol Y Graig, but would be within the development boundaries of Llangefni.</li> <li>Insufficient space within Ysgol Corn Hir and Ysgol Bodffordd sites to accommodate an extension, parking, outdoor educational areas and play areas. No other available adjoining land is available to purchase.</li> <li>Could prove difficult to change the catchment areas so that the required number of pupils would transfer to the new 3rd primary school in Llangefni. The Council would need to consider which school is geographically closest to a pupil's home when reviewing catchment areas. The Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 allows parents to choose which school their child will attend.</li> <li>The Council's response is based on an All Age Multi-site school.</li> <li>Adapting the current Ysgol Corn Hir for 300 pupils would require a 3 class extension and new assembly hall and toilets.</li> <li>504m<sup>2</sup> x £ 2,775 = £ 1,398,600</li> <li>IT and FFE (Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment) costs 90 children x £ 1,776 =£ 159,840</li> </ul>
		Total cost = £1,558,440

Other reasonable alternatives suggested by stakeholders to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd	Does the other reasonable alternative suggested meet the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)
		An extension of 504m <sup>2</sup> would reduce the available parking, play and outdoor educational areas from 5,795m <sup>2</sup> to 5,291m <sup>2</sup> . The Building Bulletin 103 - Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools 2014 (which sets out the required building and site areas required when designing new schools) require at least 10,800m <sup>2</sup> external area for a school of this size.
		To provide <u>one</u> new additional classroom extension at Ysgol Bodffordd (additional 90m <sup>2</sup> extension for 30 children with classroom / cloaks/ toilets) <b>the cost would be</b> £738,030.
		Breakdown of cost Current and Projected Future Maintenance spend = £ 150,000. (New kitchen, toilets, car park, fencing)
		90m <sup>2</sup> Extension x £ 2,775/m <sup>2</sup> (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019) under the 21st Century Schools programme) = £249,750
		IT and Fixtures Fittings and Equipment costs for extension 30 children x £1,776/child (based on Welsh Government funding current cost standards for new build schools (2019) under the 21st Century Schools programme) = £ 53,280
		Refurbishment works to bring the building up to 21st Century standard =£ 210,000 (New windows and doors, LED lighting, floor finishes, ceilings, painting)

Other reasonable alternatives suggested by stakeholders to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd	Does the other reasonable alternative suggested meet the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces?	Council Response (clarification, amendment to the proposal, rejection of concerns with Council's supporting reasons)
		<ul> <li>Extension to external hard play area following construction of the extension =£ 75,000</li> <li>The current site has 2,578m<sup>2</sup> external area. The Building Bulletin 103 - Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools 2014 (which sets out the required building and site areas required when designing new schools) require at least 2,750m<sup>2</sup> external area for a school of this size. An extension of 90m<sup>2</sup> would reduce the external area to 2,488m<sup>2</sup>.</li> <li>Total Cost = £6,039,270</li> <li>This alternative is rejected because:</li> <li>The school modernisation programme is about modernising the provision to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century expectations. Addressing current projected and future maintenance costs does not realise this aim and therefore makes it a questionable proposal financially.</li> <li>There is insufficient space within the current Ysgol Corn Hir and Ysgol Bodffordd sites to accommodate an extension, parking, play and outdoor educational areas. No other available adjoining land is available to purchase.</li> </ul>

#### 6.5 Conclusion - Other Reasonable Alternatives

In Section 6.4 other reasonable alternatives suggested by stakeholders during the consultation period have been considered by the Council.

The other reasonable alternative of providing "a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is", has received a favourable response from the stakeholders connected to both schools.

This other reasonable alternative provides a new school building for Ysgol Corn Hir as was in the original proposal but does not lead to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd and moving Ysgol Bodffordd pupils to the new school building.

#### The Council upon further consideration of the responses to the consultation believes this other reasonable alternative could also address most of the key challenges that Ysgol Bodffordd faces for the following reasons:

Specific Factors	Key challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd	How they will be addressed by this other reasonable alternative "To build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is".
Pupil Numbers	Insufficient capacity at Ysgol Bodffordd: • As at January 2019 Ysgol Bodffordd was oversubscribed by approximately 11%. However, by January 2020 the oversubscription has fallen to 5%.	Parents may choose to send their children to another school (as is their right under the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998). Some Bodffordd parents did state that they would be prepared to send their children to the new Ysgol Corn Hir. One parent in particular stated "I look forward to having my children educated with children their own age and gaining the added opportunities they wouldn't have in Bodffordd." The new school building for Ysgol Corn Hir will have capacity for 300 pupils. The combined capacity of the new school building for Ysgol Corn Hir and Ysgol Bodffordd will be sufficient to accommodate projected future pupil numbers and will be designed with a view of further expansion if required so as to future-proof the development and ensure sufficient capacity in the Llangefni area.

Specific Factors	Key challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd	How they will be addressed by this other reasonable alternative "To build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is".
Curriculum Delivery	<ul> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd has limited space to deliver the Curriculum for Wales (CFW) in the medium to long term.</li> </ul>	The new Ysgol Corn Hir will be purpose built to deliver the new Curriculum for Wales (CFW). It will be better equipped to be able to deliver the full curriculum in an appropriate, differentiated, broad and varied manner which will benefit all pupils. However Ysgol Bodffordd is in a strong position to collaborate with other schools to deliver the CFW. Ysgol Bodffordd's Headteacher states "there is very close collaboration between all schools in the Llangefni catchment area and consequently all schools share good practice and expertise. Additionally, all schools in the catchment area develop leadership skills amongst their staff, with teachers in every school given the opportunity to lead staff from their own school and other schools. This close collaboration has led to schools collaborating on School Development Plan priorities. The collaboration has led to the Llangefni Catchment Area being named at a GwE conference as an example of good practice that should be shared. Currently, and for the past two years, the Catchment Area Headteachers Forum has been chaired by the Headteacher and is driving this collaboration."
Cost per pupil	<ul> <li>Variation in the cost per pupil:</li> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd 2019/20=£4,274</li> <li>The Anglesey primary average cost per pupil for 2019/20 is £3,988</li> <li>There is a need to reduce the variation in cost per pupil across the Council. It could be argued that the smaller schools are receiving what is equal to additional finance to maintain minimum staffing levels and that the largest schools are losing out as a result.</li> </ul>	There would be no change to the cost per pupil at Ysgol Bodffordd but the revised cost per pupil at the new Ysgol Corn Hir is estimated to be approximately £3,612. Although the cost per pupil at Ysgol Bodffordd is above the Anglesey average, it is still relatively low for a small rural school. In 2019/20 it ranks as 4th lowest of the 17 schools on Anglesey that are classed as rural schools in the School Organisation Code (011/2018).

Specific Factors	Bodffordd	es faced by Ysgol	How they will be addressed by this other reasonable alternative "To build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is".
School Building	Ysgol Bodffordd building has current and projected future maintenance of £134,000 (2019) and a condition rating B (Satisfactory, performing as intended but exhibiting minor deterioration).		The Council undertake a condition survey on all schools each year, and the work required at each school is put into a category (A-D) based on the priority for the work to be undertaken, taking considerations of aspects such as condition of the asset, and health and safety considerations.
	Ysgol Bodffordd building has some disabled access issues and only partially conform to the requirements expected under the Equality Act 2010.		Work identified for category D and C will be prioritised, whereas works identified which falls into categories B and A will only be undertaken if there is funding remaining after the completion of all works in categories D and C.
			Compliance with the requirements expected under the Equality Act 2010 would be prioritised if a child with needs attends the school.
Standards	Schools receive support from GwE, the School Effectiveness and Improvement Service for North Wales). The table below highlights the GwE		Ysgol Bodffordd's category has improved from Amber in 2015 to Yellow (B) in 2019. Ysgol Bodffordd's Headteacher
	categories fron Year		states: "There is very close collaboration
		Ysgol Bodffordd	between all schools in the Llangefni
	2019	Yellow (B)	catchment area and consequently all schools share good practice and
	2018	Yellow	expertise and as a result,
	2017	Amber	standards improve in every school."
	2016	Amber	
	2015	Amber	Further support will be provided to Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir by the Local Council and GWE to
	Ysgol Bodffordd is currently categorised yellow (a school in this category may receive up to 10 days of support). The current standards could be maintained in the short term at Ysgol Bodffordd. Yellow B. (Yellow support category, and award B for		ensure standards at both schools are improved so that the future development and potential of its children can be realised.

Specific Factors	Key challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd	How they will be addressed by this other reasonable alternative "To build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is".		
	the ability to improve according to the school categorisation procedure).			
Teaching Commitment of the Headteacher	Ysgol Bodffordd – average of 80% teaching commitment (Headteachers confirmation – September 2019). The need to balance the teaching commitment of 80% at Ysgol Bodffordd with general day to day leadership requirements is a real challenge.	The Ysgol Bodffordd Headteacher states "There's no denying that there is a lot of pressure in terms of leadership and learning on small village / rural schools, but there are many important positive factors that make it an interesting job that sharpens the mind – there is variety in the staff's work, the requirements and expectations are challenging and varied, all members of staff are developed in terms of leadership and management roles in a small school "		
		able to balance a specific learning commitment while improving the performance of the school.		
Finance	Ysgol Bodffordd - 3% over budget (2019/20) and will not make up the shortfall until 2021/22 when they expect pupil numbers to increase. The position above is at a time when the Council is looking to save approximately £6.7m over the forthcoming 3 years.	Although Ysgol Bodffordd was still in a deficit position at the end of 2019/20 financial year (as forecasted), the school has demonstrated that they will be in a surplus position by the end of 2020/21 financial year.		
		The other reasonable alternative to build a new school building to accommodate Ysgol Corn Hir and to keep Ysgol Bodffordd open would capitalize on the opportunity to obtain 50% grant funding from welsh government which will improve our stock of schools within the area. It is also a cost-effective solution, as it eliminates current and projected future maintenance costs of £234k, (2019) for the current Ysgol Corn Hir and it avoids additional transport cost of approximately £90k.		
		Under the status quo, Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir were		

Specific Factors	Key challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd	How they will be addressed by this other reasonable alternative "To build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is".
		forecasted to be over capacity, which would require pupils to be transported to schools outside of their catchment areas at a cost to the Council. This proposal would increase the school capacity at the new Ysgol Corn Hir to 300 which means that there will be sufficient capacity, and pupils will not need to be transported outside the catchment area.
		This other reasonable alternative would increase the school capacity at the new Ysgol Corn Hir to 300 which means that there will be sufficient capacity, and pupils will not need to be transported outside the catchment area.

In addition to the above the Council also concludes the following benefits of this other reasonable alternative to build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is:

- Welsh Language The School Modernisation strategy highlights the importance of continuing to develop the use of the welsh language in the school environment. With 60 pupils at Ysgol Bodffordd (85%) and 138 pupils at Ysgol Corn Hir (61%) speaking Welsh at home (PLASC 2019), Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir has the potential to maintain and further develop the current Welsh language medium provision.
- Travelling arrangements This other reasonable alternative is unlikely to change pupil's current travelling arrangements. Pupils from Bodffordd who currently walk or cycle to school are likely to be able to continue to do so, with no likely changes to the carbon footprint.
- Capacity the other reasonable alternative meets the capacity needs under consideration as part of the original proposal and therefore meets the expected future increase in pupil numbers.
- Bodffordd Community Centre- There would be no change, which would allay any anxiety of the losing the community centre for Ysgol Bodffordd stakeholders.
- School Organisation Code (11/2018) Ysgol Bodffordd is identified in the code as a Rural School, and as a result the Council has followed a more detailed set of procedures and requirements in formulating this other reasonable alternative.

#### 7. CONCLUSION

The original proposal consulted on was to "Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir".

In accordance with the School Organisation Code (011/2018) this section explains the proposal assessment, how the assessment differs (if at all), assessment of any other reasonable alternatives and confirmation whether to implement the original proposal (wholly or partly).

#### 7.1 Explanation of the assessment of the original proposal

The proposal and reasonable alternatives were assessed against the key drivers identified within the Council's 'School Modernisation Strategy'. The Council has also evaluated how the proposal performs against the key challenges facing Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir.

# 7.2 How the assessment of the original proposal differs(if at all) from the earlier assessment

The assessment of the original proposal now differs after consideration of stakeholders feedback received during the statutory consultation. The other reasonable alternative which is to provide a new school building for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is,( not previously considered) is now the most appropriate response.

#### 7.3 Assessment of any other reasonable alternatives

The assessment of other reasonable alternatives put forward by stakeholders during the consultation is available in section 6.4.

#### 7.4 Confirmation whether to implement the original proposal (wholly or partly).

After considering all the feedback from the statutory consultation the Council concludes that the most appropriate response is to build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and to leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is.

The significant feedback from the majority of stakeholders connected to <u>both</u> schools have indicated the following that they:

- Agree with the proposal as the Ysgol Corn Hir building is too small and build a new school.
- Agree Corn Hir needs a new school but why at the detriment of closing Ysgol Bodffordd?

The Council believes that this other reasonable alternative of building a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leaving Ysgol Bodffordd as it is, meets most of the key challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd as discussed below and in section 6.5. This therefore would equate to partly implementing the original proposal due to the following reasons -

• Standards at Ysgol Bodffordd -Ysgol Bodffordd's category has improved from Amber in 2015 to Yellow (B) in 2019.

The Headteacher of Ysgol Bodffordd also states: "There is very close collaboration between all schools in the Llangefni catchment area and consequently all schools share good practice and expertise and as a result, standards improve in every school."

Further support will be provided to Ysgol Bodffordd by the Local Council and GwE to ensure standards are improved so that the future development and potential of its children can be realised.

 Curriculum Delivery - Ysgol Bodffordd is in a strong position to collaborate with other schools to deliver the CFW.
 The Headteacher of Ysgol Bodffordd also states: "there is very close collaboration between all schools in the Llangefni catchment area and consequently all schools share good practice and expertise. Additionally, all schools in the catchment area develop leadership skills amongst their staff, with teachers in every school given the opportunity to lead staff from their own school and other schools. This close collaboration has led to schools collaborating on School Development Plan priorities. The collaboration has led to the Llangefni Catchment Area being named at a GwE conference as an example of good

practice that should be shared. Currently, and for the past two years, the Catchment Area Headteachers Forum has been chaired by the Headteacher and is driving this collaboration."

 Teaching Commitment of the Headteacher - The Headteacher of Ysgol Bodffordd also states :"There's no denying that there is a lot of pressure in terms of leadership and learning on small village / rural schools, but there are many important positive factors that make it an interesting job that sharpens the mind – there is variety in the staff's work, the requirements and expectations are challenging and varied, all members of staff are developed in terms of leadership and management roles in a small school ".The current Headteacher has been able to balance a specific learning commitment while improving the performance of the school.

In addition to the above, the Council concludes that:

- Welsh Language With 60 pupils at Ysgol Bodffordd (85%) and 138 pupils at Ysgol Corn Hir (61%) speaking Welsh at home (PLASC 2019), Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir has the potential to maintain and further develop the current Welsh language medium provision.
- Travelling arrangements This other reasonable alternative is unlikely to change pupil's current travelling arrangements. Pupils from Bodffordd who currently walk or cycle to school are likely to be able to continue to do so, with no likely changes to the carbon footprint.
- Capacity the other reasonable alternative meets the capacity needs under consideration as part of the original proposal and therefore meets the expected future increase in pupil numbers.
- Bodffordd Community Centre- There would be no change, which would allay any anxiety of the losing the community centre for Ysgol Bodffordd stakeholders.

• School Organisation Code (11/2018) – Ysgol Bodffordd is identified in the code as a Rural School, and as a result the Council has followed a more detailed set of procedures and requirements in formulating this other reasonable alternative.

#### 7.5 Recommendation to the Executive

It is recommended to the Executive that the most appropriate way forward in light of the consultation and the significant responses received (See section 5 Responses and Comments) and the Council's assessment of the other reasonable alternative presented by a significant number of stakeholders (See section 6.4.2), is as follows:

- To build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and to leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is.
- This other reasonable alternative partly meets the original proposal of providing a new school building for Ysgol Corn Hir, but does not lead to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd and moving Ysgol Bodffordd pupils to the new school building.
- In accordance with Section 2.3 Regulated Alterations in the School Organisation Code (011/2018), pupils from Ysgol Corn Hir will be transferred to a new school building at a site less than a mile from its current site. (The proposed site for the new school building for Ysgol Corn Hir is 0.3 mile from the current Ysgol Corn Hir.)
- The new school's capacity will be increased by no more than 25%. This alteration will not be regulated and therefore, no further statutory consultation will be required.



# CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

# IMPACT ASSESSMENT

# Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir

Assessment start date	12 July 2019
The officer responsible for the assessment	Rhys H. Hughes. Director of Education, Skills and Young People.
Date	November 2020This document has been updated following feedback from the statutory consultation held between the 6 February 2020-20 March 2020.This document has been amended to reflect the feedback received. This is a working document and is 

Protocol for public speaking at virtual Committee meetings	The public, may pre-register their interest, using the relevant form, to speak at Scrutiny Committee Meetings. Please see the Protocol for public speaking at virtual Scrutiny Committee meetings
--	--

Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh.

Hard copies of this report is available on request by sending an email to angleseyschools@ynysmon.gov.uk

Revision history:					
Version	Date	Summary of changes			
0.1	12 July 2019	First draft			
0.2	19 August 2019	Second draft			
0.3	29 August 2019	Third draft			
0.4	13 November 2019	Data updated			
0.5	18 December 2019	Reviewed and updated			
0.6	31 January 2020	Reviewed and updated			
0.7	23 September 2020	Updated to reflect response to the statutory consultation			

#### CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	. 4
2. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Original Proposal)	. 6
3. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Original Proposal)	16
4. COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Original Proposal)	28
5. WELL- BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015 (Original Proposal)	42
6. CONCLUSION TO THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL	45
7. IMPACT ASSESSMENT ON THE OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE	46
8. OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE - EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	48
9. OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE -WELSH LANGUAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT	61
10.OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE-COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	72
11.OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE –WELL- BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015	
12.CONCLUSION TO THE OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE	78
13.COMPARISON OF THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL AND THE OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE	79
14.HUMAN RIGHTS	
15.WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015	81

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Welsh Government's School Organisation Code (011/2018) requires Local Authorities to undertake equality impact assessments, impact on the Welsh Language and the impact on the community, when proposing changes to the organisation of schools.

The original proposal consulted upon from the 6 February 2020-20 March 2020 was to: "Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir"

The Headteachers and Community Councils were invited to complete a questionnaire to assess the current utilisation and community use of the schools and provide details of other facilities available in the local or wider community.

The data and evidence collected for the purpose of the assessments was based on information gathered from, many sources for example, Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) January 2019 and January 2020, Census 2011, School's Headteachers and Governing Bodies, Town and Community Councils, Stats Wales, and Stakeholders feedback during the consultation.

Out of all the responses received to the consultation conducted between 6 February and 20 March 2020, 41% of respondents commented on the content of the Impact Assessment. Out of those 56% commented specifically on the impact on the community,22% commented on the impact on the Welsh language, 13% commented on travel /traffic impacts and 9% commented on staff and pupils mental well- being. In light of the comments received, the Council has updated the Impact Assessment to include stakeholders comments and highlights the mitigation measures in place to overcome the concerns identified. (Sections 7-12).

After feedback received during the statutory consultation held from the 6 February 2020-20 due to the significant responses received and the Council's assessment of the other reasonable alternative presented by a significant number of stakeholders, is as follows:

- To build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and to leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is.
- This other reasonable alternative partly meets the original proposal of providing a new school building for Ysgol Corn Hir ,but does not lead to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd and moving Ysgol Bodffordd pupils to the new school building.
- In accordance with Section 2.3 Regulated Alterations in the School Organisation Code (011/2018), pupils from Ysgol Corn Hir will be transferred to a new school building at a site less than a mile from its current site. (The proposed site for the new school building is 0.3 mile from the current Ysgol Corn Hir.)
- The new school's capacity will be increased by no more than 25%. This alteration will not be regulated and therefore, no further statutory consultation will be required.

Sections 2-6 of this assessment relates to the original proposal, and sections 7-12 relates to the other reasonable alternative presented by stakeholders during the consultation.

The other reasonable alternative which is to" Build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and to leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is", is the most appropriate way forward and is recommended to the Executive.

Section 13 compares the original proposal to the other reasonable alternative presented by stakeholders.

#### 2. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Original Proposal)

This equality impact assessment has been undertaken to meet the requirements of both the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011 and the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code (011/2018).

#### 2.1 The Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 places a General Duty on public bodies in carrying out their functions to have due regard to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristics and those who do not.

The Act is about ensuring fairness and protects the following nine characteristics (also known as 'protected groups'):

- Age
- Disability
- Sex
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief, including lack of belief
- Sexual orientation

#### 2.2 Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011

The Welsh Government introduced the above Regulations to help public bodies in Wales to meet the general duty. Specific duties include a requirement to assess the impact of its policies and practices on groups protected by the Act. This means that the Council must consider relevant evidence in order to understand the likely or actual effect of its policies and practices on protected groups and have 'due regard' (i.e. give appropriate weight) to the results of such assessments.

Equality considerations will be taken into account in forming the business cases for schools' modernisation, during the project development process and, if implemented, the actual impact will be monitored. The equality impact assessment document will be updated regularly to ensure that everyone is given fair consideration.

# 2.3 Equality Impact Assessment on the Original Proposal

2.3.1 Background	
What are you assessing?	The proposal being assessed is to "Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir".
Is this a new or existing proposal?	The Council held a statutory consultation from the 6 February 2020-20 March 2020 on this proposal.
What are the aims and purpose of this proposal?	<ul> <li>To change and improve the primary education provision in this part of Anglesey. The relevant key drivers have for the Llangefni area are noted below:</li> <li>Ensuring that education standards are maintained and improved across all schools to ensure all children reach their potential.</li> <li>Ensuring that schools have sufficient spaces for the current number of pupils and future projected numbers.</li> <li>Ensuring that the variances in expenditure per pupil are brought in line and more consistent across the schools.</li> <li>Ensuring the condition of the school estate is on a secure footing for the current number of pupils and the projected future increase in pupil numbers.</li> <li>Ensuring that the leadership and management structure of our schools provides a solid base for the strategic leadership and succession planning of our schools into the future.</li> </ul>
Who is responsible for the proposal you are assessing?	Rhys H. Hughes, Director of Education, Skills and Young People
Who is the Lead Officer for this assessment?	Carol Sorahan, Programme Manager
Is the proposal related to other areas of work?	Yes – the proposal is part of the Isle of Anglesey County Council's school modernisation strategy. However, each proposal is assessed on its own merit.

2.3.1 Background				
Who would be affected by the proposal(s) (adversely or positively, directly or indirectly)?	For both schools involved in the proposal, i.e. Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir, the following would be affected: Staff, pupils, governors, parents of pupils at the schools, members of the community who use both schools.			

Does this proposal ensure that the Welsh language is treated no less favourably than the English language, in accordance with the Council's Welsh Language Policy?	Yes – this is assessed separately in the Welsh Language Impa document (Section 3).	act Assessment part of this
Is there an opportunity here to offer more opportunities for people to learn and / or use the Welsh language on a day-to-day basis?		
Will this area of work proactively offer services in Welsh for users?	<ul> <li>Yes – this is assessed separately in the Language Impact Assessment part of this document (Section 3).</li> </ul>	
Is this proposal likely to protect and promote the Welsh language within communities?	Realisation of the proposal will protect and promote the Welsh language within the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir and the area in question i.e. Llangefni and Bodffordd.	
Are there any Human Rights issues? If so, what are they? (The 16 basic rights are listed in section 14).	No Human Rights issues have been identified.	
Does this proposal meet any of the seven	A prosperous Wales	Yes
national well-being goals outlined in the Well-	A resilient Wales	Yes
being of Future Generations (Wales) Act	A healthier Wales	Yes
2015?	A more equal Wales	Yes
(Descriptions of the wellbeing goals are listed at	A Wales of cohesive communities	Yes
(Descriptions of the wellbeing goals are listed at section 15)	A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Yes
	A globally responsible Wales	Yes
	This is also assessed separately in the Well-being of Future Ger part of this document (Section 5).	nerations (Wales) Act (2015)

The elimination of discrimination and harassn The advancement of equality of opportunity			NU
Is the proposal relevant to how the Council co people who are protected by the Equality Act	omplies with the public sector general duty relating to	Yes	No
Are there any gaps in the information collected to date?       No gaps identified at this stage.         If so, how will these be addressed?       No gaps identified at this stage.			
Have you used any other information that is relevant to the proposal to inform your assessment? If so, please detail:	•		
What has been done to date in terms of involvement and consultation with regard to this proposal?			

# 2.3.3 Considering the potential impact and identifying mitigating action

In undertaking this Equality Impact Assessment, the Council has taken into consideration the negative, neutral and positive impact of the proposal and identified what action could be taken to reduce or improve the impact.

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of t	he impact			Actions to mitigate negative impact
Age	Positive	The Council has a statutory duty to provide full-time education to children and young people aged 5-16. The new Ysgol Corn Hir will accept pupils at 3 years of age on a part time basis.		ople aged 5-16.	Pupils who will be transferring to the new Ysgol Corn Hir will participate in merger activities, which will be arranged jointly. This will provide opportunities for the children to become familiar with each other prior to the change.	
Disability	Positive	<ul> <li>If the proposal is realised:</li> <li>The proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir will be fully compliant with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and will be fully accessible to all pupils.</li> <li>Pupils who have additional learning needs will continue to receive additional support to respond to their individual educational needs. In a larger school, more staff will specialise in Additional Learning Needs (ALN). It is possible that an increase in the number of staff will lead to a greater range of expertise to be able to deal with</li> </ul>			s of the Equality bible to all pupils. rning needs will pport to respond eeds. In a larger se in Additional possible that an ff will lead to a	The Council will provide appropriate assistance and support for the pupils' additional learning needs. Individual needs will be assessed at the time of transferring to any school. The Council will also provide appropriate assistance and support for the needs of staff members.
Sex	No impact	a wider spectrum of ALN.The table below shows the current gender split and the split if the proposal is realised.GenderBodfforddCornNew Ysgol			New Ysgol	All pupils' performance is assessed and monitored, to include specific groups such as male and females, free school meals, ALN pupils, ethnic minority, English as an additional
		Male	56%	Hir 53%	Corn Hir 54%	language (EAL), children in care and the more able and talented. The educational performance
		Female	44%	47%	46%	of boys and girls is constantly monitored to
						ensure there are no large differences between males and females and the various groups associated.

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact	Actions to mitigate negative impact	
Gender Reassignment	No impact	The Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) January 2019 does not retain data on this aspect. There is no evidence that discrimination based on gender reassignment is happening.	If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.	
Marriage or Civil Partnership	No impact	Not applicable to the pupils of the school.	There is no evidence that discrimination based on marriage /or civil partnership is happening with the school staff. If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.	
Pregnancy & Maternity	No impact	Not applicable to the pupils of the school.	Female staff who become pregnant are eligible for a maternity period in accordance with the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Maternity Leave Scheme. Male staff are eligible for paternity leave in accordance with the Paternity Leave Policy. There is no evidence that discriminating on the basis of pregnancy or taking paternity leave takes place with the schools' staff.	
Race	No impact	PLASC data January 2019Ysgol BodfforddYsgol Corn HirWhite British 96.5%White British 96.9%	If pupils from other ethnic backgrounds attend the schools, they will not be treated differently based on their ethnic origin. Should there be members of staff from other ethnic backgrounds in the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir, they will not be treated differently based on their ethnic origin.	
Religion or Belief	No impact	The PLASC January 2019 does not retain data on this aspect.	The proposal can provide the opportunity to improve the pupils' understanding of religion or belief due to an increase in the pupil numbers with pupils mixing with other pupils from more diverse backgrounds. It is a parental choice to share information about their child's religion or belief with the school. If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.	

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact	Actions to mitigate negative impact
Sexual Orientation	No impact	The Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) January 2019 does not retain data on this aspect.	There is no evidence that discrimination based on sexual orientation is happening. It is a parental choice to share information about their child's sexual orientation with the school. If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.
Human Rights	No impact	The Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) January 2019 does not retain data on this aspect.	There is no evidence that discrimination based on human rights is happening with the school staff or with pupils. If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.
Other - Socio- economic. Small and Rural Schools Socio-economic and rural factors were taken into consideration in the 'Community Impact Assessment' below.	Negative	Ysgol Bodffordd is named as a rural school in the School Organisation Code (011/2018). The thematic report by Estyn, "Small Primary School in Wales (2006)" notes that there is no real difference between education standards in small and large schools, but that "it can be more difficult for teachers in smaller schools to match the work to pupils' needs, since pupils in a class can vary greatly in terms of age and development stages". This is relevant to smaller schools. Resilience in terms of staffing has improved in the larger schools on Anglesey.	The Council acknowledges that rural schools have a key role to play in contributing towards the community, the use of the Welsh Language and lifestyle. Larger schools also have a key role to play in this respect. In a larger primary school such as the one being proposed, more staff are likely to specialise in areas across the curriculum. In considering its options for school modernisation, the Council will consider the balance between educational needs and the long-term needs of our communities, by the means of collaborative working. The Council is committed to working with communities to address any issues that may arise in the eventuality of school closure. The potential negative impact of closing Ysgol Bodffordd and the Community Centre could be mitigated by working with the community in Bodffordd to ensure the long-term viability of the present Community Centre.

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact	Actions to mitigate negative impact
Other - Socio- economic. Number of children who are eligible for free school meals.	Positive	It would provide increased opportunities for pupils of both schools to take advantage of the resources and provision in the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir. PLASC 2019 Free School Meal figures Bodffordd Corn Hir	In the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir, the Counc would provide a cashless system for schoo meals, which would not give rise to any possibl stigma associated with pupils having free schoo meals. The number of children eligible for free school
		Boundadie   Communication     15 pupils or 21%   14 pupils or 6%	meals would be approximately 10%, based on current numbers, if the proposal was realised.
		At present, 14.4% of pupils in primary schools on Anglesey are eligible for free school meals.	The performance of pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) is excellent in both schools and this would be expected to continue at the new Ysgol Corn Hir.
Other - Socio- economic.	Positive	Potential to provide increased opportunities for pupils of both schools to take advantage of after	The new Ysgol Corn Hir will be expected to make suitable provision that will at least match
Less advantaged children's participation in after school activities.		school activities in the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir.	the current provision in relation to clubs. In the context of <u>extra-curricular activities</u> every pupil, irrespective of background, will be encouraged to participate with the expectation on the school to make suitable arrangements for less advantaged pupils to be able to participate. These arrangements will include but not confined to clubs being held during the lunch break, arrangements with parents for pick-up and transport and providing after school transport.

Combined effect on equality | +3 Positive |

Conclusion - The proposal would have a positive effect on equality.

The potential effect of the proposal on the Welsh language is assessed separately in the Welsh Language Impact Assessment (Section 3).

How it is intended to mitigate any negative impact	The proposal is to "Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to
highlighted in 2.3.3	accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir". The potential negative impact of closing Ysgol Bodffordd and the Community Centre could be mitigated by working with the community in Bodffordd to ensure the long term viability of the present Community Centre.
Is there a strategy for dealing with any unavoidable but not unlawful negative impacts that cannot be mitigated?	There are no negative impacts from this assessment that cannot be mitigated.
Describe any actions taken to maximise the opportunity to promote equality and/or the goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (sustainability). (The seven well-being goals are listed in section 15 ) How the proposal will contribute to the 7 Well-being goals is assessed later in the document.( Section 5)	A prosperous Wales – The proposal, if realised, will lead to a reduction in energy consumption in the building and a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions. The education the pupils receive will help develop a skilled and well-educated population to the future. A more equal Wales – The project will ensure that the potential new Ysgol Corre Hir is fit for purpose and will ensure that every pupil's capacity and potential to succeed is realised. A Wales of cohesive communities – The proposal has the potential to form a new community based around Bodffordd and the catchment area of Corn Hir. A globally responsible Wales – The new Ysgol Corn Hir will be built to BREAAM standards and will involve a number of energy saving initiatives. This, and othe specific parts of the curriculum, will be used to develop pupils' understanding or living and growing up in a globally responsible Wales. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language – The Welsh language Impact Assessment can be seen in Section 3. The new Ysgol Corn Hir will be a Welsh-medium school and the proposal will at least maintain Welsh medium provision in the area. The Schools Modernisation Programme will collaborate with the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board to promote the use of the Welsh language in the community, and contribute towards the Welsh Government's target of a millior Welsh speakers by 2050. The Learning Service reports on a quarterly basis to the County Language Forum on the use of Welsh in the Council's schools and the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) is monitored on a quarterly basis by the County Language Forum. The potential new Ysgol Corn Hir will have a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) which will encourage participation in sports and recreation.

Is there a need to reconsider the proposal as a result of conducting this assessment?	No. Feedback from the statutory consultation is expected first.
Will the proposal be adopted / forwarded for approval? Who will be the decision-maker?	A proposal paper will be discussed by the Executive to authorise officers to go out to statutory consultation. A report on the statutory consultation will then be prepared and the Executive will discuss whether to proceed with the proposal or not.
Are there monitoring arrangements in place? What are they?	Yes – the following parameters will continue to be monitored: Age of pupils; gender balance of the pupils; race/ethnicity/nationality data; the language spoken by pupils; % of pupils taking free school meals. Consideration would also be given to monitoring the following data: Percentage of pupils with a Statement of Additional Learning Needs (ALN). Percentage of pupils who have noted physical difficulties. Percentage of staff who have declared a disability.

# 3. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Original Proposal)

The Isle of Anglesey County Council has adopted the principle that the Welsh language should be treated no less favourably than the English language, and that the residents of the island should be able to live their lives through the medium of Welsh if they so wish. The same expectation applies in respect of the Welsh language for each of the schools, which provide an opportunity for every pupil in the County to gain the appropriate skills to be confident bilingually. In light of this, any new scheme that is introduced – such as projects deriving from the 21st Century Schools programme – will be subject to the requirements of the language policy.

Anglesey remains one of the strongholds of the Welsh language in Wales. The 2011 Census shows that 57% of the population are able to speak Welsh.

The Language Policy of Anglesey County Council's Learning Service is subject to the following aim and objectives:

#### 3.1 Aim:

That all pupils who go through the Anglesey education system are bilingual by the end of their educational career and confident to communicate in both languages equally in the workplace, culturally and socially.

#### 3.2 General Objective:

- Develop the capacity of all pupils and students in the County to be confident bilingually to enable them to become full members of the bilingual society of which they are a part.
- Increase the social use of the language amongst the educational workforce and young children who attend educational institutions within the Council and as a medium of learning.
- All the County's educational institutions reflect and reinforce the language policy in their administration, their social life and their pastoral regime as well as in their curricular provision.

# 3.3 Specific Objectives:

- Early years Ensure purposeful and efficient provision and organisation including immersion, for to all children whatever their linguistic background in order to ensure a solid foundation in the language to enable them to achieve the goal of bilingualism fully as soon as possible.
- Foundation phase Building on the foundations laid in the early years by continuing to develop pupils' grasp of the language, and the commencement of the process of develop their English skills by the end of the period.
- Key Stage 2 (KS2)-Continue to develop children's skills in both Welsh and English, paying attention to developing their skills in both languages by ensuring, through appropriate planning and an equal level of bilingualism by the end of the stage. For pupils who are Welsh learners in KS2, ensure that they learn the language as soon as possible through the primary language centres.

• **Special education**: In the case of pupils with severe learning difficulties, a Headteacher has the right (in consultation with the Learning Service) to give individual consideration to each case, while ensuring that pupils have the necessary linguistic skills to cope as adults within their communities.

#### 3.4 The use of the Welsh language in schools

The language category of both Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir is Welsh. The language category of the new Ysgol Corn Hir will also be Welsh.

The potential effect of the proposal on the Welsh language is assessed below (3.5).

# 3.5 Welsh Language Impact Assessment on the Original Proposal

What is being assessed?	The proposal being assessed is to " <b>Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn</b> Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir".
Assessment completion date	Any additional impacts arising as a result of the statutory consultation can be seen in section 9.

3.5.1 Compliance with the Welsh Language Policy	
Is the proposal influential in terms of dealing with the Welsh-speaking public?	Yes, positive effect - see below.
Will activities such as corresponding by letter, communicating by telephone, public meetings and other meetings comply with the language policy?	Yes – all correspondence and communications will continue to comply with the Welsh Language Policy.
Will any new Information Technology (IT) development comply with the policy?	Yes – any new IT developments will continue to comply with the Welsh Language Policy.
Is the proposal likely to impact upon the public image of the organisation?	See below.
Will all signs comply with the language policy?	Yes – all signs will continue to comply with the language policy.
Will publications and forms be compliant?	Yes – publications and forms be compliant.
Will any publicity material or marketing campaigns comply?	Yes – any publicity material or marketing campaigns will comply.
Will staff recruitment advertisements comply?	Yes – staff recruitment advertisements will comply.

3.5.1 Compliance with the Welsh Language Policy	
Is the proposal likely to have an impact upon the implementation of the language policy?	See below.
Will the proposal create new jobs? Will the staffing arrangements facilitate the implementation of the language policy?	Any new teaching posts will be created according to the staffing structure developed by the new Ysgol Corn Hir governing body. Yes – any new staff recruited will be Welsh speakers in line with the language policy and they will continue to implement the policy.
Will the proposal offer training through the medium of Welsh?	Yes – new staff will be trained through the medium of Welsh.
Will any arrangements with third parties comply with the language policy?	Yes – arrangements with third parties will comply with the language policy.
Will the proposal include any targets or indicators relating to the language?	Yes – the percentage of pupils achieving the expected level in Welsh at the end of key stages and the percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home.
How will performance be monitored and measured?	By data collected by the Education Service such as the percentage of pupils achieving the expected level in Welsh at the end of the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2. Other data such as the percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home is collected as part of the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) conducted in January every year.

3.5.2 Effect on Welsh speaking users	
Will the proposal offer a language choice for users?	Yes the new Ysgol Corn Hir will be a Welsh language medium school.
• Will it be possible for users to receive any part of the service in Welsh?	Yes the whole service will be available in Welsh – however pupils will be taught some subjects through the medium of English.
19	

3.5.2 Effect on Welsh speaking users	
If there a risk for the proposal to discriminate against Welsh speaking service users?	No – the new Ysgol Corn Hir will comply with the Council's Welsh Language Policy.
Have the needs of Welsh speakers been considered in the proposal?	Yes – the needs of Welsh speaking pupils is one of the key drivers for this proposal.
Are Welsh speakers likely to receive the same standard of service as provided in English?	Yes – the same standard of service will be provided to all pupils.
Are Welsh language arrangements likely to lead to a delay in the service?	No – Welsh language arrangements will not lead to a delay in the service.
Is the proposal likely to make Welsh more visible?	Yes – see below.
Is it likely to increase use of the language by producing Welsh language materials and signs?	Yes – signage in the proposed school building and on the grounds will conform to the language policy. The proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir will continue to promote and encourage the use of the Welsh language and will use Welsh language materials.
Is it likely to influence others to make more use of Welsh, for example businesses?	Yes – realisation of the policy will ensure bilingual signage is seen by many in the locality.
Will the Welsh language service in relation to the proposal be accessible?	Yes – see below.
Will the service be as accessible in Welsh as in English?	Yes – pupils will receive education in Welsh and English. Other services pertaining to the proposal will be available bilingually e.g. transport and childcare provision.
Will the services be available at the same time?	Yes - pupils will receive education from bilingual staff.

3.5.3 Effect on Welsh speaking communities	
Is the proposal likely to contribute towards safeguarding Welsh in communities?	The Council will want to work with the community in Bodffordd to secure the long-term future of the community centre.
Is it likely to contribute towards efforts to tackle the challenges of demographic change and migration - such as providing opportunities for young people to stay in their communities?	Yes – the proposal will provide sufficient spaces for existing pupils at Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir and will also provide sufficient spaces for pupils arising from new housing developments in the catchment area.
Is it likely to contribute towards the local economy in Welsh speaking areas? Will it provide Welsh medium services - such as child-minding	Yes – it could provide more jobs in the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir area of Llangefni.
services?	Yes – the proposal also includes a Nursery unit for pre-school age children.
Does the proposal take steps to promote and facilitate the Welsh language?	Yes – see below.
Does the proposal contribute towards Welsh medium community activities?	Yes – if the proposal is realised, Welsh medium community activities will continue at the new Ysgol Corn Hir.
Does it offer opportunities for young people to use Welsh outside school hours?	Yes – it will provide opportunities for pupils to use Welsh in after school clubs.
Does it offer a new service that will also be available in Welsh – for example leisure or sporting activities and provision?	Yes – realisation of this proposal will provide a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) for pupils and the community to use.
Does it contribute or add value to other activities relating to language, such as the work of the local Welsh language initiative (Menter laith), the Urdd etc.	Yes – if the proposal is realised, Urdd activities will continue at the new Ysgol Corn Hir.

3.5.4 Contribution towards Welsh language standards, language the Welsh language	policies, strategies and other relevant guidance relating to
The language policies of partner organisations or nearby public bodies:	
Is the Council working in partnership on the proposal?	Yes – with Welsh Government who will part finance the project.
Which other organisations are likely to be affected by the development?	Welsh Government.
Do those organisations have Welsh language standards or language policies?	Yes – Welsh Government has its own Welsh language standards or language policies.
Does the proposal contribute towards these schemes?	Yes – the proposal will also comply with Welsh Government's requirements.
Relevant Welsh language strategies: Will the proposal contribute towards the Anglesey Welsh Language Strategic Forum's Welsh Language Strategy 2016 – 2021	The proposal contributes with the following sections of the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017 - 2020 in the following ways: <b>Outcome 1</b> – More seven-year-old children being taught through the medium of Welsh. <b>Objective 2</b> – Ensure that 21st Century Schools proposals strengthen Welsh medium provision. By having a Childcare Unit which will provide wrap around care for children of pre-school age, it would provide a sound foundation, in Welsh for the children before they transfer to the new Ysgol Corn Hir. It would therefore contribute to increasing the number of seven-year-old children that are taught through the medium of Welsh. This would contribute to achieving Outcome 1 above. In implementing the Early Years strategy and in delivering the County's schools proposals give full consideration to Welsh medium provision for children up to 11 years of age. The Council's new language policy refers to the aim to increase the proportion of Foundation Phase pupils up to the end of their time

3.5.4 Contribution towards Welsh language standards, language policies, strategies and other relevant guidance relating to the Welsh language

	in the secondary school that meet the targets of Welsh as a First Language. It is intended to use a childcare model as the one under consideration in this project to increase the Welsh medium childcare capacity on Anglesey.
How does the proposal contribute towards the vision of the Welsh Government for one million Welsh speakers by 2050?	The childcare partnership model has the potential to be a key contributor to the Welsh Government's ambition to have a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

Both schools currently provide activities through the Urdd (see Community Impact Assessment – Section 4) and this would continue to be the case in the new Ysgol Corn Hir.

**NOTE** – Neither school currently offers Welsh lessons to the community – this may well be due to the low demand for Welsh lessons in the area and the fact that more than 75% of the local population speak Welsh. However, both schools have the facility to offer Welsh lessons and the new Ysgol Corn Hir would have a community room that could be used for Welsh lessons or for any other activity that would be conducted through the medium of Welsh. Should Bodffordd Community Centre remain in the village following the opening of a new Ysgol Corn Hir, the services and provisions provided there would remain.

#### 3.5.5 Welsh in Education Strategic Plan

Both Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir are Welsh medium and the newly relocated and extended Ysgol Corn Hir will be a Welsh medium school. Therefore, there will be no change in the language category if the Executive approves the proposal.

Realisation of the proposal would support Outcomes 1, 2 and 5 of the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020 (approved by Welsh Government in March 2018):

Outcome 1: More seven year old children being educated through the medium of Welsh.

**Outcome 2:** More pupils continuing to improve their Welsh skills when transferring from the primary school to the secondary school. **Outcome 5:** More pupils and students with higher skills in Welsh.

The Education Service reports on a quarterly basis to the County Language Forum on the use of Welsh in the Council's schools. The County Language Forum monitors the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) on a quarterly basis.

# 3.5.6 Potential effect of the proposal on the Welsh language

Language Criteria	Observations	Impact Negative/ Neutral/ Positive	Mitigation Measures
Language spoken at home	<ul> <li>Fluent Welsh speakers at home (all ages):</li> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd – 85%</li> <li>Ysgol Corn Hir – 61% Data (PLASC Jan 2019)</li> </ul>	Neutral	If the proposal goes ahead, there would be an opportunity for pupils to improve their bilingual skills by socialising with a larger number of pupils (compared to the present number of pupils at both schools).
Language category of the existing schools	Bodffordd – Welsh Corn Hir – Welsh	Positive	<ul> <li>Pupils at both schools are educated in Welsh. However, developing bilingual pupils will be a permanent and significant focus in the School Development Plan.</li> <li>Class arrangements can target the development of the specific language needs of the cohort.</li> <li>By tracking pupils, their progress in developing bilingualism will be considered.</li> <li>The Headteacher's report to the governors will include the percentages of pupils in each language cohort.</li> <li>Progress at end of Key Stages</li> <li>The proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir will be a Welsh medium, community school. It will be a priority for the Council to strengthen and safeguard the Welsh language and bilingual education.</li> </ul>
The use of Welsh in the community	According to the 2011 Census, 57% of the people of Anglesey speak Welsh. The percentage has decreased over the past	Positive	Need to promote the use of the Welsh language (Anglesey Well-being Assessment 2017). Education through the medium of Welsh will help increase the use of Welsh in the community.

Language Criteria	Observations	Impact Negative/ Neutral/ Positive	Mitigation Measures
	decades – 62% of the people of Anglesey could speak Welsh in 1981.		The Schools Modernisation Programme will collaborate with the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board to promote the use of the Welsh language in the community, and contribute towards the Welsh Government's target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.
			The Education Service reports on a quarterly basis to the County Council's Language Forum on the use of Welsh in the Council's schools. The County's Language Forum monitors the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) on a quarterly basis.
			The proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir will continue to promote and encourage the use of the Welsh language and will promote the informal use of the language by the pupils during school hours and in after school activities on site.
The language medium of pupils on the yard, in the breakfast club and after-school clubs	The language medium of pupils on the yard, in the breakfast club and after- school clubs of both schools is bilingual.	Neutral	This will not change in the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir. This could be improved by providing more space for play and planning of structured play on the yard. The proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir will continue to promote and encourage the use of the Welsh language and will promote the informal use of the language by the pupils.
The school's involvement in Welsh-medium activities	5	Neutral	This will not change in the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir. Further information on community activities is conducted in Welsh can be seen in the Community Impact Assessment below.

Language Criteria	Observations		Impact Negative/ Neutral/ Positive	Mitigation Measures
The ability of teaching staff to teach through the medium of Welsh	<b>Bodffordd</b> Every member of teaching staff is fluent in Welsh	Corn Hir Every member of teaching staff is fluent in Welsh	Neutral	Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir provide education through the medium of Welsh, and there will be no change in the linguistic status of the new Ysgol Corn Hir.
The ability of Governors to speak Welsh	Bodffordd Every Governor is fluent in Welsh (8 out of 8)	Corn Hir Every Governor is fluent in Welsh (12 out of 12)	Neutral	Both sets of Governors are fluent in Welsh and so there will be no change in the linguistic nature of the Governors should the proposal be realised.
	Combined effect on	the Welsh language	+2 Positive	

Conclusion - the proposal would have a positive effect on the Welsh language

# 4. COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Original Proposal)

This assessment considers the possible effect of the proposal to "Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, and close Ysgol Bodffordd" on the local community.

The tables below show the number of pupils at Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir over the past 5 years followed by the forecasted number of pupils for the next 5 years together with pupil projections if the proposal goes ahead:

# 4.1 Pupil numbers in the past

School	Capacity-	Pupil	Pupil	Pupil	Pupil	Current
	excluding	Numbers	Numbers	Numbers	numbers	number of
	Nursery	January	January	January	January	pupils on roll
		2015	2016	2017	2018	January 2019
Bodffordd	63	61	55	68	63	70
Corn Hir	204	200	207	221	224	226

# Currently both schools are 11% over capacity

# 4.2 Five Year Forecasts 2020-2024

	Capacity- excluding Nursery	Projected number on roll Sept 2020	Projected number on roll Sept 2021	Projected number on roll Sept 2022	Projected number on roll Sept 2023	Projected number on roll Sept 2024
Bodffordd	63	74	76	77	79	77
Corn Hir	204	238	242	242	241	243

# 4.3 Pupil Projections if the proposal goes ahead

Projections confirm that pupil numbers will increase to a combined 320 by 2024. As a result, the proposal to build a new 360 capacity School is realistic and forms part of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Investment Programme. The new capacity provides for proposed housing developments in the area as seen in the table below:

School	Proposed housing developments in the catchment area (2018- 2026)	Corresponding number of children*
Bodffordd	18	3 - 5
Corn Hir	219	37 - 59

\*Evidence from census figures shows that each house on Anglesey, has, on average 0.17 children of primary school age. Multiplying the number of housing developments with 0.17, gives estimated number of additional children who will need to be educated at that particular school. However, in the former ward of Cyngar, the average of children of primary school age in each house is higher at approximately 0.27 child of primary school age per house. This higher figure of 0.27 has been used for this calculation. These proposed developments could lead to a maximum total of 64 pupils arising from the new housing developments.

Although the proposed housing developments are in the Joint Local Development Plan, there are a number of factors that affect whether these proposed developments will move forward in the planning process.

Firstly, they would need to be assessed to determine whether the proposed development(s) would meet the requirements in order to be able to seek planning permission and then whether planning permission (which is valid for 5 years) would be granted. In other words, the number of houses in the table above is an estimation and is not an assurance that all of these houses will be built by 2027. If these proposed housing developments were built, the developer would very likely build them in phases. This would mean that the number of pupils would increase gradually and would <u>NOT</u> mean that the maximum number of pupils i.e. 64 would start to attend the school at the same time.

The table below shows the projected pupil numbers at the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir to September 2027 taking into consideration the proposed housing developments mentioned above.

	Projected	Projected	Projected	Projected	Projected
	number on roll				
	Sept 2023	Sept 2024	Sept 2025	Sept 2026	Sept 2027
New Ysgol Corn Hir	339	340	339	345	342

Parents can also choose to send their child(ren) to whichever school they wish.

It is important to note that projections are difficult as a number of pupils attend the schools from other catchment areas. As at October 2019:

- Ysgol Bodffordd had 69 pupils on the roll with 41 pupils attending from within the catchment area (59%).
- 10% not in the catchment area of Ysgol Bodffordd come from the catchment area of Ysgol Corn Hir [7 Pupils].
- Ysgol Corn Hir had 230 pupils on the roll with 166 pupils attending from within the catchment area. (72%)
- 3% not in the catchment area of Ysgol Corn Hir come from the catchment area of Ysgol Bodffordd [6 Pupils].

# 4.4 Pre-school provision

The following pre-school provision is available in the Bodffordd / Corn Hir area of Llangefni:

• Ysgol Bodffordd is registered for children aged 3-11 years old and provides early years education for children who have turned 3 years of age before 1 September in any year. Its capacity is 11 and as of September 2019, 15 children use this facility. This provision will transfer to the new Ysgol Corn Hir if the proposal is realised.

The forecasts for the nursery provision 3-4 year olds at Ysgol Bodffordd are as follows:

Nursery	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Ysgol Bodffordd	15	10+	10+	10+	10+	10+	10+

• There is a Play group (Cylch Meithrin) in the Bodffordd Community Centre which is financially independent of Ysgol Bodffordd. The service is registered with the Council to provide early years education for 10 hours per week, term-time only. As at September 2019, 16 children use this facility. (This figure includes children already receiving early year's education at Ysgol Bodffordd.

Part of the proposal is to close Ysgol Bodffordd which could potentially have implications for the Play group (Cylch Meithrin). The Play group (Cylch Meithrin) is also open for additional hours to provide a

childcare element. Numbers may reduce as the 3-4 year olds at Ysgol Bodffordd transfer over to the new Ysgol Corn Hir.

- Blodyn Tatws Nursery is located on Parc Cefni, Bodffordd. The service is privately registered to care for a maximum of 37 children from age 3 months up to the age of 12. This service is not commissioned to provide early years education. As there is demand for nursery provision in the area, the proposal has a low impact on this private provision. (The new childcare unit at the new Ysgol Corn Hir does not cater for under 2 year olds).
- There is a Play group (Cylch Meithrin) situated on the grounds of Ysgol Corn Hir, which is financially independent of Ysgol Corn Hir. The service is registered with the Council to provide early years education for 10 hours per week, term-time only. The service accepts children between the ages of 2 4 years old and currently operates two ½ sessions per day. As at September 2019, 30 children attends the morning session and 27 children attends the afternoon session.

#### Sufficiency of Accommodation

The new Ysgol Corn Hir will have sufficient accommodation for 3 year olds, both in the classroom and outdoors. The school will be for 3-11 year olds)

The new Ysgol Corn Hir also proposes to have a childcare unit with a capacity of up to 50 for 2 - 4 year olds, together with the nursery capacity of 51 to meet the demand.

#### Level of demand (Llangefni Area - Cefni, Cyngar, Tudur Wards)

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment completed by the Council in April 2017, identified no registered after school provision in the Llangefni area or sufficient registered holiday provision within the private day nurseries. Childcare places within day nurseries in Anglesey were sufficient in 2017 to meet the demand of parents. However, since the introduction of the Childcare Offer, spaces are limited. The sector traditionally offers care to children from 6 months to 4 years of age.

Childminders	Full Day Care (Private provider)	Sessional e.e Cylch Meithrin	Flying Start	After School Registered (Private provider)	Holiday (Private provider)
4	3 Blodyn Tatws Nursery Medra Nursery Sêr Bach Nursery	4 Cylch meithrin Bodffordd Corn Hir Talwrn Sryd Y Bont	1 Situated on the Ysgol Y Graig site	3 Blodyn Tatws Nursery Medra Nursery Sêr Bach Nursery	3 Blodyn Tatws Nursery Medra Nursery Sêr Bach Nursery

Provision within the Llangefni area as at April 2019

There is a lack of childcare provision in the area for children aged 3 - 11 years of age. The number of childminders in the area has remained static and across the County there are more deregistering than being registered. This trend is continuing.

#### Demand for certain type of Nursery education

All current sessional services in this area provide Welsh medium education. The private nurseries provide bilingual services. The proposed childcare unit at the new Ysgol Corn Hir will provide a service through the medium of Welsh and a Welsh Language grant has been obtained to ensure the provision is Welsh medium.

In the area there is an educational provision at Canolfan Addysg Y Bont, which cares and educates children with additional learning needs. The Canolfan does not currently provide any after school or

holiday childcare provision. The proposed childcare unit at the new Ysgol Corn Hir will also cater for children from Canolfan Addysg Y Bont.

#### Effect of the proposal on other institutions

The establishment of the proposed childcare unit at the new Ysgol Corn Hir is intended to complement the existing provision of childminders and private day nurseries in the area. There will be an expectation that the service will be competitive with the local rates charged by the private providers which will provide choice and sufficiency of childcare in this area for parents.

#### Extent to which the proposal will integrate early year's education with childcare services

Childcare services at the proposed childcare unit at the new Ysgol Corn Hir shall integrate traditional childcare, the early year's educational provision and all day childcare from 8am until 6pm each day, with holiday provision throughout the year for children 3 – 11 years old. The Provision for 2 year olds may be sessional day care. The provision will be registered with Care Inspectorate Wales as all day childcare and consequently allow for parents to claim the Childcare Offer for children aged 3 -4, childcare vouchers or child tax credits to benefit from financial support to reduce the childcare costs. The availability of registered all day childcare on school sites will make it easier for parents to resume work, increase their working hours and equally be satisfied that their children are receiving the best possible standards of care.

#### 4.5 Information about the schools

#### Ysgol Bodffordd (Bodffordd, Anglesey LL77 7LZ)

Ysgol Bodffordd was built in 1880 and the community part of the building was built in 1986. It is a single storey pitched roof building. There are three classrooms including a room which used to be a resources room as well a hall / canteen [107.5m<sup>2</sup>], staff room and an office for the Headteacher. There is a hard play area and playground on site. The hall is also used by the community.

As at October 2019: Ysgol Bodffordd had 69 Pupils on the roll with 41 pupils attending from within the catchment area (59%).10% of pupils not in the catchment area of Ysgol Bodffordd come from the catchment area of Ysgol Corn Hir [7 Pupils].

Ysgol Bodffordd Classsrooms 3	Age ranges being taught per classroom	
	Nursery, Reception and Year 1	
	Years 1, 2 and 3 (Targeting)	
	Years 3, 4, 5, and 6	

The school year age ranges being taught in each classroom is as follows:

#### Ysgol Corn Hir (Llangefni, Ynys Môn LL77 7JB)

Ysgol Corn Hir was built in 1986. There are eight classrooms which include the mobile classroom. Classrooms have replaced the resources centre and the library which were on the site. In addition to the hall / dining room [102.4m<sup>2</sup>], there is a staff room and an office for the Headteacher. There is a hard play area and playground on site.

As at October 2019: Ysgol Corn Hir had 230 Pupils on the roll with 166 pupils attending from within the catchment area. (72%).3% of pupils not in the catchment area of Ysgol Corn Hir come from the catchment area of Ysgol Bodffordd [6 Pupils].

The school year age ranges being taught in each classroom are as follows:

Ysgol Corn Hir Classrooms 9	Age ranges being taught per classroom
	Reception
	Reception and Year 1
	Years 1 and 2
	Year 2
	Years 3 and 4
	Years 3 and 4
	Years 3 and 4
	Year 5
	Year 6

# 4.6 Facilities and services provided by the schools

Details of facilities and services provided by the schools were obtained from questionnaires completed by the Headteachers of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir. Bodffordd Community Council also provided details of local activities held.

Ysgol Bodffordd Activity	During the term or holidays?	Frequency
Urdd Sports Club	3.30-4.30	Once a week during the summer term
After school Rugby Club	3.30-4.30	When the field is fit to use
Kids Club (Looking after pupils who have siblings in KS2 from 3.00pm to 3.30)	Term	Daily at 3pm during the term
Urdd activities (occasional) <ul> <li>Cinema</li> <li>Quiz</li> <li>Art and Craft</li> </ul>	3.30-5.00	Aiming for once a month
School field is available to local children all year round – after school and during the holidays	All year round	As required

# 4.7 Extra-curricular activities available to pupils at Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir:

Ysgol Corn Hir Activity	During the term or holidays?	Frequency
After school – half hour club	Term	Daily
After school care club	Term	Daily
Football club	Term	Weekly
Netball club	Term	Weekly
Urdd - Various classes	Term	Weekly
Rugby club	Term	Weekly

# 4.8 School facilities at Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir used by local groups:

Ysgol Bodffordd User and facility	During the term or during holidays?	Frequency
Charles Williams Drama Committee		Meet as required
Charles Williams Drama Festival		Annually, about April
Osian Roberts Football Festival		Annually, about May / June
Art and Craft Eisteddfod, Cookery and Handiwork, Bodffordd Eisteddfod		Annually. Make use of the Centre and school resources for 2 days – June
Bodffordd Eisteddfod Committee		As requested and required

Ysgol Bodffordd User and facility	During the term or during holidays?	Frequency
Bodffordd Eisteddfod (since 1986)		Annually. Make use of the Centre, the School, Yard and Field – July
Opening the Book		
Bodffordd Nursery (since 1986)		Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday weekly
Bodffordd Ladies	During the term and holidays	Once a month (3rd Monday of the month)
Pensioners' Club	During the term and holidays	Once a month (Second Tuesday of the month)
Whist drive	During the term and holidays	Twice a month (sometimes 3) Thursday evening – every fortnight
School of Dance	During the term	Once a week on Wednesdays
Bodffordd Literary Circle	During the term and holidays	Once a month (4th Monday of the month)
Birthday Parties	During the term and holidays and weekends	As requested
Llangefni Rugby Club – use of the Centre for First Aid Training annually (since 2018)		Once a year – over 2 days

Ysgol Corn Hir User and facility	During the term or during holidays?	Frequency
School hall for various activities	During term time and the holidays	
School grounds for various activities	During term time and the holidays	

Based on the information supplied by the Headteachers, the facilities at Ysgol Bodffordd namely the Bodffordd Community Centre is used by several groups from the local community.

# 4.9 Local facilities used by Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir:

Ysgol Bodffordd Service	During the term or during holidays?	Frequency
Sardis Chapel	Term	Twice a year at most (excluding practices)
Sardis Chapel – as a denoted safe haven in the event of an emergency	Term	
St. Llwydian's Church	Term	
The Community Centre – social evenings – Parents + Teachers – e.g. Bingo	Term / as required	
The Community Centre – discos / fun activities arranged by parents and teachers	Term	
Yard / school building – summer fairs / Christmas Fair / Christmas shopping evening (supporting home and local businesses)	Term	
Fun sports activities (arranged by parents)	Term	

Ysgol Corn Hir	During the term or during holidays?	How many times a week?
Service		
Local chapel – Moreia	School term	Occasional
Local chapel – Cildwrn	School term	Occasional
Plas Arthur, Llangefni	School term	Occasional
Nant y Pandy	School term	Occasional
St. Cyngar's Church	School term	Occasional
Oriel Môn	School term	Occasional
Llangefni Golf course	School term	Occasional
County Council	School term	Occasional
Library	School term	Occasional
Tesco Bangor	School term	Occasional

# 4.10 Community facilities located near Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir (including private businesses).

Name of Facility / Business near Ysgol Bodffordd	Bilingual / Medium of English or Medium of Welsh	Start Date
Ysgol Bodffordd Nursery	Welsh	Since 1986
School playing field	Available to all	
Yard – used as a car park for evening and weekend community activities	Available to all who make use of the Centre as an activity centre	
Roberts Radio	Bilingual	
Tŷ Crwn Garage / Computer Repairs	Bilingual	
Dolphin Travel (Buses)	Bilingual	
Paint Shop / Decorating	Bilingual	
Parc Cefni Leisure	Bilingual	
Blodyn Tatws	Bilingual	
Inch-Less/Modfedd Llai	Bilingual	
Creative Hair Salon	Bilingual	
Serenity Beauty and Skin Care	Bilingual	
Physio Môn	Bilingual	

Name of Facility / Business Near Ysgol Corn Hir	Bilingual / Medium of English or Medium of Welsh	Start Date
Llangefni – large number of businesses	Bilingual	Established
Canolfan Plas Arthur	Bilingual	Since its opening
Skate Board Park	Bilingual	Since its opening
Capel Cildwrn	Welsh	Since its opening

# 4.11 Community activities available near Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir:

Name of Facility / Business Near Ysgol Bodffordd	Bilingual / Medium of English or Medium of Welsh	Start Date
Bodffordd Cyf	Bilingual	
Cyngor Cymuned	Bilingual	

Name of Facility / Business Near Ysgol Corn Hir	Bilingual / Medium of English or Medium of Welsh	Start Date
Llangefni Rugby club	Bilingual	September - July
Llangefni Football Club	Bilingual	September - July
Park Run	Bilingual	

#### 4.12 Childcare and pre-school care available at Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir:

Ysgol Bodffordd	Language	Independent from the school	Location of Provision	Frequency
Pre School Club	Bilingual	No	School classes	Monday-Friday
Pre School Breakfast Club	Bilingual	No	School classes	Monday-Friday
Kids Club (Looking after pupils who have siblings in KS2 from 3.00 to 3.30)	Bilingual	No	Foundation Phase classes at 3pm	Monday-Friday

Ysgol Corn Hir	Language	Independent from the school?	Location of Provision	Frequency
Breakfast Club	Bilingual	No	School Hall	Every school day
After school Club	Bilingual	No	School Hall	Every school day
Half hour Club	Bilingual	No	School Hall	Every school day

If the proposal is authorised, it is foreseen that parents and pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir would support and engage with the new Ysgol Corn Hir. Even though the percentage of pupils who receive free school meals is low (Ysgol Bodffordd 5%, Ysgol Corn Hir 7%, Anglesey 14%), these pupils would not be treated any differently to those who do not receive free school meals and would be encouraged to participate in after school activities such as those mentioned above, in the new Ysgol Corn Hir.

If the proposal is realised, the new Ysgol Corn Hir will be a Community School and will therefore include a larger main hall for community activities, a community meeting room as well as a Pre-School Nursery Unit for 2 to 4 year olds. If the proposal is realised, most if not all facilities and services provided by Ysgol Corn Hir could be provided by the new primary school.

# 4.13 Community activities held locally at Bodffordd

# Bodffordd Community Council has also provided details of activities held locally:

Activity	How often?	Where?
Pensioners Club	Once a month	Community centre
Literacy Group	Once a month From Oct - March	Community centre
Merched Bodffordd	Once a month	Community centre
Drama Festival	Once a year	Community centre
Eisteddfod	Once a year	Community centre
Arts and Crafts Exhibition	Once a year	Community centre
Summer Fair and Football Festival	Once a year	The community centre and playing field
Whist Drive	Every fortnight	Community centre
Bingo	Occasional	Community centre
Dance Lessons for Children	Every week	Community centre
Fire Drills	Occasional	Community centre
Eisteddfod Committee	As required	Community centre
Drama Festival Committee	As required	Community centre
Concerts for Good Causes	Occasional	Community centre
Urdd Practices	As required	Community centre
Birthday Parties	As required	Community centre
External Organisations	Occasional	Community centre
Community Council	Each month	Community centre

#### Additional comments from Bodffordd Community Council

As seen above, the Community Centre, the school and the playing field are all essential to ensure the future of the community and the language.

The possible closure of Ysgol Bodffordd could encourage some families to leave the community and even discourage young families from moving to the community. This could potentially have a small effect on the local economy. However, as stated above, there is another building in the village i.e. Capel y Gad

that could accommodate some of the events that currently take place at the Community Centre which is connected to Ysgol Bodffordd. It is possible that closing Ysgol Bodffordd and the Community Centre and moving the activities currently taking place at the Community Centre would lead to a diminishing of community activities. However, the Council is committed to working with the community in Bodffordd to ensure the long-term viability of the present Community Centre.

# 4.14 Distance and travelling time

The proposed site for the new Ysgol Corn Hir is approximately 1.4 miles from Ysgol Bodffordd and 0.3 miles from the current Ysgol Corn Hir (Source – Google maps).

If the proposal is authorised, it would mean longer travel distances for some pupils. Based on the current number of pupils on roll at Ysgol Bodffordd (June 2019), 34% would travel less to the new Ysgol Corn Hir site whilst 66% would have to travel further. As the route from Bodffordd to Llangefni on the B5109 is classed as a hazardous route, the Council would provide transportation for these pupils, meaning they would be unlikely to walk or cycle to school. The travelling time from Ysgol Bodffordd on a bus to the new proposed site for the new Ysgol Corn Hir is approximately 8 minutes.

As at October 2019: Ysgol Bodffordd had 69 Pupils on the roll with 41 pupils attending from within the catchment area (59%).

• 10% not in the catchment area of Ysgol Bodffordd come from the catchment area of Ysgol Corn Hir [7 Pupils].

As at October 2019: Ysgol Corn Hir had 230 Pupils on the roll with 166 pupils attending from within the catchment area (72%).

 3% not in the catchment area of Ysgol Corn Hir come from the catchment area of Ysgol Bodffordd [6 Pupils].

As it is proposed that Ysgol Corn Hir will relocate to a site less than a mile away from the current school building, pupils from the school will still be able to walk to the new Ysgol Corn Hir. However, as the proposed site of the new Ysgol Corn Hir is on the other side of the B5109, it is estimated that 15% of the pupils of Ysgol Corn Hir would have to cross the B5109. All pupils could still walk or cycle to the new Ysgol Corn Hir. A Traffic Impact Assessment of the effect of the potential new Ysgol Corn Hir on the travel arrangements of staff and pupils has been prepared. As a result of this, the walkway from the junction of the B4422 with the B5109 to the entrance of the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir will be widened and a crossing point will be provided over the B5109 to the proposed new primary school.

Other than additional transportation from Bodffordd to the new Ysgol Corn Hir, it is very unlikely that the proposal would have an effect on public transport.

The Welsh Government states that primary aged pupils should not have to travel more than 45 minutes each way to school. The Local Council provides free transport for primary school pupils under the age of 16 who live <u>**2 miles**</u> or more from school in whose catchment area they live. The same policy also states, "that transport will not be provided for part-time nursery pupils."

# 4.15 Community Impact Assessment (Original Proposal)

Criteria	Observations	Impact	Mitigation Measures
		Negative/ Neutral/ Positive	
Pupils who live outside the catchment area who attend school	<ul> <li>As at October 2019: Ysgol Bodffordd had 69 Pupils on the roll with 41 pupils attending from within the catchment area (59%).</li> <li>10% not in the catchment area of Ysgol Bodffordd come from the catchment area of Ysgol Corn Hir [7 Pupils].</li> <li>As at October 2019: Ysgol Corn Hir had 230 Pupils on the roll with 166 pupils attending from within the catchment area (72%).</li> <li>3% not in the catchment area of Ysgol Corn Hir come from the catchment area of Ysgol Bodffordd [6 Pupils].</li> </ul>	Positive	If the proposal is approved, it is likely that the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir would be combined. Based on current figures, this means that there would be less out of catchment pupils present in the new Ysgol Corn Hir.
Services provided by the school for the community including extra- curricular activities	Both schools provide many activities and services. It is foreseen that this provision	Neutral	By working together with the community, the long-term future of the Bodffordd Community Centre could be secured. If this was the case, activities and services provided from the Community Centre would continue. As Ysgol Corn Hir will be relocated, activities and services provided from the school will be provided at the new Ysgol Corn Hir.
Community facilities used regularly by the school	0	Neutral	Community facilities e.g. a local chapel or church will remain irrespective of the Executive's decision. The Ysgol Corn Hir will be a community school.
Community facilities provided by the school and	As Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir are community schools, the community makes	Neutral	By working together with the community, the long-term future of the Bodffordd Community Centre could be secured. If this was the case, activities and services

Criteria	Observations	Impact Negative/ Neutral/ Positive	Mitigation Measures
activities held on school grounds	considerable use of the buildings and the school grounds.		provided from the Community Centre and its grounds would continue.
Other impacts Transport + public	If the proposal is approved, transport to the new Ysgol Corn Hir will have to be arranged at a cost to the Council. It is very unlikely that the proposal would have an effect on public transport.	Negative	If the proposal is approved, transport to the new Ysgol Corn Hir would be arranged by the Council.
Other Effect on community	Closing Ysgol Bodffordd could have an impact on the attractiveness of a local area for possible house purchasers, especially those who have or intend to have children. However it could make the area more attractive for house buyers who are looking for a quieter neighbourhood. It is acknowledged that there could be a change in the areas demographic over time.	Neutral	By working together with the community, the long-term future of the Bodffordd Community Centre could be secured. If this was the case, it will alleviate the possible impact of closing Ysgol Bodffordd.
	Combined effect on the community	4 Neutral	

Conclusion – The proposal would seem to have a neutral effect on the community.

## 5. WELL- BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015 (Original Proposal)

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 gives a legally-binding common purpose of seven Well-being Goals and five Ways of Working designed to support and deliver a public service that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Way of	Definition	How the proposal meets the requirements
working Long term		way of working
	The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs	Ensuring the long-term sustainability of education in the community and ensuring that there are sufficient school places to meet the needs both now and in the future. Ensuring the school establishment is fit for purpose and complies with 21 <sup>st</sup> Century guidelines.
Prevention		
	How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objective	Securing the long-term future of education in the area.
Integration		
Ø	Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well- being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies	Community integration is a focus of all new schools creating an environment to support culture, heritage and the Welsh language. Providing sufficient places ensures that the curriculum can be delivered and meets social, environmental and cultural objectives.
Collaboration		
	Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its wellbeing objectives.	Increase collaboration between services and communities to ensure the continued delivery of education to all pupils and the consultation involves extensive engagement and involvement with pupils, staff, Governors and the community. This will involve collaborating with stakeholders during and after the consultation process to secure the long- term future of education in the area. The local Council works effectively with schools, Estyn, GwE, community councils and many internal and external partners to ensure that the building will meet the short-term and future needs of the users and the community it will serve.
Involvement		
	The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.	The proposal is subject to a formal statutory consultation. This will enable stakeholder involvement in the proposal.

### 5.1 How the proposal meets the requirements way of working?

## 5.2 Well-being of Future Generations Act

In order to realise the Schools Modernisation Programme and taking into account the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015), we will focus on creating more resilient communities, engaging with our communities, establishing a local partnership, and including our communities in the long-term planning. By following such a process, we aim to enable providers and communities to develop services based on need, to encourage the sharing of resources and lead to more efficient expenditure in the long term.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015) is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Isle of Anglesey County Council is working towards achieving the objectives of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015). As a follow-up to the Well-being Assessment that was undertaken, a Well-being Plan has been developed, led by the Gwynedd and Anglesey Joint Public Services Board. The consultation and engagement arrangements for schools' modernisation will be designed to meet the needs of the plan.

The table below outlines how it is anticipated the proposal to: **"Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir** to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir" will contribute to the 7 wellbeing goals:

7 well-being goals	How the proposal will contribute to the 7 well-being goals
Prosperous	The project will ensure that the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir is fit for purpose and will ensure that every pupil's capacity and potential to succeed is realised.
Equal	The Council is committed to maximising the value of every pound the Local Council spends, and this can be realised with community benefits. The Council will incorporate community benefits into all projects, including, if approved, the new Ysgol Corn Hir. The Council will also ensure equality of opportunity regardless of a pupil's ability and background.
Resilient	The Isle of Anglesey County Council has a policy that was established jointly with the other counties in North Wales for engaging with stakeholders. The policy is based on the national principles for public engagement. If the proposal is approved by the Executive, then a statutory consultation process will be held to gather stakeholders' views. Following the consultation, a stakeholder group could be established in order to maintain joint working with the Council. There will also be opportunities for children to contribute to the process. The expanded school will have water efficient fixtures. The proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir will consider food-growing opportunities that support areas for wildlife and that are accessible to all pupils and will promote and support uptake of eco-friendly initiatives such as eco-schools.
Healthier	The Community Impact Assessment, which is a part of this assessment, confirms that the existing schools in Corn Hir and Bodffordd operate as community schools. Furthermore, the new relocated and extended Ysgol Corn Hir, will be used as a community hub that promotes healthier communities e.g. by offering sporting activities for community members. The Council will endeavour to

7 well-being goals	How the proposal will contribute to the 7 well-being goals
	make the make it as easy as possible to get to the school by walking or on a bicycle.
Cohesive communities	As part of the statutory consultation, stakeholders will have an opportunity to voice their opinions and offer comments on the proposal. The new Ysgol Corn Hir will contribute towards the area's community infrastructure. The proposal has the potential to form a new community based around Bodfordd and the catchment area of Corn Hir.
A vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	The Welsh language Impact Assessment is enclosed. Both Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir are Welsh-medium schools. The proposal will strengthen Welsh medium provision in the area. The Schools Modernisation Programme will collaborate with the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board to promote the use of the Welsh language in the community, and contribute towards the Welsh Government's target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050. The Learning Service reports on a quarterly basis to the County Language Forum on the use of Welsh in the Council's schools and the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) is monitored on a quarterly basis by the County Language Forum. The performance of pupils at both schools in Welsh i.e. the percentage of pupils achieving the required standard is good in both schools.
A globally responsible Wales	The school modernisation programme and the related projects are aligned with corporate, local and national strategies. The programme has worked closely with Welsh Government, stakeholders and partners to ensure that the projects are being supported and that the strategic direction is understood. This means that stakeholders know how the proposed scheme will help to achieve the business goals, strategic aims and plans of the Council. Improvements to our schools will lead to improvements in energy efficiency by, for example, generating electricity using photovoltaic panels. This will also lead to reduction in the generation of carbon dioxide and will help teach the pupils to use natural resources wisely.

## 6. CONCLUSION TO THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

The original proposal was to "**Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir"**.

The original proposal was assessed for its potential impact on:

- Equality
- Language i.e. the Welsh language
- Community.

The effect on each part was as follows:

Combined effect on:	Impact:	
	Positive or Negative	
Equality	+3 Positive	
Language	+2 Positive	
Community	4 Neutral	

After considering the proposal for its potential impact on equality, the Welsh Language and the community, the proposal would have a positive impact.

The document also shows in Section 5 how the original proposal meets the requirements of the Well- being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

## 7. IMPACT ASSESSMENT ON THE OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE

After considering all the feedback from the statutory consultation the Council concludes that the most appropriate response is to "**Build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and to leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is**".

The significant feedback from the majority of stakeholders connected to <u>both</u> schools have indicated the following that they:

- Agree that the Ysgol Corn Hir building is too small and build a new school.
- Agree Corn Hir needs a new school but why at the detriment of closing Ysgol Bodffordd?

The Council believes that this other reasonable alternative of building a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leaving Ysgol Bodffordd as it is, meets most of the key challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd as discussed below.

- Standards at Ysgol Bodffordd -Ysgol Bodffordd's category has improved from Amber in 2015 to Yellow (B) in 2019.
   Ysgol Bodffordd's Headteacher also states: "There is very close collaboration between all schools in the Llangefni catchment area and consequently all schools share good practice and expertise and as a result standards improve in every school."
   Further support will be provided to Ysgol Bodffordd by the Local Council and GwE to ensure standards are improved so that the future development and potential of its children can be realised.
- Curriculum Delivery Ysgol Bodffordd is in a strong position to collaborate with other schools to deliver the Curriculum for Wales.
   Ysgol Bodffordd's Headteacher states "there is very close collaboration between all schools in the Llangefni catchment area and consequently all schools share good practice and expertise. Additionally, all schools in the catchment area develop leadership skills amongst their staff, with teachers in every school given the opportunity to lead staff from their own school and other schools. This close collaboration has led to schools collaborating on School Development Plan priorities. The collaboration has led to the Llangefni Catchment Area being named at a GwE conference as an example of good practice that should be shared. Currently, and for the past two years, the Catchment Area Headteachers Forum has been chaired by the Headteacher and is driving this collaboration. "
- Teaching Commitment of the Headteacher The Ysgol Bodffordd Headteacher states "There's no denying that there is a lot of pressure in terms of leadership and learning on small village / rural schools, but there are many important positive factors that make it an interesting job that sharpens the mind – there is variety in the staff's work, the requirements and expectations are challenging and varied, all members of staff are developed in terms of leadership and management roles in a small school" The current Headteacher has been able to balance a specific learning commitment while improving the performance of the school.

In addition to the above, the Council concludes that:

• Welsh Language –With pupils at Ysgol Bodffordd (85%) and Ysgol Corn Hir (61%) speaking Welsh at home, Ysgol Bodffordd and the new Ysgol Corn Hir has the potential to maintain and further develop the current Welsh language medium provision.

- Travelling arrangements This other reasonable alternative is unlikely to change pupil's current travelling arrangements. Pupils from Bodffordd who currently walk or cycle to school are likely to be able to continue to do so, with no likely changes to the carbon footprint.
- Capacity the other reasonable alternative meets the capacity needs under consideration as part of the original proposal and therefore meets the expected future increase in pupil numbers.
- Bodffordd Community Centre- There would be no change, which would allay any anxiety of the losing the community centre for Ysgol Bodffordd stakeholders.
- School Organisation Code (2018) Ysgol Bodffordd is identified in the Code as a Rural School, and as a result the Council has followed a more detailed set of procedures and requirements in formulating this other reasonable alternative.

Sections 8-12 that follow, assesses the impact of the other reasonable alternative to "Build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and to leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is".

The data and evidence collected for the purpose of the assessments has been updated in sections 8-12 and is based on the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) January 2020.

## 8. OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE – EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

What are you assessing?	The other reasonable alternative being assessed is to:		
	"Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is"		
Is this a new or existing proposal?	This other reasonable alternative was suggested following the statutory consultation held from the 6 February 2020-20 March 2020. This other reasonable alternative partly meets the original proposal of providing a new school building for Ysgol Corn Hir ,but does not lead to the closure of Ysgol Bodffordd and moving Ysgol Bodffordd pupils to the new school building.		
What are the aims and purpose of this proposal?	To change and improve the primary education provision in this part of Anglesey. The relevant key drivers for the Llangefni area are noted below:		
	<ul> <li>Ensuring that education standards are maintained and improved across all schools to ensure all children reach their potential.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Ensuring that schools have sufficient spaces for the current number of pupils and future projected numbers.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Ensuring that the variances in expenditure per pupil are brought in line and more consistent across the schools.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Ensuring the condition of the school estate is on a secure footing for the current number of pupils and the projected future increase in pupil numbers.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Ensuring that the leadership and management structure of our schools provides a solid base for the strategic leadership and succession planning of our schools into the future</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Ensuring that the new Curriculum for Wales can be delivered effectively.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Ensuring that the Welsh Medium Provision is maintained or improved.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Ensuring that the community use of school buildings and associated facilities are maintained or where possible increased.</li> </ul>		

8.1 Background		
Is the proposal related to other areas of work?	Yes – the proposal is part of the Isle of Anglesey County Council's School modernisation strategy.	
Who would be affected by the proposal(s) (adversely or positively, directly or indirectly)?	For both schools involved, i.e. Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir, the following would be affected: Staff, pupils, governors, parents of pupils at the schools, members of the community who use both schools.	

Does this proposal ensure that the Welsh language is treated no less favourably than the English language, in accordance with the Council's Welsh Language Policy?	Yes – this is assessed separately in the Welsh Language Impact Assessment part of this document (Section 9).
Is there an opportunity here to offer more opportunities for people to learn and / or use the Welsh language on a day-to-day basis?	If this other reasonable alternative is approved, there will be space at the new Ysgol Corn Hir building for use by the community and will be available for Welsh lessons. The Welsh Language Impact Assessment will determine if there will be more opportunities to use Welsh on a day-to-day basis.
Will this area of work proactively offer services in Welsh for users?	Yes – this is assessed separately in the Language Impact Assessment part of this document (Section 9).
Is this proposal likely to protect and promote the Welsh language within communities?	Realisation of this other reasonable alternative will protect and promote the Welsh language within the community where the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir building will be and the existing Ysgol Bodffordd.

8.2 Information Gathering		
Are there any Human Rights issues? If so, what are they? (The 16 basic rights are listed in section 14).	No Human Rights issues have been identified.	
Does this proposal meet any of the seven	A prosperous Wales	Yes
national well-being goals outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales)	A resilient Wales	Yes
Act 2015?	A healthier Wales	Yes
	A more equal Wales	Yes
(Descriptions of the wellbeing goals are listed at section 15)	A Wales of cohesive communities	Yes
Section (3)	A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Yes
	A globally responsible Wales	Yes
	This is also assessed separately in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015) part of this document (Section 11).	
What has been done to date in terms of involvement and consultation with regard to this proposal?	<ul> <li>This other reasonable alternative is in response to the feedback received from the statutory consultation held from the 6 February 2020-20 March 2020.</li> </ul>	
Have you used any other information that is relevant to the proposal to inform your assessment? If so, please detail:	Yes – the following information about the schools has been included: Gender balance, Additional Learning Needs (ALN) data, ethnicity, language and free school meals.	
Are there any gaps in the information collected to date?	No gaps identified at this stage.	

8.2 Information Gathering		
If so, how will these be addressed?		
Is the proposal relevant to how the Council complies with the public sector general duty relating to people who are protected by the Equality Act 2010?	Yes	No
The elimination of discrimination and harassment	N	
The advancement of equality of opportunity	ν	
The fostering of good relations	ν	
The protection and promotion of human rights	ν	

8.3 Considering the potential impact and identifying mitigating action

In undertaking this Equality Impact Assessment, the Council has taken into consideration the negative, neutral and positive impact of the new recommended proposal to "Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is" and has identified what action could be taken to reduce or improve the impact.

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact	Actions to mitigate negative impact
Age	Positive	The Local Council has a statutory duty to provide full-time education to children and young people aged 5-16.	No negative impact anticipated.
		The new Ysgol Corn Hir building will have the capacity to accept pupils at 3 years of age on a part time basis.	
		As Ysgol Bodffordd will stay as it is, there will be no impact.	
Disability	Positive	<ul> <li>If the proposal is realised:</li> <li>The proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir building will be fully compliant with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and will be fully accessible to all pupils.</li> <li>Pupils who have additional learning needs will continue to receive additional support to respond to their individual educational needs.</li> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd building has some disabled access issues and only partially conform to the requirements expected under the Equality Act 2010.</li> </ul>	Compliance with the requirements expected under the Equality Act 2010 would be prioritised if a child with needs attends Ysgol Bodffordd.

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact         Actions to mitigate negative impact
Sex	No impact	The table below shows the current gender split.       All pupils' performance is assessed and monitored, to include specific groups such as male and females, free school meals, ALN pupils, ethnic minority, English as an additional
		Gender       Bodffordd       Corn       Ianguage (EAL), children in care and the more able and talented. The educational performance of boys and girls is constantly monitored to ensure there are no large
		differences between males and females and
		Female     40%     47%     the various groups associated.
Gender Reassignment	No impact	The Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC)       If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.         January 2020 does not retain data on this aspect.       If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.         There is no evidence that discrimination based on gender reassignment is happening.       If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.
Marriage or Civil Partnership	No impact	Not applicable to the pupils of the school.       There is no evidence that discrimination based on marriage /or civil partnership is happening with the school staff. If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.
Pregnancy & Maternity	No impact	Not applicable to the pupils of the school.Female staff who become pregnant are eligible for a maternity period in accordance with the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Maternity Leave Scheme. Male staff are eligible for paternity leave in accordance with the Paternity Leave Policy. Male and Female staff are also eligible for shared parental leave in accordance with the Shared Parental Leave Policy. There is no evidence that discriminating on the basis of pregnancy or taking paternity 

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact	Actions to mitigate negative impact
Race	No impact	PLASC data January 2020Ysgol BodfforddYsgol Corn HirWhite British 96.5%White British 96.9%	If pupils from other ethnic backgrounds attend the schools, they will not be treated differently based on their ethnic origin. Should there be members of staff from other ethnic backgrounds in the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir, they will not be treated differently based on their ethnic origin.
Religion or Belief	No impact	The PLASC January 2020 does not retain data on this aspect.	The proposal can provide the opportunity to improve the pupils' understanding of religion or belief due to an increase in the pupil numbers with pupils mixing with other pupils from more diverse backgrounds. It is a parental choice to share information about their child's religion or belief with the school. If issues arise, they will be dealt with
Sexual Orientation	No impact	The PLASC January 2020 does not retain data on this aspect.	There is no evidence that discrimination based on sexual orientation is happening. It is a parental choice to share information about their child's sexual orientation with the
Human Rights	No impact	The Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) January 2020 does not retain data on this aspect.	school. If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively. There is no evidence that discrimination based on human rights is happening with the school staff or with pupils. If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact	Actions to mitigate negative impact	
Other - Socio- economic. Small and Rural Schools	Neutral	Ysgol Bodffordd is named as a rural school in the School Organisation Code (011/2018).	The Council acknowledges that rural schools have a key role to play in contributing towards the community, the use of the Welsh Language and lifestyle. Larger schools also have a key role to play in this respect.	
		The thematic report by Estyn, "Small Primary School in Wales (2006)" notes that there is no real difference between education standards in small and large schools, but that "it can be more difficult for teachers in smaller schools to match the work to pupils' needs, since pupils in a class can vary greatly in terms of age and development stages". This is relevant to smaller schools. Resilience in terms of staffing has improved in the larger schools on Anglesey.	The Headteacher of Ysgol Bodffordd's reponse to the statutory consultation was "There's no denying that there is a lot of pressure in terms of leadership and learning on small village / rural schools, but there are many important positive factors that make it an interesting job that sharpens the mind – there is variety in the staff's work, the requirements and expectations are challenging and varied, all members of staff are developed in terms of leadership and management roles in a small school" The current Headteacher has been able to balance a specific learning commitment while	
Other - Socio- economic. Number of children who are eligible for free school meals.	Positive	It would provide increased opportunities for pupilsof both schools and in particular for pupils at YsgolCorn Hir to take advantage of the resources and provision in the new building.PLASC 2020 Free School Meal figuresBodfforddCorn Hir	<ul> <li>improving the performance of the school.</li> <li>The cashless system for school meals, which would not give rise to any possible stigma associated with pupils having free school meal will continue at both schools.</li> <li>The performance of pupils eligible for free</li> </ul>	

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact	Actions to mitigate negative impact
		At present, 16% of pupils in primary schools on Anglesey are eligible for free school meals.	
Other - Socio- economic. Less advantaged children's participation in after school activities.	Positive	Potential to provide increased opportunities for pupils of Ysgol Corn Hir to take advantage of after school activities in the new school building.	Both schools are expected to continue with the current club provision. In the context of <u>extra-</u> <u>curricular activities</u> every pupil, irrespective of background, will be encouraged to participate at both schools, with the expectation on both schools to make suitable arrangements for less advantaged pupils to be able to participate. These arrangements will include but not confined to clubs being held during the lunch break, arrangements with parents for pick-up and transport and providing after school transport.
Other Responses received during the consultation	Positive	<ul> <li>Risk of Ysgol Bodffordd staff losing their jobs</li> <li>Health and safety and well-being of:</li> <li>Current Ysgol Corn Hir staff and pupils due to overcrowding at the current site</li> <li>Mental health of Ysgol Bodffordd pupils if Ysgol Bodffordd closes.</li> </ul>	As Ysgol Bodffordd will remain open if this other reasonable alternative is approved, there will be no risk to Ysgol Bodffordd staff losing their jobs. This other reasonable alternative provides a new building for Ysgol Corn Hir which will have adequate space and be fit for purpose. Ysgol Bodffordd remaining open will mitigate
		(9% stated the above in response to the consultation).	against any potential mental health issues suffered by Ysgol Bodffordd pupils.

Combined effect on equality	+5 Positive
-----------------------------	-------------

# Conclusion – The other reasonable alternative to" Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is" would have a positive effect on equality.

The potential effect of the proposal on the Welsh language is assessed separately in the Welsh Language Impact Assessment Section 9

8.4 Outcome of the assessment		
How it is intended to mitigate any negative impact highlighted.	The other reasonable alternative is to: "Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is"	
	No negative impacts are envisaged.	
Is there a strategy for dealing with any unavoidable but not unlawful negative impacts that cannot be mitigated?	No negative impacts are envisaged.	
Describe any actions taken to maximise the opportunity to promote equality and/or the goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (sustainability). (The seven well-being goals are listed in section 15 )	f school building is built for Ysgol Corn Hir then, it will lead to a reduction in e consumption in the building and a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions. The ducation the pupils receive will help develop a skilled and well-educated	
How the proposal will contribute to the 7 Well-being goals is assessed later in the document. (Section 11)	population to the future. <b>A more equal Wales</b> – The new school building for Ysgol Corn Hir pupils will be fit for purpose and will ensure that every pupil's capacity and potential to succeed is realised.	
	<b>A Wales of cohesive communities</b> – The proposal has the potential to form a new community based around Bodffordd and the area around the proposed new site for Ysgol Corn Hir.	
	A globally responsible Wales – The new building for Ysgol Corn Hir will be buil to BREAAM standards and will involve a number of energy saving initiatives. This and other specific parts of the curriculum, will be used to develop pupils' understanding of living and growing up in a globally responsible Wales.	
	A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language –This other reasonable alternative will at least maintain Welsh medium provision in the area.	
	The Schools Modernisation Programme will collaborate with the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board to promote the use of the Welsh language in the community, and contribute towards the Welsh Government's target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.	

8.4 Outcome of the assessment	
	The Learning Service reports on a quarterly basis to the County Language Forum on the use of Welsh in the Council's schools and the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) is monitored on a quarterly basis by the County Language Forum.
	The proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir building / site will have a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) which will encourage participation in sports and recreation.
Is there a need to reconsider this other reasonable alternative as a result of conducting this assessment?	No. This other reasonable alternative to "Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is" is now recommended to the Executive.
Will the proposal be adopted / forwarded for approval? Who will be the decision-maker?	A report on the statutory consultation findings together with a recommendation to the Executive to approve the other reasonable alternative to "Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is".
	It will be the Executive's decision whether to approve this other reasonable alternative to the original proposal or not.
Are there monitoring arrangements in place? What are	Yes – the following parameters will continue to be monitored:
they?	Age of pupils; gender balance of the pupils; race/ethnicity/nationality data; the language spoken by pupils; % of pupils taking free school meals.
	Consideration would also be given to monitoring the following data:
	Percentage of pupils with a Statement of Additional Learning Needs (ALN).
	Percentage of pupils who have noted physical difficulties.
	Percentage of staff who have declared a disability.
	The proposal to" Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is", will continue to be assessed for impact as it is develops. If approved, monitoring processes will be used to ensure that the actual impact matches with the impact which was anticipated and the relevant actions have been implemented. If the proposal goes ahead monitoring group will be set up to monitor and assess the effect the proposal using the parameters listed above,

8.4	Outcome of the assessment	
		possibly every 6 months. The data will then be fed into the Learning Service's monitoring data.

## 9. OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE -WELSH LANGUAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The promotion and use of the Welsh language is not included within the Equality Act 2010 as this aspect is covered by the requirements set out in the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. Under the Measure, public bodies must comply with Welsh Language Standards. The basic principles of the Standards are that the Welsh language should not be treated less favourably than the English language and that the use of Welsh should be promoted and facilitated, making it easier for people to use Welsh in their everyday lives.

The Standards also require public bodies to "ensure internal scrutiny takes place during the process with constant points of challenge on a management level". Documents such as this Assessment and all the documents that are presented to the Executive are scrutinised by senior officers including legal officers. However, the Consultation Report and Impact Assessment are discussed by the Council's Corporate Scrutiny Committee before the final decision is made by the Executive. The Council's Chief Executive is the Council's strategic lead on the Welsh language.

What is being assessed?	The proposal being assessed is to:
	"Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is".

9.1 Compliance with the Welsh Language Policy	
Is the proposal influential in terms of dealing with the Welsh-speaking public?	Yes, positive effect - see below.
Will activities such as corresponding by letter, communicating by telephone, public meetings and other meetings comply with the language policy?	Yes – all correspondence and communications will continue to comply with the Welsh Language Policy.
Will any new Information Technology (IT) development comply with the policy?	Yes – any new IT will be developed in accordance with the expectations of the Welsh Language Policy.
Is the proposal likely to impact upon the public image of the organisation?	See below.

9.1 Compliance with the Welsh Language Policy	
Will all signs comply with the language policy?	Yes – all signs will continue to comply with the language policy.
Will publications and forms be compliant?	Yes – publications and forms will be compliant.
Will any publicity material or marketing campaigns comply?	Yes – any publicity material or marketing campaigns will comply.
Will staff recruitment advertisements comply?	Yes – staff recruitment advertisements will comply.
Is the proposal likely to have an impact upon the implementation of the language policy?	See below.
Will the proposal create new jobs?	Any new teaching posts will be created according to the staffing structure developed by appropriate governing body. If the other reasonable alternative is approved the new Ysgol Corn Hir building will have increased capacity, which could attract more pupils and in turn increase the staffing requirements who will be required to be Welsh speakers.
Will the staffing arrangements facilitate the implementation of the language policy?	Yes – any new staff recruited will be Welsh speakers in line with the language policy.
Will the proposal offer training through the medium of Welsh?	Yes – new staff will be trained through the medium of Welsh.
Will any arrangements with third parties comply with the language policy?	Yes – arrangements with third parties will comply with the language policy.
Will the proposal include any targets or indicators relating to the language?	Yes – the percentage of pupils achieving the expected level in Welsh at the end of key stages and the percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home.
How will performance be monitored and measured?	By data collected by the Education Service such as the percentage of pupils achieving the expected level in Welsh at the end of the

9.1 Compliance with the Welsh Language Policy	
	Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2. Other data such as the percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home is collected as part of the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) conducted in January every year. Also 6 monthly monitoring by the transformation service and feeding data to the County Language Forum in line with the Council's monitoring of the Welsh language policy .

9.2 Effect on Welsh speaking users	
Will the proposal offer a language choice for users?	Both Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir will continue to be Welsh language medium schools. The Welsh language will not be treated less favourably than the English language.
Will it be possible for users to receive any part of the service in Welsh?	Yes the whole service will be available in Welsh – however pupils will be taught some subjects through the medium of English.e.g English lessons.
If there a risk for the proposal to discriminate against Welsh speaking service users?	No – Both schools will continue to comply with the Council's Welsh Language Policy.
Have the needs of Welsh speakers been considered in the proposal?	Yes – the needs of Welsh speaking pupils is one of the key drivers for this proposal.
Are Welsh speakers likely to receive the same standard of service as provided in English?	Yes – the same standard of service will be provided to all pupils.
Are Welsh language arrangements likely to lead to a delay in the service?	No – Welsh language arrangements will not lead to a delay in the service.
Is the proposal likely to make Welsh more visible?	Yes – see below.

9.2 Effect on Welsh speaking users	
Is it likely to increase use of the language by producing Welsh language materials and signs?	Yes – signage in the proposed new school building for Ysgol Corn Hir and on the grounds will conform to the language policy. Both schools will continue to promote and encourage the use of the Welsh language and will use Welsh language materials.
Is it likely to influence others to make more use of Welsh, for example businesses?	Yes – realisation of the policy will ensure bilingual signage is seen by many in the locality.
Will the Welsh language service in relation to the proposal be accessible?	Yes – see below.
Will the service be as accessible in Welsh as in English?	Yes – pupils will receive education in Welsh and English. Other services pertaining to the proposal will be available bilingually e.g. childcare provision.
Will the services be available at the same time?	Yes - pupils will receive education from bilingual staff.

9.3 Effect on Welsh speaking communities	
Is the proposal likely to contribute towards safeguarding Welsh in communities?	Yes-in the Bodffordd community as the proposal is to keep the school open, and in the Corn Hir area where the proposal is to move Ysgol Corn Hir pupils to a new building approximately 0.3 miles from the present school building.
Is it likely to contribute towards efforts to tackle the challenges of demographic change and migration - such as providing opportunities for young people to stay in their communities?	Yes – the proposal will continue to provide sufficient spaces for existing pupils at Ysgol Bodffordd as the school remains open. The Ysgol Corn Hir building will have an increased capacity and will also provide sufficient spaces for pupils arising from new housing developments in the Corn Hir catchment area.
Is it likely to contribute towards the local economy in Welsh speaking areas?	Yes – it could provide more jobs in the new Ysgol Corn Hir building as its capacity will be increased in comparison to the existing school building.

9.3 Effect on Welsh speaking communities	
Will it provide Welsh medium services - such as child-minding services?	Yes – the proposal also includes a Nursery unit for pre-school age children at the new school building for Ysgol Corn Hir. Ysgol Bodffordd already has nursery provision which will continue.
Does the proposal take steps to promote and facilitate the Welsh language?	Yes – see below.
Does the proposal contribute towards Welsh medium community activities?	Yes – if the proposal is realised, Welsh medium community activities will continue at the new Ysgol Corn Hir building and Ysgol Bodffordd.
Does it offer opportunities for young people to use Welsh outside school hours?	Yes – it will provide opportunities for pupils to use Welsh in after school clubs at both schools. There may be opportunities at the new Ysgol Corn Hir building to provide additional opportunities outside school hours due to its increased size.
Does it offer a new service that will also be available in Welsh – for example leisure or sporting activities and provision? Does it contribute or add value to other activities relating to language, such as the work of the local Welsh language initiative (Menter laith), the Urdd etc.	Yes – realisation of this proposal will provide a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) for pupils and the community to use at the new Ysgol Corn Hir building. Yes – if the proposal is realised, Urdd activities will continue at both schools.

### 9.4 Contribution towards Welsh language standards, language policies, strategies and other relevant guidance relating to the Welsh language The language policies of partner organisations or nearby public bodies: Is the Council working in partnership on the proposal? Yes - with Welsh Government who will part finance the project. Which other organisations are likely to be affected by the Welsh Government. development? Yes - Welsh Government has its own Welsh language standards Do those organisations have Welsh language standards or language or language policies. policies? Yes - the proposal will also comply with Welsh Government's Does the proposal contribute towards these schemes? requirements. Relevant Welsh language strategies: This other reasonable alternative contributes with the following Will the proposal contribute towards the Anglesey Welsh Language sections of the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Welsh in Strategic Forum's Welsh Language Strategy 2016 – 2021 Education Strategic Plan 2017 - 2020 in the following ways: **Outcome 1** – More seven-year-old children being taught through the medium of Welsh. **Objective 2** – Ensure that 21st Century Schools proposals strengthen Welsh medium provision. By having a Childcare Unit which will provide wrap around care for children of pre-school age, it would provide a sound foundation, in Welsh for the children before the age of 3 at the new Ysgol Corn Hir building .It would therefore contribute to increasing the number of seven-year-old children that are taught through the medium of Welsh. This would contribute to achieving Outcome 1 above. In implementing the Early Years strategy and in delivering the County's schools modernisation plan, it will help to ensure that 21st Century Schools proposals give full consideration to Welsh medium provision for children up to 11 years of age.

9.4 Contribution towards Welsh language standards, language policies, strategies and other relevant guidance relating to the Welsh language

	The Council's new language policy refers to the aim to increase the proportion of Foundation Phase pupils up to the end of their time in the secondary school that meet the targets of Welsh as a First Language. It is intended to use a childcare model as the one under consideration in this project to increase the Welsh medium childcare capacity on Anglesey.
How does the proposal contribute towards the vision of the Assembly Government for one million Welsh speakers by 2050?	The childcare partnership model has the potential to be a key contributor to the Welsh Government's ambition to have a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

**NOTE** – Neither school currently offers Welsh lessons to the community – this may well be due to the low demand for Welsh lessons in the area and the fact that more than 75% of the local population speak Welsh. However, both schools have the facility to offer Welsh lessons and the new Ysgol Corn Hir building will have a community room that could be used for Welsh lessons or for any other activity that would be conducted through the medium of Welsh.

### Welsh in Education Strategic Plan

Both Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir are currently Welsh medium. Therefore, there will be no change in the language category if the Executive approves the other reasonable alternative to: "Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is".

Realisation of the proposal would support Outcomes 1, 2 and 5 of the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020 (approved by Welsh Government in March 2018):

Outcome 1: More seven year old children being educated through the medium of Welsh.

Outcome 2: More pupils continuing to improve their Welsh skills when transferring from the primary school to the secondary school.

Outcome 5: More pupils and students with higher skills in Welsh.

The Education Service reports on a quarterly basis to the County Language Forum on the use of Welsh in the Council's schools. The County Language Forum monitors the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) on a quarterly basis.

## 9.5 Potential effect of the proposal on the Welsh language

Language Criteria	Observations	<b>Impact</b> Negative/ Neutral/ Positive	Mitigation Measures
Language spoken at home	<ul> <li>Fluent Welsh speakers at home (all ages):</li> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd – 76%</li> <li>Ysgol Corn Hir – 52% Data (PLASC Jan 2020)</li> </ul>	Positive	The other reasonable alternative to <b>"Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is"</b> , will contribute to safeguarding the numbers who speak Welsh at home.
Language category of the existing schools	Bodffordd – Welsh Corn Hir – Welsh	Positive	<ul> <li>Both schools are Welsh medium.</li> <li>Developing bilingual pupils will be a permanent and significant focus in the School Development Plan.</li> <li>Class arrangements can target the development of the specific language needs of the cohort.</li> <li>By tracking pupils, their progress in developing bilingualism will be considered.</li> <li>The Headteacher's report to the governors will include the percentages of pupils in each language cohort.</li> <li>Progress at end of Key Stages</li> <li>Progress on the Language Charter</li> </ul>
The use of Welsh in the community	According to the 2011 Census, 57% of the people of Anglesey speak Welsh. The percentage has decreased over the past decades – 62% of the people of Anglesey could speak Welsh in 1981.	Positive	Need to promote the use of the Welsh language (Anglesey Well-being Assessment 2017). Education through the medium of Welsh will help increase the use of Welsh in the community. The Schools Modernisation Programme will collaborate with the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board to promote the use of the Welsh language in the community, and contribute towards the Welsh

Language Criteria	Observations	Impact Negative/ Neutral/ Positive	Mitigation Measures
			Government's target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.
			The Education Service reports on a quarterly basis to the County Council's Language Forum on the use of Welsh in the Council's schools. The County's Language Forum monitors the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) on a quarterly basis.
			The new building for Ysgol Corn Hir will have a dedicated room for community use where the use of the Welsh language in the community may be encouraged.
The language medium of pupils on the yard, in the breakfast club and after-school clubs	The language medium of pupils on the yard, in the breakfast club and after- school clubs of both schools is bilingual.	Neutral	There will be no change at Ysgol Bodffordd or Ysgol Corn Hir. In the proposed new Ysgol Corn Hir building this could be improved by providing more space for play and the planning of structured play on the yard. Both schools will continue to promote and encourage the use of the Welsh language and will promote the informal use of the language by the pupils.
The school's involvement in Welsh-medium activities	Both schools are heavily involved in Welsh medium activities.	Neutral	This will continue at both schools.

Language Criteria	Observations	Impact Negative/ Neutral/ Positive	Mitigation Measures
The ability of teaching staff to teach through the medium of Welsh	BodfforddCorn HirEvery member of teaching staff is fluent in WelshEvery member of teaching staff is fluent in WelshPLASC 2020	Neutral	Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir provide education through the medium of Welsh, and there will be no change in the linguistic status.
The ability of Governors to speak Welsh	BodfforddCorn HirEvery Governor is fluent in Welsh (8 out of 8)Every Governor is fluent in Welsh (12 out of 12)PLASC 2020	Neutral	Both sets of Governors are fluent in Welsh and so there will be no change in the linguistic nature of the Governors as both schools will continue to operate. Governors meetings are also held though the medium of the welsh language.
Feedback concerns provided during the statutory consultation	In response to the Council's request for stakeholders to present any other matter that the Council should consider prior to coming to a decision ,22% of stakeholders expressed their concern on the Impact on the Welsh Language in Bodffordd should Ysgol Bodffordd close. Here are some of the stakeholders comments below: • Bodffordd will be missing out. It is children that give life to our villages. Bodffordd is a village that is also a strong hold for the Welsh language.	Positive	<ul> <li>While the original assessment identified a positive impact in terms of language, the responses to the impact assessment appear to disagree with that assessment.</li> <li>There is a strong sense of concern over the impact on the Welsh Language in Bodffordd if Ysgol Bodffordd closed.</li> <li>As the other reasonable alternative to keep Ysgol Bodffordd open is now being considered, the negative feeling of adverse impact on the Welsh language should decrease.</li> </ul>

Language	Observations	Impact	Mitigation Measures	
Criteria		Negative/		
		Neutral/		
		Positive		
	• There will be an impact on the Welsh			
	language in the village as the children			
	will mix more with the children of the			
	town.			
	<ul> <li>Keeping Wales' rural schools open</li> </ul>			
	keeps the language alive.			
	• Rural Welsh villages must be protected.			
	How does this fit in with a million Welsh			
	speakers by 2050?			
	Combined effect on the Welsh language	+4		
		Positive		

Conclusion - the proposal would have a positive effect on the Welsh language

## 10. OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE-COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

What is being assessed?	The proposal being assessed is to:	
	"Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is".	

Criteria	Observations	Impact	Mitigation Measures /Further Comments
		Negative/ Neutral/ Positive	
Pupils who live outside the catchment area who attend school	<ul> <li>As at October 2019: Ysgol Bodffordd had 69 Pupils on the roll with 41 pupils attending from within the catchment area (59%).</li> <li>10% not in the catchment area of Ysgol Bodffordd come from the catchment area of Ysgol Corn Hir [7 Pupils].</li> <li>As at October 2019: Ysgol Corn Hir had 230 Pupils on the roll with 166 pupils attending from within the catchment area (72%).</li> <li>3% not in the catchment area of Ysgol Corn Hir come from the catchment area of Ysgol Bodffordd [6 Pupils].</li> </ul>	Positive	If the other reasonable alternative to <b>"Build a new</b> School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is", is approved, there would be no anticipated changes to the current situation at Ysgol Bodffordd. As the proposed new building site for Ysgol Corn Hir would be approximately 0.3 miles from the current site there would be no impact on the movement of children across catchment areas. Due to the overcapacity at the current Ysgol Corn Hir, if a new building with increased capacity is not provided, children from the Corn Hir catchment area would have to be transported to other schools outside the catchment area at increased cost to the Council.
Services provided by the school for the community including extra- curricular activities		Positive	Services provided by Ysgol Bodffordd and the Bodffordd Community Centre would continue. As Ysgol Corn Hir will be relocated, activities and services provided from the school will be provided at the new Ysgol Corn Hir building which will have improved space and facilities.

Community facilities used regularly by the school	Use is made of a local chapels or churches by both schools.	Negative	Ysgol Bodffordd will continue to use community facilities, however it is unlikely that Ysgol Corn Hir will use Capel Moreia for Christmas services and concerts in the future as the new Ysgol Corn Hir building will have sufficient space to accommodate those activities.
Community facilities provided by the school and activities held on school grounds		Positive	The community of Bodffordd will be able to continue using the Ysgol Bodffordd school building and the Community Centre. There is potential for increased use of the new Ysgol Corn Hir site by the community who will want to take advantage of the additional facilities available. E.g. Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) which will encourage
			participation in sports and recreation in the community.
Other impacts Transport + public	If the proposal is approved, there would be no change to the current travelling arrangements. It is very unlikely that the proposal would have an effect on public transport.	Positive	No changes to the current arrangements envisaged.
	<ul> <li>13% of stakeholders made the following comments in response to the impact assessment.</li> <li>Ysgol Bodffordd pupils won't be able to walk or ride a bike to school</li> <li>No safe walking route from Bodffordd to the proposed new school site</li> <li>Concern regarding the additional travelling time for Ysgol Bodffordd pupils to the proposed new school site</li> <li>Road safety at the proposed new school site</li> </ul>		As the other reasonable alternative is to "Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is", there would be no additional impacts regarding travelling and road safety as indicated by stakeholders during the consultation. Due to the overcapacity at the current Ysgol Corn Hir, if a new building with increased capacity is not provided, children from the Corn Hir catchment area would have to be transported to other schools outside the catchment area at increased cost to the Council.

Other Effect on community- provided during the statutory consultation	56 % of stakeholders made the following comments in response to the impact assessment:	Positive	The other reasonable alternative is envisaged to have a positive effect on the additional impacts provided by stakeholders during the consultation.
	<ul> <li>Impact on Bodffordd Eisteddfod and Gwyl Bodffordd</li> <li>Impact on Cylch Meithrin Bodffordd and private nurseries in the area</li> <li>Bodffordd demographic change – less young families moving in</li> <li>Bodffordd resident wellbeing with loss of community centre</li> </ul>		
	Combined effect on the community	+5 Positive	

Conclusion – The other reasonable alternative would seem to have a Positive effect on the community.

# 11. OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE –WELL- BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 gives a legally-binding common purpose of seven Well-being Goals and five Ways of Working designed to support and deliver a public service that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Way of working	Definition	How the alternative meets the requirements way of working
Long term		
60	The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs	Ensuring the long-term sustainability of education in the community and ensuring that there are sufficient school places to meet the needs both now and in the future. Ensuring the school establishment is fit for purpose and complies with 21 <sup>st</sup> Century guidelines.
Prevention		
	How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objective	Securing the long-term future of education in the area.
Integration		
Ø	Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies	Community integration is a focus of all new schools creating an environment to support culture, heritage and the Welsh language. Providing sufficient places ensures that the curriculum can be delivered and meets social, environmental and cultural objectives.
Collaboration		
	Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its wellbeing objectives.	Building a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir pupils will require collaborating with stakeholders during and after the building process to secure the long-term future of education in the area. The local Council works effectively with schools, Estyn, GwE, community councils and many internal and external partners to ensure that the building will meet the short-term and future needs of the users and the community it will serve.
Involvement		
	The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.	If this other reasonable alternative to "Build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and to leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is, is approved by the Executive, a stakeholder group will be formed who will have an interest in achieving the well-being goals.

## 11.1 How this other reasonable alternative meets the requirements way of working?

## 11.2 Well-being of Future Generations Act

In order to realise the Schools Modernisation Programme and taking into account the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015), we will focus on creating more resilient communities, engaging with our communities, establishing a local partnership, and including our communities in the long-term planning. By following such a process, we aim to enable providers and communities to develop services based on need, to encourage the sharing of resources and lead to more efficient expenditure in the long term.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015) is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Isle of Anglesey County Council is working towards achieving the objectives of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015). As a follow-up to the Well-being Assessment that was undertaken, a Well-being Plan has been developed, led by the Gwynedd and Anglesey Joint Public Services Board. The consultation and engagement arrangements for schools' modernisation will be designed to meet the needs of the plan.

The table below outlines how it is anticipated that the other reasonable alternative to" **Build a new** school for Ysgol Corn Hir and to leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is" will contribute to the 7 wellbeing goals :

7 well-being goals	How the other reasonable alternative will contribute to the 7 well-being goals
Prosperous	The project will ensure that having a new building for Ysgol Corn Hir is fit for purpose and will ensure that every pupil's capacity and potential to succeed is realised.
Equal	The Council is committed to maximising the value of every pound the Local Council spends, and this can be realised with community benefits. The Council will incorporate community benefits into all projects, including, if approved, a new building for Ysgol Corn Hir. The Council will also ensure equality of opportunity regardless of a pupil's ability and background in line with the principles of its Equality and Diversity Policy and Strategic Equality Plan. Ensuring that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long-term potential is one of the Council's most important priorities as mentioned in the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Strategic Equality Plan 2020-2024 and the Council Plan 2017- 2022.
Resilient	The building for Ysgol Corn Hir will, will be designed to have low maintenance costs with an excellent BREEAM rating. (BREEAM is a sustainability assessment method for master planning projects, infrastructure and buildings). The building will have water efficient fixtures and space to consider food-growing opportunities. This in turn will support areas for wildlife which will be accessible to all pupils and will promote and support uptake of eco-friendly initiatives such as eco-schools.
Healthier	Both schools operate as community schools. Furthermore, the new building for Ysgol Corn Hir, will have a community room which could be used as a community hub that promotes healthier communities e.g. by offering sporting activities for community members.

7 well-being goals	How the other reasonable alternative will contribute to the 7 well-being goals
	The proposed site for Ysgol Corn Hir will have a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) which will encourage participation in sports and recreation.
Cohesive communities	Services provided by Ysgol Bodffordd and the Bodffordd Community Centre would continue. As Ysgol Corn Hir will be relocated, activities and services provided from the school will be provided at the new Ysgol Corn Hir building which will have improved space and facilities. Conditions where people and communities can do the things that matter to them would continue and be further created.
A vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Both Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir are Welsh-medium schools. This other reasonable alternative will maintain the Welsh medium provision in the area. The Schools Modernisation Programme will collaborate with the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board to promote the use of the Welsh language in the community, and contribute towards the Welsh Government's target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050. The Learning Service reports on a quarterly basis to the County Language Forum on the use of Welsh in the Council's schools and the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) is monitored on a quarterly basis by the County Language Forum. The performance of pupils at both schools in Welsh i.e. the percentage of pupils achieving the required standard is good in both schools.
A globally responsible Wales	The school modernisation programme and the related projects are aligned with corporate, local and national strategies. The programme has worked closely with Welsh Government, stakeholders and partners to ensure that the projects are being supported and that the strategic direction is understood. This means that stakeholders know how the proposed scheme will help to achieve the business goals, strategic aims and plans of the Council. Improvements to our schools will deliver lead to improvements in energy efficiency by, for example, generating electricity using photovoltaic panels. This will also lead to reduction in the generation of carbon dioxide and will help teach the pupils to use natural resources wisely.

## 12. CONCLUSION TO THE OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE

The other reasonable alternative to "Build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and to leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is", was assessed for its potential impact on:

- Equality
- Language i.e. the Welsh language
- Community.

The effect on each part was as follows:

Combined effect on:	Impact:	
	Positive or Negative	
Equality	+5 Positive	
Language	+4 Positive	
Community	+5 Positive	

After considering the proposal for its potential impact on Equality, the Welsh Language and the Community, the other reasonable alternative would have a positive impact.

The document also shows in Section 11 how the other reasonable alternative meets the requirements of the Well- being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

## 13. COMPARISON OF THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL AND THE OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE

The original proposal was to "Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir"

The other reasonable alternative which is now recommended to the Executive after the statutory consultation is to "Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is "

The table below compares the original proposal to the other reasonable alternative.

	EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	WELSH LANGUAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT	COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT
Original Proposal	+3 Positive (Section 2)	+2 Positive ( Section3)	4 Neutral ( Section 4)
Re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir.			
Other reasonable alternative	+5 Positive (Section 8)	+4 Positive (Section 9)	+5 Positive (Section 10)
Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is.			

The table above indicates that this other reasonable alternative to **"Build a new School for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is**", scores higher in terms of the Equality, Welsh Language and Community impact than the original proposal.

#### 14. HUMAN RIGHTS

Human rights are rights and freedoms that belong to all individuals, regardless of their nationality and citizenship. There are 16 basic rights in the Human Rights Act – all taken from the European Convention on Human Rights. For the purposes of the Act, they are known as 'the Convention Rights'. They are listed below:

(Article 1 is introductory and is not incorporated into the Human Rights Act)

Article 2: The right to life

Article 3: Prohibition of torture

Article 4: Prohibition of slavery and forced labour

Article 5: Right to liberty and security

Article 6: Right to a fair trial

Article 7: No punishment without law

Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life

Article 9: Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

Article 10: Freedom of expression

Article 11: Freedom of assembly and association

Article 12: Right to marry

Article 14: Prohibition of discrimination

Article 1 of Protocol 1: Protection of property

Article 2 of Protocol 1: Right to education

Article 3 of Protocol 1: Right to free elections

Article 1 of Protocol 13: Abolition of the death penalty

## 15. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015

This Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. Public bodies need to make sure that when making their decisions they take into account the impact they could have on people living their lives in Wales in the future. The Act puts in place seven wellbeing goals:

Goal	Description of the goal
A prosperous Wales	An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.
A resilient Wales	A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).
A healthier Wales	A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.
A more equal Wales	A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).
A Wales of cohesive communities	Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.
A globally responsible Wales	A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.