

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to	Meeting of the Executive Committee
Date	February 11 2013
Subject	Modernising Anglesey Schools
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Goronwy Parry MBE
Lead Officer(s)	Head of Service (Education) Programme Manager – Schools Modernisation
Contact Officer	Programme Manager – Schools Modernisation
Nature and reason for reporting	
<p>To report to the Executive on the informal consultation process held in three schools in the North West Anglesey area in October and November 2012. In January 2012, the Board of Commissioners gave officers of the Education Service permission to visit primary schools in the area to consult on options for the primary education provision in the area.</p>	

A – Introduction / Background / Issues
<p>In January 2012, the Board of Commissioners gave officers of the Education Service permission to visit primary schools in North West Anglesey to consult on options for the primary school education provision in the area. After receiving permission and upon completing the consultation, the Education Service has prepared several possible options and is reporting back on these.</p>

B - Considerations
<p>Minutes from the meeting of the Education and Leisure Scrutiny Committee held on January 15, 2013.</p>

C – Implications and Impacts		
1	Finance / Section 151	
2	Legal / Monitoring Officer	
3	Human Resources	
4	Property Services	
5	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	
6	Equality	
7	Anti-poverty and Social	
8	Communication	
9	Consultation	
10	Economic	
11	Environmental	
12	Crime and Disorder	
13	Outcome Agreements	

CH - Summary

A report is presented to the Executive summarising the informal consultation process held recently in the North West Anglesey area. At a meeting of the Education and Leisure Scrutiny Committee on January 15, 2013, it was resolved to recommend to the Executive :-

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

D - Recommendation

It is recommended :-

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

Name of author of report
Job Title
Date

Emrys Bebb
Programme Manager – Schools Modernisation
January 25 2012

Appendices:

Background papers

The original consultation document.



CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

ADRAN DYSGU GYDOL OES
LIFELONG LEARNING DEPARTMENT

YMATEB I ADOLYGIAD YSGOLION CYNRADD
GOGLEDD ORLLEWIN MÔN – YMGYNHORIAD
ANFFURFIOL
(HYDREF - TACHWEDD 2012)

RESPONSE TO NORTH WEST ANGLESEY PRIMARY
SCHOOLS REVIEW – INFORMAL CONSULTATION
(OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2012)

Rhagfyr / December 2012

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 As part of the informal consultation in North West Anglesey, a number of consultation meetings were held with parents, governors and the staff of three schools that are part of the consultation as listed in Table 1 below. The consultation period began on Tuesday 9 October 2012 and ended on Tuesday 20 November 2012.

Table 1

School	Date (in 2012)	Meeting with		
		Staff	Governors	Parents
Llanfachraeth	Monday 1 October	3.30	6.00	5.00
Cylch y Garn	Wednesday 3 October	3.30	5.00	6.00
Ffrwd Win	Thursday 4 October	3.30	6.00	5.00

- 1.2 As a reminder, see below the list of options proposed for schools in North West Anglesey:

1. To close Ysgol Cylch y Garn, Llanrhuddlad and transfer approximately half the pupils to Ysgol Llanfachraeth and the other half to Ysgol Ffrwd Win, Llanfaethlu.
2. To close Ysgol Ffrwd Win, Llanfaethlu and transfer approximately half the pupils to Ysgol Llanfachraeth and the other half to Ysgol Gylch y Garn, Llanrhuddlad
3. To close Ysgol Llanfachraeth and transfer approximately half the pupils to Ysgol Ffrwd Win and the other half to Ysgol Cylch y Garn, Llanrhuddlad
4. To maintain the 3 schools as independent units
5. A new area school for Llanfachraeth, Llanfaethlu, Llanrhuddlad
6. To adapt and extend Ysgol Llanfachraeth and close Ysgol Ffrwd Win and Ysgol Cylch y Garn and transfer the pupils to Ysgol Llanfachraeth.
7. To adapt and extend Ysgol Ffrwd Win, Llanfaethlu and close Ysgol Cylch y Garn and Ysgol Llanfachraeth and transfer the pupils to Ysgol Ffrwd Win, Llanfaethlu.
8. To adapt and extend Ysgol Cylch y Garn, Llanrhuddlad and close Ysgol Ffrwd Win and Ysgol Llanfachraeth and transfer the pupils to Ysgol Cylch y Garn.
9. Federalization

- 1.3 The opinions of staff, parents, governors and others were gathered and they are summarized in this report.

2. RESPONSES FROM YSGOL LLANFACHRAETH

2.1 A total of 30 responses were received from the stakeholders of Ysgol Llanfachraeth - 17 feedback forms from parents (one was also a governor), 1 from a former pupil, 3 from members of staff and 3 others from governors. The others did not declare whether they were stakeholders or not. 25 of the 30 responses were in favour of option 4, i.e. maintaining the 3 schools as independent units". One parent who is also a Governor stated that she was in favour of Options 4 and 6 (Adapting and extending Ysgol Llanfachraeth and closing Ysgol Ffrwd Win and Ysgol Cylch y Garn and transferring the pupils to Ysgol Llanfachraeth)

2.2 These were the comments in the feedback forms:-

- A number did not see the need to close the three schools but rather urban schools which would, in their opinion, have less impact on the community. Others felt that surplus places in other schools should be addressed in the first place.
- The school is the focal point of the community.
- The school should be developed to meet the necessary standards and that the school is in a good location.
- The Council should "save money by not paying for transport for children to attend Ysgol Gynradd Bodedern and that they should attend Ysgol Llanfachraeth instead".
- Children can walk to the school and a high percentage of them do.
- That a "whole Island Policy" is required to look "at every catchment area".
- The Council needs to turn the heating off and stop maintaining the 4 schools which have closed in Anglesey. Others say that these buildings should be sold.
- A number say that we should wait to see what happens or postpone the consultation process until the Horizon Nuclear Power company has been sold to Hitachi.
- Some doubt the figures in the document.
- Some claim that closing Ysgol Llanfachraeth would destroy the community and others say that the school keeps the Welsh Language alive.
- A number feel that their children have "individual and excellent" attention in the school because it is a small school.
- Some say that the maintenance costs of the three schools are high.

2.3 In addition, a letter was received in Welsh from the Acting Head of Ysgol Llanfachraeth. She reiterated the points noted above.

3. RESPONSES FROM YSGOL FFRWD WIN

3.1 A total of 17 responses were received from the stakeholders of Ysgol Ffrwd Win. The responses consisted of 4 letters (27%), 10 feedback forms (67%) and 1 e-mail message (6%). 7 were in favour of option 4, i.e. "maintaining the 3 schools as independent units".

- 3.2 As the cost of maintenance work on Ysgol Ffrwd Win is less than the maintenance costs on the other two schools and that Ysgol Ffrwd Win is located away from a busy road as compared to the other two, consideration should be given to extending Ysgol Ffrwd Win, i.e. option 6.
- 3.3 One parent did not agree with the formula used to calculate the capacity of the school and the number of surplus places which can emanate from that. The parent also felt that other schools with more surplus places should be considered. The parent felt that the standard of education in the school was excellent, “the teachers know their children” and “the staff have plenty of time to listen to the parents and this would not happen in a larger school”.
- 3.4 One parent saw sense in having an area school rather than extending one and closing two – this, in her opinion, would create bad feeling. She said that a new area school would make parents who choose to send their children to Ysgol Caergeiliog think twice before doing so. She said that a number of parents were of the same opinion.
- 3.5 Another parent said that the Council should turn the heating off and stop maintaining the 4 schools which have closed in Anglesey and that these buildings should be sold.
- 3.6 One parent did not see any point in spending money on sending children to a new school and that the money should be spend on keeping Ysgol Ffrwd Win open.
- 3.7 In her e-mail message, one mother felt that Anglesey was unique and that the formula for calculating surplus places did not make sense for smaller schools. However, she did not think that merging the three schools on the site of Ysgol Ffrwd Win would be “detrimental to our children’s education”.
- 3.8 One parent stated that “one policy for the whole island” was required. The parent also stated that some were afraid to express their opinions because some were so “enthusiastic to keep the three schools open”.
- 3.9 Some felt that their children were receiving “excellent education” in the school and that “children were far more important than financial matters”.
- 3.10 One parent felt that the teachers had helped the development of her son and that moving the children to “a bigger school would have a detrimental effect on their confidence and education”.
- 3.11 A parent of former pupils praised the education her children received at the school and the special attention given to one of her sons who had special needs. She also reiterated a number of points raised by other stakeholders, i.e. the high % of surplus places in Anglesey’s primary schools, Wylfa, etc. Concerns were raised regarding the figures in the document but this point along with others raised were addressed in a letter to her.

- 3.12 A letter was received from the teachers of Ysgol Ffrwd Win praising the “family ethos and the homely atmosphere” in the school along with the school’s “pleasant location”. They doubted that the school’s capacity was 68 and “that the room which has been planned as a resources room is a class for 18 children”. They did not feel that the options “were real for people and that they are therefore rejected immediately”.
- 3.13 Other parents raised the same point as 3.12 above along with the “implications of any change on the schools’ staff”. They were also concerned about the “Welshness of the area should a large area school be built”.

4. RESPONSES FROM YSGOL CYLCH Y GARN

- 4.1 Eleven responses were received from stakeholders of the school in the form of 2 letters (18%), 7 feedback forms (64%) and 2 via e-mail (18%). There were three responses from parents, one from a governor and one from the Head of the School, but the other six did not declare whether they were stakeholders or not. Similar points were raised by stakeholders of Ysgol Cylch y Garn as were raised by stakeholders of the other two schools, namely Wylfa and surplus places at other primary schools in Anglesey.
- 4.2 A number were disappointed that "the Council is picking on North Western Anglesey again", stating that there were more surplus places in other primary schools in Anglesey.
- 4.3 One parent mentioned comments from the Estyn Inspection in May 2011 that praised "the guidance from the teacher and the head" and the "daily bus transport " taking the children safely to school. They doubted the figures in the document but this changed following the consultation meeting in Ysgol Ffrwd Win. Other parents said that the school was a “community school" and one mother said that there were "a number of after school activities for the children".
- 4.4 One grandmother expressed her opposition to "breaking up communities in this way". Another parent said that she felt that smaller class sizes are beneficial to the children.
- 4.5 In a letter, one local resident said that she was “protesting against the decision to close the school" and that the community hall is a good resource for the community.
- 4.6 A letter from the Friends of Swtan was received (a non-profit company that looks after the heritage museum in Church Bay) expressing concern about the possible closure of Ysgol Cylch y Garn. They felt that the school was essential for the community and stated that they use the school’s facilities.
- 4.7 The school was praised by another parent who said that she would not be willing to take her children to one of the other two schools because Ysgol Cylch y Garn is safe, that there is scope to extend it and that it had received a good Estyn report. She criticized parents who send their children to schools outside the catchment area.

- 4.8 One parent did not agree with having separate meetings for the 3 schools and felt that a decision had already been made.
- 4.9 The Councillor felt that the local community would slowly disappear if the school closes.
- 4.10 One former pupil felt that the Council prioritizes money above standards of education and others said they did not feel the need to change something that works, while others were concerned about bullying that might arise in the new school.
- 4.11 Some mentioned that houses are being built in the catchment area but others said that "closing rural primary schools will mean the end of small villages".
- 4.12 Five pictures were received from pupils at the school with one of them asking for "keeping and not closing Ysgol Cylch y Garn".
- 4.13 A letter was received from an employee at the Lobster Pot restaurant in Rhydwyn supporting a number of the points raised above. She understood that the Council did not own the school. Another parent said that she believes that the school is owned by the Llynonn estate.

5. ANONYMOUS COMMENTS

- 5.1 A total of 29 feedback forms were received with anonymous comments and 23 of them were in favour of option 4. The comments were similar to the above, stating that small schools need to be kept open. Another individual said that if the 3 schools cannot be kept open a new school should be built to accommodate more than 150 pupils.
- 5.2 Several mentioned the need to look at other schools in Anglesey and the surplus places therein, and also mentioned Wylfa and their concerns about the figures in the consultation document.

6. RESPONSE FROM THE SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

- 6.1 A letter was received from the Governing Body of Ysgol Cylch y Garn commenting on:
- The figures in the document (although these were explained in a letter to the Head).
 - Surplus places in other primary schools.
 - Concern about the impression given to prospective pupils and their parents as a result of placing schools in quartiles.
 - The potential impact of closing the school on the local community.
 - The ownership of the school, the schoolhouse and the memorial.
 - Their satisfaction with transport arrangements and education at the school.
- 6.2 A joint letter was received from the Governing Bodies of the 3 schools (see appendix 1)

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

At its meeting on January 15, 2013, the Education and Leisure Scrutiny Committee was requested to make recommendations to the Executive Committee on an option or options for formal consultation from amongst the following:

1. Close Ysgol Cylch y Garn, Llanrhuddlad and transfer approximately half the pupils to Ysgol Llanfachraeth and the other half to Ysgol Ffrwd Win Llanfaethlu.
2. Close Ysgol Ffrwd Win, Llanfaethlu and transfer approximately half the pupils to Ysgol Llanfachraeth and the other half to Ysgol Cylch y Garn, Llanrhuddlad
3. Close Ysgol Llanfachraeth and transfer approximately half the pupils to Ysgol Ffrwd Win and the other half to Ysgol Cylch y Garn, Llanrhuddlad
4. Maintain the 3 schools as independent units
5. A new area school for Llanfachraeth, Llanfaethlu and Llanrhuddlad
6. Adapt and extend Ysgol Llanfachraeth and close Ysgol Ffrwd Win and Ysgol Cylch y Garn and transfer the pupils to Ysgol Llanfachraeth.
7. Adapt and extend Ysgol Ffrwd Win, Llanfaethlu and close Ysgol Cylch y Garn and Ysgol Llanfachraeth and transfer the pupils to Ysgol Ffrwd Win, Llanfaethlu.
8. Adapt and extend Ysgol Cylch y Garn, Llanrhuddlad and close Ysgol Ffrwd Win and Ysgol Llanfachraeth and transfer the pupils to Ysgol Cylch y Garn.
9. Federalization i.e. one school on two or three sites

At that meeting on January 15, 2013, the Education and Leisure Scrutiny Committee resolved:

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



CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

ADRAN DYSGU GYDOL OES
LIFELONG LEARNING DEPARTMENT

YMGYNGHORI AR FODERNEIDDIO YSGOLION
CYNRADD SIR FÔN

ARDAL GOGLEDD ORLLEWIN MÔN

ANGLESEY PRIMARY SCHOOL MODERNISATION
CONSULTATION

NORTH WEST ANGLESEY AREA

Hydref / October 2012

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1. INTRODUCTION

In July 2012, the Board of Commissioners of Anglesey County Council approved a Policy Framework for modernising the education provision on Anglesey. It provides a framework for reviewing the present provision against what is required in the future. Anglesey County Council is committed to providing first class education for all the children and young people of the island. As part of this commitment, the Council has agreed that modernising education is a priority as it realises the importance of having school buildings, teaching environment and resources that satisfy the needs of Wales in the twenty first century.

The Council knows that the education provision in the county must change as improvements in the field of education cannot be sustained without changes in the way education is provided. The Council has a responsibility to ensure that its schools are fit for purpose and sustainable. Schools must provide the best learning experience possible so that children and young people on Anglesey can have the best educational experience available to them and can reach their full potential.

In order to improve the all the present schools to satisfy the definition of a Twenty First Century School, the Council would have to invest tens of millions of pounds of capital in the next few years. The Welsh Government has clearly stated that for local authorities to attract capital, they must deal with surplus places in schools. Several schools on Anglesey have high levels of surplus places. As a result of this, a change is required in the education provision on Anglesey if the Council is to provide the best learning environment and facilities for the children and young people of the county.

It is also realised that revenue finance for schools is coming under pressure in the current economic environment. The budgets of many schools are already under pressure due to the number of pupils having decreased which creates high levels of surplus places. This situation could worsen in the next few years.

The Isle of Anglesey County Council also has a responsibility to ensure that education system is sustainable for the next fifteen to twenty years. The Council's aim is to have successful and flourishing schools that provide the best learning environment and facilities for the children and young people of Anglesey. To do this, the education provision across the county must be reviewed.

Why review the primary school provision in the North West Anglesey area?

The Isle of Anglesey County Council, along with every other local authority in Wales, is reviewing its schools as part of its commitment to modernise education and to ensure that schools on Anglesey provide the best possible learning environment and facilities in line with the Welsh Government's Twenty First Century Schools Programme.

This was started by conducting a series of area reviews. In January 2012, political approval was given by the Isle of Anglesey County Council Board of Commissioners authorised the Education Service to start the process of reviewing the primary school provision in the North West Anglesey area.

The North West Anglesey area review is the fourth review that Anglesey Council has conducted following the Holyhead, Llangefni and South East Anglesey area reviews.

2. REASONS FOR CHANGE

1. Reduce the number of surplus places.

The number of surplus places in Anglesey’s schools is among the highest in Wales. In 2011, there were 27.7% surplus places in Anglesey’s primary schools, the highest but one in Wales. In the secondary sector, the corresponding figure was 23.0%.

Table 1

	Anglesey	Position in Wales (out of 22)	Wales
Surplus places in the primary sector	27.7%	21	20.7%
Surplus places in the secondary sector	23.0%	18	19.9%

The Minister for Education and Skills wrote to members (Councillors) with responsibility for the Education Portfolio in each county asking them to prepare plans to reduce the number of surplus places in schools to 15% by January 2015.

The Welsh Government’s aim is that Local Authorities have no more than 10% surplus places¹ in their schools and an independent report has recommended the same target².

Anglesey Council was harshly criticised by the inspection body Estyn for its inefficient use of places in schools. Therefore, the Council needs to reduce the number of surplus places in schools across the county in order to make better use of the available funding.

¹ Welsh Government Guidance Circular Number: 021/2009

² Report “The Structure of Education Services in Wales” (Vivian Thomas – March 2011)

2. Financial issues

Public expenditure is being cut everywhere in response to the global economic recession. In addition, the financial forecasts are unlikely to improve with local authorities across Wales and the UK coming under similar pressures. As a result, every local authority will be required to make substantial cuts to its budgets and this will inevitably have an impact on services. The County Council will need to make extensive savings [approximately £12m over three years] and this will unavoidably affect school budgets as a consequence.

This means that efforts must be made to reduce and harmonise per capita spending across the County's schools. This will be a major challenge for each of the schools with an emphasis on achieving more with less money.

Based on expenditure figures for each pupil in the primary sector from the StatsWales website, Anglesey's expenditure is £4,146 – the highest spend but one in the primary sector in Wales for the financial year 2012-13 (see Table 2).

Table 2

Authority	Per capita spend 2012-13	Authority	Per capita spend 2012-13
Blaenau Gwent	£4,209	Neath Port Talbot	£3,502
Anglesey	£4,146	Monmouthshire	£3,501
Denbigh	£4,017	Merthyr Tydfil	£3,482
Cardiff	£3,982	Torfaen	£3,468
Conwy	£3,938	Newport	£3,454
Gwynedd	£3,929	Flintshire	£3,433
Powys	£3,848	Rhondda Cynon Taff	£3,424
Pembrokeshire	£3,800	Swansea	£3,388
Ceredigion	£3,738	Vale of Glamorgan	£3,383
Carmarthenshire	£3,680	Bridgend	£3,324
Wrexham	£3,511	Caerphilly	£3,062
		Wales	£4,080

3. Raising standards

The need to raise standards remains a priority for the Welsh Government. In this context, end of key stage indicators are used to measure standards. Estyn believes that Anglesey needs to raise standards for end of key stages 1 and 2.

See Table 3 below for data on the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2:-

Table 3

	% of pupils achieving the expected level on Anglesey	% of pupils achieving the expected level on an All Wales basis
Foundation Phase	80.9	82.7
Key Stage 2	78.6	80.0

4. Ensuring modern resources in relation to schools and class resources

The Welsh Government has identified as a priority that schools should have buildings that meet twenty first century expectations, that are fit for purpose, in the right place and that meet the need of learners whilst providing a resource for the community. It is also important to develop a sustainable education system by using resources more effectively whilst reducing fuel consumption and carbon emissions.

5. Breaking the link between deprivation and low educational achievement

One of the Welsh Government's priorities is to improve educational outcomes for children and young people from deprived areas by breaking the link between deprivation and low educational achievement. The Council aspires to ensuring that every pupil has the potential to achieve and succeed regardless of background. On Anglesey, 18.8% of primary age pupils have free school meals compared with an All Wales average of 19.5%.

6. Leadership and management capacity

Educational research recognises that good leadership and management is linked to good standards – good schools are well led.

Schools' leadership and management requirements have increased substantially over the past few years with expectations likely to grow in the future. Thus, a Headteacher requires sufficient non-contact time to attend to leadership and management matters.

7. County Council aspirations

The Isle of Anglesey County Council wishes to see every child, young person and learner, wherever they be, achieving their potential and being ready to play a prominent role as responsible citizens and community champions. The Council's vision has identified that every young person, regardless of their background, has the potential to achieve and succeed. This is central to the vision for Anglesey.

In this context, the Council wants to see schools that are fit for the twenty first century. This approach will

- lead to higher standards
- respond to the changes taking place in society, in communities and in the economy
- improve outcomes for children and young people and, in particular, break the link between deprivation and low achievement.

The Authority aspires to provide education for all children on Anglesey in modern fit for purpose buildings which make the best possible use of modern technology. This is an objective, in the medium and longer term, that will be achieved gradually. The Authority also wishes to be proactive in ensuring that children are educated, where possible, within their home catchment area.

In order to accomplish this, a more efficient and effective schools system is needed – one that which will require schools to be located in the right place and led by inspired Headteachers with sufficient leadership time to carry out the task.

Points 1-6 are expanded upon below.

3. REDUCE SURPLUS PLACES

In July 2011 the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Board of Commissioners adopted a Policy Framework. The document recognised that the process of school modernisation will necessitate "closing some schools [not only and not necessarily small schools] whilst developing a new pattern of provision."

The Policy Framework also states that the "key principles and policies identified in the Welsh Government Circular 021/2009 are relevant considerations". One of these considerations is "*when there are too many surplus places in a particular area, Local Authorities should review their provision, and where feasible, submit proposals for school restructuring, especially if schools have "substantial" numbers of surplus places**."

** 'Substantial' is defined as 25% or more of a school's capacity and at least 30 surplus places:*

Pursuant to this definition, it can be seen from Table 4 that that the % surplus places (September 2012 figures) is above 25% in the three schools. There are 'substantial'

surplus places in Ysgol Llanfachraeth (35 surplus places i.e. 42%) but the numbers in Ysgol Ffrwd Win (28 surplus places i.e. 41%) and Ysgol Cylch Y Garn (26 surplus places i.e. 38%) are just below the ‘substantial’ level.

Table 4 (September 2012 figures)

SCHOOL	Capacity	Number of pupils 3-11	Surplus places	% Surplus places
Llanfachraeth	84	49	35	42%
Ffrwd Win	68	40	28	41%
Cylch y Garn	69	43	26	38%

This explains why this consultation is confined to these three schools in North West Anglesey.

Table 5 illustrates the schools in the Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern catchment area based on surplus places in the schools. It can be seen that the number of surplus places in Ysgol Llanfachraeth will increase slightly before falling but will still be over 25% in 2015. It is also projected that the number of surplus places at Ysgol Ffrwd Win and Ysgol Cylch Y Garn will remain at around 25% for the coming years.

Table 5 – Projections for pupil numbers in primary schools in the Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern catchment area

SCHOOL	Capacity	2012			2013			2014			2015		
		Total 3-11	Surplus places	% Surplus places	Total 3-11	Surplus places	% Surplus places	Total 3-11	Surplus places	% Surplus places	Total 3-11	Surplus places	% Surplus places
Llanfachraeth	84	49	35	41.7%	50	34	40.5%	50	34	40.5%	53	31	36.9%
Ffrwd Win	68	40	28	41.2%	39	29	42.6%	40	28	41.2%	42	26	38.2%
Cylch y Garn	69	43	26	37.7%	42	27	39.1%	41	28	40.6%	42	27	39.1%
Bodedern	115	117	-2	-1.7%	114	1	0.9%	112	3	2.6%	113	2	1.7%
Bryngwran	367	52	15	22.4%	48	19	28.4%	47	20	29.9%	47	20	30.3%
Pencarnisiog	79	54	25	31.6%	54	25	31.6%	57	22	27.8%	54	25	31.6%
Y Ffridd	96	74	22	22.9%	69	27	28.1%	64	32	33.3%	56	40	41.7%
Llannerchymedd	144	112	32	22.2%	129	15	10.4%	135	9	6.3%	149	-5	-3.7%
TOTAL	722	541	181	25.1%	545	177	24.5%	546	176	24.4%	556	166	23.0%

4. FINANCIAL ISSUES

In May 2012 Estyn published a thematic report entitled “*How surplus places affect the resources available for expenditure on improving outcomes for pupils?*” In it Estyn states:

“The average cost of a surplus place in the primary sector in Wales in 2011-2012 is £260, but in addition, the average saving arising from a school closure is £63,500”. Therefore, on this basis, the cost of surplus places at the three primary schools in North West Anglesey is £47,580, i.e. 183 surplus places x £260.

Table 6 below provides the figures for surplus places at the three primary schools in question together with equivalent figures for the other schools in the catchment area for information:-

Table 6

School	Capacity	Pupils (September 2012)	Number of Surplus Places (and cost)	% Surplus Places	% outside catchment
Llanfachraeth	84	49	35 (£9,100)	41.7%	21%
Ffrwd Win	68	40	28 (£7,280)	41.2%	12%
Cylch y Garn	69	43	26 (£6,760)	37.7%	3%
Bodedern	115	117	0 (£0)	0.0%	35%
Bryngwran	67	52	15 (£3,900)	22.4%	2%
Pencarnisiog	79	54	25 (£6,500)	31.6%	30%
Y Ffridd	96	74	22 (£5,720)	22.9%	4%
Llannerchymedd	144	112	32 (£8,320)	22.2%	5%
Total	722	541	183 (£47,580)	25.3%	17%

The current average percentage of surplus places for the three schools in September 2012 is 40% in comparison with an average of 27.7% for Anglesey primary schools.

Table 7 below illustrates the number of children from outside the catchment in the three schools and where they come from (based on 2011/12 figures):-

Table 7

School	% outside catchment	From which primary school catchment area do the outside catchment pupils come from? (2011/12 figures)
Llanfachraeth	21%	Fali, Llanfaethlu, Rhydwyn
Ffrwd Win	12%	Llanrhuddlad, Llantrisant, Cemaes
Cylch y Garn	3%	Tregele, Llanfaethlu
Total	13%	

Table 8 below illustrates the per capita spend in each school in the catchment area and the variance with county and catchment area averages.

Table 8

School	Capacity	Pupils (Sept 2012)	Number of surplus places	Cost of surplus places	% Surplus places	% outside catchment	School budget	% of school budget	Per capita spend 2012/2013	Catchment variance		County variance	
										£	%	£	%
Llanfachraeth	84	49	35	£9,100	41.7%	21%	£208,578	4.4%	£4,172	£518	12%	£939	29%
Ffrwd Win	68	40	28	£7,280	41.2%	12%	£167,200	4.4%	£4,471	£817	18%	£1,238	38%
Cylch y Garn	69	43	26	£6,760	37.7%	3%	£160,814	4.2%	£5,154	£1,500	29%	£1,921	59%
Bodedern	115	117	-2	£0	-1.7%	35%	£315,252	0.0%	£3,159	-£495	-16%	-£74	-2%
Bryngwran	67	52	15	£3,900	22.4%	2%	£170,951	2.3%	£4,051	£397	10%	£818	25%
Pencarnisiog	79	54	25	£6,500	31.6%	30%	£189,413	3.4%	£3,358	-£296	-9%	£125	4%
Y Ffridd	96	74	22	£5,720	22.9%	4%	£241,791	2.4%	£3,377	-£277	-8%	£144	4%
Llannerchymedd	144	112	32	£8,320	22.2%	5%	£347,705	2.4%	£3,331	-£323	-10%	£98	3%
Total	722	541	181	£47,580	25.1%	17%	£1,801,704	2.6%	-	-	-	-	-
County primary school average									£3,233	-	-	£421	13%
Catchment primary school average									£3,654*				

*Per capita spend on Anglesey was increased from £3,293 in 2011/12 to £4,146 in 2012/13 on average, if everything is included, which is equivalent to an increase of 25.9%. In Table 8 above, the allocation for ‘integration’ and other services covered by service level agreements is not included but the per capita spend is still higher for the three schools than the average for the county (£3,233).

Also illustrated is the cost impact of surplus places as a % of the school budget – this figure for the three schools in question is higher than the catchment area and county averages.

5. EDUCATION STANDARDS

5.1 End of key stage indicators are used to evaluate the performance of schools. One indicator used by the Welsh Government in relation to education standards is the End of Key Stage performance indicator. This is measured at the end of the Foundation Phase (previously Key Stage 1, age 7) and at the end of Key Stage 2 (age 11) i.e. % of pupils in the school who achieved the expected levels or above (Level 2+ for KS1 and Level 4+ for KS2) in Welsh or English, Mathematics and Science in combination. See Table 9 below which illustrates the pattern over the past three years.

Percentage achieving Level 2+ at the end of Key Stage 1 (Foundation Phase)

Table 9

School	School Results		
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Llanfachraeth	100.00	100.00	100.00
Quarter*	1	1	1
Ffrwd Win	71.43	100.00	75.00
Quarter	3	1	3
Cylch y Garn	60.00	66.67	66.67
Quarter	4	4	4
Anglesey Average	70.73	77.08	72.14
All Wales Average	74.60	74.55	76.05

*Schools are placed in free school meal families and are then evaluated in terms of performance. The schools performing the best in the family are in Quarter 1 and those performing the worst in Quarter 4.

It should be noted that caution should be exercised when comparing end of year results since pupil numbers are often small and the nature of the cohort and circumstances of individual pupils can have a substantial impact. However, it will be noted that the performance of Ysgol Llanfachraeth was better than that of similar schools in the past three years whilst Ysgol Ffrwd Win performed better than similar schools in 2009/10. The statistical pattern for Ysgol Cylch Y Garn meant it was placed in Quarter 4.

Table 10 below lists the number of pupils achieving a higher than expected level, i.e. Level 3 or above.

Table 10

School	L3+ Welsh First Language			L3+ Mathematics			L3+ Science		
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Llanfachraeth	14.29	37.50	50.00	28.57	0.00	25.00	28.57	50.00	75.00
Quarter	3	1	1	2	4	2	2	1	1
Ffrwd Win	28.57	0.00	37.50	42.86	33.33	25.00	0.00	33.33	37.50
Quarter	2	4	1	1	1	2	4	1	1
Cylch Y Garn	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Quarter	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Anglesey	25.51	27.19	25.80	18.72	19.23	19.35	16.49	16.15	22.29
Wales	26.55	27.41	30.84	22.12	22.15	23.67	24.55	24.57	26.99

It can be seen that the performance of Ysgol Llanfachraeth has improved over the last three years and that it is in the upper 25% of similar schools across Wales in Welsh and Science. Similarly, the performance of Ysgol Ffrwd Win has improved over the last three years and that it is in the upper 25% of similar schools across Wales in Welsh and Science. On the whole, the performance of Ysgol Cylch Y Garn has put it in the lower 25% in Wales.

Table 11 below shows the pattern over the past three years for Key Stage 2 for schools in the catchment area together with figures for Anglesey and Wales.

Percentage achieving Level 4+ at the end of Key Stage 2

Table 11

School	School Results		
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Llanfachraeth	100.00	100.00	75.00
Quarter	1	1	3
Ffrwd Win	83.33	83.33	60.00
Quarter	1	2	4
Cylch Y Garn	80.00	55.56	66.67
Quarter	3	4	4
Anglesey Average	76.70	79.89	78.60
Wales Average	77.03	78.16	80.00

Expected level in reading, writing, mathematics and science in combination

Ysgol Llanfachraeth performed better than 25% of comparable schools in two of the last three years whilst Ysgol Ffrwd Win was in the highest quarter in one of the past three years. The results for Ysgol Cylch Y Garn means it's in the lowest quarter for two of the past three years.

Table 12 below lists the number of pupils achieving a higher level than expected i.e. Level 5 or above.

Table 12

School	L5+ English			L5+ Welsh First Language			L5+ Mathematics			L5+ Science		
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
Llanfachraeth	33.33	85.71	50.00	33.33	85.71	50.00	33.33	85.71	50.00	16.67	85.71	50.00
Quarter	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	4	1	1
Ffrwd Win	33.33	0.00	20.00	33.33	33.33	0.00	33.33	0.00	20.00	33.33	0.00	20.00
Quarter	1	4	3	1	1	4	1	4	4	2	4	3
Cylch Y Garn	40.00	0.00	66.67	40.00	0.00	33.33	20.00	11.11	66.67	0.00	0.00	66.67
Quarter	1	4	1	1	4	2	3	4	1	4	4	1
Anglesey	25.62	26.90	31.26	19.18	15.65	20.94	27.50	26.23	29.29	27.50	25.17	27.92
Wales	27.99	28.97	30.50	23.98	24.49	25.89	29.35	29.20	31.14	30.69	30.17	30.94

The Table shows that the performance of Ysgol Llanfachraeth has improved and that it is consistently in the upper 25% of similar schools in Wales over the past three years. The results in Welsh and Mathematics for Ysgol Ffrwd Win meant it was in the lower 25% of similar schools in Wales. On the whole, Ysgol Cylch Y Garn's performance puts it in the upper 25% of similar schools in Wales in English, Mathematics and Science in 2011.

Consideration is also given to attendance when using data to measure schools' performance. See the attendance figures (pupils in years 1-6) for the schools (Table 13) together with their quarters:-

Table 13

School	2008/09		2009/10		2010/11	
	% half day sessions attended	Quarter	% half day sessions attended	Quarter	% half day sessions attended	Quarter
Llanfachraeth	94.43	2	95.46	1	94.96	1
Ffrwd Win	94.01	1	92.11	2	93.54	1
Cylch y Garn	93.94	2	94.95	2	95.70	1
Anglesey average	93.90		93.80		93.50	
Wales average	93.20		93.10		93.30	

An attendance rate of 95% is considered good whilst 97% or greater is considered excellent.

Ysgol Llanfachraeth performed better than 75% of comparable schools in two of the past three years whilst Ysgol Ffrwd Win is in the highest quarter in terms of attendance in two of the past three years. The pattern for Cylch Y Garn suggests a better performance than 25% of comparable schools in one of the past three years.

Table 14 illustrates the number of pupils with Special Educational Needs (S.E.N.):-

Table 14

School	S.E.N. Allocation (£)	Number of S.E.N. pupils	Number of pupils	% of S.E.N. pupils	Cost of S.E.N. per capita
Llanfachraeth	£2,586	7	52	13.5%	£369
Ffrwd Win	£3,419	10	42	23.8%	£342
Cylch y Garn	£1,751	8	41	19.5%	£219
Bodedern	£7,926	17	117	14.5%	£466
Bryngwran	£4,838	17	52	32.7%	£285
Pencarnisiog	£4,003	6	54	11.1%	£667
Y Ffridd	£8,675	16	74	21.6%	£542
Llannerchymedd	£5,337	14	112	12.5%	£381
Total	£38,535	95	544	17.5%	£406

These are January 2012 figures. The figures show that 18.5% of pupils in the three schools in North West Anglesey have Special Educational Needs which is slightly higher than the average for the schools in the catchment area.

The schools inspection body Estyn also assesses schools' performance and visits schools in order to carry out inspections before producing a report at the end of each inspection. The inspections approach was changed in 2009/10 but prior to this 7 key questions were asked, namely:-

Table 15

Key question	
1	How well do learners achieve?
2	How effective is the teaching, training and assessment?
3	How well do the learning experiences meet the needs and interests of learners and the wider community?
4	How good is the care, the instruction and support given to learners?
5	How effective is the strategic leadership and management?
6	How well do leaders and managers evaluate and improve quality and standards?
7	How efficiently do leaders and managers use resources?

A five point scale was used to represent all the inspection judgements as seen in Table 16:

Table 16

Grade 1	Good with outstanding features
Grade 2	Good features and no important shortcomings
Grade 3	Good features outweigh shortcomings
Grade 4	Some good features, but shortcomings in important areas
Grade 5	Many important shortcomings

The following schools (Table 17) were inspected using this approach and the grades given are illustrated (KQ stands for Key Question in this context):-

Table 17

Primary school	Date	KQ1	KQ2	KQ3	KQ4	KQ5	KQ6	KQ7	'Average'
Llanfachraeth	5 March 2007	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2.00
Ffrwd Win	17 September 2007	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2.14
Cylch Y Garn	21 April 2005	2	2	1	2	2	3	1	1.86
Bodedern	2 November 2009	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	2.29
Bryngwran	19 October 2005	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	2.43
Pencarnisiog	16 June 2009	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	1.71
Y Ffridd	6 February 2006	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2.00
Llanerchymedd	9 February 2009	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	1.71

By 2009/10, the Inspection Framework had changed and the number of questions was reduced to 3 (Table 18) but there were 10 aspects to the questions. The three Key Questions are:-

Table 18

Key Question	
1	How good are the outcomes?
2	How good is the provision?
3	How good is the leadership and management?

Since adopting the new approach, the following schools (Table 19) have been inspected in the Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern catchment area:-

Table 19

School	Cylch Y Garn	Bryngwran	Y Ffridd
Date	May 2011	November 2011	January 2012
Key Question 1	Good	Good	Good
Standards	Good	Good	Good
Well-being	Good	Good	Good
Key Question 2	Good	Good	Good
Learning experiences	Adequate	Good	Good
Teaching	Good	Good	Good
Care, support and leadership	Good	Good	Good
The learning environment	Good	Good	Good
Key Question 3	Good	Good	Good
Leadership	Good	Good	Good
Quality improvement	Good	Good	Good
Working in partnership	Good	Good	Good
Management of resources	Good	Good	Good
Current Performance	Good	Good	Good
Improvement Outlook	Good	Good	Good

See Table 20 below for an explanation of the judgement given:-

Table 20

Judgement	What the judgement actually means
Excellent	Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice
Good	Many strengths and no important areas that need substantial improvement
Adequate	Strengths outweigh the areas that require improvement
Unsatisfactory	Important areas that require improvement outweigh strengths

6. CONDITION OF THE BUILDINGS

6.1 The way that school buildings are used has changed, and will continue to change. New curricular requirements (the Foundation Phase, for example), Information and Communication Technology developments (using interactive white boards and wi-fi technology for example) and the potential for community use requires consideration of the suitability of buildings if the Council is to respond proactively to these issues. The condition of buildings and the environment for children and staff is also a matter of importance when considering the Council's buildings.

6.2 Condition, suitability and sustainability surveys were carried out in 2009/10 on behalf of the Welsh Governments by the consultants E.C.Harris and an independent report produced summarising the outcomes. They looked at a number of factors (in schools throughout Wales) including:-

6.2.1 The condition of the school buildings

6.2.2 Landscape – the aim of carrying out this survey was to see how the school's external environment could impact directly on learning. The surveyors were looking for things such as:-

Outdoor areas where classes could assemble to work.

Was there 'somewhere to grow food and areas for informal play'.

6.2.3 Sufficiency – the surveyors assessed whether there was adequate room for the staff and pupils to have a sense of personal space.

6.2.4 Suitability – the surveyors tried to collect information from all areas of the school to see how suitable the school was for learning purposes. Matters such as health and safety, space flexibility, school size and shape, ventilation, lighting, acoustics, location, storage, fittings and fixtures and ICT infrastructure were all considered.

6.2.5 Sustainability – the surveyors noted information on the energy efficiency of the lighting and heating equipment, management of the heating system, water saving,

waste recycling and the school’s Energy Performance Certificate. A sustainability survey looks at those areas that impact on the school’s environmental, social and economic sustainability (energy, heating, security).

6.2.6 In light of the points made under the above headings, a score was determined based on the five above factors to give a score out of 100 for the schools. See the survey summary in Table 21.

Table 21

School	Condition¹	Landscape	Sufficiency	Suitability²	Sustainability³	Score
Llanfachraeth	B	C	D	B	C	46
Cylch y Garn	B	C	D	A	B	60
Ffrwd Win	A	C	D	A	B	72
Bodedern	B	C	C	B	B	54
Bryngwran	B	C	D	A	C	58
Pencarnisiog	B	C	D	B	C	46
Ysgol Y Ffridd	B	D	D	B	C	43
Llanerchymedd	B	C	D	A	B	60

Highest score is best

¹Building Condition Categories

- Category A – Good
- Category B – Satisfactory
- Category C – Poor
- Category D – Very Poor

²Suitability Categories

- Category A - Good – suitable levels for teaching, learning and well-being in schools
- Category B – Reasonable – only has a detrimental effect on behaviour / morale and management
- Category C – Poor – has a detrimental effect on teaching methods
- Category D – Very Poor – serious situation and / or unable to teach the curriculum

³Sustainability Categories

- Category A – Excellent
- Category B – Good or Above Average
- Category C – Poor
- Category D – Poor or Non-existent

6.3 The table shows that the score for the school building at Ysgol Ffrwd Win is the highest in the catchment area and was one of three schools in Anglesey to receive a grade A for its condition. Ysgol Cylch Y Garn was equal second and Ysgol Llanfachraeth was equal

sixth in the catchment area. Further details are provided below on individual school buildings.

6.4 Ysgol Llanfachraeth

The building was originally built in 1876 but towards the end of the 1990's a two classroom and kitchen extension was built and the original building adapted to provide a Key Stage 1 room and hall. The headteacher's and staff room is on the 1st floor of the old school house.

6.5 Ysgol Ffrwd Win Llanfaethlu

Originally built in 1879, there was considerable expenditure between 2002 and 2004 to adapt the original building to provide a kitchen, hall, toilets and staff room and to build a two classroom and resources room extension. The building is in excellent condition in an ideal location, but 0.8 miles from the village where approx half the pupils live.

The building is fit for purpose with excellent facilities and resources for up to 68 pupils [8 in the nursery and 60 4-11 year old], 24 in the KS1 room, 26 in the KS2 room and 18 in the room planned as a resources room.

Since September 2009, there is a bespoke and spacious car park with a pavement for walkers which is separate from the public road. A purpose built gate separates the car park from the children's play area.

6.6 Ysgol Cylch y Garn, Llanrhuddlad

The original school was built in 1901 but in the 1980's with grants from the Welsh Office, Gwynedd County Council and the Isle of Anglesey Borough Council, and a contribution by a local voluntary committee, a community extension was built to provide a community hall, committee room and toilets which are part of the school facilities during the day and used by the community outside school hours.

6.7 In addition, condition surveys were carried out by the Council's surveyors from the end of 2011 to the beginning of 2012. See the results for the primary schools in the Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern catchment area in Table 10. In his report to the Anglesey Council Board of Commissioners on 23 July 2012, the Head of (Property) Services at The Isle of Anglesey County Council noted that the Council had a substantial backlog of maintenance work to be carried out on schools in Anglesey, worth £12.74 million. Of this, £7.51 million needs to be spent on primary schools alone. The current maintenance budget is £740,000 which is slightly less than 10% of the total expenditure required.

6.8 It was concluded that all the schools in the catchment area fell into Category B and this without taking into account the expenditure required in terms of suitability. The meaning of the grades given are as follows:-

Category A – Good - maintenance work is less than 5% of the value of the building

Category B – Satisfactory - maintenance work is 5-35% of the value of the building
 Category C – Poor - maintenance work is 35-65% of the value of the building
 Category D – Very poor - maintenance work is 65% of the value of the building

It can be seen from Table 22, that Ysgol Llanfachraeth was given a score of 20, Ysgol Cylch Y Garn 13 whilst Ysgol Ffrwd Win had a score of 11 (the lower the score, the better in this case).

Table 22

School	Total	Score	Grade
Llanfachraeth	£158,000	20	B
Cylch y Garn	£198,000	13	B
Ffrwd Win	£27,500	11	B
Bodedern	£36,400	25	B
Bryngwran	£37,500	10	B
Pencarnisiog	£6,490	18	B
Ysgol Y Ffridd	£64,275	9	B
Llanerchymedd	£160,000	26	B
Catchment average	£86,021	17	-
County average	£159,800	18	-
Total	£688,165	-	-

- 6.9 The total maintenance backlog (note – maintenance costs only and not including any improvement works) for the three schools in question is around £383,500. Therefore, the maintenance work for the three schools is about half the Council’s current budget. Attending to the maintenance backlog in these schools would not provide a suitable learning environment or the facilities required for the twenty first century, and neither would it meet the requirements of the Welsh Government’s Twenty First Century Schools Programme.
- 6.10 Energy efficiency is important with authorities reporting to the Welsh Government on carbon emissions. Table 23 below shows Ysgol Ffrwd Win has the highest carbon emissions per capita in the catchment area:-

Table 23

School	Number of pupils	kg CO ₂ per capita
Ysgol Llanfachraeth	52	390
Ysgol Cylch y Garn	41	643
Ysgol Ffrwd Win	42	671
Ysgol Gynradd Bodedern	117	142
Ysgol Bryngwran	52	502
Ysgol Pencarnisiog	54	416
Ysgol y Ffridd	74	428
Ysgol Llannerch y Medd	112	649
Catchment area average	68	480
Anglesey average	-	466

The highest level of carbon emissions in the primary sector was 1,271kg CO₂ per pupil whilst 104kg CO₂ per pupil was the lowest emissions in the primary sector. In order to develop a sustainable education system, there is a need to use resources more effectively and to cut down on burning fuel and carbon emissions. By knowing what the emissions are, they can be monitored and reduced.

7. BREAKING THE LINK BETWEEN LOW PERFORMANCE AND SOCIAL DEPRIVATION

In addition to maintaining and raising standards, schools are expected to try to improve the achievement of those who come from underprivileged social backgrounds thereby breaking the link between deprivation and low achievement. Figures from the Welsh Government (Tables 24 and 25 below) show that there is a gap between the achievement of children who are eligible for free school meals and those who are not:-

Table 24 – Key Stage 1 (Foundation Phase)

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Eligible for free school meals	62.6	63.5	65.1	66.4	68.2
Not eligible for free school meals	84.5	84.7	85.0	85.8	86.7
Difference	21.9	21.2	19.9	19.4	18.5

% pupils who achieved the expected levels (Level 2) in Welsh or English, Mathematics and Science in combination.

Table 25 – Key Stage 2

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Eligible for free school meals	54.2	56.5	59.4	60.2	63.6
Not eligible for free school meals	78.6	79.7	81.1	82.6	84.2
Difference	24.4	23.2	21.7	22.4	20.6

%pupils who achieved the expected levels (Level 4) in Welsh, English, Mathematics and Science in combination.

The data shows that the gap between the achievement level of pupils who are eligible for free school meals and those who are not has narrowed but that a substantial gap remains.

Research suggests that schools need to consider additional provision such as breakfast clubs, after-school clubs, child-care provision; summer holiday and weekend activities if this is to be truly addressed.

Also, schools are required to be a community resource in order to promote community activity. In order to determine what social use was made of the schools concerned, an informal survey was carried out at the end of 2011 by questioning the school headteachers. The results are in Table 26:-

Table 26

SCHOOL	Community Use?	Breakfast Club?	After-School Club?	Room(s) for confidential discussion?	Activity
Llanfachraeth	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Dragon Sports, Urdd, Gardening Club, Computer Club
Cylch y Garn	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dragon Sports, Urdd, Gardening Club, Cookery Club, Whist, W.I., Community Council
Ffrwd Win	No	Yes	No	No	-

From the table, it can be seen that there is community use of two of the three schools. Community use is made of 72% of the primary schools on Anglesey and there is a Breakfast Club in every primary school. Of the above three schools, only Ysgol Cylch Y Garn has an After-School Club.

8. LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

Educational research recognises that good leadership and management is linked to good standards – good schools are well led.

Schools' leadership and management requirements have increased substantially over the past few years with expectations likely to grow in the future. Thus, a Headteacher requires sufficient non-contact time to attend to leadership and management matters. Indeed, it could be argued that a Headteacher needs to be wholly designated to Headship matters to be able to pay just attention to all the requirements and expectations faced.

The current situation in this respect is :-

Head of Ysgol Llanfachraeth – no non-contact time

Head of Ysgol Cylch Y Garn – 2 afternoons non-contact time per week

Head of Ysgol Ffrwd Win – 1 day non-contact time per week

Recruiting headteachers is seen as a national problem. In Wales, more than 60% of primary school headteachers are over 50 whilst on Anglesey, 51% [24] of headteachers are over 50 years of age. Of these, 40% [19 heads] are over 55 years of age which could mean that many of them will retire over the next few years – this is summarised in Table 27 below:-

Table 27 – Age profile of primary school headteachers on Anglesey (October 2012)

	Number	%
Primary school headteachers on Anglesey who are over 55	19	40
Primary school headteachers on Anglesey who are over 50	24	51
Average age of primary school headteachers on Anglesey	49.9	

Since 1997, it is a requirement for potential headteachers to complete a National Professional Qualification for Headteachers (NPQH) prior to being eligible for the post of a headteacher. Currently, three teachers within the Authority who are not primary school headteachers have this qualification. Only one person was taking the course in the 2011/12 academic year.

On Anglesey, there are fewer applicants for the Headteacher posts with three applicants on average for every post whereas in the past, there were over 10 applicants for each post that was advertised.

The problem is more serious when searching for headteachers for small schools. Headteachers in small schools have to combine leadership and management responsibilities with a substantial/full time educational commitment which can make it much harder to recruit a headteacher. Some schools on Anglesey have experienced recruitment difficulties recently, and the situation is not expected to improve. Failing to recruit a headteacher can have a significant effect on a school especially with respect to standards. There are currently seven acting headteachers in Anglesey primary schools

Anglesey County Council is committed to developing headteachers to the future through the Leadership and Development Programme but the Council also acknowledges that difficulties in appointing can have a negative effect on schools' standards and organisation in the future. Therefore, there is a need to consider ways of maintaining and modernising the Authority's schools with fewer headteachers.

9. OPTIONS

There are several options as to the shape of the education provision in this part of North West Anglesey in the future. Neighbouring primary schools in Cemaes, Llanfechell and Garreglefn are not considered for the purposes of this report as they are located in the catchment area of Ysgol Syr Thomas Jones in Amlwch. The three schools in Llanfachraeth, Llanfaethlu and Llanrhyddlad are in the catchment area of the Welsh medium secondary school on the island which is Bodedern Secondary School.

The statistics below are based on the September 2011 situation in respect of pupil numbers and the 2012/13 budget allocation for schools. It should be noted that numbers in the 3 schools are likely to be approximately 130 in future. The statistics are based on the assumption that all the pupils would transfer to a new school according to the option under consideration.

In the tables below, a nursery pupil counts as 0.4 for the purposes of calculating school funding as he or she attends the school on a part time basis.

Table 28 below gives the figures on surplus places and budget allocation:-

Table 28

School	Number for the formula	No. of pupils in Jan 2012	Capacity	Surplus places	Allocation 2012/13	Allocation 2012/13 per pupil
Llanfachraeth	50.0	53	84	31	£180,137	£3,602
Ffrwd Win	37.4	41	68	27	£167,200	£4,470
Cylch y Garn	31.2	36	69	33	£160,814	£5,154
Total	118.6	130	221	91	£508,151	

The options are:-

1. Close Ysgol Cylch y Garn, Llanrhuuddlad and

- a. **Transfer the pupils to Ysgol Llanfachraeth** – this is not considered as a viable option as there is insufficient capacity in this school for it to accept all the pupils from Ysgol Cylch y Garn. When travelling to this school, all the potential former pupils of Ysgol Cylch y Garn would go past Ysgol Ffrwd Win which is about 60% full.
- b. **Transfer the pupils to Ysgol Ffrwd Win, Llanfaethlu** - this is not considered as a viable option as there is insufficient capacity in this school for it to accept all the pupils from Ysgol Cylch y Garn.
- c. **Transfer about half the pupils to Ysgol Llanfachraeth and the other half to Ysgol Ffrwd Win, Llanfaethlu** – this is viable. Note the potential savings in Table 29 below:

Table 29

School	Number for the formula	No. of pupils in Jan 2012	Capacity	Surplus places	Allocation 2012/13	Allocation 2012/13 per pupil
Llanfachraeth	65.6	71	84	13	£216,746	£3,304
Ffrwd Win	53.0	59	68	9	£199,505	£3,764
Total	118.6	130	152	22	£416,251	

Annual savings = £508,151 - £416,251 = £91,900

Additional transport and escort costs - £29,000

Net annual savings - £62,900

Number of surplus places removed - 69

2. Close Ysgol Ffrwd Win, Llanfaethlu and

- a. **Transfer the pupils to Ysgol Cylch y Garn** - this is not considered as a viable option as there is insufficient capacity in this school for it to accept all the pupils from Ysgol Ffrwd Win.
- b. **Transfer the pupils to Ysgol Llanfachraeth** - this is not considered as a viable option as there is insufficient capacity in this school for it to accept all the pupils from Ysgol Ffrwd Win.
- c. **Transfer about half the pupils to Ysgol Llanfachraeth and the other half to Ysgol Cylch y Garn, Llanrhuuddlad** – this is viable. Note the potential savings in Table 30 below:

Table 30

School	Number for the formula	No. of pupils in Jan 2012	Capacity	Surplus places	Allocation 2012/13	Allocation 2012/13 per pupil
Llanfachraeth	68.2	73	84	11	£222,978	£3,269
Cylch y Garn	50.4	57	69	12	£189,367	£3,757
Total	118.6	130	153	23	£412,345	

Annual savings = £508,151 - £412,345 = £95,806

Additional transport and escort costs - £58,000

Net annual savings - £37,806

Number of surplus places removed - 68

3. Close Ysgol Llanfachraeth and

- a. **Transfer the pupils to Ysgol Cylch y Garn** - – this is not considered as a viable option as there is insufficient capacity in this school for it to accept all the pupils from Ysgol Llanfachraeth. When travelling to this school, all the potential former pupils of Ysgol Llanfachraeth would go past Ysgol Ffrwd Win which is about 60% full.
- b. **Transfer the pupils to Ysgol Ffrwd Win** - this is not considered as a viable option as there is insufficient capacity in this school for it to accept all the pupils from Ysgol Llanfachraeth.
- c. **Transfer about half the pupils to Ysgol Ffrwd Win and the other half to Ysgol Cylch y Garn, Llanrhuuddlad** – this is viable. Note the potential savings in Table 31 below:

Table 31

School	Number for the formula	No. of pupils in Jan 2012	Capacity	Surplus places	Allocation 2012/13	Allocation 2012/13 per pupil
Ffrwd Win	62.2	67	68	1	£222,637	£3,579
Cylch y Garn	56.4	63	69	6	£204,294	£3,622
Total	118.6	130	137	7	£426,931	

Annual savings = £508,151 - £426,931 = £81,220

Additional transport and escort costs - £58,000

Net annual savings - £23,220

Number of surplus places removed - 84

4. Maintain the 3 schools as independent units

No savings would result from this option and the maintenance work which has accrued would increase over time. The number of surplus places in the three schools would remain roughly the same (about 40% on average) as outlined in Table 32:

Table 32

School	Number for the formula	No. of pupils in Jan 2012	Capacity	Surplus places	Allocation 2012/13	Allocation 2012/13 per pupil
Llanfachraeth	50.0	53	84	31	£180,137	£3,602
Llanfaethlu	37.4	41	68	27	£167,200	£4,470
Llanrhuddlad	31.2	36	69	33	£160,814	£5,154
Total	118.6	130	221	91	£508,151	

5. A new area school for Llanfachraeth, Llanfaethlu, Llanrhuddlad

As described in Table 33 below, there will be substantial savings for the authority as a result of this option and it would remove the need for maintenance which has accrued on the three schools. It is estimated that there would be space for 150 pupils in the school i.e. 5 classes of 30.

Table 33

School	Number for the formula	No. of pupils in Jan 2012	Capacity	Surplus places	Allocation 2012/13	Allocation 2012/13 per pupil
Llanfachraeth	50.0	53	84	31	£180,137	£3,602
Ffrwd Win	37.4	41	68	27	£167,200	£4,470
Cylch y Garn	31.2	36	69	33	£160,814	£5,154
Total	118.6	130	221	91	£508,151	-
Area School	118.6	130	150	20	£387,467	£3,267

Annual savings = £508,151 - £387,467 = £120,684

Additional transport and escort costs - £58,000

Net annual savings - £62,684

Number of surplus places removed 71

It is estimated that a new school for 150 pupils would cost about £7,000,000.

6. **Modify and extend Ysgol Llanfachraeth and close Ysgol Ffrwd Win and Ysgol Cylch y Garn and transfer the pupils to Ysgol Llanfachraeth.**

Modifying Ysgol Llanfachraeth would cost at least £1.4 million. The potential savings would be as described in Table 34 below:

Table 34

School	Number for the formula	No. of pupils in Jan 2012	Capacity	Surplus places	Allocation 2012/13	Allocation 2012/13 per pupil
Llanfachraeth (modified)	118.6	130	150	20	£341,797	£2,882

Annual savings = £508,151 - £341,797 = £166,354

Additional transport and escort costs - £58,000

Net annual savings - £108,354

Number of surplus places removed - 71

N.B. – It should be borne in mind that the allocation per pupil could change somewhat upon extending a school.

7. **Modify and extend Ysgol Ffrwd Win, Llanfaethlu and close Ysgol Cylch y Garn and Ysgol Llanfachraeth and transfer the pupils to Ysgol Ffrwd Win, Llanfaethlu.**

Modifying Ysgol Ffrwd Win would cost at least £1.7 million. The potential savings would be as described in Table 35 below:

Table 35

School	Number for the formula	No. of pupils in Jan 2012	Capacity	Surplus places	Allocation 2012/13	Allocation 2012/13 per pupil
Ffrwd Win (modified)	118.6	130	150	20	£363,143	£3,062

Annual savings = £508,151 - £363,143 = £145,008

Additional transport and escort costs - £58,000

Net annual savings - £87,008

Number of surplus places removed – 71

N.B. – It should be borne in mind that the allocation per pupil could change somewhat upon extending a school.

8. Modify and extend Ysgol Cylch y Garn, Llanrhuddlad and close Ysgol Ffrwd Win and Ysgol Llanfachraeth and transfer the pupils to Ysgol Cylch y Garn.

Modifying Ysgol Cylch y Garn would cost at least £1.7 million. The potential savings would be as described in Table 36 below:

Table 36

School	Number for the formula	No. of pupils in Jan 2012	Capacity	Surplus places	Allocation 2012/13	Allocation 2012/13 per pupil
Cylch y Garn, (modified)	118.6	130	150	20	£358,936	£3,026

Annual savings = £508,151 - £358,936 = £149,215

Additional transport and escort costs - £58,000

Net annual savings - £91,215

Number of surplus places removed – 71

N.B. – It should be borne in mind that the allocation per pupil could change somewhat upon extending a school.

9.9 Federalisation

A Federal School could be created between two or three schools. In order for this to be done, the Head of the Federal School would not teach so that he or she could be released to lead and manage. This in turn would mean that a teacher would need to be employed to teach pupils instead of the Head. In other words, federating would be more costly than the current situation.

However, federating would not reduce the number of surplus places or avoid capital expenditure to resolve building deficiencies.

10. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 10.1 The Council will be consulting with parents, governors and staff at the three schools included in this proposal and also with the local communities, local councillors, local Assembly Member, local MP and with the Welsh Government and other stakeholders. The consultation period will run until 20th November 2012.

A number of meetings have been arranged over this period as illustrated in Table 37:-

Table 37

School	Date (in 2012)	Meeting with		
		Staff	Governors	Parents
Llanfachraeth	Monday, October 1	3.30	6.00	5.00
Cylch y Garn	Wednesday, October 3	3.30	5.00	6.00
Ffrwd Win	Thursday, October 4	3.30	6.00	5.00

- 10.2 Please feel free to ask us any questions and we would welcome your views on the proposals either by letter, e-mail or by completing the attached response form. Your representations should be sent to:

Programme Manager (Schools Modernisation),
Education Service,
Park Mount,
Glanhwfa Road,
Llangefni,
Isle of Anglesey
LL77 7EY.

The e-mail address is:
ysgolionmon@ynysmon.gov.uk

You should ensure that your response reaches the Isle of Anglesey County Council no later than November 20, 2012.

The Council will collect and consider your views before making recommendations to the Anglesey Council Board of Commissioners on the way forward. The Anglesey Council Board of Commissioners will consider the consultation report and outcomes and will consider recommendations made by officers in its meeting towards the end of 2012 or early in 2013.

Your contributions to the process as members of the community are vitally important.

11. NEXT STEPS

This is the initial and **informal** consultation. At the end of this stage of the consultation process, officers will collate all the responses and information before submitting any recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. Over the next few months, the Board of Commissioners will consider this consultation report and its outcomes together with any recommendations by Council officers.

Should the Board of Commissioners decide to adopt a recommendation, there will be a **formal** consultation period on a particular option or options.