

SUBJECT: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PRIMARY SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREA – LLANDENNY VILLAGE

MEETING: INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION

DATE: 8th March 2023

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: RAGLAN, LLANBADOC AND USK

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with details of a proposed amendment to an existing primary school catchment area in Llandenny village to reflect the recent consultation exercise.
- 1.2 The Local Authority in line with the School Admissions Code Wales (July 2013) is required to consult on its school admission arrangements annually. Amending school catchment areas forms part of this consultation.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To agree that the affected area (appendix 1) should be placed into the catchment area for Usk CIW Primary School for the reasons identified in this report.
- 2.2 To agree to amend the primary school catchment area with effect from the 1st September 2024 in line with the School Admissions Code Wales (July 2013), which states *“Admission arrangements **must** be consulted on for each maintained school between 1 September and 1 March, and set by 15 April, of the school year (the ‘determination year’) beginning two years before the school year in which the arrangements will apply”*

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 Monmouthshire County Council is the admissions authority for all community schools within the county. With this brings responsibility for the admission arrangements that apply for each of our community schools, including the designated catchment areas.
- 3.2 Catchment areas in Monmouthshire form a significant part of the Council’s admission arrangements for the following reasons:
 - They assist in planning the provision of school places, enabling us to monitor and track demand within designated areas to ensure that the number of school places are sufficient.

- They form a key part of the Local Authority's oversubscription criteria, where there are more applications for a school than there are places available, ensuring that those residing within the catchment area for a school are afforded priority.
 - They are linked to the entitlement for free home to school transport in line with the Council's current Home to School Transport Policy. If a pupil attends their catchment or nearest available primary school and live over 1.5 miles from the school they are entitled to free home to school transport.
- 3.3 The affected area is illustrated on the map at appendix 1. Currently the catchment boundary follows the road that runs directly through Llandenny village resulting in pupils living on different sides of the road being in different primary school catchment areas i.e. Raglan Primary School or Usk CIW Primary School.
- 3.4 The proposal is to move the catchment boundary so that all pupils living in Llandenny Village will be in the catchment area for Usk CIW primary school.
- 3.5 There are currently 3 families living in the village that would be affected by the change, who currently reside in the catchment area for Raglan Primary School but all pupils attend Usk CIW Primary School.
- 3.6 Raglan Primary School is currently the nearest school for those pupils affected, therefore if the proposal is implemented then we will create dual registration for transport purposes. This is because Raglan would be the nearest school but Usk would be the catchment school so pupils would be eligible for transport to both schools.
- 3.7 The map shown on appendix 2 shows the new proposed catchment area and appendix 3 shows both the current and existing catchment areas.
- 3.8 Consultation with the 3 families affected by the changes has been undertaken, all of which responded and were in favour of the changes. A summary of the responses received are provided below.

1.	I can confirm I am FOR these changes and have been campaigning for some time to have the boundary reviewed.
2.	We whole heartedly support this change and would be very keen for it come into effect as soon as possible. The current catchment, splitting the village in half, depending on which side of the street the you live on, has caused us issues in respect to accessing school transport for the last 7 years
3.	We are delighted to see that you are considering changing the catchment area for Llandenny this I believe will be very Beneficial to the local community as a large proportion of the children in the village already attend Usk school if not all the children. There is a bus that already runs through the village that is not currently to capacity I believe this change will also help the environment as there won't be so many parents driving cars backwards and forwards to the school it will just be one bus this will also help some of the parking issues around the school during drop off and collection

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4. REASONS:

- 4.1 All pupils living in the affected area attend Usk CIW primary school, this demonstrates that Usk CIW primary school is the preferred choice of school.
- 4.2 Currently pupils who reside within Raglan primary school's catchment area are not entitled to free home to school transport to Usk so they are currently paying for concessionary transport. Whilst pupils on the other side of the road are receiving free home to school transport.
- 4.3 The transport department have recently received complaints from parents living in the area questioning why transport isn't being provided to Usk CIW primary for all pupils living in the village.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The costs associated with this proposal purely relate to the impact on home to school transport. There are currently transport contracts running to both schools, the passenger transport unit have confirmed that if the changes were implemented there would not be a financial implication.

6. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

Please see Appendix 4.

7. CONSULTEES:

CYP DMT
SLT
Neighbouring Local Authorities
Passenger Transport Unit
Parents of pupils affected
All schools in Monmouthshire

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Welsh Government School Admission Code (2013)

9. AUTHOR:

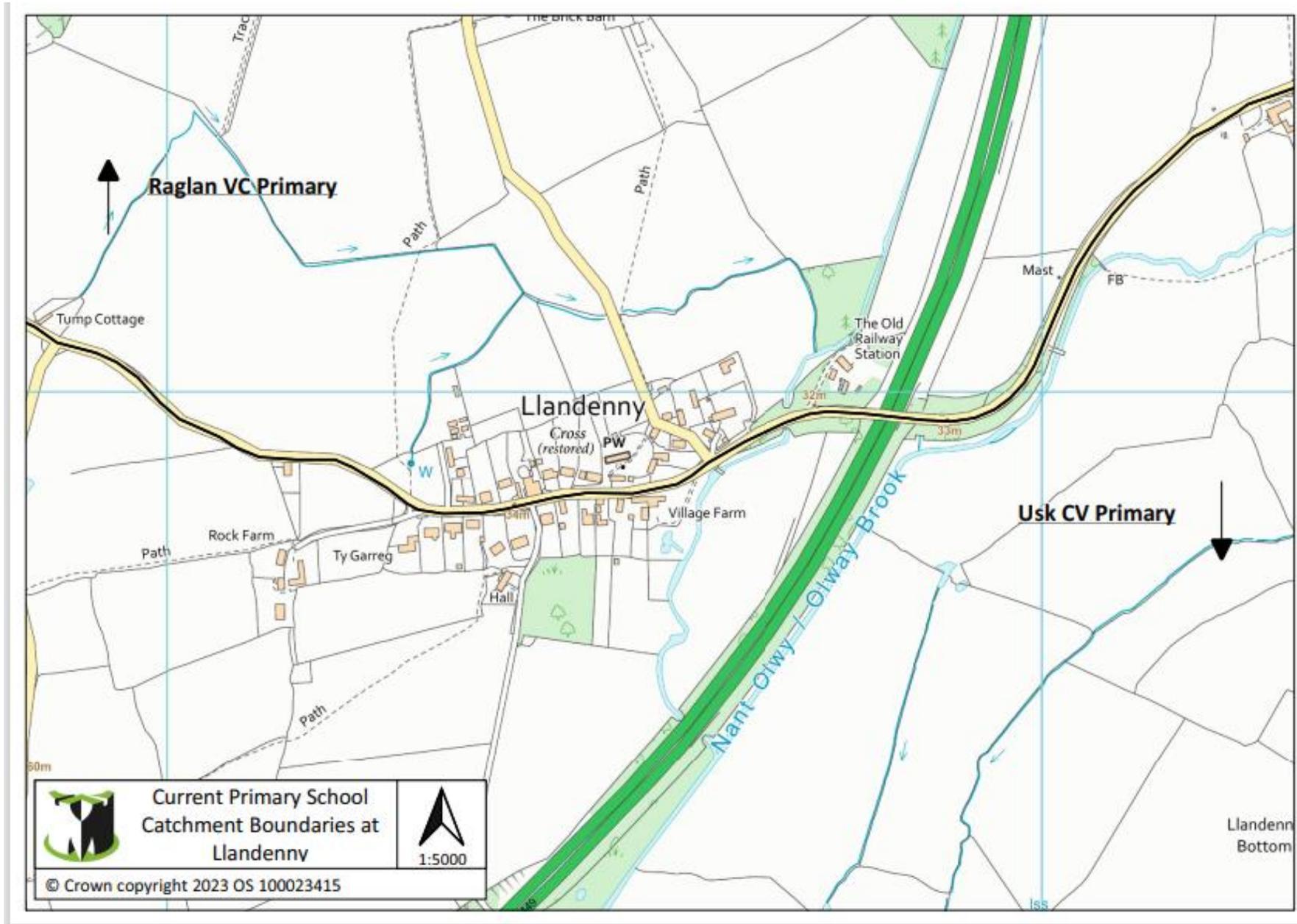
Debbie Graves, School Admissions & Planning Lead

10. CONTACT DETAILS:

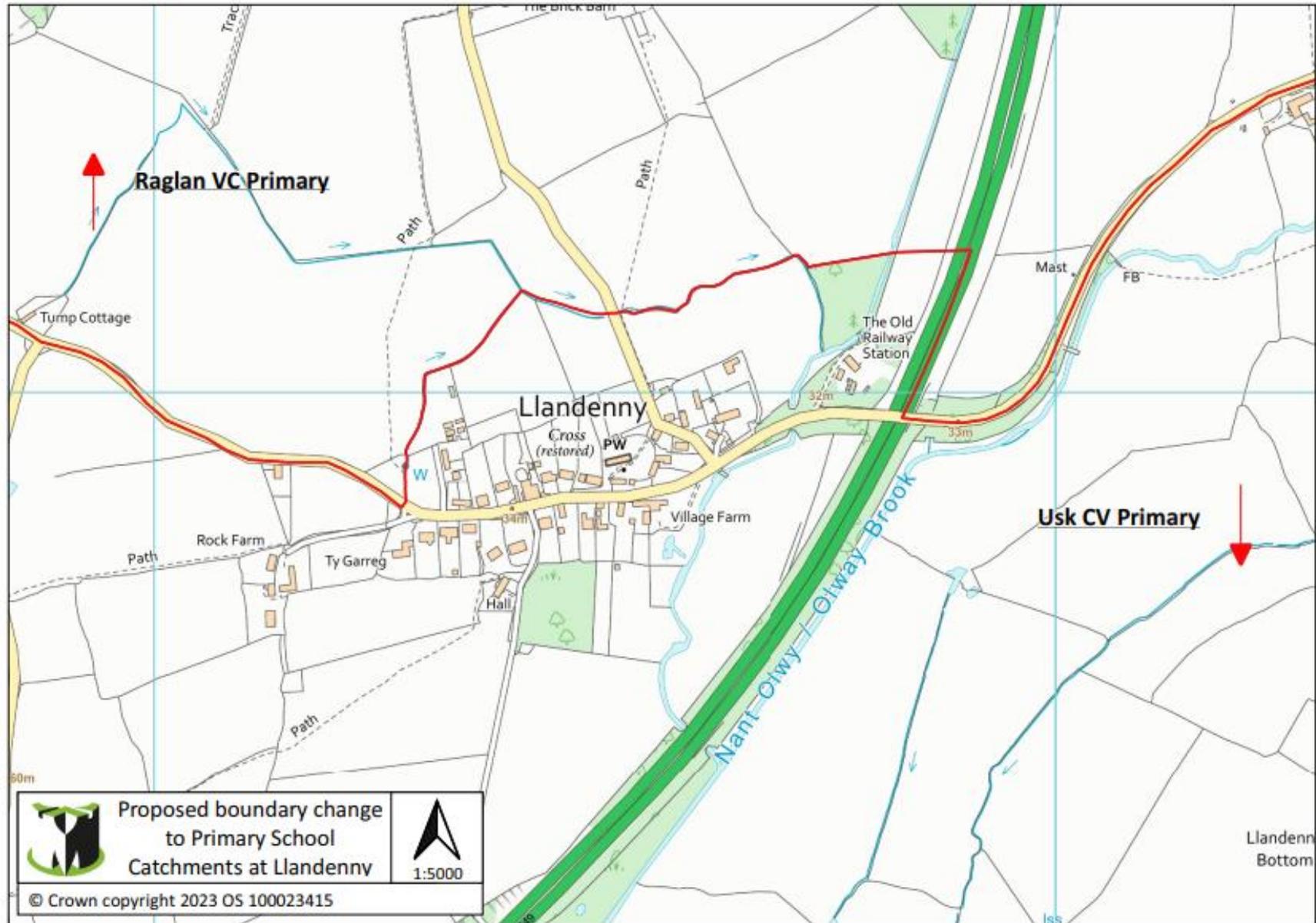
Tel: 01633 644508

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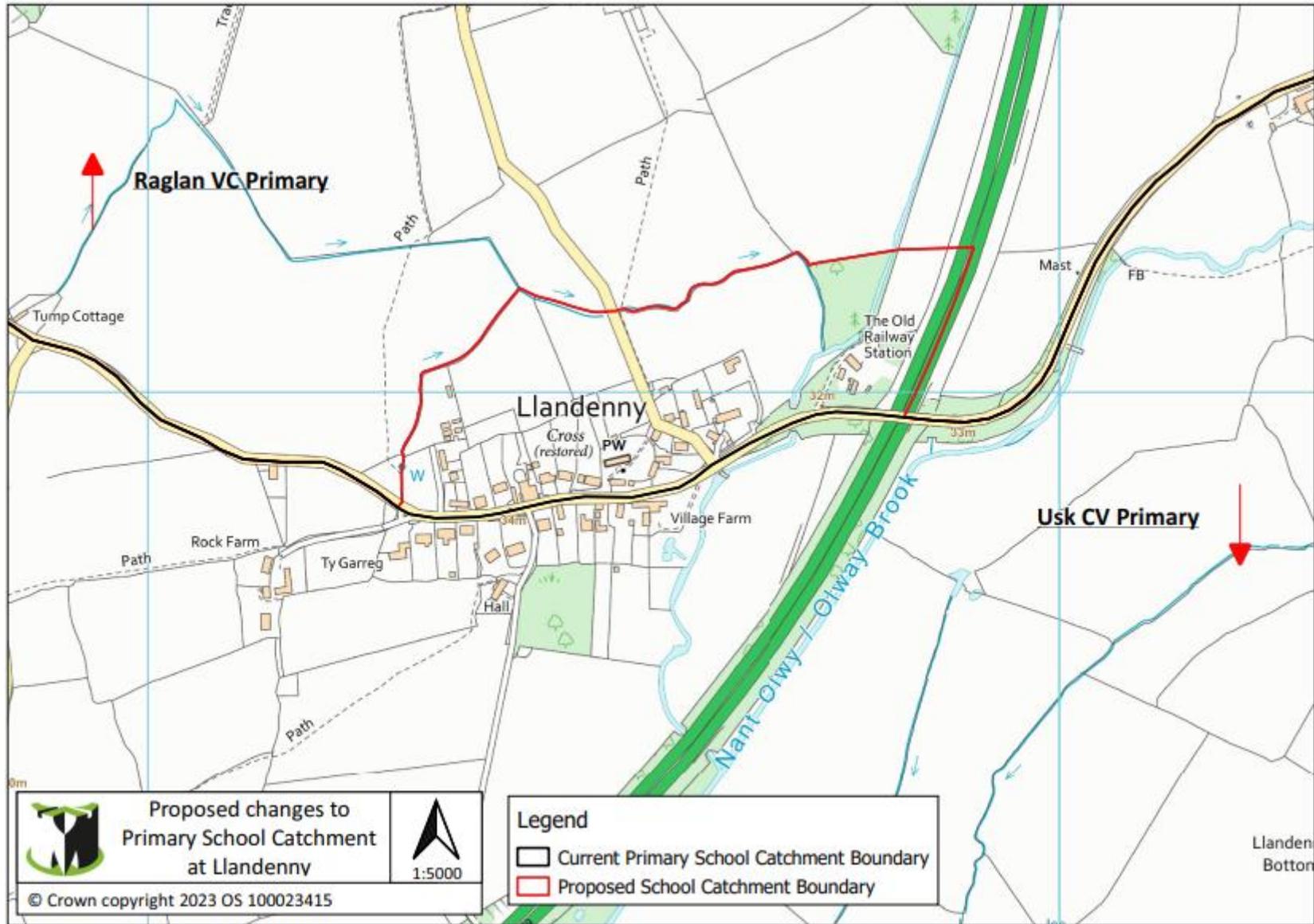
APPENDIX 1



APPENDIX 2



APPENDIX 3



APPENDIX 4



monmouthshire
sir fynwy

Equality and Future Generations Evaluation

<p>Name of the Officer completing the evaluation Debbie Graves</p> <p>Phone no: 01633 644508 E-mail: debbiegraves@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</p> <p>To amend the primary school catchment area for Llandenny village</p>
<p>Name of Service area Children and Young People Directorate, Access Unit</p>	<p>Date January 2023</p>

1. **Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics?** Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	All children of primary school age living in the community / affected area will be able to access the same primary school.	No Impact	N/A
Disability	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Gender reassignment	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact
Marriage or civil partnership	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact
Pregnancy or maternity	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact
Race	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact
Religion or Belief	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact
Sex	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact
Sexual Orientation	No Impact	No Impact	No Impact

2. The Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice

The Socio-economic Duty requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage when taking key decisions This duty aligns with our commitment as an authority to Social Justice.

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has in respect of people suffering socio economic disadvantage.	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice	Everybody living in the community will have access to the same opportunities i.e free home to school transport will be provided and priority for school places.	No Impact	n/a

3. Policy making and the Welsh language.

How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards:	Describe the positive impacts of this proposal	Describe the negative impacts of this proposal	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts
Policy Making Effects on the use of the Welsh language, Promoting Welsh language Treating the Welsh language no less favourably	The affected area will still be part of the catchment area for a Welsh Medium Primary and Secondary School with free home to school transport being provided for those families seeking education through the medium of welsh	No impact	N/A
Operational Recruitment & Training of workforce	No impact	No Impact	N/A
Service delivery Use of Welsh language in service delivery Promoting use of the language	All correspondence and communications including on social media in relation to this proposal will be bilingual as required by the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011	No Impact	N/A

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4. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	No Impact	No Impact
A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	No Impact	No Impact
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	The proposal will help to ensure that children from within the community can attend the same school with their peers, supporting mental wellbeing	No Impact
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	Learners will remain in their community and will be able to transition to the same school as their peers	No Impact
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	No Impact	No Impact
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	The provision of Welsh Medium education will continue to be promoted for families residing within	No Impact

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	the affected area, as they are in all areas of the County	
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	The proposals, if implemented, will bring equity within the community	No Impact

5. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Long Term</p> <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	It is important in the short and long term that children living within the same community can access the same school and receive transport if they are eligible	N/A
 <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	Yes, the proposal is supported by the passenger transport unit and we have worked with them prior to consulting on the changes	N/A

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Involvement</p> <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>Yes, we have consulted with key stakeholders including those families living in the affected area and the feedback we have received is positive and they are all in favour of the changes</p>	<p>N/A</p>
 <p>Prevention</p> <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>The proposal will increase the chances of children living within the affected area securing places at the same school as those living in their community.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
 <p>Integration</p> <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>The proposal will have a positive impact on the wellbeing of affected communities who will be able to access the same school as their peers, ensuring peer groups can stay together</p>	<p>N/A</p>

6. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	Appropriate safeguarding policies and procedures are in place at all Monmouthshire schools	N/A	N/A
Corporate Parenting	N/A	N/A	N/A

7. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

- Pupil location data
- Parental feedback on proposed changes
- PTU data on transport costs
- Primary school catchment areas

8. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

The main positive is that families residing within the affected area will be placed into the same primary school catchment area. This will place them in an equitable position with all other residents living in the community and increase the opportunities for them to secure places at the same primary school and receive free home to school transport.

9. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
Consider feedback from the consultation	10/02/2023	Debbie Graves
ICMD after consultation	08/03/2023	

10. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.

Version No.	Decision making stage	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
	<i>e.g. budget mandate, DMT, SLT, Scrutiny, Cabinetetc</i>		