



monmouthshire
sir fynwy

INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS DECISION RECORDING LOG

DECISION DETERMINED ON: Wednesday, 25 November 2015

DECISION WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON: Friday, 4th December 2015
(Subject to "Call-in" by appropriate Select Committee)

DECISION 1

SUBJECT: YSGOL GYMRAEG Y FENNI NURSERY PROVISION

DIVISION/WARD AFFECTED: Cantref; Castle; Croesonen; Crucorney; Grofield; Lansdown; Mardy; Priory

PURPOSE:

To determine the proposal to extend the age range at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni from 4-11 years to 3-11 years, to include part time nursery provision.

DECISION:

Approved the proposal to extend the age range at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni from 4-11 years to 3-11 years, to include part time nursery provision.

To open the nursery class at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni in April 2016.

REASONS:

The governing body of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni feel strongly that having an integral LA Nursery will ensure that they are able to raise standards amongst vulnerable pupils and that this will have a positive effect on outcomes at the end of Foundation Phase and beyond. By immersing children in the Welsh language from a younger age, it is expected they will start Reception with a higher baseline level.

Of the 42 responses received during the consultation period, only one was not in support of the proposal; their concern was that this proposal would effectively reduce rather than increase the number of Welsh medium places available.

If the proposal is approved, Cylch Meithrin Y Fenni will only be able to offer morning sessions as the LA Nursery will be using the building for the afternoon session. It is very unlikely they will be able to provide wrap around childcare for children attending the LA

Nursery, as was hoped.

Cylch Meithrin Y Fenni will continue as an approved provider of Early Education and will accommodate the rising 3s who are entitled to free part time Early Education during the spring and summer terms.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will be funded based on the age weighted pupil unit rate of £2,050 per FTA place; hence if they admit 30 pupils they will receive £30,750. The total budget for schools is fixed; therefore all other primary schools will have a slight reduction in budget in order to accommodate this increase.

There will be a significant saving to the Early Education budget in 2016/17 (approximately £30,000), as it is likely that far fewer children will access their early education at Cylch Meithrin Y Fenni in the future. This funding can possibly be used to refurbish alternate premises in order for Cylch Meithrin Y Fenni to provide morning and afternoon sessions in the future.

It is not anticipated that there will be any capital costs in relation to this proposal as the demountable building to be used by the school nursery has already been adapted to accommodate the Foundation Phase curriculum.

Resource costs will be minimal as the intention is for Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni and Cylch Meithrin Y Fenni to share equipment and resources.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

The Future Generations Evaluation is attached; the main findings are:

- There is a positive impact on the Wellbeing goals of 'A Wales of Cohesive Communities' and 'A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Welsh Language' by offering diversity of provision for parents and the possibility to access wrap around childcare; hence making Welsh medium education more attractive and a viable option for working parents.
- Discussions are already taking place and options are being considered in order to mitigate the negative impact of reducing the number and flexibility of childcare places available.
- The proposal meets a number of the sustainable development principles.

CONSULTEES:

The Consultation Document, Consultation Report and Statutory Notice were published on the MCC website. All documents were distributed to the statutory consultees, as per the list on page 4 of the consultation report. The Statutory Notice was also displayed on all entrances to the school building and Cylch Meithrin Y Fenni demountable building and parents of both the school and the setting received a copy.

All comments received through the consultation process were incorporated within the report; no objections were received.

AUTHOR:

Sue Hall, Early Years Manager

CONTACT DETAILS

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SIGNATURE:

In taking this decision, I declare that I have no personal interest as defined under the County Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

Signed:

Dated:

Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning

DECISION 2

SUBJECT: WASTE & STREET SERVICES: RESTRUCTURE REVIEW

DIVISION/WARD AFFECTED: All Wards

PURPOSE:

To seek approval for the revised structure as proposed in this report to be implemented within the Waste & Street Services department.

DECISION:

- a) Approved the proposed structure
- b) Approved the allocation of £20k (as a maximum) to the Connected Worker and Training and Development Strategy of the department
- c) Approved £5k be allocated to the £50k 2016-17 mandate B2 Rationalising Business Support
- d) For the remaining £7k be used to manage budget pressures within the department (this could be more depending on needs with training/Connected Worker)
- e) Approved the redundancy of Landscape Consultant with the resultant redundancy costs of £23,044
- f) Approved the flexible retirement of the External Works Supervisor with resultant costs of £4,784

REASONS:

It is important to review the impact of a major restructure and adjust appropriately taking

people's experiences into account

The Senior Policy & Performance Officer leaving offered the opportunity to review and question whether we continue as is or do something differently

Needed to check that the appropriate support measures are in place for staff to do their jobs effectively

Needed to determine whether any further savings could be identified.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

If the restructure was implemented on 1st April it would deliver a gross £32k saving. Flexible retirement and redundancy costs will be incurred in 2015-16 of £27,818 but these should be able to be absorbed by Grounds Maintenance by income generation. However if the service overspends as a result of these costs approval is sought to fund these costs from reserves. In terms of budget allocation for 2016-17 as a result of this restructure review it is proposed that:

- £10k used for training/development as outlined in para. 3.7. If the £10k is not fully committed to be used to manage pressures within the department.
- £10k used for Connected Worker development – para. 3.8
- £5k used to support Budget Mandate B2 Rationalising Business Support
- £7k used to manage budget pressures within the service

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no detrimental sustainable development and equality implications.

SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

None

CONSULTEES:

Colleagues within WSS
Personnel
Finance
Unions
Cabinet
Senior Management Team

AUTHOR:

Rachel Jowitt, Head of Waste & Street Services

CONTACT DETAILS

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SIGNATURE:

In taking this decision, I declare that I have no personal interest as defined under the County Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

Signed:

Dated:

Cabinet Member for County Operations