

Public Document Pack



County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Monday, 26 February 2024

Notice of meeting :

People Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 5th March, 2024 at 10.00 am,
Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK and Remote Attendance

Please note that a pre meeting will be held 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting for members of the committee.

AGENDA

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	Apologies for Absence	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
3.	Public Open Forum Scrutiny Committee Public Open Forum ~ Guidance Our Scrutiny Committee meetings are live streamed and a link to the live stream will be available on the meeting page of the Monmouthshire County Council website If you would like to share your thoughts on any proposals being discussed by Scrutiny Committees, you can submit your representation in advance via this form Please share your views by uploading a video or audio file (maximum of 4 minutes) or; Please submit a written representation (via Microsoft Word, maximum of 500 words) You will need to register for a My Monmouthshire account in order to submit the representation or use your log in, if you have registered previously.	

The deadline for submitting representations to the Council is 5pm three clear working days in advance of the meeting.

If representations received exceed 30 minutes, a selection of these based on theme will be shared at the Scrutiny Committee meeting. All representations received will be made available to councillors prior to the meeting.

If you would like to attend one of our meetings to speak under the Public Open Forum at the meeting, you will need to give three working days' notice by contacting Scrutiny@monmouthshire.gov.uk.

The amount of time afforded to each member of the public to speak is at the chair's discretion, but to enable us to accommodate multiple speakers, we ask that contributions be no longer than 3 minutes.

If you would like to suggest future topics for scrutiny by one of our Scrutiny Committees, please do so by emailing Scrutiny@monmouthshire.gov.uk

4.	Primary School Catchment Areas	1 - 82
	To scrutinise Cabinet's plans and contribute to the consultation arrangements.	
5.	Proposal to move Ysgol Y Fenni to a new site	83 - 134
	To scrutinise the proposal during the consultation period.	
6.	To note the People Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme and Action List	135 - 140
7.	Cabinet and Council Work Plan	141 - 160
8.	To confirm the minutes of previous meetings:	161 - 164
	23 rd January 2024	
	6 th February 2024	
9.	Next Meeting: 16th April 2024	

Paul Matthews

Chief Executive

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillor Fay Bromfield, Llangybi Fawr;, Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor John Crook, Magor East with Undy;, Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Christopher Edwards, St. Kingsmark;, Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Simon Howarth, Llanelly Hill;, Independent Group
County Councillor Penny Jones, Raglan;, Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Maureen Powell, Pen Y Fal;, Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Sue Riley, Bulwark and Thornwell;, Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Maria Stevens, Severn;, Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Jackie Strong, Caldicot Cross;, Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru

Public Information

Access to paper copies of agendas and reports

A copy of this agenda and relevant reports can be made available to members of the public attending a meeting by requesting a copy from Democratic Services on 01633 644219. Please note that we must receive 24 hours notice prior to the meeting in order to provide you with a hard copy of this agenda.

Welsh Language

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public through the medium of Welsh or English. We respectfully ask that you provide us with adequate notice to accommodate your needs.

Our purpose

To become a zero-carbon county, supporting well-being, health and dignity for everyone at every stage of life.

Objectives we are working towards

- Fair place to live where the effects of inequality and poverty have been reduced.
- Green place to live and work with reduced carbon emissions and making a positive contribution to addressing the climate and nature emergency.
- Thriving and ambitious place, where there are vibrant town centres and where businesses can grow and develop.
- Safe place to live where people have a home where they feel secure in.
- Connected place where people feel part of a community and are valued
- Learning place where everybody has the opportunity to reach their potential.

Our Values

Openness. We are open and honest. People have the chance to get involved in decisions that affect them, tell us what matters and do things for themselves/their communities. If we cannot do something to help, we'll say so; if it will take a while to get the answer we'll explain why; if we can't answer immediately we'll try to connect you to the people who can help – building trust and engagement is a key foundation.

Fairness. We provide fair chances, to help people and communities thrive. If something does not seem fair, we will listen and help explain why. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently. We cannot always make everyone happy, but will commit to listening and explaining why we did what we did.

Flexibility. We will continue to change and be flexible to enable delivery of the most effective and efficient services. This means a genuine commitment to working with everyone to embrace new ways of working.

Teamwork. We will work with you and our partners to support and inspire everyone to get involved so we can achieve great things together. We don't see ourselves as the 'fixers' or problem-solvers, but we will make the best of the ideas, assets and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.

Monmouthshire Scrutiny Question Guide

Role of the Pre-meeting	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is the Committee scrutinising this? (background, key issues) 2. What is the Committee's role and what outcome do Members want to achieve? 3. Is there sufficient information to achieve this? If not, who could provide this? <p>- Agree the order of questioning and which Members will lead - Agree questions for officers and questions for the Cabinet Member</p>	
Questions for the Meeting	
<p><u>Scrutinising Performance</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does performance compare with previous years? Is it better/worse? Why? 2. How does performance compare with other councils/other service providers? Is it better/worse? Why? 3. How does performance compare with set targets? Is it better/worse? Why? 4. How were performance targets set? Are they challenging enough/realistic? 5. How do service users/the public/partners view the performance of the service? 6. Have there been any recent audit and inspections? What were the findings? 7. How does the service contribute to the achievement of corporate objectives? 8. Is improvement/decline in performance linked to an increase/reduction in resource? What capacity is there to improve? 	<p><u>Scrutinising Policy</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who does the policy affect ~ directly and indirectly? Who will benefit most/least? 2. What is the view of service users/stakeholders? What consultation has been undertaken? Did the consultation process comply with the Gunning Principles? Do stakeholders believe it will achieve the desired outcome? 3. What is the view of the community as a whole - the 'taxpayer' perspective? 4. What methods were used to consult with stakeholders? Did the process enable all those with a stake to have their say? 5. What practice and options have been considered in developing/reviewing this policy? What evidence is there to inform what works? Does the policy relate to an area where there is a lack of published research or other evidence? 6. Does the policy relate to an area where there are known inequalities? 7. Does this policy align to our corporate objectives, as defined in our corporate plan? Does it adhere to our Welsh Language Standards? 8. Have all relevant sustainable development, equalities and safeguarding implications

9. been taken into consideration? For example, what are the procedures that need to be in place to protect children?
- 10.
11. How much will this cost to implement and what funding source has been identified?
- 12.
13. How will performance of the policy be measured and the impact evaluated

General Questions:

Empowering Communities

- How are we involving local communities and empowering them to design and deliver services to suit local need?
- Do we have regular discussions with communities about service priorities and what level of service the council can afford to provide in the future?
- Is the service working with citizens to explain the role of different partners in delivering the service, and managing expectations?
- Is there a framework and proportionate process in place for collective performance assessment, including from a citizen's perspective, and do you have accountability arrangements to support this?
- Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out? If so, can the Leader and Cabinet/Senior Officers provide members with copies and a detailed explanation of the EQIA conducted in respect of these proposals?
- Can the Leader and Cabinet/Senior Officers assure members that these proposals comply with Equality and Human Rights legislation? Do the proposals comply with the Local Authority's Strategic Equality Plan?

Service Demands

- How will policy and legislative change affect how the council operates?
- Have we considered the demographics of our council and how this will impact on service delivery and funding in the future?
- Have you identified and considered the long-term trends that might affect your service area, what impact these trends could have on your service/your service could have on these trends, and what is being done in response?

Financial Planning

- Do we have robust medium and long-term financial plans in place?
- Are we linking budgets to plans and outcomes and reporting effectively on these?

Making savings and generating income

- Do we have the right structures in place to ensure that our efficiency, improvement and transformational approaches are working together to maximise savings?
- How are we maximising income?
- Have we compared other council's policies to maximise income and fully considered the implications on service users?
- Do we have a workforce plan that takes into account capacity, costs, and skills of the

actual versus desired workforce?

Questions to ask within a year of the decision:

- Were the intended outcomes of the proposal achieved or were there other results?
- Were the impacts confined to the group you initially thought would be affected i.e. older people, or were others affected e.g. people with disabilities, parents with young children?
- Is the decision still the right decision or do adjustments need to be made?

Questions for the Committee to conclude...

Do we have the necessary information to form conclusions/make recommendations to the executive, council, other partners? If not, do we need to:

- (i) Investigate the issue in more detail?
- (ii) Obtain further information from other witnesses – Executive Member, independent expert, members of the local community, service users, regulatory bodies...

Agree further actions to be undertaken within a timescale/future monitoring report...



SUBJECT:	SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY 2025/26 INCLUDING REVIEW OF SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREAS
MEETING:	PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE:	5TH MARCH 2024

1. **PURPOSE:**

On 13th December 2023, Cabinet agreed to enter into a consultation proposing some changes to Primary School catchment areas.

The purpose of this report is to request that the People Scrutiny Committee conduct pre-decision scrutiny of the proposals ahead of Cabinet making any decisions at their meeting on 10th April 2024.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is recommended that the People Scrutiny Committee conducts pre decision scrutiny of the proposals and makes any recommendations to the Cabinet ahead of their meeting on 10th April 2024.

3. **KEY ISSUES:**

- 3.1 The School Admissions Code Wales (July 2013) places a requirement on Local Authorities to consult on its school admissions policy on an annual basis. On 13th December 2023, Cabinet agreed to enter into a more extensive consultation in order to seek the views of the wider community on some changes proposed to primary school catchment areas.
- 3.2 The Council is the admission authority for almost all secondary schools and almost all primary schools within the county. It is therefore responsible for the admission arrangements that underpin the decision made for allocating school places.

3.3 Within the county, there are 4 Voluntary Aided Schools where the governing body form the admission authority for their school. These schools are:

- Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Primary School
- Magor Church in Wales Primary School
- Our Lady and St Michaels Roman Catholic Primary School
- St Marys Roman Catholic Primary School

All other schools within the county fall under the admission arrangements published by the Council.

3.4 The School Admissions Code Wales (July 2013) requires admission authorities to consult on its admission arrangements on an annual basis. In circumstances where significant changes are proposed, a more wider consultation is required with those affected by proposals. School catchment areas form part of the Council's admission arrangements, and any proposed changes should be undertaken within this framework.

3.5 The majority of primary school catchment areas within Monmouthshire have existed in their current form since the reorganisation of Local Government in 1996, and it is thought that they have been in place for many years prior to this.

3.6 School catchment areas were last reviewed in 2019, where the Council consulted on changes to secondary school catchment areas. The review undertaken focussed on two key factors:

- To ensure that Monmouthshire residents had a designated secondary catchment school within the County.
- To improve the alignment of primary and secondary catchment areas in support of transitional arrangements

3.7 The findings of this consultation were presented to Cabinet in March 2019 where a decision was made to implement the changes as proposed. The catchment area for Goytre Fawr Primary school was aligned to King Henry VIII Comprehensive School, and the catchment area for Llandogo, Trellech and Usk Primary Schools were aligned to Monmouth Comprehensive School. The decision has resulted in all secondary age children now falling within the catchment area for a school that's within the county.

3.8 The majority of primary school catchment areas have been in place in their current form since local government reorganisation in 1996, and it is felt

that they have been in place for many years prior to this. In some cases, it could be questioned whether there is a rationale behind how some catchment areas are formed e.g. they may not be aligned to the nearest school, or in some cases may divide communities.

3.9 As a reminder, primary school catchment areas are significant because:

- They support the assessment process for determining the allocation of school places. Children residing within a catchment area for a school will be afforded priority over those who are not.
- They support the assessment process for the award of free home to school transport. Primary age children are currently eligible to receive free home to school transport if they reside more than 1.5 miles away from their nearest or catchment school.

3.10 The Council is introducing a new revised local development plan that proposes housing developments in each cluster of the county between now and 2033. This coupled with the knowledge that primary school catchment areas haven't been reviewed for some time suggests that now would be an appropriate time to build on the successes outlined under 3.7 above.

3.11 Cabinet agreed at their meeting on 13th December 2023 to commence a rolling programme that reviews primary catchment areas within the county, and agreed to kick start this review through undertaking a consultation on proposed changes to the following area:

Tredunnoch, Llanhennock and Llandegveth

These areas currently fall within the catchment area for Charles Williams Church in Wales Primary School and Monmouth Comprehensive School. They do not currently have an allocated primary catchment for a school within the county. The proposal is to consult with the affected community on proposals for the affected area to form part of the catchment area for Usk Church in Wales Primary School.

The proposal to amend the primary school catchment area is likely to result in an increase in transport costs as outlined under section 7 of this report. However, there is a question around the equity of the current arrangements as this is the only remaining area of the county that does not have a primary school catchment within Monmouthshire. As a result, these families are not eligible for free home to school transport to a Monmouthshire primary school.

- 3.12 The consultation documents can be found under appendix 1 and 2 and outlines the agreed consultation arrangements. The feedback from this public consultation alongside the input from this committee will be returned to Cabinet on 10th April 2024 for a decision on next steps.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING)

An integrated impact assessment associated with the proposals has been completed and can be found under appendix 3. This assessment will be reviewed and updated to incorporate the feedback received during the consultation period.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

At this stage of the process, we are seeking to consult with those affected by the proposals so that their views can be understood. On conclusion of this consultation, a consultation report will be produced to provide Members with the feedback received towards proposals. The consultation report will include a full options appraisal prior to any final decisions being made.

6. REASONS:

- 6.1 The School Admissions Code Wales (July 2013) requires admission authorities to consult on an annual basis on its admission arrangements. Where significant changes are proposed, a detailed consultation with affected parties is required. Changes to school catchment areas forms part of the admission arrangements and therefore any changes requires consultation under this framework.
- 6.2 Primary School catchment areas have not been reviewed for some time and therefore it seems sensible to consider an ongoing review to ensure that there are relevant and sustainable over the coming years.
- 6.3 This proposed consultation considers amendments to the only area of the county that does not offer a primary school catchment for a school within Monmouthshire.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

Tredunnock, Llanhennock and Llandegveth

Charles Williams CIW Primary School is currently the designated catchment school for the affected area. Should the children known to be residing within

the affected area chose to attend their catchment school and require home to school transport assistance, the home to school transport costs would be in the region of £41,580 per annum. However, there are no children currently receiving transport from the affected area to Charles Williams CIW Primary School so the costs of current provision is zero.

Usk CIW Primary School is the proposed new catchment school for the affected area. Should the children known to be residing within the affected area chose to attend their proposed new catchment school, they would receive an entitlement to free home to school transport, with the costs estimated to be in the region of £41,580 per annum.

In light of the above, the immediate financial impact associated with this proposal is thought to be in the region of £41,580 per annum.

Important: It is important to note that the above costs are estimates provided on the basis of current home to school transport costs, which are likely to increase by the implementation date of September 2025. Its also important to note that the Council may still have a duty to provide transport to the schools currently designated as catchment in circumstances where its deemed nearest and there is a parental preference. This will increase the costs over those quoted above.

8. CONSULTEES:

CYP DMT
SLT
Cabinet Member for Education

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Welsh Government School Admission Code 2013

10. AUTHOR:

Matt Jones, Access Unit Manager

11. CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01633 644585

E-mail: matthewdjones@monmouthshire.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

2025/26

School Admissions Policy



Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	3
1.1 <i>Summary of proposed changes</i>	4
1.2 <i>Consultation process</i>	4
1.3 <i>Admission Numbers</i>	5
2. PROVISION OF EDUCATION IN MONMOUTHSHIRE	5
2.1 <i>Nursery Education</i>	5
2.2 <i>Primary School provision (4-11)</i>	6
2.3 <i>Secondary School Provision (11-19)</i>	6
2.4 <i>Special Education</i>	6
2.5 <i>Welsh Medium Secondary Education</i>	7
3. PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY	7
4. EXPRESSING A PREFERENCE FOR A COMMUNITY / VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOL OR NURSERY IN MONMOUTHSHIRE	7
4.1 <i>Timetable for the Normal Admission Round</i>	8
4.2 <i>Distribution of application forms</i>	9
5. ALLOCATION OF NURSERY SCHOOL PLACES	9
5.1 <i>Oversubscription criteria - Nursery</i>	10
6. ALLOCATION OF SCHOOL PLACES - COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED PRIMARY SCHOOLS	11
6.1 <i>Oversubscription criteria - community and voluntary controlled schools</i>	12
7. ALLOCATION OF SCHOOL PLACES - COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOLS	13
7.1 <i>Oversubscription criteria - community secondary schools</i>	13
8. PROCESS FOR VALIDATING APPLICATIONS	15
8.1 <i>Home address validations</i>	15
8.2 <i>Parents in the process of moving property</i>	15
8.3 <i>Unexpected change of home address</i>	16
8.4 <i>Shared residency</i>	16
8.5 <i>Applications on the grounds of medical needs</i>	17
8.6 <i>Siblings</i>	17

8.7	<i>School Catchment Areas</i>	17
8.8	<i>Feeder Schools</i>	18
8.9	<i>Distance between Home and School</i>	19
9.	ADMISSION OF MULTIPLE BIRTH CHILDREN (E.G. TWINS OR TRIPLETS)	20
10.	LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN	20
11.	CHILDREN OF UK SERVICE PERSONNEL	20
12.	CROWN SERVANTS	21
13.	GYPSY, ROMA AND TRAVELLER CHILDREN	21
14.	DEFERRED ENTRY INTO PRIMARY SCHOOL	21
15.	SUMMER TERM BIRTHS	22
16.	LATE APPLICATION ARRANGEMENTS	22
17.	NOTIFYING PARENTS	23
18.	ACCEPTANCE OF A SCHOOL PLACE	24
19.	ADMISSION INTO OTHER YEAR GROUPS - SEPTEMBER 2024	24
20.	IN YEAR TRANSFERS (ADMISSIONS OUTSIDE THE NORMAL ADMISSION ROUND	24
21.	REQUEST FOR ADMISSION OUTSIDE OF CHRONOLOGICAL YEAR GROUP	25
22.	REFUSAL OF ADMISSION TO PREFERRED SCHOOL	26
23.	WAITING LISTS	27
24.	APPEALS	27
24.1	<i>Time frame for hearing appeals</i>	28
25.	INFANT CLASS SIZE INITIATIVE	28
25.1	<i>Exceptions to the Infant class size initiative</i>	29
26.	KEY STAGE 2 CLASS SIZE LIMITS	30
	Appendix A - Coordinated Admission Scheme Primary Schools	31
	Appendix B - Coordinated Admission Scheme Secondary Schools	34
	Appendix C - Admission Authorities	37
	Appendix D - Admission Numbers for Schools	39

1. INTRODUCTION

The School Admissions Code (2013) gives parents the right to express a preference for their child to be admitted to any school maintained from public funds. The Authority's admission policy sits within the parameters of the School Admissions Code of Practice and School Admissions Appeals Code of Practice July 2013

This policy is in place to cover the following:

i) Admission Round applications

- The application process to be followed for children that are eligible to start Nursery
- The application process to be followed for children that are eligible to start Primary School
- The application process to be followed for children eligible to transfer from Primary to Secondary School.

ii) In year transfers between Schools

The application process to be followed for children that are already of school age, but wish to transfer from one school to another.

1.1 Summary of proposed changes

The Local Authority is required to consult on its admission arrangements on an annual basis. The content of this policy is relevant for implementation for the 2025/26 academic year. The proposed changes to existing arrangements can be summarised as:

- 1) To extend the catchment area for Usk Church in Wales Primary School to include the areas of Tredunnock, Llanhennock and Llandegveth

1.2 Consultation process

In accordance with the School Admissions Code of practice (2013) the Local Authority consults upon its admission arrangements on an annual basis, attempting where possible to mirror the admission round timescales of neighbouring admission authorities.

The coordinated admission arrangements will determine the date at which application forms are sent to parents as well as the publication of an agreed closing date. The Authority will ensure that this timeframe between distribution and closing date is no shorter than six weeks.

Consultation will take place between 1st September and 1st March beginning two years before the school year in which the arrangements will apply. The arrangements will then be confirmed by 15th April and published within 14 days of this date.

The Local Authority will ensure that the following information is provided during the consultation process:

- i) Admission numbers for each school
- ii) Application procedures and the timetable for the admission process
- iii) The criteria to be applied to applications in the event that there are more applications than places for a School
- iv) Arrangements for waiting lists and how they operate
- v) Arrangements for the processing of late applications
- vi) Details of how parents will be notified of a decision on their application, as well as appeal procedures should their application be unsuccessful.

The Local Authority will consult with the following parties on its admission arrangements:

Governing body of relevant Schools	All governing bodies of community Schools in Monmouthshire
All neighbouring Local Authorities within the area	Torfaen County Council Newport City Council Powys County Council Blaenau Gwent County Council Gloucestershire County Council Herefordshire County Council
Admission Authorities for all other schools in the area	All governing bodies of voluntary Aided schools in Monmouthshire Brynmawr Foundation School St Albans RC School St Joseph's RC School
In the case of Schools with a religious character, such body or person representing the religion or religious denomination in question	Diocesan Director, Church in Wales Diocesan Director, Roman Catholic

Consultees may respond to this consultation by completing the response proforma available [here](#). The closing date for responses is **19th February 2024**.

1.3 Admission Numbers

Prior to the consultation, the admission numbers for all schools are determined and form part of this consultation. The admission numbers for the schools are derived from the physical capacity of the school which is calculated in accordance with the Welsh Government's 'Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales'.

2. PROVISION OF EDUCATION IN MONMOUTHSHIRE

The Local Authority offers the following provision for children and young people wishing to be educated within the County:

2.1 Nursery Education

The Local Authority has twelve nursery units attached to mainstream schools. The Authority maintains these nurseries that provide free part time early years education for pupils from the term following their third birthday, if there are spaces available. Monmouthshire also supports many private day nurseries, pre-prep Schools,

playgroups, crèches and cylch meithrin (playgroups using the medium of welsh). These settings are approved providers of early year's education.

2.2 Primary School provision (4-11)

The Local Authority offers a number of educational establishments at Primary level:

Primary Community (English) - 20
Primary Community (Welsh) - 2
Primary Church in Wales VC - 4
Primary Church in Wales VA - 2
Primary Roman Catholic VA - 2

The Local Authority is the admitting authority for all Primary Community Schools (English and Welsh) and Voluntary Controlled Schools within Monmouthshire, and are responsible for the admission arrangements at each of these Schools.

The Governing Bodies of the 4 Voluntary Aided Schools in Monmouthshire are responsible for the admission arrangements within their schools.

2.3 Secondary School Provision (11-19)

All mainstream secondary schools in Monmouthshire are mixed Comprehensive Schools and serve 11 – 19 year olds. These are situated close to the four major towns in Monmouthshire.

2.4 Special Education

Overmonnow Primary School (Monmouth), Pembroke Primary School (Chepstow), King Henry VIII 3-19 School (Abergavenny), Monmouth Comprehensive School and Caldicot School all have Specialist Resource Bases to accommodate those children whose needs cannot be met in mainstream education.

Admission to these settings will be determined via the Local Authority Statutory Panel.

2.5 Welsh Medium Secondary Education

Monmouthshire have developed close links with neighbouring Authorities, in particular Torfaen County Council with Ysgol Gymraeg Gwynllyw and Newport City Council with Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed, to ensure that Welsh Medium Education is available at Secondary level to the children within our County.

3. PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Only persons holding parental responsibility for the named child are able to make an application and they will be required to make a declaration to this effect as part of the application process.

It is expected that parents will agree on school preferences for a child before an application is made. The Local Authority is not in a position to intervene in disputes between parents over school applications and will request that these are resolved privately.

If parents are unable to agree to an application for a preferred School, the Local Authority will be unable to proceed with the application until such time that a mutual agreement has been made, or alternatively legal proceedings determine which parent should make the application for a school place.

4. EXPRESSING A PREFERENCE FOR A COMMUNITY / VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOL OR NURSERY IN MONMOUTHSHIRE

In line with the School Admissions code of practice (2013), parents must complete an application form in order to obtain a nursery / school place. Parents / carers will have the opportunity to complete an application online or alternatively via a paper application. The local authority will only accept an application request submitted by the person(s) that hold parental responsibility for the child concerned.

All parents will be invited to express a preference on a common application form, regardless of the status of the schools for which they wish to apply and whether the school is in/out of county. The application form will provide an opportunity for parents to give reasons for their preferences. All completed online application forms will be submitted directly to the Local Authority. Paper application forms should be sent directly to the School & Student Access Unit (SSAU). **An exception to this is if parents wish to apply for a School that resides within Newport City Council – in such circumstances the parent is required to apply directly to Newport City Council under their admission arrangements.**

Although individual school admission authorities (Voluntary Aided) may require you to complete their own admission forms, all applicants must also complete a “Common Application Form”.

The Local Authority operates an equal preference scheme, which means that all preferences are considered equally in line with the Local Authority’s oversubscription criteria, and not on the basis of the order in which they are listed on the application. In the event that more than one preference can be met, the highest rank preference as declared on the application form will be offered.

4.1 Timetable for the Normal Admission Round

The Local Authority will consult and agree on a timetable for the Admission Round intake on an annual basis. This will outline the date by when application forms will be made available to parents, the closing date for applications, as well as the date by when parents will be informed of a decision on their application.

The dates for the September 2025 Admission Round will be:

Admission Phase	Admission round commences	Closing Date	Local Authority Allocation Period	Parents informed by
Primary to Secondary	25th September 2024	13th November 2024 at 17:00	14.11.24 – 02.03.25	3rd March 2025
Reception	6th November 2024	9th January 2025 at 17:00	10.01.25 – 15.04.25	16th April 2025
Nursery	4 th July 2024	12th September 2024 at 17:00	12.09.24 – 10.11.24	11th November 2024 (September 2025 intake) 11th November 2024 (Rising 3 children eligible for January 2025 intake) 6 th March 2025 (Rising 3 place)

				eligible for April 2025 intake)
--	--	--	--	---------------------------------

4.2 *Distribution of application forms*

Nursery

Applications for admission into a Local Authority nursery will be made available to parents in line with the dates specified in the above table. Parents will have the opportunity to apply via our online application system or alternatively request a paper application form from the School and Student Access Unit.

In addition to the above, parents / carers can request admission into one of our approved non maintained settings, details of which can be found via www.monfis.org.uk. Applications will need to be made directly to the provider(s) in this instance.

Primary / Secondary School

The Local Authority will distribute application letters directly to home addresses on the dates published above. Parents/ carers will be given the opportunity to choose to apply online or to complete a paper form. Details of how to apply online will be included in the application pack circulated to parents.

Whilst the Authority endeavours to capture the details of those parents / carers who have children that are eligible for admission to school, it still remains the parent's / carer's responsibility to obtain an application pack to apply for a school place within the required timescales.

5. **ALLOCATION OF NURSERY SCHOOL PLACES**

Children will be admitted to nursery in the September of the academic year in which they become four years old. This place can be in a school or in a non-maintained setting, which may be a playgroup or a private day nursery. The Council is responsible for admission to community nursery schools but for a nursery place in a non-maintained setting, enquiries should be made directly to the provider.

The local authority is unable to consider nursery applications for only part of a school week and therefore admission to nursery schools is offered for a half-day session, either morning or afternoon, 5 days per week. Schools expect pupils attending the nursery to

take up all the sessions available to them. If parents do not wish their child to attend all five sessions each week, it might be preferable to seek a place at a non-maintained setting that can more easily accommodate these flexible arrangements.

Once allocated a September nursery place, children born between 1 September and 31 March may be offered an early start in the term following their third birthday, if places are available. This is commonly referred to as a **Rising 3** place. Children born between 1 April and 31 August are not eligible for a Rising 3 place.

If Rising 3 places are available, eligible pupils will be offered an early start at their allocated nursery as follows:

- On 11th November 2024 for January 2025 Rising 3 places
- On 6th March 2025 for April 2025 Rising 3 places

5.1 *Oversubscription criteria - Nursery*

It is the Council's policy to meet parental preference where possible; however in some cases there may be more applications for a particular nursery than there are places. In determining which children should be admitted to nursery, the Council will apply the following oversubscription criteria in order of priority.

Priority rank	Criteria
<i>Children in receipt of a Statement of special educational needs / Individual Development Plan (IDP) (statutory requirement for admission)</i>	
1.	Looked after children or previously looked after children i.e. children that are in the care of or have previously been in the care of a local authority, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 2-4 below. (Please see section 10.0)
2.	Children with exceptional medical circumstances, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 3-4 below (please see section 8.5)
3.	Children who have relevant sibling in attendance at the preferred nursery (not main school) at the point of admission, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling point 4 below. (Please see section 8.6)
4.	After applying the categories above, or should the school continue to be in a position of over-subscription

	in any of the above categories, priority will be based on closeness to the preferred school, measured using the shortest safe walking route. (Please see section 8.9)
--	--

Please note:

- 1) There is no right of appeal against the Council's decision to refuse a nursery place.
- 2) Nursery age pupils do not qualify for free home to school transport.
- 3) The allocation of morning and afternoon sessions is the responsibility of the Headteacher of the relevant school.
- 4) A child's start date at nursery may be delayed if they are not fully toilet trained. This can be discussed with the nursery once a place has been allocated to the child.
- 5) Attending a nursery class does not guarantee admission nor give any advantage to the child's application for Reception. Parents must make a separate application for admission to Reception at the appropriate time

6. ALLOCATION OF SCHOOL PLACES - COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The Authority will admit a child to a maintained primary/infant school at the start of the academic year in which he/she will turn 5 years old. The legal requirements confirm that parents are able to delay the admission of their child until the term following their 5th birthday; however, it is a Local Authority Policy that the child will continue to follow their chronological year group unless exceptional circumstances apply.

When considering admission into the Reception year group as part of the admission round, parents should be aware that attendance at a nursery provision within the preferred School does not exclude the need for parents to make an application for a Reception place. The Local Authority is unable to guarantee that children within the nursery can be guaranteed a place in Reception.

When the number of applications received for a preferred School is less or equal to the number of available places, all children will be admitted assuming that the school concerned can meet the needs of the children concerned.

However, when there are more applications than places in a school, the admission number is exceeded and the oversubscription criteria will be applied to select which children are to be offered places at the School concerned. For children with a

Statement of Special Educational Needs / IDP, the Authority must admit the child concerned to the School specified on their statement.

When applying the oversubscription criteria to determine who is to be awarded places, all parental preferences will be considered equally and allocated in line with the criteria below. The highest preference school, as listed on the application form, will be offered in the event that one or more preferences can be met.

6.1 Oversubscription criteria - community and voluntary controlled schools

When considering the remaining available places, the following criteria will be used to determine the children that are to be offered places:

Priority rank	Criteria
<i>Children in receipt of a Statement of special educational needs / Individual Development Plan (IDP) (statutory requirement for admission)</i>	
1.	Looked after children or previously looked after children i.e. children that are in the care of or have previously been in the care of a local authority, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 2-8 below. (Please see section 10.0)
2.	Children with exceptional medical circumstances, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 3-8 below (please see section 8.5)
3.	Children residing within the catchment area for the preferred school who have relevant siblings will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 4-8 below (please see sections 8.6 and 8.7)
4.	Children residing outside of the catchment area for the preferred school, but with relevant siblings who will continue to be in attendance at the preferred school due to being unsuccessful in their application for a place at their catchment school. will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 5-8 below (please see explanatory notes below, and section 8.6)
5.	Children residing inside the catchment area for the preferred school will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 7-8 below (please see section 8.7)
6.	Children residing outside of the catchment area for the preferred school, with a relevant sibling (who will be in attendance at the preferred school at time of admission) that does not meet criteria points 4 and 5 above (please see section 8.6)
7.	After applying the categories above, or should the school continue to be in a position of over-subscription in any of the above categories,

priority will be based on closeness to the preferred school, measured using the shortest safe walking route.
--

To clarify, any over-subscription in the above criteria will result in the final determination of the allocation of a place being made on distance. So for example, if there are more applications than places available after applying point 6 above, places will be allocated to those children whose home address is determined to be closer to the preferred school.

Explanatory Notes

Priority rank 4 - This criteria would apply only in the event that a parent has been unsuccessful in obtaining a place for their child at their catchment school, and is subsequently attending an alternative school with a younger sibling eligible to attend.

7. ALLOCATION OF SCHOOL PLACES - COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Attendance at a Primary or Junior school does not guarantee that a place will be made available for your child at the feeder Comprehensive school. Although every effort will be made to accommodate parental preference, where the number of applications for a school exceeds the number of available places, the over-subscription criteria will be applied.

When the number of applications received for a preferred School is less or equal to the number of available places, all children will be admitted assuming that the school concerned can meet the needs of the children concerned.

However, when there are more applications than places in a school, the admission number is exceeded and the over subscription criteria will be applied to select which children are to be offered places at the School concerned. For children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs / IDP, the Authority must admit the child concerned to the School specified on their statement / IDP.

When applying the oversubscription criteria to determine who is to be awarded places, all parental preferences will be considered equally and allocated in line with the criteria below. The highest preference school, as listed on the application form, will be offered in the event that one or more preferences can be met.

7.1 Oversubscription criteria - community secondary schools

Priority rank	Criteria
<i>Children in receipt of a Statement of special educational needs / Individual Development Plan (IDP) (statutory requirement for admission)</i>	
1.	Looked after children or previously looked after children i.e. children that are in the care of or have previously been in the care of a local authority, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 2-9 below. (Please see section 10.0)
2.	Children with exceptional medical circumstances, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 3-9 below (please see section 8.5)
3.	Children residing within the catchment area for the preferred school who have relevant siblings will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 4-9 below (please see sections 8.6 and 8.7)
4.	Children residing outside of the catchment area for the preferred school, but with relevant siblings who will continue to be in attendance at the preferred school due to being unsuccessful in their application for a place at their catchment school. will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 5-9 below (please see explanatory notes below and section 8.6)
5.	Children residing inside the catchment area for the preferred school will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 7-9 below (please see section 8.7)
6.	Children residing outside of the catchment area for the preferred school, with a relevant sibling (who will be in attendance at the preferred school at time of admission) that does not meet criteria points 4 and 5 above, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 8-9 (please see section 8.6)
7.	Children currently on roll at a primary school that is designated to be a feeder school for the preferred secondary school will be afforded priority over those fulfilling point 9 (please see section 8.8)
8.	After applying the categories above, or should the school continue to be in a position of over-subscription in any of the above categories, priority will be based on closeness to the preferred school, measured using the shortest safe walking route. (please see section 8.9)

To clarify, any oversubscription in the above criteria will result in the final determination of the allocation of a place being made on distance. So for example, if there are more applications than places available after applying point 6 above, places will be allocated to those children whose home address is determined to be closer to the preferred school.

Explanatory Notes

Priority rank 4 - This criteria would apply only in the event that a parent has been unsuccessful in obtaining a place for their child at their catchment school, and is subsequently attending an alternative school with a younger sibling eligible to attend.

8. PROCESS FOR VALIDATING APPLICATIONS

The local authority will undertake thorough checks against the information declared on an application request for school / nursery admission.

8.1 Home address validations

Parents / Carers must submit their application using their child's permanent home address. Parents / Carers are required to submit their Council Tax reference number on their child's admission application form. The Local Authority will use this information to validate that the address submitted on the application form coincides with the information held on the Local Authority's Council Tax database.

If the information provided by the parent does not coincide with the council tax database the Local Authority will contact the parent for further evidence. An examples of evidence accepted for this purposes will be a valid UK driving licence.

Any decision on the offer of a nursery / school place will be based upon the applicant being resident at the address declared on the application form, as at the published offer date.

Any offer of a nursery / school place could be withdrawn if it is found that a parent / carer has moved from the address declared on the application form without notifying the Local Authority, if a place has been offered on the basis of home address.

8.2 Parents in the process of moving property

Parents / Carers who are in the process of moving property will be required to notify the Local Authority **at the time of application** of the proposed move and submit evidence to validate their new address, in order for this address to be considered. Suitable evidence would be a copy of the exchange of contracts (for purchases) or long term tenancy agreement (for rental arrangements).

The application and notification of an intended change of address must be submitted prior to the published closing date in order to be considered as an in time application.

Failure to notify the Local Authority of an intended move to a new address prior to the published closing date will result in the application being determined as a “late application” if this change impacts on their position within the oversubscription criteria.

Parents/ Carers who are in the process of moving, but are not able to validate the move prior to the closing date, will need to ensure that their completed application is submitted prior to the published closing date, and that the application provides information on the intention to move. The Local Authority will liaise with parents/carers regarding the proposed move in order to obtain confirmation that residence at the new property has been secured. However, parents will need to provide the Local Authority with evidence that secures their change of address no later than 6 weeks prior to the published offer date in order for the new address to be considered for allocation purposes.

Where the Local Authority accepts evidence to validate a property move and uses the new property for allocation purposes, the offer of a school place will be based on the applicant and child being resident at this property at the time of the child’s entrance into the School. Any offer of a school place could be withdrawn if it is found that the applicant is not resident at the property at the time of child’s entrance into the school.

Any offer of a nursery / school place could be withdrawn as a result of non-compliance with the above.

8.3 Unexpected change of home address

Should a parent, who has submitted an application prior to the published closing date, notify us of an unexpected change of address that has occurred since submission of their application, the Local Authority will consider on a discretionary basis the circumstances of the unexpected change of address prior to determining the application as being late. **It is a parent’s responsibility to notify us of any such circumstances that may require a discretionary decision.**

Unfortunately, such discretion can only be exercised if notification and evidence of the change of address is provided no later than 6 weeks prior to the published offer date in order for the new address to be considered for allocation purposes.

It is a parent’s responsibility to notify the Local Authority of a change of address that takes place during the application process. Failure to do so could result in any offer of a school place being withdrawn.

8.4 Shared residency

In the event that the residency of a child is shared between two parents, the address where the child concerned resides for the majority of the school week will be used for allocation purposes. This is the address that should be declared on the application.

However, if the residency with both parents during the school week is equal, the address for where the child benefit is paid will be used for allocation purposes.

8.5 Applications on the grounds of medical needs

Applicants wishing for their application to be prioritised on the basis of their child's medical needs must provide evidence to support their application under this criteria e.g. a medical consultant's report (obtained by the parents at the time of application).

The Local Authority will only offer priority to applications under this criteria where it can be evidenced that the preferred School is the only viable option when compared with other Schools that the Authority may be able to offer.

8.6 Siblings

Brothers and sisters, whether half, full, step or foster, will be considered relevant siblings where living in the same household and where they are registered at the preferred school when the application is determined, and will still be registered at the school when the applicant is eligible to attend.

The sibling criteria is considered relevant in years Reception to year 12 only. The admission of a child to a school does not guarantee that a place will be available at a later date for other children in the family.

For admission into Nursery, a sibling is only considered relevant where the child concerned is permanently resident at the same address and attending the nursery (not main school).

8.7 School Catchment Areas

Whilst residing within the catchment area for a School forms an element of the oversubscription criteria, it does not guarantee a placement on this basis. The Local

Authority will refuse to admit above the School's admission number, unless the application complies with the permitted exceptions listed on page 29.

The Local Authority offers a priority within its oversubscription criteria to children whose home address is within the Schools catchment area. The child's home address is considered to be the place where the child resides for the majority of the School week. Please refer to section 8.4 for information concerning applications where shared residency arrangements are in place.

Details of your school catchment areas can be found by visiting [Local Info - Monmouthshire](#).

8.8 Feeder Schools

The Local Authority offers a priority within its Secondary School oversubscription criteria for children who are in attendance at a feeder Primary School for the preferred secondary school.

Feeder schools are determined as being the schools that have formal transitional arrangements with a secondary school. The details of the feeder schools for each secondary school in Monmouthshire can be found below:

<p><u>King Henry VIII 3-19 School</u> Cantref Primary School Llantilio Pertholey CIW Primary School Gilwern Primary School Goytre Fawr Primary School Llanfoist Primary School Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary School Our Lady and St Michaels RC Primary School Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni *</p>	<p><u>Caldicot School</u> Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Castle Park Primary School Dewstow Primary School Durand Primary School Magor CIW Primary School Rogiet Primary School Undy Primary School Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin *</p>
<p><u>Monmouth Comprehensive School</u> Cross Ash Primary School Kymin View Primary School Llandogo Primary School Overmonnow Primary School Raglan Primary School Trellech Primary School Osbaston CIW Primary School Usk CIW Primary School</p>	<p><u>Chepstow School</u> Pembroke Primary School Shirenewton Primary School St Marys RC Primary School The Dell Primary School Thornwell Primary School</p>

* Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni is a feeder primary school for Ysgol Gymraeg Gwynllyw and Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin is a feeder primary school for Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed. However Monmouthshire LA are not responsible for the admissions to these schools so whether priority will be offered is the responsibility of Torfaen and Newport Councils.

8.9 Distance between Home and School

Within each set of oversubscription criteria (section 5.1, 6.1 & 7.1), if the number of applications in any one category exceeds the published admission number, priority will be based on those residing closest to the preferred school.

The distance between home and school is measured as the shortest available walking route, determined using official routes known to the Local Authority and highways agencies. The Local Authority deems that a route is 'available' if a child, accompanied as necessary, can walk to school in reasonable safety.

In assessing its availability the council will follow the guidelines prescribed in Welsh Government's Learner Travel Statutory Provision and Operational Guidance June 2014 and will look at the risks and other relevant safety factors a child, accompanied as necessary, might encounter along the prescribed route (including for example, canals, rivers, ditches, street lighting, pavements and the speed of traffic along roads, etc.).

The Local Authority will calculate the distance of the route using its' own specific Geographical Information Systems (GIS) routing software, RouteFinder and MapInfo Desktop Solutions. In order to ensure fairness and consistency for all applicants, this is the only measurement tool that is used by the Local Authority.

The starting point of the calculated route will be determined as being the nearest network point to the main entrance of the home address. The main entrance of the home address is determined by the Local Authority to be where the property receives post. For clarity, this must be located on the property concerned. The finishing point of the calculated route will be determined as being the nearest official open gate adopted for use by the school.

The coordinates of an applicant's address will be determined using the LLPG and Ordnance Survey Address base data.

Where the Local Authority is unable to identify a safe walking route from the home address to the preferred School, the shortest driving route will be used to calculate home to school distances.

Where two or more applicants are being considered for the last available place, and their home to school distance calculations are exactly the same, a trundle wheel will be used to undertake an additional assessment of the distance to the main entrance of the home address.

Where two or more applicants are being considered for the last available place, and the addresses fall within the same building, i.e. a block of flats, a trundle wheel will be used to calculate the distance from the front door of the home to the main communal entrance of the property to the nearest entrance of each flat, where possible.

9. ADMISSION OF MULTIPLE BIRTH CHILDREN (E.G. TWINS OR TRIPLETS)

If when applying the over-subscription criteria to applications received requesting admission into the normal year of entry (Reception and Year 7), and the last child to be admitted is one of a multiple birth, then the Local Authority will admit the other sibling(s).

Where multiple birth applications are received for year groups other than the normal year of entry, where there is only one remaining place in the relevant year group before the Admission Number is met, the Local Authority will consider each case individually before deciding whether the admission number is exceeded. Particular consideration will need to be given to the capacity of the school and the likelihood of causing prejudice to the effective education and efficient use of resources at the preferred school.

10. LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

Applications for looked-after children (children in public care) [as defined by Section 22 of the Children Act 1989] are given priority for School placement. This priority can also be given to previously looked-after children although the person making the application must provide evidence to confirm the previous care status, such as an Adoption Certificate.

Where applications are made for year groups other than the normal year of entry for a year group that has already met its admission number, the Local Authority will require suitable evidence as to why the preferred School is the most suitable school in comparison to other available schools.

11. CHILDREN OF UK SERVICE PERSONNEL

Children of returning UK Service Personnel are subject to frequent movement within the UK and abroad often at relatively short notice. Consequently for UK service personnel who are unable to engage in the normal admissions process, the Council will consider the residency criteria satisfied (and award catchment priority) if the application is

accompanied by the following, even if the family do not reside in Monmouthshire at the relevant date.

- Official proof of posting i.e. a posting notice;
- A copy of the Service Identity Card;
- Confirmation of the new address wherever possible.

Where the family concerned have been posted to an area through their employment and have not had the opportunity to engage in normal admissions processes, the Council will exceed the admission number at the catchment school.

12. CROWN SERVANTS

Children of UK Crown Servants (Including diplomats) are subject to frequent movement and if moving into Monmouthshire, will be determined as meeting the residency criteria for the relevant catchment school if the application is accompanied by an official Foreign and Commonwealth Office letter declaring:

- A definite return date;
- Confirmation of the new address wherever possible;
- Confirmation of the Crown Servant status.

13. GYPSY, ROMA AND TRAVELLER CHILDREN

The council is obliged, by statute, to ensure that all children of compulsory school age receive education that is appropriate to their age, abilities and any special educational needs, and promotes high standards in the provision of education and the welfare of children. These obligations apply to all children whether or not they are permanent residents in the area. Therefore, applications made in respect of such families will be dealt with in conjunction with the *Gwent Education Minority-ethnic Service (GEMS)*, with a view to placing these children as quickly as possible at the nearest available and appropriate school.

14. DEFERRED ENTRY INTO PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Local Authority will admit a child to a maintained primary school at the start of the academic year in which he/she will turn 5 years old. However, the legal requirements confirm that parents are able to delay the admission of their child until the term following their 5th birthday. The Local Authority is obliged to ensure that any offer of a school place is held for parents who wish for their child's admission into Reception to be deferred until later in the academic year.

A parent, however, is not able to defer entry beyond the term following the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the school year for which the application was made.

15. SUMMER TERM BIRTHS

In the case of a child born during the summer term, they too are not legally required to attend School until the term following their fifth birthday / the September after the normal year of entry for a Reception age child. However, in such circumstances the Local Authority will continue to ensure that children continue to follow their chronological year group and therefore the child would be admitted into year 1 and not Reception.

It is only in exceptional circumstances that the Local Authority will authorise the admission of a summer term birth into a year group that is outside the normal year of entry. In such circumstances, there will need to be a suitable evidence base (e.g. report from an Educational Psychologist) that suggests the chronological year group is not suitably able to meet the needs of the child concerned.

16. LATE APPLICATION ARRANGEMENTS

Any application that is received after the published closing date, or applications that remain incomplete as at the closing date, will be dealt with under the late application arrangements.

A change of preference received by the Local Authority after the published closing date will result in the application being determined as late.

Applications where a change in circumstances have occurred, which have an impact upon the application's status within the oversubscription criteria (i.e. change of address), could also result in the application being treated as late if these changes are brought to the Authority's attention after the closing date. The Local Authority will consider on a discretionary basis the circumstances an unexpected change of address prior to determining the application as being late. Unfortunately, such discretion can only be exercised if notification of the change of address is provided no later than 6 weeks prior to the published offer date in order for the new address to be considered for allocation purposes.

Late applications are collated and processed monthly, with prioritisation given based on the month in which they are received. A timetable for the processing of late applications for the 2024/25 admission round can be found below:

	Month application Received	Decision issued to Parents
Applies to Secondary only	14th November 2024 – 9th January 2025	28th March 2025
Applies to Primary and Secondary	10th January – 31st January 2025	9th May 2025 (Primary) 11th April 2025 (Secondary)
	February 2025	23rd May 2025 (Primary) 25th April 2025 (Secondary)
	March 2025	30th May 2025
	April 2025	6th June 2025
	May 2025	20th June 2025
	June 2025	4th July 2025
	July 2025	8th August 2025
	1st to 8th August 2025 9th to 17th August 2025	15th August 2025 22nd August 2025
18th August onwards	Within 1 week	

In the event that the preferred School is oversubscribed, places will be allocated in line with the oversubscription criteria during the first week of the month following the month of receipt. Parents will be informed of the outcome of their applications by the end of this week.

The arrangements for late applications continue up until the last week of August. After this date, any admissions received are then processed within 1 week.

17. NOTIFYING PARENTS

Parents will be notified of a decision on their application on the published offer date. For the 2025/26 admission round, the date by when parents will be informed of decisions on their applications will be 3rd March 2025 (Secondary) and 16th April 2025 (Primary).

Any offer of a school place will be based on the applicant being resident at the address declared on the application form as at the published offer date. Parents who are aware prior to the offer date that they are unlikely to remain resident at the address declared on their application must inform us so that their application can be amended. Any offer of a school place could be withdrawn if it is later found that this is not the case.

Where parents advise us, at the time of application, that they are moving property and provide the Local Authority with evidence to validate this move, any offer of a school place on this basis would be under the circumstance that the applicant is resident at the new property at the time the child concerned commences School. Any offer of a school place could be withdrawn if it is later found that this is not the case.

18. ACCEPTANCE OF A SCHOOL PLACE

On receipt of an offer of a school place, parents are required to confirm their acceptance of this school place in writing within 14 days of notification of the school place offer. Failure to do so could result in the offer of a school place being withdrawn.

19. ADMISSION INTO OTHER YEAR GROUPS - SEPTEMBER 2025

Where requests are received for a change of school in September 2025, into year groups other than the normal year of entrance, these will not be considered until the start of the second half of the summer term i.e. after the Whitsun break. Parents will be notified no earlier than 4 weeks prior to the end of the 2025 academic year.

These requests will be collated on a monthly basis and are processed as per the oversubscription criteria, in the event that the number of applications received exceeds the number of available places. However it should be noted that preference will be given to those parents who are seeking a place during the current term as opposed to the new academic year.

20. IN YEAR TRANSFERS (ADMISSIONS OUTSIDE THE NORMAL ADMISSION ROUND)

In year transfers refer to requests from parents to transfer their children between schools outside of the normal admission round. The Local Authority will not consider applications until the requested start date is no more than a term in advance.

All in year transfers are dealt with in date order of receipt, and where more applications are received on the same day than the number of places available, the Local Authority's oversubscription criteria will be applied to determine the child(ren) to be offered places.

Applications are usually processed within 7 working days of receipt. However in certain circumstances, for example where the child has been identified as having specific needs, it may not be possible to process the admission within the timeframe. The parent will be advised of this.

As part of the consideration process, the Local Authority will contact the child's current school to obtain information to share with the receiving school. This is to ensure that the preferred school is in a position to support appropriate transition between schools.

On occasions where the admission request to transfer schools is not one that arises from a move into the area, or where perhaps there is no immediate need for transfer, the Local Authority will consider admission from the beginning of a school term to minimise the potential disruption their own and other children's education.

Allocated places will be held open for a period of 1 term from the date of authorised admission, after which time the place may be withdrawn if the child has not taken up their place during this time. Once a school place has been offered, schools will have 7 working days to arrange the enrolment of the child concerned, where an immediate start is required.

If an application is received for a Looked After Child (LAC), in accordance with the protocol that has been agreed with schools, a LAC meeting will be arranged, to which all interested parties are invited. In advance of this meeting the placing authority is required to share relevant information including the Personal Education Plan, School records and Statement of Educational Needs / IDP, if the child has one.

Where the request for admission into school is as a result of a move into the county the parent is required to send proof of residence. Until this evidence is received the application will not be processed or considered as complete. Suitable evidence would be a copy of the exchange of contracts or long term tenancy agreement. This is to ensure that parents do not apply too far in advance of their move and subsequently deny others a place requiring a more instant admission.

21. REQUEST FOR ADMISSION OUTSIDE OF CHRONOLOGICAL YEAR GROUP

It is the Local Authority's policy that children are admitted into their chronological year group. It is only in exceptional circumstances that the Local Authority will support admission into a year group that is not within the chronological year, for example, where there is an appropriate evidence base (e.g. report from an Educational Psychologist)

that suggests the chronological year group is not suitably able to meet the needs of the child concerned.

Parents submitting an application request for admission into a year group that is not within the chronological year for the child will be given the opportunity to share their reasons for the application with the Local Authority. The headteacher of the preferred school will also be consulted during the process and their views considered as part of the decision making process.

Parents refused a place at the preferred school will have a statutory right of appeal against the decision that has been made; however, there is no appeal against a decision to offer a place in the preferred school but not within the desired year group.

22. REFUSAL OF ADMISSION TO PREFERRED SCHOOL

The majority of pupils in Monmouthshire are allocated a place at the parents' first choice of school. A refusal for admission to a school is made in line with the School Admissions Code of Practice 2013 and is based on the following decisions;

- Whether to admit a child would prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources
- Where an Admission Number has been met
- Welsh Government Class Size Regulations

If it is not possible to allocate a place at the preferred school, an alternative school place will be offered. This will either be an alternative preference (as declared on the application form) or the next nearest available school. It is then for parents to decide whether or not to accept the place at the alternative school.

If a place is offered at the next nearest available school, the child concerned may be entitled to free home to school transport should the distance criteria between home and school address be met. For more information on home to school transport entitlement please refer to the Home to School Transport Policy.

However, it is recognised that parents may not want a place at the next nearest available school and will be provided with details of other schools with available places within the area. In these circumstances, free home to school transport would **not** normally be provided.

Following refusal of a school place, the child's details will be held on a waiting list until 31 August of the academic year for which they are applying. If any places are handed

back during this time places will be allocated from the waiting list as per the oversubscription criteria.

23. WAITING LISTS

For those applicants that have been unsuccessful in obtaining a place at their preferred school(s), waiting lists will be held up until the end of the academic year for which the application is made. After such time, the existing waiting lists will be cleared and a fresh application will be required. The child's details will automatically be added onto the waiting list for the preferred school(s) at the time of refusal.

Waiting lists will be prioritised as per the oversubscription criteria and not based upon the date that the application was submitted. **It is the responsibility of the applicant to inform The School and Student Access Unit of any change in circumstances which impacts on the oversubscription criteria and therefore their child's place on the waiting list. An example of this would be a change of address.**

Should a place become available at the preferred school(s), the waiting list will be "frozen" in order to allow the School and Student Access Unit to fill the vacancy. The date at which the waiting list is frozen shall be determined as the date that the Local Authority is satisfied that the place becomes available.

The parent concerned will be contacted by the School and Student Access Unit within 7 working days of the place becoming available, if their child qualifies for consideration of the place. The parent will be given 7 days to formally accept or decline the offer of the school place in writing. After such time, the child's name will be withdrawn from the waiting list, and the place will be offered to the next child on the waiting list, as the Local Authority will assume that the place is no longer required.

24. APPEALS

In accordance with the School Admissions Code of Practice 2013 and the School Admission Appeals Code of Practice 2013, the Local Authority will make arrangements to enable the parent of a child to appeal against a decision to refuse a place at the preferred school.

The appeal will be determined by an appeals panel established in accordance with School Admission Appeals Code 2013. The panel must consist of three to five members appointed by the Local Authority from the following categories:

- People who are eligible to be lay members (persons without personal experience in the management of a school or the provision of education in any school, disregarding experience as a governor or in any other voluntary capacity).
- People who have experience in education; who are familiar with educational conditions in the LA's area or who are parents of registered children at a school (other than the school at which the appeal is made).

Independent Appeal Panels must consider each case individually on its merits and they cannot limit themselves, in advance, to the admission of any particular number of pupils.

Consideration by an Appeal Panel should be in two distinct stages:

- A) The Factual Stage, where the panel decides as a matter of fact whether there was a lawful reason to refuse admission; if there was not, the child must be admitted; if there was, the committee must move on to:
- B) The Balancing Stage, where the panel exercises its judgement to balance the degree of prejudice to efficient education which would result from admitting the child, and the strength of the parents' case, so as to arrive at a decision which is binding on the admissions authority.

The decision of the appeal panel will be binding on the Local Authority.

24.1 Time frame for hearing appeals

Parents will receive a letter refusing admission and will be advised of their right of appeal. The decision to appeal does not prevent the parent / carer accepting a place at an alternative school whilst the hearing is convened, as the panel will determine the appeal on the basis of application.

Appeal Hearings are convened by the Chief Executive Officer's representative, and will be heard within 30 School days of the date of application for appeal.

25. INFANT CLASS SIZE INITIATIVE

The Welsh Government is committed to ensuring that no child in Key Stage 1 will be in a class where the pupil teacher ratio is more than 1:30. The Infant Class Size Initiative was a phased programme between September 1999 and September 2001 thus

ensuring that all children up to the age of 7 will be taught in classes containing no more than 30 pupils.

Two main changes arose from the class size legislation. Firstly, admission authorities must not admit a child to an infant class if in doing so would result in a class operating at a greater than 30:1 pupil/teacher ratio. An admission authority can refuse to admit a child to a school where to do so would require the school to take 'qualifying measures' (i.e. employing an additional teacher, building an additional classroom) to meet the statutory class size limit.

Secondly, when dealing with admission appeals under class size legislation, Appeal Panels do not follow the two stage process as outlined above. Instead, an Appeal Panel will be able to uphold a parental appeal only if the decision to not admit the child was due to the admission arrangements being incorrectly implemented or the decision of the admission authority was not one which a reasonable admission authority would make in that particular case.

25.1 Exceptions to the Infant class size initiative

Welsh Government Regulations require authorities to limit infant class sizes to no more than 30 pupils and to ensure that junior classes do not exceed 30 pupils. There are however exceptions to these regulations (called "excepted pupils") which may allow the 30 pupil class limit to be exceeded. Excepted pupils are:

1. Children whose statements of ALN / IDP specify that they should be educated at the school concerned, and who were admitted to the school outside a normal admission round.
2. Children who are looked after by local authorities (looked after children), or who have ceased to be looked after (previously looked after children) as a result of being adopted or being placed with a family or given a special guardian and are admitted to the school outside a normal admissions round.
3. Children initially refused admission to a school, but subsequently offered a place outside a normal admission round by direction of an admission appeal panel, or because the person responsible for making the original decision recognises that an error was made in implementing the school's admission arrangements.
4. Children admitted outside the normal admission round who:

- the maintaining local authority confirmed cannot gain a place at any other suitable school within a reasonable distance of their home because they have moved into the area outside a normal admission round, or
 - they desire a religious education, or a Welsh speaking education and the school in question is the only suitable school within a reasonable distance.
5. Children who were admitted to the school outside the normal admission round after which the school has arranged its classes, and after the first day of the school year, the effect of which would mean that the school would have to take a relevant measure if such children were not excepted pupils.
 6. Children of UK Service personnel who are admitted outside the normal admission round.
 7. Children whose twin or other sibling from a multiple birth are admitted as non-excepted pupils, as the final pupil(s) allocated a place before the admission number is reached.
 8. Children who are registered pupils at special schools, but who receive part of their education at a mainstream school.
 9. Children with SEN who are normally educated in a special unit in a mainstream school, who receive part of their lessons in a non-special class.

26. KEY STAGE 2 CLASS SIZE LIMITS

Whilst there are no regulations to limit class sizes to 30 in Key Stage 2, the Local Authority is committed to complying with the Welsh Government target to ensure that the 1:30 pupil teacher ratio in Key stage 2 is maintained.

Appendix A - Coordinated Admission Scheme Primary Schools

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

DIRECTORATE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

CO-ORDINATED ADMISSION SCHEME FOR SEPTEMBER 2025 PRIMARY SCHOOLS

INTRODUCTION

This scheme applies to all admission authorities, (Local Authority (LA) and Voluntary Aided Schools (VA), in the area with regard to parents with children wishing to join the normal year of entry at a maintained primary school in Monmouthshire from September 2025. (A glossary of terms is also shown in Appendix C).

All parents will be invited to express a preference on a common application form, regardless of the status of the schools for which they wish to apply and whether the school is in/out of county. The application form will provide an opportunity for parents/carers to give reasons for their preferences. All completed forms should be sent directly to the School & Student Access Unit (SSAU). **An exception to this is if parents wish to apply for a school that resides within Newport City Council – in such circumstances the parent is required to apply directly to Newport City Council under their admission arrangements.**

Although individual school admission authorities (Voluntary Aided) may require you to complete their own admission forms, all applicants must also complete a “Common Application Form”.

Pupils with a Statement of Special Education Needs / Individual Development Plan (IDP) will be admitted to the school named on their Statement / IDP.

1. Consideration of Applications and Allocation of Places (Normal Admission Round)

When applying the oversubscription criteria to determine who is to be awarded places, all parental preferences will be considered equally and allocated in line with the criteria on page 12. The highest preference school will be offered in the event that one or more preferences can be met.

If none of the preferences can be met, the Local Authority will ensure that as far as is reasonably possible, an offer can be made.

The closing date for the first stage of applications is **5pm on 9th January 2025** and written notification of the outcome of each application will be given via the School & Student Access Unit by **16th April 2025**.

If a parent applies for a place outside Monmouthshire, the Authority to which they have applied will inform the parent and Monmouthshire of the decision to offer or refuse.

Late applications or changes to the order of preference will be considered after the first stage has been completed. Where a parent expresses a preference within the first stage and then changes a preference after 5pm on 9th January 2025, this will be deemed as a late application.

Similarly, applications where a change of circumstance have occurred, which have an impact upon the application's status within the oversubscription criteria, will result in the application being treated as late if these changes are brought to the Authorities attention after the closing date.

TIMETABLE FOR PRIMARY CO-ORDINATED ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

PRIMARY SCHOOL (including Voluntary Aided Schools)

2.1 Stage 1

Applications made available to parents	6 th November 2024
Applications received either paper or on line	By 9 th January 2025
Details of applications sent to Voluntary Aided Schools and other LAs, as appropriate. Details of applications made to Voluntary Aided Schools returned to School and Student Access Unit	By 24 th January 2025
Voluntary Aided Schools and neighbouring LAs return ranked lists of pupils to School & Student Access Unit indicating the over-subscription criterion that each child has been considered under and identifying refusals	By 1 st March 2025
School & Student Access Unit / Voluntary Aided Schools allocate the highest preference place available and notifies other LA's, as appropriate	By 21 st March 2025
School & Student Access Unit allocates places to Monmouthshire children without an offer	By 4 th April 2025

School & Student Access Unit sends list of pupils to be offered places to each Monmouthshire School	By 11 th April 2025
School & Student Access Unit / Voluntary Aided Schools send notifications to parents/carers	On 16 th April 2025
Appeals	May – July 2025

Stage 2

Following the first stage of allocations, late applications will be considered and slotted in where possible using the admissions criteria. However there is no guarantee that late applications will be dealt with before **16th April 2025**.

At this stage, parents/carers will be able to apply for reconsideration to a school they placed as a higher preference to the one offered.

The processing of late applications will be done on a monthly basis, so, for example, applications received in April 2025 will be collated and processed during the first full week in May 2025 with schools and parents being notified by the end of the second full week. These will be processed as per the oversubscription criteria.

Appendix B - Coordinated Admission Scheme Secondary Schools

INTRODUCTION

This scheme will apply to all schools in the area for parents with children wishing to join the normal year of entry at a secondary school in Monmouthshire from September 2025.

All parents will be invited to state three preferences on a common application form, regardless of the status of the schools for which they wish to apply and whether the school is in/out of county. The form will provide an opportunity for parents/carer to give reasons for their preferences. All completed secondary transfer forms should be returned directly to the School & Student Access Unit. **An exception to this is if parents wish to apply for a School that resides within Newport City Council – in such circumstances the parent is required to apply directly to Newport City Council under their admission arrangements.**

Pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs / Individual Development Plan (IDP) will be admitted to the school named on their statement / IDP.

Consideration of Applications and Allocation of Places (Normal Admission Round)

When applying the oversubscription criteria to determine who is to be awarded places, all parental preferences will be considered equally and allocated in line with the criteria on page 14. The highest preference school will be offered in the event that one or more preferences can be met.

If none of the preferences can be met the Local Authority will ensure, as far as is reasonably possible, that an offer can be made at the next nearest available School.

The closing date for the first round of applications is **5pm on 13th November 2024** and written notification of the outcome of each in county application will be given via the School & Student Access Unit on **3rd March 2025**.

For preferences to attend a school outside of Monmouthshire, written notification on the decision to offer / refuse a place at the chosen school will be given by the relevant Local Authority / Admission Authority in line with their offer date.

Monmouthshire will have regard to any offer made by another Local Authority. If the other Local Authority can offer a higher preferred school, Monmouthshire will not make an offer.

Late applications or changes of order of preference will be considered after the first stage has been completed. Where a parent expresses a preference within the first

stage and then changes a preference after **13th November 2024**, this will be deemed as a late application.

Applications where a change of circumstance have occurred, which will have an impact upon the application's status within the oversubscription criteria, will result in the application being treated as late if these changes are brought to the Authorities attention after the closing date.

TIMETABLE FOR CO-ORDINATED ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025 SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Stage 1

Applications available to Parents	25 th September 2024
Applications received	By 13 th November 2024
Details of applications sent to Monmouthshire schools and other LA's, as appropriate	By 1 st December 2024
Consultation with neighbouring LAs on cross border preferences	By 13 th December 2024
School & Student Access Unit allocates the highest preference place available and notifies other LA's, as appropriate	By 3 rd February 2025
School & Student Access Unit allocates places to Monmouthshire children without an offer	By 10 th February 2025
School & Student Access Unit sends list of pupils to be offered places to each Monmouthshire school	On 21 st February 2025
School & Student Access Unit sends notifications to parents/carers	On 3 rd March 2025
Appeals	May – July 2025

Stage 2

Following the first round of allocations, late applications will be considered and slotted in where possible using the admissions criteria. There is no guarantee that late applications will be dealt with before the **3rd March 2025**.

The processing of late applications is undertaken on a monthly basis, so applications received in April 2025 will be collated and processed during the first full week in May

2025 with schools and parents/carers being notified by the end of the second full week. These will be processed as per the oversubscription criteria.

Appendix C - Admission Authorities

- Monmouthshire County Council
- Voluntary Aided Schools (Monmouthshire)
 - Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Primary School
 - Magor Church In Wales Primary School
 - Our Lady & St Michaels Roman Catholic Primary School
 - St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School, Chepstow
- Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
- Gloucestershire County Council
- Herefordshire County Council
- Newport City Council
- Powys County Council
- Torfaen County Borough Council
- Brynmawr Foundation School
- St Albans RC School
- St Joseph's RC Schools

Glossary

Normal Year of Entry	The year in which a pupil is scheduled to commence / change school
Maintained School	A school maintained either by the LA or the Diocese
Common Application	Pre-printed form with pupil details and unique pupil reference Number

Appendix D - Admission Numbers for Schools

Secondary

SCHOOL	Capacity	AN
King Henry VIII 3-19 School	1290	215
Caldicot Comprehensive	1500	253
Chepstow Comprehensive	1282	193
Monmouth Comprehensive	1725	270

SCHOOL	Capacity	AN
Archbishop Rowan Williams C in W Primary	210	30
King Henry VIII 3-19 School	420	60
Cantref Primary	210	30
Castle Park Primary	261	37
Cross Ash Primary	210	30
Dewstow Primary	210	30
Durand Primary	210	30
Gilwern Primary	210	30
Goytre Fawr Primary	210	30
Kymin View Primary	210	30
Llandogo Primary	111	15
Llanfoist Fawr Primary	210	30
Llantilio Pertholey C in W Primary	210	30
Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary	79	11
Magor C in W Primary	317	55
Osbaston C in W Primary	210	30
Our Lady & St. Michael's RC Primary	210	30
Overmonnow Primary	390	51
Pembroke Primary	210	30
Raglan C in W Primary	210	30
Rogiet Primary	210	30
Shirenewton Primary	210	30
St. Mary's RC Primary	210	30
The Dell Primary	420	60
Thornwell Primary	330	47
Trellech Primary	207	29
Undy Primary	359	54

Usk C in W Primary	280	40
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	420	60
Ysgol Y Ffin	210	30

This page is intentionally left blank



monmouthshire
sir fynwy

DRAFT

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Review of Primary School catchment areas in
Monmouthshire (Phase 1)

Consultation period:

8th January 2024 to 19th February 2024

1. Introduction

This consultation document is an opportunity for consultees and other interested parties to learn about some proposed changes to primary school catchment areas within the County of Monmouthshire. The proposed changes form part of the Councils' School Admission Arrangements that are proposed for implementation in readiness for the 2025/26 academic year.

The consultation provides you with an opportunity to ask questions, make comments, and share your views on the proposals put forward. Your input into this consultation will be considered carefully when the Council considers whether the proposals should be taken forward to implementation.

Please note that the information contained within this document should be considered in conjunction with the draft school admission policy 2025/26, which is available to view / download [here](#).

2. Your views matter

Your views on the proposed changes to primary school catchment areas are important to us. We really do want you to engage in this consultation and tell us what you think of the proposals, particularly if they may affect you or your children.

Important: This consultation will not make any assumptions, so whether you are for or against the proposed changes, please take this opportunity to have your say. You can tell us what you think by:

- 1) Attending one of the consultation drop in sessions:

Review Area	Date	Venue
Tredunnoch, Llanhennock and Llandegveth	6 th February 2024. Open drop in session between 4pm – 6pm	County Hall, Usk
	7 th February 2023. Open drop in session between 1pm – 4pm	County Hall, Usk

- 2) To enable us to carry out detailed analysis of the feedback provided we would urge you to complete the consultation questionnaire, which is available [here](#).

If you have any questions on the proposals please contact the Access Unit on 01633 644508 or by emailing accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk.

Please note that the deadline for responses to this consultation is 19th February at 5pm. Any responses received by the local authority after this closing date will not be considered as part of this consultation.

3. Consultation requirements

The School Admissions Code Wales (July 2013) confirms that Local Authorities must consult on the admission arrangements for those schools for which it is the admissions authority. Where changes to existing arrangements are proposed, including school catchment areas, consultation must be undertaken with those likely to be affected by the proposals.

The Council is required to undertake the consultation stage of this process by 1st March 2024 and determine the outcome of the proposals by 15th April 2024 should it wish to implement the proposals for September 2025 onwards.

4. Consultation with children and young people

The views of children and young people are extremely important to the Council and therefore children and young people will be provided with opportunities to contribute to this consultation process. The Council will engage with children and young people considered to be affected by these proposals and ensure that their views are captured and considered in any reports that determine our way forward.

5. Consultation arrangements - Key Dates

Consultation stage	
Task	Key Dates
Consultation commences	Monday 8 th January 2024
Consultation ends (6 weeks)	Monday 19 th February 2024

Consideration stage	
Task	Key Dates
Consultation report published by	1 st April 2024
Cabinet consider results of consultation and agree on how to proceed	10th April 2024

Implementation stage
September 2025

6. How will your views be considered

The Council will develop a consultation report incorporating all of the responses received from consultees by the consultation closing date. The consultation report will be made available for all consultees to view.

It is this consultation report that will be considered by the Council's Cabinet informing a decision on whether any of the proposals should be implemented. So if you have a view, whether you support the proposals or not, please share them with us prior to the closing date.

Alongside your views, the Cabinet will consider the financial implications of the proposals prior to making a decision on whether they should be implemented. However, at this stage of the consultation, it's important for us to know what you think.

7. Background to the review of school catchment areas

The majority of primary school catchment areas within Monmouthshire have been in place in their current form since the reorganisation of local government in 1996, and it is thought that they have been in place for many years prior to this. In some cases, it is thought that the catchment areas do not seem to follow a specific rationale. For example, they are not in all cases either based on nearest school or alternatively through connecting communities. Some primary school catchment areas are also show trends of regular overpopulation based on the birth data from Health.

A review of secondary school catchment areas was undertaken in 2018, with a particular focus on the provision within the North / Central parts of the County. There were two key principles that underpinned this review:

- 1) To ensure that secondary school catchment areas are both supportive and reflective of transitional arrangements between primary and secondary schools.
- 2) To ensure that Monmouthshire residents have access to a secondary school that falls within the County boundaries.

As a result of the above consultation, the catchment boundaries for Monmouth and King Henry VIII Comprehensive Schools were extended to absorb the areas of Usk, Goytre and surrounding areas that previously fell within the catchment of Caerleon Comprehensive School, Newport. The catchment area for Monmouth Comprehensive School was also aligned to that of Trellech and Llandogo Primary Schools to support transitional arrangements.

8. So what is next?

We are now seeking to build on the work undertaken so far by commencing a review of primary school catchment areas. On 26th July 2023, a scrutiny workshop was held with Elected Members, forming an opportunity to highlight any areas of concern for review. Alongside this, the Council is in the process of implementing a new revised local development plan (RLDP), which proposes housing developments in most corners of the County. It's clear that primary school catchment areas will need to be reviewed in each cluster as the RLDP unfolds between 2025 and 2033, as we build our education provision to meet the demands of this plan.

This consultation document kick starts this programme with further consultations to follow in response to our duty to ensure we have a sufficient number of school places in the right areas of the County.

9. Current provision across Monmouthshire

Secondary Schools

The County of Monmouthshire is geographically comprised of four in county Secondary School catchment areas serving in the region of 4825 mainstream children and young people from years 7 to 13. Our Secondary school estate consists of:

- King Henry VIII 3-19 School, Abergavenny
- Monmouth Comprehensive School, Monmouth
- Chepstow School, Chepstow
- Caldicot School, Caldicot

All residents of Monmouthshire now have a secondary catchment that aligns to one of the above schools.

Primary Schools

The Primary School estate is comprised of 30 Primary Schools supporting around 6064 children and young people. The structure of our Primary school estate includes:

- Two Welsh Medium Primary Schools, one located in the North (Abergavenny) and one located in the South (Caldicot). A new Welsh Medium seeding school will be opening in Monmouth in September 2024.
- Two Voluntary Aided Roman Catholic Primary Schools, one located in the North and one located in the South of the County.
- Two Voluntary Aided Church in Wales Primary Schools, both located in the South of the County.
- Twenty-Four Community Schools

A full list of Monmouthshire Primary Schools can be found under appendix 1.

Each of the above Primary Schools offers its own designated catchment area, with the exception of our two Roman Catholic Primary Schools. It is understood that St Marys VA RC Primary serves the South of the County, whilst Our Lady and St Michaels RC Primary School serves the North of the County.

Not all residents of Monmouthshire have a primary catchment for a school within the County. The area of Tredunnoch, Llanhennock, Llandegveth and immediate surrounding areas fall within the catchment for Charles Williams Primary School, Newport.

10. Why do we have School Catchment Areas?

The catchment area of a school is significant for the following reasons:

- School catchment areas are in place to help support the assessment and determination of school places. Children and Young People that reside within the catchment area for a designated school currently receive a priority for school places in the event that the preferred school is oversubscribed.
- Whilst parents are not obliged to apply for their children to attend their designated catchment school, having catchment areas is useful as a guide for parents to understand which school generally serves their immediate community.

- Catchment areas play a key part in ensuring adequate provision of school places within a designated area.
- Catchment areas are linked to the entitlement to free home to school transport in line with the County Council's current Home to School Transport Policy. If a pupil attends their catchment on nearest available school and lives over 2 miles from that school (Secondary) or 1.5 miles (Primary), they are entitled to free transport.

Under the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 Local Authorities have a Statutory Duty to provide transport to the nearest suitable school, if over 2 miles for primary and 3 miles for Secondary.

11. Aims of the catchment area review

The majority of primary school catchment areas across the county have been in place for a significant amount of time and a review is required to ensure that they are fit for purpose. The review thus far has identified the following overarching aims:

- To address the current position whereby some areas of the County do not fall within the catchment area for a Monmouthshire school.
- Where possible, to address areas whereby the catchment school is not necessarily the nearest school.
- To seek to address any imbalances within existing school catchment areas to ensure robust arrangements for the planning for school places.
- Where possible and reasonable / feasible to do so, to address arrangements where existing arrangements are dividing communities.
- To review school catchment areas alongside any possible school reorganisation proposals.

Whilst the above form the council's overarching aims for this catchment area review, it's recognised that they cannot be applied in all cases due to the geography and rurality of our County.

12. Primary School Catchments - Identified issues

A review of primary school catchment areas follows on from the catchment area review undertaken back in 2018. In line with our overarching aims that underpin this review, our primary school catchment areas present the following challenges:

- It has been identified that some areas within the County do not fall within the catchment area for one of our Monmouthshire primary schools.
- There has been feedback from some communities that the existing arrangements are causing divides within their communities
- There are some primary school catchment areas that are not aligned to their nearest school and should be reviewed to establish whether change is feasible
- There are some cases of imbalance within existing primary school catchments whereby some catchment areas are showing regular patterns of oversubscription
- The Council has a revised local development plan proposing a significant number of housing developments between 2025 and 2033. Primary school catchment areas may need to be amended in response to any possible school reorganisation proposals that may arise as a result.

At this stage of the review programme, the Council would like to consult on the area of Tredunnock, Llanhennock and Llandegveth which currently does not have a primary school catchment in Monmouthshire. We now seek your input on the suggestions that have been put forward.

As a reminder, this consultation is the start of the ongoing review of primary school catchment areas. The Council will further engage with identified areas as it seeks to bring forward further proposals.

13. Areas considered under this review

Review area 1 – Tredunnock, Llanhennock, Llandegveth (appendix 2)

14. Finance

The proposals put forward for consultation under this stage of the review are not financially driven. However, a full cost analysis looking at the financial impacts of each proposal will be undertaken alongside this consultation, paying particular attention to the impact on the Monmouthshire schools affected by these proposals, as well as the impact on home to school transport costs.

We are interested to hear the views of those residing within the affected areas during this consultation stage. The feedback received alongside a full cost analysis will be presented to the Council's Cabinet who will determine whether or not proposals should be implemented.

DRAFT

15. List of Primary Schools

CLUSTER	SCHOOL
Caldicot	Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary
Caldicot	Castle Park Primary
Abergavenny	Cantref Primary
Monmouth	Cross Ash Primary
Abergavenny	King Henry VIII 3-19 School
Caldicot	Dewstow Primary
Caldicot	Durand Primary
Abergavenny	Gilwern Primary
Abergavenny	Goytre Fawr Primary
Monmouth	Kymin View Primary
Monmouth	Llandogo Primary
Abergavenny	Llanfoist Fawr Primary
Abergavenny	Llantilio Pertholey CIW Primary
Abergavenny	Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary
Caldicot	Magor CIW Primary
Monmouth	Osbaston CIW School
Abergavenny	Our Lady & St Michaels RC Primary
Monmouth	Overmonnow Primary
Chepstow	Pembroke Primary
Monmouth	Raglan CIW VC Primary
Caldicot	Rogiet Primary
Chepstow	Shirenewton Primary
Chepstow	St Mary's RC Primary
Chepstow	The Dell Primary
Chepstow	Thornwell Primary
Monmouth	Trellech Primary
Caldicot	Undy Primary
Monmouth	Usk CIW Primary
Abergavenny	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni
Caldicot	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin

16. List of Consultees

The governing body of the relevant schools

- Governing bodies of schools affected by proposals:
 - Usk Church in Wales Primary School
 - Charles Williams Church in Wales Primary School

Neighbouring Local Authorities affected by the proposals

- Newport City Council

Parents of Children Likely to be affected

Parents of children residing within the affected areas

Other key parties

- Members of the School Admission Forum
- County Councillors
- Ward Members for the affected areas
- All Monmouthshire Primary School
- Church in Wales Diocese
- Roman Catholic Diocese

This page is intentionally left blank



monmouthshire
sir fynwy

Review Area 1
The villages of Tredunnock,
Llanhennock and Llandegveth

Consultation period:

8th January 2024 to 19th February 2024

Contents

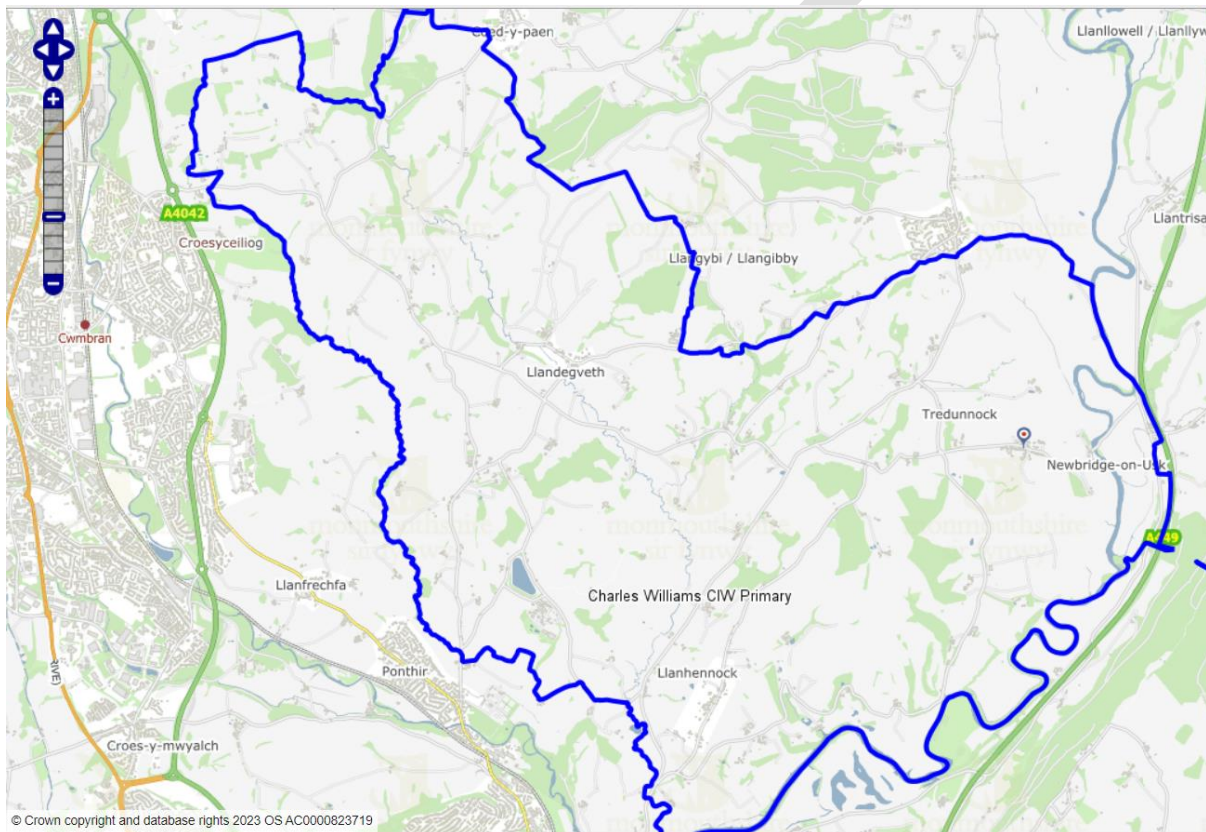
1. The Proposal.....	3
2. The current position	4
3. Why are we considering the proposed change?	6
4. Background information	7
5. Advantages and Disadvantages of the proposal	8
6. Financial Implications	9
7. What Next?	9

DRAFT

1. The Proposal

The Council is considering amending their school admission arrangements to accommodate the villages of Tredunnock, Llanhennock and Llandegveth into the catchment area for Usk Church in Wales Primary School.

The affected area currently forms part of the catchment area for Charles Williams Church In Wales Primary School, Newport, and does not have a designated primary catchment that falls within Monmouthshire. A map detailing the affected area can be shown below:



The Council would like to know your views on whether the catchment area for Usk Church in Wales Primary School should be amended to incorporate the areas of Tredunnock, Llandegveth and Llanhennock, or whether the status quo should remain.

Important: Charles Williams CIW Primary School is a Voluntary Aided School, which means that the governing body for the school is responsible for their school admission arrangements, including its catchment area. Monmouthshire County Council is not able to amend the catchment area for Charles Williams CIW Primary School, but can amend the catchment area for Usk CIW Primary School by incorporating the affected area into its admission arrangements.

The proposals would see the provision of free home to school transport offered to Usk Church in Wales Primary School as the newly designated catchment school.

2. The current position

The area under review currently forms part of the catchment area for Charles Williams Primary School and Monmouth Comprehensive School. For those residing within the affected area, Charles Williams Church in Wales Primary School is considered to be the nearest school for the majority, with Usk Church in Wales Primary being the nearest Monmouthshire Primary School.

In 2018 a review of secondary school catchment areas was undertaken and a decision taken to place the affected area into the catchment area for Monmouth Comprehensive School. Prior to this, the catchment secondary school was Caerleon Comprehensive, however, it was felt that Monmouthshire residents should be able to access a School within the County should they wish to do so.

This consultation forms the next stage of this review, where we propose to enable the primary age children residing within the affected area with the opportunity to educate their children at a primary school within the county, through establishing that the catchment area is within that of Usk Church in Wales Primary School.

3. Why are we considering the proposed change?

No designated catchment school within Monmouthshire.

One of the identified aims of our catchment review has been to consider the areas of Monmouthshire that do not currently have a designated catchment School that falls within County. The primary catchment school is presently one that falls within the city of Newport. The proposed changes to the affected areas would allow children resident in Monmouthshire to access a primary school that is within the county in which they live.

Transitional arrangements between Primary and Secondary School.

Charles Williams Primary School is the designated primary school for the affected area, with Monmouth Comprehensive School being the designated secondary school catchment. The current arrangements do not align with our transition arrangements between primary and secondary school, as the current primary catchment school is not a feeder school for the designated secondary catchment school. The proposed changes would see an alignment between the primary and secondary school catchments for the affected areas, enabling the cohorts of children to remain

together when entering into that daunting transition between Primary to Secondary School.

Access to School places

The parents of children and young people currently residing within the affected area have the opportunity to express a preference for a school at which they wish for their child to attend. This preference does not need to be for the designated catchment school, however, children residing within the catchment area for a preferred school receive a priority in the event of oversubscription.

Those residing within the affected area are not afforded with the above priority for a Monmouthshire School as they do not have a designated primary catchment school within the county in which they live. The proposals would address this matter.

Provision of Home to School Transport

A further consideration of the proposed change is the current provision for home to school transport that currently serves the affected area. The council's current policy provides free home to school transport to the nearest or catchment school if residing 1.5 miles (primary) or 2 miles (secondary) or more from the home address.

The affected area does not currently qualify for free home to school transport to a Monmouthshire School.

4. Background information

Our data suggests that there are currently 28 primary school age children living within the affected area. The table below provides a summary of the school preferences for those residing within the affected area.

School	Number attending	%
Charles Williams Primary	13	46.4
Usk CIW Primary School	9	32.1
Private School	2	7.1
Other	4	14.2
Total	28	

The above data suggests that there is a demand from the affected area for children to be educated within the county.

Usk Church in Wales Primary School has not historically had an oversubscription issue with those applying to start primary school for the first time (Reception places). Therefore, those residing within the affected area have up until this point been able

to obtain places at Usk Church in Wales Primary School despite it not being their catchment school.

We are aware of 9 primary age children where parents have expressed a preference for their children to attend Usk Church in Wales Primary School, although these children will not be eligible for free home to school transport.

Current numbers on roll

The current numbers on roll at Usk Church in Wales Primary School are:

School	Numbers on roll	Capacity	% surplus places
Usk CIW Primary School	249	280	11%

Projected Numbers on roll

The projected numbers on roll for Usk Primary School are:

Usk Church in Wales Primary School	
Academic Year	Projected Number on roll
September 2024	238
September 2025	234
September 2026	220
September 2027	211
September 2028	202

The data received from health suggests that the following number of children from within the catchment area of Usk CIW Primary and the affected area (currently Charles Williams CIW Primary) will be seeking Reception school places over the coming years

Academic Year	Usk CIW Primary	Affected area (currently Charles Williams catchment)
September 2024	35	2
September 2025	27	4
September 2026	25	2
September 2027	30	1

Usk Church in Wales Primary School currently has capacity for 40 children per year group.

5. Advantages and Disadvantages of the proposal

Advantages	Disadvantages
The proposals are increasing the opportunities for those residing in Monmouthshire to have access to a school that is within the county.	The proposed catchment school is further away for the majority of affected families than the current catchment school.
Families residing within the affected area would have a designated catchment school within the county in which they live	There is likely to be an increase in home to school transport costs due to the increase in travelling distances
School catchment areas form part of the oversubscription criteria used to award school places. Children and young people from the affected area would gain an advantage in obtaining a school place at a Monmouthshire school	Parents will still have the opportunity to apply for places at Charles Williams Primary school and we will have a duty to provide transport as this is the nearest school.
There will be an increase in the number of children that can access Usk CIW Primary School which should impact positively on their numbers on roll going forward	
Children and young people residing within the affected area would meet the criteria to receive free home to school transport to a Monmouthshire School.	
The proposals are supportive of transitional links between primary and secondary schools	
Enabling the above would support the robust transition links between Usk CIW Primary and Monmouth Comprehensive School, enabling peer groups to remain together on transition to secondary school.	

6. Financial Implications

Charles Williams CIW Primary School is currently the designated catchment school for the affected area. Should the children known to be residing within the affected area chose to attend their catchment school and require home to school transport assistance, the home to school transport costs would be in the region of £41,580 per annum. However, there are no children currently receiving transport from the affected area to Charles Williams CIW Primary School so the costs of current provision is zero.

Usk CIW Primary School is the proposed new catchment school for the affected area. Should the children known to be residing within the affected area chose to attend their proposed new catchment school, they would receive an entitlement to free home to school transport, with the costs estimated to be in the region of £41,580 per annum.

In light of the above, the immediate financial impact associated with this proposal is thought to be £41,580.

Important: It is important to note that the above costs are estimates provided on the basis of current home to school transport costs, which are likely to increase by the implementation date of September 2025. Its also important to note that the Council will still have a duty to provide transport to Charles Williams CIW Primary School in circumstances where its deemed nearest and there is a parental preference. This will increase the costs over those quoted above.

7. What Next?

Your views on the proposed changes to primary school catchment areas are important to us. We really do want you to engage in this consultation and tell us what you think of the proposals, particularly if they may affect you or your children.

Important: This consultation will not make any assumptions, so whether you are for or against the proposed changes, please take this opportunity to have your say You can tell us what you think by:

- 1) Attending one of the below drop in sessions:

Review Area	Date	Venue
Tredunnock, Llanhennock and Llandegveth	6 th February 2024. Open drop in session between 4pm – 6pm	County Hall, Usk
	7 th February 2023. Open drop in session between 1pm – 4pm	County Hall, Usk

2) To enable us to carry out detailed analysis of the feedback provided we would urge you to complete the consultation questionnaire, which is available [here](#).

If you have any questions on the proposals please contact the Access Unit on 01633 644508 or by emailing accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk.

Please note that the deadline for responses to this consultation is 19th February 2024 at 5pm. Any responses received by the local authority after this closing date will not be considered as part of this consultation.

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

This page is intentionally left blank



Integrated Impact Assessment document

(incorporating Equalities, Future Generations, Welsh Language and Socio Economic Duty)

<p>Name of the Officer Matt Jones</p> <p>Phone no:01633644508 E-mail: matthewdjones@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</p> <p>The majority of primary school catchment areas have been in place in their current form since prior to local government reorganisation. A review of primary school catchment areas is necessary to ensure that they are suitable and reflective of current demand. Any proposed changes to catchment areas must follow a consultation process in line with the School Admissions Code Wales (July 2013)</p>
<p>Name of Service area Children and Young People</p>	<p>Date November 2023</p>

Page 79

9. **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	The proposals are to consult with families in the affected areas on changes to primary school catchment areas. The current catchment schools and proposed catchment schools offer the same age range	No impact	
Disability	The proposals involve allocating a primary school catchment that is within the county to families resident in Monmouthshire. The	The proposed new catchment schools are in some cases further away which	Parents will continue to have the opportunity to express a preference the school that they would like their child to

	proposed new catchment schools are compliant to meet the needs of mainstream pupils with disabilities.	may not be a welcome change for those with disabilities	attend. This means that they will still be able to apply for places at the current catchment school. In most cases, the affected families will be eligible for free home to school transport.
--	--	---	--

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	n/a	n/a
Marriage or civil partnership	No impact	n/a	n/a
Pregnancy or maternity	No impact	n/a	n/a
Race	No impact	n/a	n/a
Religion or Belief	For the areas of Tredunnoch, Llanhennock and Llandegveth, the current catchment school is a church in wales school. As the proposed new catchment school is Usk Church in Wales Primary School, the affected families will continue to have access to a church in wales school	n/a	n/a

D250674

Sex	The current catchment schools and proposed catchment schools are suitable for all genders	n/a	n/a
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?
Sexual Orientation	No impact	n/a	n/a

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 socioeconomic 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?
--	---	--	--

<p>Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice</p>	<p>The proposals are formed around providing Monmouthshire families with access to a Monmouthshire school, allowing the opportunity for greater connections within the county.</p> <p>Families residing within the affected areas will have an equal opportunity to claim free home to school transport to the proposed new catchment schools.</p>	<p>The proposals will mean a change in primary school catchment areas for affected families.</p> <p>We acknowledge that proposals may result in a change to existing connections with the current catchment school community and associate support networks</p>	<p>For those residing in the catchment area for Charles Williams CIW Primary, they will remain within catchment under the governing body's admission arrangements, but within Usk CIW Primary under Monmouthshire's admission arrangements. Parents will therefore continue to be able to express a preference for their current catchment school should they wish to do so</p> <p>The purpose behind this consultation is to seek the views of those affected by the proposals, and such views will be considered prior to any formal decisions being made.</p>
--	--	---	--

3. Policy making and the Welsh language.

<p>How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards:</p>	<p>Describe the positive impacts of this proposal</p>	<p>Describe the negative impacts of this proposal</p>	<p>What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts</p>
---	--	--	--

<p>Policy Making</p> <p>Effects on the use of the Welsh language,</p> <p>Promoting Welsh language</p> <p>Treating the Welsh language no less favourably</p>	<p>The proposals are relevant to amending the catchment area for the english medium primary school within the affected areas. These areas also have a designated catchment area for welsh medium primary schools should parents wish for their children to be educated through the medium of welsh.</p> <p>Any policy change will consider the impact on the Welsh language and will be in line with the council's Welsh language standards.</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Operational</p> <p>Recruitment & Training of workforce</p>	<p>No impact</p>		
<p>Service delivery</p> <p>Use of Welsh language in service delivery</p> <p>Promoting use of the language</p>	<p>Children wishing to be educated through the medium of welsh will not be affected by these proposals. The affected areas will continue to have a welsh medium catchment school and will receive free home to school transport to that school</p> <p>All information relating to this consultation will be available in Welsh</p>		

Page 77





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	The proposals will increase the opportunities for children to have access to a school within the county and ensures ongoing sustainable education provision	
A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and land, river and coastal ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	The proposal will result in some families having a catchment school that is further away than their current catchment school, meaning increased travelling times and an inability to walk to school, meaning more use of vehicles to get to and from school	The area is a rural community and many of the families would be unable to walk to their current catchment school. However, proposals are not removing the opportunities for parents to express a preference and they will be able to continue to apply for places at their nearest school should they wish to do so.
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	The affected areas are rural communities with limited opportunities to walk to their current catchment school. The proposed new catchment schools are in many cases further away which will not improve their opportunities to walk to school	The affected areas are rural and in most instances result in families living in excess of 2 miles to their nearest schools, making walking to and from school more challenging.
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	The proposals are formed in support of connecting communities. There are currently families that do not have a primary catchment school within the county so these proposals will contribute to them feeling connected with the monmouthshire community	
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	The proposals are likely to result in families having to travel to their catchment school by vehicle.	This is the status for many with their current designated catchment school, but families will be able to be transport via the local authority services rather than by individual family vehicles.

<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People</p>	<p>There are no specific proposals in this report to promote and protect the Welsh language. However the provision for fully immersive welsh medium provision will still be available for the families residing in the affected areas through their designated welsh medium catchment school(s).</p>	<p>The affected areas have a designated catchment area for those wishing for their children to be educated through the medium of welsh.</p>
<p>Well Being Goal</p>	<p>Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.</p>	<p>What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</p>
<p>are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation</p>		
<p>A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances</p>	<p>The proposals will provide equity to the families residing within the affected areas as they will join all other monmouthshire residents in having a primary catchment school that is within the county.</p>	

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

<p>Sustainable Development Principle</p>	<p>Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.</p>	<p>Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</p>
<div data-bbox="114 1086 309 1326" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	<p>The proposals will enable children residing within the affected areas to join a primary school that is within the county, and therefore ease their arrangements for transition to a secondary school within the county</p>	

 <p>Collaboration</p>	<p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	<p>n/a</p>	
<p>Sustainable Development Principle</p>	<p>Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.</p>	<p>Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</p>	
 <p>Involvement</p>	<p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p>	<p>The proposals are to launch a consultation with those affected by proposals so that their views can be incorporated prior to any decisions for change being made</p>	
 <p>Prevention</p>	<p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>The proposals will increase the opportunities for affected families to obtain a place at a Monmouthshire School. Current arrangements would mean that families may not be able to access their nearest monmouthshire school should the school become oversubscribed</p>	
 <p>Integration</p>	<p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>The proposals will have a positive impact on the wellbeing of the families residing within the affected areas, as they will form part of the community and transitional process between primary and secondary schools.</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	Children will have access to a school that is within the county and therefore within the Council's control for safeguarding arrangements		
Corporate Parenting	Current arrangements for children who are looked after will remain in place		

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

- Surplus places data
- Planning places data
- Information from LDP for known housing developments

The consultation will also enable us to obtain information from the families residing within the affected areas on whether they are supportive of the proposals put forward

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 proposals to consult on amendment the primary school catchment for the areas of Tredunnoch, Llanhennock and Llandegveth will complete our goal of ensuring that all Monmouthshire families have access to a school that is within the county. The affected areas have an allocated secondary school within Monmouthshire, so the proposals will help to align the transitional arrangements between primary and secondary education for the affected area.

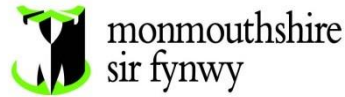
9. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
N/A		

Page 82

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
1	CYP DMT	27/11/23	No adjustments made
2	Cabinet – permission to consult	13/12/23	
3	Cabinet – consultation feedback and final decision making	10/11/23	



SUBJECT:	STATUTORY CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF YSGOL GYMRAEG Y FENNI
MEETING:	PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE:	5TH MARCH 2024

1. **PURPOSE:**

On 17th January 2024, Cabinet agreed to enter into statutory consultation processes concerning the proposed relocation and associated increase in capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni.

The purpose of this report is to request that the People Scrutiny Committee conduct pre-decision scrutiny of the proposals during the period of public consultation ahead of Cabinet making any decisions at their meeting on 10th April 2024.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is recommended that the People Scrutiny Committee conducts pre decision scrutiny of the proposals and makes any recommendations to the Cabinet ahead of their meeting on 10th April 2024.

3. **KEY ISSUES:**

- 3.1 The Council is committed to giving every young person in Monmouthshire the best possible start in life as set out in the Corporate Plan. At its heart is improving the educational achievement and attainment of all children and young people in the county
- 3.2 In October 2017 Cabinet agreed the submission of the Council's Band B proposals to Welsh Government as part of the 21st Century Schools Programme. The major part of these proposals was to establish an all-through school on the King Henry VIII School site in Abergavenny.

- 3.3 However, as part of the proposals to establish the all-through school, it was acknowledged that the proposals would leave the Deri View site vacant, which would be repurposed to provide the necessary accommodation in order to meet the increasing demand for pupils wanting to learn through the medium of Welsh.
- 3.4 The duty to ensure appropriate provision of school places is not limited to our English Medium School places. The Council has a duty to ensure that its provision of places for those young people wishing to be educated through the medium of Welsh is suitable, sustainable and allows an opportunity for growth.
- 3.5 Members will be aware of the Council's commitment to the Welsh Government's national strategy Cymraeg 2050, which sets out a long-term vision for a Wales where the Welsh Language thrives. The strategy aims to increase the number of Welsh speakers to 1 million by 2050.
- 3.6 For the Council to contribute to this national target, it must deliver on its statutory duties to ensure that there is growth of the Welsh language across the county. One of the ways of us achieving this growth is to continue to develop and improve our provision of Welsh medium education and the benefits it brings. It is hoped that by doing so, there will be an increase in the demand for Welsh medium school places across the County.
- 3.7 The Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) was approved by Welsh Government in June 2022 and sets out our commitments to grow the Welsh language across the county. The WESP outlines our target of having 115 learners in each primary year group being taught through the medium of Welsh by 2031.
- 3.8 The Council has so far invested significant funding into the refurbishment and extension of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin (Caldicot) which is now able to offer 210 places to Welsh medium learners. Alongside this, the Council has committed to the opening of a seedling school in Monmouth with effect from September 2024. The relocation and associated increase in capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni is the next step in providing us with the accommodation suitable for achieving our WESP targets.
- 3.9 In addition to our strategic targets to grow Welsh medium education, the proposal is also formed in response to the support that is required at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to manage their increasing numbers on roll.

3.10 Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni was originally opened as a 210 place School, however, has evidently grown in numbers since its original opening and as at September 2023, has 241 pupils on roll (excluding the Meithrin). The Council has supported the school with this increasing demand by renting temporary accommodation to provide additional classroom space. The capacity of the school is now 317, however, it is acknowledged that a large proportion of the accommodation is temporary and does not meet our aspirations of providing excellent teaching and learning environments. There are also no further opportunities to increase the capacity on its current site.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING)

An integrated impact assessment associated with the proposals has been completed and can be found under appendix 2. This assessment will be reviewed and updated to incorporate the feedback received during the consultation period.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

5.1 The attached consultation document outlines 4 options for responding to our statutory requirement of growing Welsh medium education in the County:

- i) Do Nothing
- ii) Build a new 420 place School to replace Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni
- iii) Increase the capacity of the school on its current site
- iv) Relocate Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to the site previously occupied by Deri View Primary School

5.2 The preferred option on which we would like to consult is option 4, which is to utilise existing accommodation available at the former Deri View Primary School site in order to increase the capacity of Welsh medium education within the area to 420 places.

5.3 This option is not only the most financially viable but delivers excellent teaching and learning facilities and a prompt solution to relieving the accommodation pressures currently experienced on the current Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni site.

5.4 The consultation process is proposed to run over the next 7 months in line with the timescales outlined below:

Consultation stage

Statutory Consultation Period to commence on	Statutory Consultation Period concludes on	Period of consultation required
29 th January 2024	11 th March 2024	6 weeks (including 20 school days)

Post consultation stage

Stage of process	Key date
Cabinet consider the results of the consultation and determines whether to proceed with proposal	10 th April 2024
Should the Council wish to proceed, statutory notices will be published and we enter into objection period	22 nd April 2024
Closure of the objection period	21 st May 2024
Cabinet consider the objection report and determine whether or not to implement the proposal	17 th July 2024
Implementation of Proposal	April 2025

6. REASONS:

- 6.1 The Council has a statutory duty as part of the School Organisation Code 2018 to consult with appropriate stakeholders when considering any significant school reorganisation proposals.
- 6.2 The proposed change will help to address the Council's commitment to growing Welsh medium education across the County, as well as addressing the increasing demand for School places at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 7.1 The Council's adopted SOP that formed the proposals to establish a new 3-19 School also identified the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to the former Deri View Primary school site. Capital funding in the region of £1million was identified and agreed during this process to support the relocation and undertake any required refurbishment works associated with this proposal.

- 7.2 The proposal would also result in an increase in capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to become a provision for 420 pupils / two form entry. The school will continue to be funded in line with the adopted funding formula which will allow for the recruitment of additional staff as numbers on roll at the school increase.
- 7.3 The Council currently funds the rental of temporary accommodation located on the site of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni which would be released should proposals be implemented.

8. CONSULTEES:

CYP DMT
SLT
Cabinet Member for Education

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Welsh Government School Organisation Code 2018

10. AUTHOR:

Matt Jones, Access Unit Manager

11. CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01633 644585

E-mail: matthewdjones@monmouthshire.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank



CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Relocation and associated increase in capacity of Ysgol
Gymraeg Y Fenni

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
2. CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS	3
2.1 FORMAL CONSULTATION PROCESS	4
2.2 CONSULTATION WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE	5
2.3 CONCLUSION OF THE FORMAL CONSULTATION PROCESS	5
2.4 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSALS	6
3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION	6
4. CURRENT WELSH MEDIUM PROVISION	7
5. THE JOURNEY SO FAR	8
5. THE PROPOSAL	9
5.1 REASONS FOR THE PROPOSAL.....	9
5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL	11
5.1 THE PREFERRED OPTION.....	14
5. RISKS AND COUNTER MEASURES	14
6. SCHOOLS AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSAL.....	15
6.1 CURRENT NUMBERS ON ROLL	15
6.2 NUMBERS ON ROLL TRENDS.....	16
6.2 PROJECTED NEED	17
6.3 PROJECTED NUMBER ON ROLL AT AFFECTED SCHOOLS	17
6.4 IMPACT OF PROPOSALS ON SURPLUS PLACES.....	18
6.5 BUILDING CONDITION RATINGS.....	19
7. QUALITY AND STANDARDS IN EDUCATION	20
8. WELSH IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN	21
9. FINANCE.....	22
10. LAND AND BUILDINGS	22
12. STAFFING	22
13. COMMUNITY IMPACT / EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	22
13.1 COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	22
13.2 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT.....	23
14. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPACT	23
15. ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS	23
15.1 CATCHMENT AREAS.....	23
16. HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT	24
17. OTHER INFORMATION	24
18. APPENDIX 1 - AGREED CATCHMENT AREAS	25

19. APPENDIX 2 - ESTYN REPORTS 26
20. APPENDIX 3 - LIST OF CONSULTEES 29
21. APPENDIX 4 - RESPONSE PRO-FORMA 30

1. INTRODUCTION

Monmouthshire County Council (the Council) has a statutory duty to secure sufficient and suitable school places for children within the County, and in doing so ensure that resources and facilities are efficiently utilised to deliver the educational opportunities that our children deserve.

The duty to ensure appropriate provision of school places is not limited to our English Medium School places. The Council has a duty to ensure that its provision of places for those young people wishing to be educated through the medium of Welsh is suitable, sustainable and allows an opportunity for growth.

This document represents the Council's responsibilities as part of the School Organisation Code 2018 (a document produced by virtue of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013)¹ to consult with appropriate stakeholders when giving consideration to any significant school reorganisation proposals.

The purpose of this document is to provide information on the Council's proposal to increase the capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to 420 places plus a 60 place Meithrin, delivered through its relocation to the school site previously occupied by the former Deri View Primary School.

2. CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The Council proposes ***to relocate Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni from its existing site to the site previously occupied by Deri View Primary School.*** The relocation of the school will enable a revised capacity from 317 places to 420 places, plus a 60 place Meithrin (Nursery).

The Council is now engaging in statutory consultation processes with all interested parties to ensure that any decision taken by the Council is an informed one.

The proposed timescales for the formal consultation process are:

Statutory Consultation Period to commence on	Statutory Consultation Period concludes on	Period of consultation required
29 th January 2024	11 th March 2024	6 weeks (including 20 school days)

2.1 FORMAL CONSULTATION PROCESS

The formal consultation process represents an opportunity for people to learn about the proposal, ask questions and make comments that will be recorded and considered when the Council determines whether or not to implement the proposal.

The Council seeks to engage with a wide range of stakeholders on the proposal outlined in this consultation document. A full list of the consultees can be found under Appendix 3.

As part of the consultation process, the Council has arranged for the following sessions to engage interested parties who may wish to learn about the proposal.

Date	Consultee group	Session time	Venue
Monday 26 th February 2024	Staff	16:00 – 16:50	The former Deri View Primary School site
	Governors	17:00 – 17:50	
	Parents and other interested parties	18:00 – 18:50	

In addition to the above, any views, comments, or questions on the proposal can be submitted to the Council by:

- Completing the online consultation questionnaire available via www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/school-reorganisation
- Emailing strategicreview@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Completion of the questionnaire will enable us to undertake detailed analysis of the feedback we receive from consultees.

Comments must be submitted to the Authority by the consultation closing date.

Important: This consultation will not make any assumptions, so whether you are for or against the proposed changes, please take this opportunity to have your say.

If you have any questions on the proposals please contact the Access Unit on 01633 644508 or by emailing strategicreview@monmouthshire.gov.uk

It is important to note that any unfavourable comments made during the consultation period will not be treated as objections to the proposals but will be accepted as adverse comments. Objections to the proposals can only be accepted after the consultation period has concluded and should the Council determine to proceed with the proposals by way of publishing statutory notices.

If you wish to object, you will need to do so in writing should the Council enter into a statutory objection period. If consultees submit a request during the objection period, asking for a response submitted at the consultation stage to be treated as an objection this will be accepted.

2.2 CONSULTATION WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The views of children and young people are extremely important to the Council and therefore children and young people will be provided with opportunities to contribute to this consultation process. The Council has produced a summary version of this consultation document, which will be made accessible for all children and young people affected by this proposal.

The Council also intends to hold sessions with the school council and individual learners where this is felt to be appropriate and practicable. Consultation with children and young people will be supported by key professionals and their views captured and considered in any reports that may determine our way forward.

2.3 CONCLUSION OF THE FORMAL CONSULTATION PROCESS

Once the opportunity to respond to the proposal outlined within this consultation document has closed, the Council's Cabinet will then be provided with a consultation report analysing the views shared by consultees during the formal consultation process and determine whether or not they wish to proceed with the proposal.

If the decision is taken by the Council's Cabinet to proceed with the proposal, a statutory notice will be published. The statutory notice period will last for 28 days from the date of publication to enable consultees to express their views in the form of supporting or objecting to the proposal. A copy of the consultation report will be published at least two weeks prior to the publication of a statutory notice.

The Council's Cabinet will then consider the responses received during the statutory notice period in the form of an objection report and make the final decision as to whether to proceed with the proposal. The proposed timetable for decision making following the formal consultation process is:

Stage of process	Key date
Cabinet consider the results of the consultation and determines whether to proceed with proposal	10 th April 2024
Should the Council wish to proceed, statutory notices will be published and we enter into objection period	22 nd April 2024
Closure of the objection period	21 st May 2024
Cabinet consider the objection report and determine whether or not to implement the proposal	17 th July 2024
Implementation of Proposal	April 2025

2.4 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSALS

Should the outcome of the statutory process outlined within this consultation document conclude that proposals are to proceed as presented, Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will relocate to its new School site with its revised capacity of 420 places (plus 60 place Meithrin) with effect from April 2025.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Council is committed to improving the educational achievement and attainment for all children and young people in the county through the provision of an inclusive education system that places the learner at the centre.

The Council strives to provide children and young people with the best possible start in life. Investing in all our children's learning and development, ensuring they have the environments, skills and support to flourish and be prepared for the work of the future and meet the demands of a rapidly changing world environment.

Through our work with schools, parents and key partners, we seek to:

- Secure equality of access to education for all children and young people
- Deliver a high quality and inclusive curriculum for all learners
- Educate our children and young people in their local communities whenever possible
- Support children and young people and their families to enable them to live a happy and fulfilling life
- Provide meaningful opportunities for learners to access support when they need it and return to their community school as soon as they are able
- Meet the needs of children and young people now and be suitably adaptable to meet changing needs in the future

The aims above link directly to our Directorate core values, which aspire to ensure that all of our children and young people will:

- **Be ready for school** - through engagement with our Early Years and Flying Start programmes.
- **Be in school** - supported by our Access and Education Welfare teams.
- **Be well behaved** - through support from our Behaviour and Inclusion teams.
- **Be well taught** - by the teachers and teaching assistants in our schools.

Over the last five years, we have made progress towards fulfilling this commitment for the majority of our children and young people. Education remains a top priority for the Council and it is committed to delivering improved performance in educational provision in line with the requirements of the Welsh Government policy and objectives.

At its meeting in October 2017, Cabinet agreed the submission of its Band B proposals to Welsh Government as part of what was then known as the 21st Century Schools Programme. The most significant part of the proposal involved the establishment of an all-through school on the King Henry VIII School site, which would involve the merger of King Henry VIII Comprehensive and Deri View Primary Schools.

However, the scheme also outlined the Council's commitment to increasing its Welsh medium provision within the area, and agreed that the above scheme would provide the opportunity to relocate Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to the 420 place Deri View Primary School site, subject to statutory consultation processes.

The Statutory consultation process surrounding the new 3-19 School concluded in January 2022 where Cabinet made the decision to establish the school with effect from September 2023. The new school has now opened, albeit the primary and secondary provision is currently located on separate sites whilst we await the completion of the new school building works. It is anticipated that the primary elements of the new provision will relocate to the former King Henry VIII Comprehensive School site during the autumn term 2024, leaving the former Deri View Primary School site vacant.

The above arrangements now mean that we are able to proceed with the statutory consultation processes required to relocate Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to the 420 place site, with effect from April 2025.

4. CURRENT WELSH MEDIUM PROVISION

The Council's Welsh medium offer is currently delivered through the following provision:

Primary Education

The Council currently has two Welsh medium Primary Schools, Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni located in the north of the county in Abergavenny, and Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin located in the south of the county in Caldicot. In addition to this, a new seedling school will open in Monmouth delivering Welsh medium education for those eligible to start Nursery and Reception in September 2024.

Secondary Education

The secondary Welsh medium provision is currently delivered through collaboration arrangements with our partners Torfaen County Council and Newport City Council.

For families residing within the North of the County, children wishing to continue their studies through the medium of Welsh can do so by attending their catchment school of Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw, Torfaen.

For families residing within the South of the County, children wishing to continue their studies through the medium of Welsh can do so by attending their catchment school of Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed, Newport.

5. THE JOURNEY SO FAR

Monmouthshire County Council fully supports and is committed to the Welsh Government's national strategy Cymraeg 2050, which introduces a long-term vision for a Wales where the Welsh Language thrives. The strategy aims to increase the number of Welsh speakers to 1 million by 2050.

The Council has invested significantly to increase the provision that is available to those seeking to be educated through the medium of Welsh:

1. Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin

Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin, located in the South of the County (Caldicot) has been subject to significant investment which has resulted in an increase in its capacity from 180 places to 210 places.

The school has also seen investment through means of building a new "community hwb" on site. The provision currently houses a Cylch Meithrin with wrap around child care facilities alongside flying start provision, all provided through the medium of Welsh. This has been a fantastic investment that has allowed the community to access the Welsh language from the very youngest of ages.

Finally, the Council has worked closely with Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin to establish an immersion facility on site, allowing us to deliver a period of intense Welsh language support to those young people who are considered to be "late comers" to Welsh medium provision.

2. Ysgol Gymraeg Trefynwy (Monmouth)

Welsh Government announced that they would be providing funding to support capital investments and facilitate growth in Welsh medium education and the use of the Welsh language.

Monmouthshire County Council was successful in its bid of around £3.1 million to establish a new Welsh medium seedling School with Early Years and childcare provision in Monmouth. Following a period of statutory consultation, the Council's Cabinet confirmed its decision in September 2023 to establish the provision on the site of Overmonnow Primary School. The seedling school will begin its journey by

offering provision for those children eligible to start Nursery and Reception in September 2024.

3. Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni

Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni, located in the North of the County (Abergavenny) has pleasingly seen increasing numbers and as such has been supported by the Council through means of providing additional accommodation that has increased their capacity from 257 school places to 317 (plus a 60 place Meithrin) giving a total capacity of 347. However, the increase has been delivered through means of renting temporary accommodation on the site of the current school.

The Council acknowledged that this increase in capacity would be a temporary measure whilst options for a longer term, more sustainable option could be delivered. It is felt that the proposals outlined within this consultation document will provide the school and its community with the required facilities to continue its success in growing the Welsh Language.

5. THE PROPOSAL

The proposal is to relocate Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni from it's current site of St Davids Road, Abergavenny, NP7 6HF to the former Deri View Primary School site of Llwynu Lane, Abergavenny, NP7 6AR. The approximate distance between the current site and the proposed site is 0.4 miles.

The proposed relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will enable the capacity of the School to be increased from its current 317 places (45 per year group) to 420 places (60 per year group) with an additional 60 place Meithrin (nursery).

The new school site will also provide the opportunity to establish an immersion centre to mirror that currently offered at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin, Caldicot. The immersion centre will allow a period of intense support to enable those young people considered as "late comers" to the language to be able to access Welsh medium provision alongside their peers.

5.1 REASONS FOR THE PROPOSAL

The proposals outlined within this consultation document have been formed with the follow principles in mind:

1) Our Statutory duties

Monmouthshire County Council fully supports and is committed to the Welsh Government's national strategy Cymraeg 2050, which introduces a long-term vision for a Wales where the Welsh Language thrives. The strategy aims to increase the number of Welsh speakers to 1 million by 2050.

The Council recognises that in order to contribute to this national target, it must deliver on its statutory duties to ensure that there is growth of the Welsh language across the county. One of the ways of us achieving this growth is to continue to develop and improve our provision of Welsh medium education and the benefits it brings. It is hoped that by doing so, there will be an increase in the demand for Welsh medium school places across the County.

2) Responding to existing Welsh Medium demand

Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni is our current Welsh medium primary school that serves the North of the County. The school was originally opened on its current site as a 210 place Primary School, with provision available for 30 children per year group. The demand for Welsh medium education across the area has since increased as shown in the table below:

Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni Numbers on roll (Reception – Year 6) based on January annual census returns:

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
187	213	222	234	230	221	228	250	254

The current numbers on roll (September 2023*) are:

Reception	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Total
31	36	60	26	37	21	30	241

**September 2023 numbers have been quoted as we have not yet reached the January 2024 annual census return.*

In response to this demand, the Council has worked closely with the School and its governing body to increase the capacity of the school within the limitations of its current site. The School now offers a capacity for up to 317 children and young people with year group intake number of 45. In addition to this, the school has a 60 place Meithrin. Unfortunately, the increase in capacity is delivered through temporary accommodation and is not a sustainable option to allow us to reach our aspirations outlined within the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). In addition, there are no opportunities to further increase the capacity of the school on its current site.

3) Quality teaching and learning environments

The Council has committed to ensuring that it offers excellent teaching and learning environments to our children and young people, so that they stand the best chance of achieving excellent outcomes that will set them up for their journey through life.

As mentioned above, the Council over recent years has supported the increase in capacity at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni in response to its growing demand. However, of its 317 available places, 137 places are currently delivered through the use of temporary accommodation, which the Council does not consider to be either suitable or sustainable for the delivery quality teaching and learning in the longer term.

In addition to this, the Headteacher and governing body continue to report concerns around the unsustainable pressures on facilities across the site as a result of increasing numbers on roll.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

In forming its proposal the Council has undertaken a full options appraisal:

Option 1 – Do nothing and maintain the status quo. This would mean that Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni would remain on its current site with its current capacity.

Strengths	Weaknesses
Low Cost	The Council would not be able to grow Welsh Medium provision in the area beyond the current capacity
No disturbance for staff, children and families associated with moving sites	Would not contribute to the Welsh Governments aim of 1 million Welsh Speakers by 2050
No impact on numbers on roll for English medium schools	We would not be meeting our targets of providing excellent teaching and learning facilities as the children on site would continue to receive a large proportion of their teaching and learning through temporary accommodation
	The Council would need to continue to pay costs for the rental of temporary accommodation currently located on the school site
	We would not meet our agreed WESP targets, including increasing the number of learners being educated through the medium of Welsh.

Option 2 – Build a new 420 place Welsh medium Community Primary school to replace the existing Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni School on a new site in the Abergavenny area.

Strengths	Weaknesses
Would help us to achieve the targets outlined in our WESP, including increasing the number of learners being educated through the medium of Welsh.	Extremely high cost and do not have the budget to deliver a brand new school
We would be able to deliver excellent education facilities for the children currently on roll at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	There are no identified building sites available within the Abergavenny area to allow the build of a new school.
New school building could stimulate demand	There is currently a purpose build 420 place primary school with excellent teaching and learning facilities that would not be utilised
Contributes to the Welsh Governments aim of 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050	The timescales would be longer meaning Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni would need to remain on its current site for a significantly longer period
Would no longer be required to fund the rental of the temporary accommodation located on the Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni site	

Option 3 – Increase the capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni on its current site

Strengths	Weaknesses
Would help us to achieve the targets outlined in our WESP, including increasing the number of learners being educated through the medium of Welsh.	Extremely high cost and do not have the budget to deliver the significant building works required
Contributes to the Welsh Governments aim of 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050	The current school site is unlikely to be able to accommodate and further increase in capacity.
The school community would not need to relocate to a new site	There is currently a purpose build 420 place primary school with excellent teaching and learning facilities that would not be utilised.

	The timescales would be longer meaning Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni would need to remain on its current site for a significantly longer period
	It would be difficult to deliver such a project whilst the children are on site
	Temporary accommodation would be required to deliver this proposal

Option 4 – Relocate Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to the site previously occupied by Deri View Primary School

Strengths	Weaknesses
The existing site is suitable to be able to accommodate 420 pupils plus 60 place Meithrin, allowing the numbers of Welsh medium learners to grow	Initial disturbance for staff and pupils through relocating to a new site
The option can be delivered within the budget available to the Council	The new site is approximately 0.4 miles away from the existing site meaning a small increase in travelling distance for some
The site already provides excellent teaching and learning facilities which will benefit	
Would help us to achieve the targets outlined in our WESP, including increasing the number of learners being educated through the medium of Welsh.	
Contributes to the Welsh Governments aim of 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050	
The increase in capacity and improved facilities can be implemented quickly (April 2025)	
We would be making excellent use of a site already equipped to allow the growth of Welsh medium education within the area	

5.1 THE PREFERRED OPTION

Our preferred option is option 4, which is to utilise existing accommodation available at the former Deri View Primary School site in order to increase the capacity of Welsh medium education within the area to 420 places.

This option is not only the most financially viable but delivers excellent teaching and learning facilities and a prompt solution to relieving the accommodation pressures currently experienced on the current Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni site.

5. RISKS AND COUNTER MEASURES

Risks	Counter Measures
The project will not be delivered on time and within budget	Aim to meet the programme dates to deliver on time The project does not involve major building works and the timeline for relocation has been set as a realistic target
Statutory objections are received to the proposals	Ensure thorough statutory consultation processes are followed and key stakeholders are consulted with and fully informed from the outset
Welsh medium demand in the area is not as expected and pupil numbers are low	It is very difficult to predict whether demand for places will be as expected. An appropriate promotion campaign will continue to operate in order to stimulate demand.
The majority of the funding formula is based on pupil numbers and therefore growing schools will see a delay in funding which could put the school in a deficit.	There are elements of the funding formula that offer protection to allow schools to classes of a maximum of 30 in each key stage, in addition to this there is a minimum level of funding built in for management and administration. Several of the premises costs are delegated on floor area which will allow classrooms to be resourced.
Numbers on roll in the English medium schools in the Abergavenny cluster may decline as a result of the proposal	This will be counter balanced by an increase in Welsh medium places but overall the number of places within the cluster will be the same. Should the demand for Welsh medium places increase, a review of English

	medium schools will be undertaken to ensure a sufficient number of places are offered across the cluster.
There may be an increase in surplus places in English medium schools within the cluster	Surplus places are monitored closely, and school reorganisation proposals implemented if necessary

6. SCHOOLS AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSAL

6.1 CURRENT NUMBERS ON ROLL

The following table shows general information on the schools affected or likely to be affected by the proposals. The Language category and the capacity has been calculated using the Welsh Government guidance “Measuring the capacity of schools in Wales” and the capacities below are based on the calculations for 2024/25 academic year.

Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni is the school immediately affected as it is proposed to relocate to a new site with an increased capacity of 420 places plus 60 place Meithrin (Nursery) giving a total capacity for 480 children.

School Name	Language Category	School Type	Capacity & Admission Number	Number of Nursery Places	Age Range	Pupil Numbers September 2023 (Exc Nursery)
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	WM	Community	317 / 45	60	3-11	241

The English medium schools within the cluster have been identified as schools likely to be impacted by proposals, as a desire to increase the numbers of learners accessing Welsh medium education, and in particular Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni in line with this consultation, is likely to result in a decrease in the numbers on roll across our English medium schools.

School Name	Language Category	School Type	Capacity & Admission Number	Number of Nursery Places	Age Range	Pupil Numbers September 2023 (Exc Nursery)
Cantref Primary School	EM	Community	210 / 30	30	3-11	210

Gilwern Primary School	EM	Community	210 / 30	n/a	4-11	212
Goytre Fawr Primary School	EM	Community	210 / 30	n/a	4-11	180
King Henry VIII 3-19 School	EM	Community	420 / 60	60	3-19	232
Llanfoist Fawr Primary School	EM	Community	210 / 30	n/a	4-11	206
Llantilio Pertholey VC Primary School	EM	Voluntary Controlled	210 / 30	n/a	4-11	196
Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary School	EM	Community	77 / 11	n/a	4-11	70
Our Lady and St Michaels RC Primary School	EM	Voluntary Aided	210 / 30	n/a	4-11	204

6.2 NUMBERS ON ROLL TRENDS

The following table shows the number of pupils on roll for the last five annual school censuses for all school affected by the proposal. The figures do not include nursery pupils or pupils on roll at Special Needs Resource bases.

School Name	January 2019	January 2020	January 2021	January 2022	January 2023
Cantref Primary School	210	210	210	209	212
Gilwern Primary School	203	220	213	211	209
Goytre Fawr Primary School	195	178	169	173	180
King Henry VIII 3-19 School	256	271	276	268	253
Llanfoist Fawr Primary School	210	210	204	202	203
Llantilio Pertholey VC Primary School	201	204	184	191	191
Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary School	68	69	71	72	65

Our Lady and St Michaels RC Primary School	179	182	187	197	212
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

6.2 PROJECTED NEED

The Council utilises a range of data to analyse the forecasted demand on school places across the County. Information supplied by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (ABUHB) relating to newborn children within the County enables us to review the demand levels and ensure appropriate provision is in place for those children entering into the Primary and Secondary School system.

The information in the table below identifies the expected pupil numbers in the Abergavenny area over the next period of time. The Projected figures within this document include figures from known housing developments, however, the Council will shortly be publishing a new Local Development Plan (LDP) which will identify additional sites suitable for housing development in the area. The Council anticipates that these additional developments will increase pupil numbers over and above those published below.

6.3 PROJECTED NUMBER ON ROLL AT AFFECTED SCHOOLS

The projections included for the affected schools below have been formed on the basis of the current information that is available to us. This will include current numbers on roll, live birth information available through Health, and any known housing developments that have received planning permission.

The school numbers below are formed on the basis of a cluster projection model, which ensures that there is an appropriate number of school places at schools within the cluster to accommodate any potential oversubscription at individual schools. The projections also model a percentage of young people electing to attend Welsh Medium Education, formed on the basis of current trends, which could of course change and impact on the number attending English / Welsh Medium school(s).

The following table shows the projected numbers on roll over the next five years for Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni (excluding the Meithrin):

School Name	January 2024	January 2025	January 2026	January 2027	January 2028
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	241	250	268	273	284

The following table provides forecasted pupil numbers for the next five years for the schools likely to be affected by the proposals:

School Name	January 2024	January 2025	January 2026	January 2027	January 2028
Cantref Primary School	212	212	212	212	212
Gilwern Primary School	214	216	209	192	194
Goytre Fawr Primary School	181	174	168	172	167
King Henry VIII 3-19 School	250	258	259	257	262
Llanfoist Fawr Primary School	210	210	211	211	212
Llantilio Pertholey VC Primary School	199	195	195	186	191
Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary School	70	61	70	67	65
Our Lady and St Michaels RC Primary School	204	205	202	198	198

6.4 IMPACT OF PROPOSALS ON SURPLUS PLACES

The projected levels of surplus places across the cluster reflecting the increase in capacity at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni are:

Total NOR	January 2024	January 2025	January 2026	January 2027	January 2028
Total expected NOR	1781	1781	1794	1768	1785
Total English medium capacity	1757	1757	1757	1757	1757
Total Welsh medium capacity	317	420	420	420	420

Total English medium surplus	217 / 12.3%	226 / 12.8%	231 / 13.1%	262 / 14.9%	256 / 14.6%
Total Welsh medium surplus	76 / 23.9%	170 / 40.4%	152 / 36.1%	147 / 35%	136 / 32.3%
Total combined surplus	293 / 14.1%	396 / 18.1%	383 / 17.6%	409 / 18.7%	392 / 18%

6.5 BUILDING CONDITION RATINGS

The table below shows the building condition rating as assessed during the most recent condition survey carried out by Monmouthshire County Council for those schools likely to be affected by the proposal:

Condition Rating	Definition
A	As new condition
B	Sound, operationally safe, and exhibiting only minor deterioration
C	Operational but major repair or replacement needed in the short to medium-term (generally 3 years)
D	Inoperable or serious risk of major failure or breakdown

Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni's current building condition rating is shown in the table below:

School Name	Condition rating
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni (current site)	C
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni (proposed site)	C*

*Please note that the published condition rating shown above for the proposed new site is the assessed rating undertaken prior to the planned maintenance and refurbishment works that are associate with this proposal. It is anticipated that the condition rating will significantly improve as a result of these planned works.

For each of the schools affected by proposals, the below table confirms their current building condition rating:

School Name	Condition rating
Cantref Primary School	A
Gilwern Primary School	C
Goytre Fawr Primary School	C
King Henry VIII 3-19 School	A
Llanfoist Fawr Primary School	B
Llantilio Pertholey VC Primary School	C
Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary School	C
Our Lady and St Michaels RC Primary School	C

7. QUALITY AND STANDARDS IN EDUCATION

The leadership team at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will receive support from both the Local Authority and the regional consortia the Education Achievement Service (EAS) to help ensure the school continues to operate effective management and teaching practices. Monmouthshire has a good track record of delivering quality primary education.

Consideration of the potential impact of the proposal on quality and standards is aligned with the Estyn Inspection framework:

Learning

The proposal will not affect the quality of learning in any of the English medium schools in the Abergavenny cluster, however, it will have a positive impact on the young people attending Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni as they move to a location with an improved teaching and learning environment. Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will continue to receive the appropriate level of challenge and support to ensure that high-quality learning is achieved.

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning

The proposed relocation and associated increase in capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni is expected to have a positive impact on the Abergavenny community who

wish to be educated through the medium of Welsh. We anticipate that there will be an increase in parental choice for Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni because the Council will be providing more Welsh medium places in an improved teaching and learning environment. Pupil wellbeing is a priority and is monitored and reported through school self-evaluation processes and improvement plans. The proposal will not impact negatively on wellbeing and attitudes towards learning at the other affected schools.

Teaching and learning experiences

Teaching and learning experiences at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will continue to follow the Curriculum for Wales, with Welsh as the language of teaching and learning. The proposal will not impact the teaching and learning experiences at the other affected schools.

For those currently attending Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni, the proposals are likely to have a hugely positive impact on their teaching and learning experiences as they relocate to an improved environment with excellent teaching and learning facilities.

Care support and guidance

Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will continue to be supported by the local authority and the Education Achievement Service to provide high quality care, support, and guidance. There will be no change in care support and guidance at the other affected schools.

Leadership and management

There will be no change to the quality and effectiveness of leaders and managers at the other affected schools. The school leadership team will continue to receive support and guidance from the local authority and Education Achievement Service to ensure best practice in leadership and management are adopted.

A summary of Estyn Reports for affected schools can be found under appendix 2.

8. WELSH IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN

Monmouthshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan was approved by Welsh Government in June 2022. The increase in capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will enable growth of the Welsh language within the area and will be a central element of our Welsh in Education Strategy to enable us to reach our target of having 115 learners, in each primary year group, being taught through the medium of Welsh by 2031.

The relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni is likely to impact positively on the number of learners opting for Welsh medium education as the accommodation and facilities offered at the new proposed site is far superior to that currently offered at the Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni site.

9. FINANCE

The Council's adopted SOP that formed the proposals to establish a new 3-19 School also identified the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to the former Deri View Primary school site. Capital funding in the region of £1million was identified and agreed during this process to support the relocation and undertake any required refurbishment works associated with this proposal.

The proposal would also result in an increase in capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to become a provision for 420 pupils / two form entry. The school will continue to be funded in line with the adopted funding formula which will allow for the recruitment of additional staff as numbers on roll at the school increase.

10. LAND AND BUILDINGS

This consultation proposes the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni from its current site to the site previously occupied by Deri View Primary School. Should proposals proceed beyond this consultation, the current Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will become vacant.

There are currently no agreed plans for the future use of this site. Any agreed use of the site in future be subject to a separate consultation report.

12. STAFFING

Staff currently employed at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will transfer to the new school site should the proposals proceed to implementation. The proposals do not place existing staff at risk of redundancy.

As well as the relocation of the school site, it is proposed that the capacity of the school increases to become a provision for 420 pupils / two form entry. The school will continue to be funded in line with the adopted funding formula which will allow for the recruitment of additional staff as numbers on roll at the school increase.

13. COMMUNITY IMPACT / EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

13.1 COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Community Impact Assessments are a structured way for the Council to fully understand the implications of its decisions and whether they are detrimental or discriminatory to certain groups or sections of the community. They help the Council to consider the impact of its decisions and policies within and between communities more generally. The Community Impact Assessment process ensures that the Council's decision making process is robust and impacts on all communities within Monmouthshire are fully considered in Council business. By carrying out impact

assessments, the Council is working to promote equality for all our service users, employees and the wider community.

13.2 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Council recognises that people have different needs, requirements and goals and will work actively against all forms of discrimination by promoting good relations and mutual respect within and between our communities, residents, elected members, job applicants and workforce. The Council will also work to create equal access for everyone to our services, irrespective of ethnic origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, religious beliefs or non-belief's, use of Welsh language, BSL or other languages, nationality, responsibility for any dependents, or any other reason which cannot be shown to be justified.

An Equality Impact Assessments has been undertaken and can be found at www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/school-reorganisation

14. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPACT

The proposal supports all of the targets set out in the Welsh Education Strategic Plan. If the proposal were to be implemented Welsh Language provision would be expanded through offering a 420 place school capable of accommodating two forms of entry.

It is evident from the information provided above that the proposal would have a positive impact on Welsh Language provision within the area and in particular Abergavenny.

15. ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Monmouthshire County Council will continue to be responsible for the admission arrangements at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni, and any decisions undertaken in line with the agreed School Admission Policy.

Parents / carers will have the opportunity to complete an application online and can express up to three preferences. The Local Authority operates an equal preference scheme, which means that all preferences are considered equally in line with the Local Authority's oversubscription criteria, and not on the basis of the order in which they are listed on the application form.

15.1 CATCHMENT AREAS

Catchment Areas

There are no proposals to amend the catchment area for Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni as a result of these proposals. The agreed catchment areas for Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni, Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin and Ysgol Gymraeg Trefynwy can be found under appendix 1.

16. HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT

The proposals outlined within this document are not expected to have an impact on Home to school transport arrangements. Home to school transport will be provided to Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni in line with the current policy, which states pupils who attend their nearest or catchment primary school and reside more than 1.5 miles away will be eligible.

Further details of the home to school transport policy can be found on the following link:

<https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/school-transport-home-to-school>

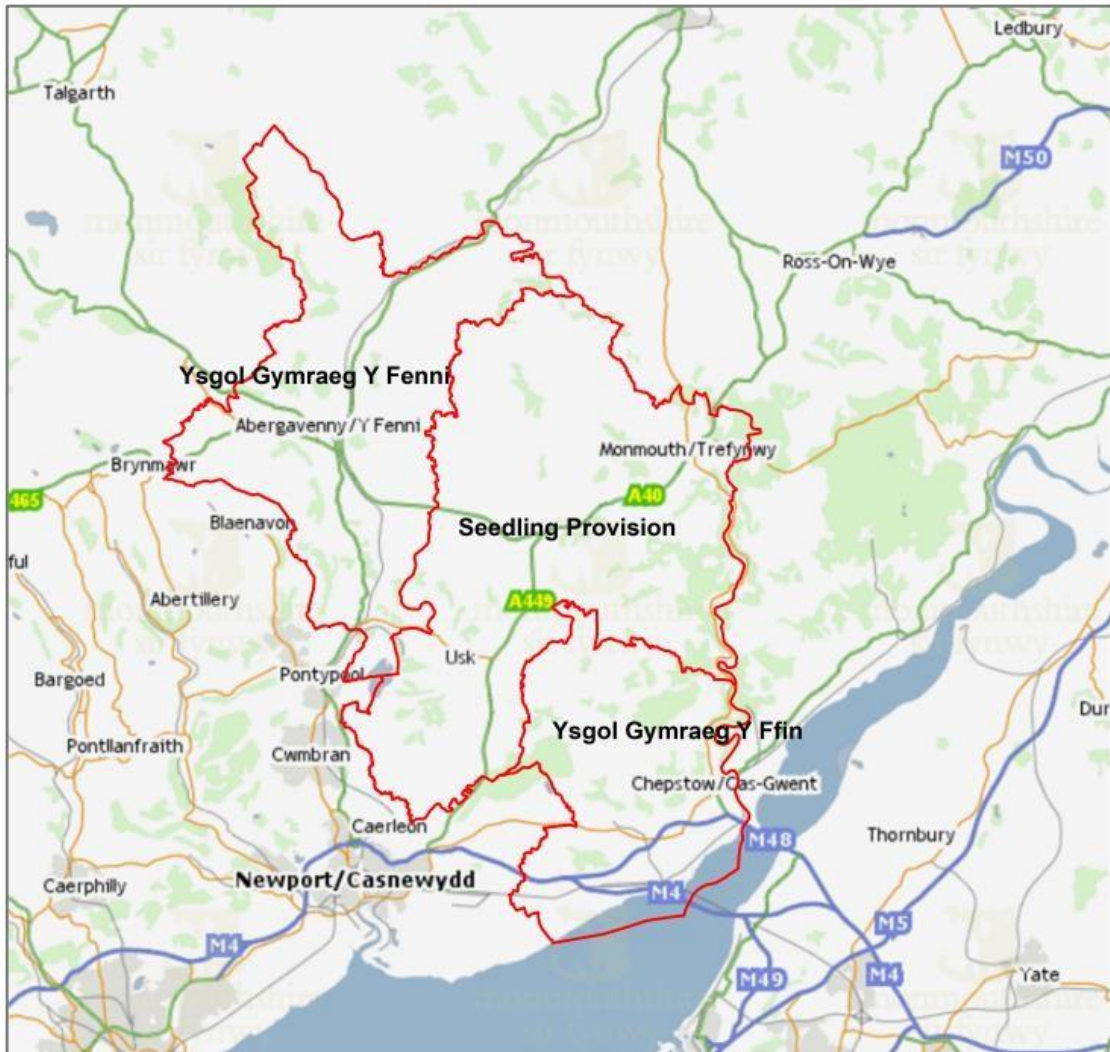
17. OTHER INFORMATION

Further Information and regular up-dates on this proposal can be found on the following webpage:

www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/school-reorganisation

Frequently asked questions will be up-loaded weekly and put onto the Monmouthshire County Council Website.

18. APPENDIX 1 - AGREED CATCHMENT AREAS



19. APPENDIX 2 - ESTYN REPORTS

Cantref Primary School

Inspection date	Recommendations	Follow-up
2023	R1 Ensure that the curriculum is meaningful for all pupils and builds systematically and coherently across the school. R2 Ensure that pupils have regular opportunities to improve their own work.	No

Cantref Primary School has received the lowest level of support for the last five years. It has maintained standards across the school over the last nine years.

Gilwern Primary School

Inspection date	Recommendations	Follow-up
2022	R1 Improve teaching, particularly for pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 R2 Improve pupils' reading and writing skills, especially from Year 3 to Year 6 R3 Improve processes to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of teaching. R4 Address the site safety issue that was identified during the inspection	No

Gilwern Primary School has received an enhanced level of support over the last year and as result of the progress made to address the four recommendations from the last Estyn inspection, it is no longer in Estyn follow-up.

Llanfoist Fawr Primary School

Inspection date	Recommendations	Follow-up
2023	R1 Improve self-evaluation processes across the federation. R2 Ensure that teaching is consistently good across the federation of schools. R3 Improve provision to support pupils to become independent learners. R4 Improve pupils' Welsh oracy skills.	No

Llanfoist Fawr Primary School has received the lowest level of support for the last five years. The school successfully federated with Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary School in September 2018.

Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary School

Inspection date	Recommendations	Follow-up
2023	R1 Improve self-evaluation processes across the federation. R2 Ensure that teaching is consistently good across the federation of schools. R3 Improve provision to support pupils to become independent learners. R4 Improve pupils' Welsh oracy skills.	No

Llanvihangel has received the lowest level of support for the last five years. The school successfully federated Llanfoist Fawr with Primary School in September 2018.

Our Lady and St Michael's Roman Catholic Primary School

Inspection date	Outcomes	Provision	Leadership and Management	Overall Performance		Follow-up
				Performance	Prospects for Improvement	
2016	Good	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Estyn Monitoring

In the latest national categorisation for schools across Wales, Our Lady and St. Michael's Roman Catholic Primary School is in a limited support category for the second year in succession and is an improvement from an enhanced level of support in 2017/18, indicating that the school requires less support to improve standards further. Estyn removed the school from the list of schools requiring monitoring in 2017.

Llantillio Pertholey Church in Wales Primary School

Inspection date	Outcomes	Provision	Leadership and Management	Overall Performance		Follow-up
				Performance	Prospects for Improvement	
2016	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Estyn Monitoring

Llantillio Pertholey Church in Wales Primary School has received an enhanced level of support over the last three years. Estyn removed the school from the list of schools requiring monitoring in 2018.

Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni

Inspection date	Outcomes	Provision	Leadership and Management	Overall Performance		Follow-up
				Performance	Prospects for Improvement	
2017	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	No

Estyn invited the school to submit an Excellent Practice Case following the inspection in 2017. In the latest national categorisation for schools across Wales, Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni continues to receive a low level of support.

New Inspection Framework (September 2017 onwards)

Goytre Fawr Primary School

Inspection date	Outcomes	Provision	Leadership and Management	Overall Performance		Follow-up
				Performance	Prospects for Improvement	
2019	Good	Good	Good	Good	Adequate	No

The level of support in Goytre Fawr has been low during the last five years. Estyn removed the school from the list of schools requiring monitoring in 2020.

Changes to school performance reporting means that we are unable to provide information about the academic performance of individual schools. This includes outcomes from teacher assessment and external examinations.

20. APPENDIX 3 - LIST OF CONSULTEES

- Parents, carers/guardians and staff members of schools affected by the proposal
- The governing body of any school affected by the proposal
- Pupils/Pupil Councils of schools directly affected by the proposal
- Headteachers of schools affected by the proposal
- Welsh Ministers
- All MCC Town and Community Councils
- All MCC Assembly Members representing the area served by the school
- All Members of Parliament representing MCC area
- All MCC Libraries
- Directors of Education of all bordering LAs – Blaenau Gwent, Newport, Powys, Torfaen, Herefordshire, Gloucestershire
- MCC Youth Service
- GAVO
- Monmouthshire Governors Association
- Teaching trade unions
- Support Staff trade unions
- Welsh Language Commissioner
- Welsh Ministers
- ESTYN
- RHAG
- Mudiad Meithrin
- Church in Wales Diocesan Trust, Director of Education
- Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust, Director of Education
- South East Wales Consortium
- South East Wales Education Achievement Service
- Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner
- Early Years & Childcare Partnership
- Welsh in Education Forum



PROPOSAL – *relocate and extend the capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni*

YOUR VIEWS

We would like your views on the above proposal. Please complete this pro-forma and return it to the address at the bottom, alternatively it can be handed in at the consultation event or there is an on-line response pro-forma available at www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/school-reorganisation

Access Unit, Monmouthshire County Council, County Hall, Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA
or email strategicreview@monmouthshire.gov.uk.

Please tick the box if you wish to be notified of the publication of the consultation
report.

This page is intentionally left blank



Integrated Impact Assessment document

(incorporating Equalities, Future Generations, Welsh Language and Socio Economic Duty)

<p>Name of the Officer Matt Jones</p> <p>Phone no:01633644508</p> <p>E-mail: matthewdjones@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</p> <p>To consult on the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to the former Deri View Primary School site, allowing an increase in capacity to 420 places</p>
<p>Name of Service area Children and Young People</p>	<p>Date December 2023</p>

Page 121

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	The school will provide additional Welsh medium education for children aged 3-11 living in Abergavenny.	Welsh medium education for children aged 12-19 is not yet available in Monmouthshire	MCC in collaboration with neighbouring authorities in Southeast Wales are looking at potential options across the region
Disability	The proposed new site will be fully accessible to allow those with disabilities to be able to access the site.	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	n/a	n/a
Marriage or civil partnership	No impact	n/a	n/a
Pregnancy or maternity	No impact	n/a	n/a
Race	No impact	n/a	n/a
Religion or Belief	No impact	n/a	n/a
Sex	The provision will be co-educational including boys and girls.	n/a	n/a

Page 12

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?
Sexual Orientation	No impact	n/a	n/a

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 socioeconomic 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?

<p>Socio-economic Duty and Social Justice</p>	<p>It is hoped that this proposal will increase the number of Welsh speakers in Monmouthshire. Being bilingual has many advantages, for example, due to the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 the ability to speak Welsh is either an essential or desirable skill for a growing number of jobs such as health, education, leisure, childcare and retail. This is especially the case in the provision of public services where the Welsh Language Standards require local authorities, fire and rescue service and police etc to provide their services to the same standards in both Welsh and English. The expansion of Welsh medium education across Monmouthshire means that more learners will have the opportunity to become bilingual thereby giving them a real advantage in securing employment opportunities</p>	<p>Time, distance and cost of travel has been identified as a challenge for some learners, particularly those suffering from socio economic disadvantage. As a result, Welsh medium education is not a genuine option for some learners. Learners who did not start Welsh medium education in Nursery or Reception have been unable to join in later years.</p>	<p>The Local Authority plan to review the School Transport Policy to ensure that it provides learners with a genuine opportunity to have a Welsh medium education. The increase in capacity in Aberrgavenny and the development looking at secondary provision in partnership with Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr Tydfil and Powys will create potential. This will allow more choice to parents wishing to provide Welsh medium education to their children. The development of an Immersion provision within Monmouthshire means that all learners, irrespective of age or linguistic background, will be able to benefit from a Welsh medium education.</p>
--	---	---	--

3. Policy making and the Welsh language.

<p>How does your proposal impact on the following aspects of the Council's Welsh Language Standards:</p>	<p>Describe the positive impacts of this proposal</p>	<p>Describe the negative impacts of this proposal</p>	<p>What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts</p>
<p>Policy Making</p> <p>Effects on the use of the Welsh language,</p> <p>Promoting Welsh language</p> <p>Treating the Welsh language no less favourably</p>	<p>Should the proposal be agreed it will have a positive impact on the Welsh Language as we will be increasing the number of Welsh medium places. This will enable families to access Welsh medium education closer to their home. They will also have access to Welsh medium nursery and childcare. The proposal will significantly promote the Welsh language offer in Abergavenny, this links directly with the Council's ambition to support the Cymraeg 2050 strategy of 1 million Welsh speakers and also the targets set out in the Council's Welsh Language 5-year strategy 22-27 and also the targets set in the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2232.</p> <p>The proposal allows for the opportunity to develop an immersion centre on site which will allow "late comers" to access Welsh medium education, providing further opportunities to increase the number of Welsh speakers within the county.</p>	<p>The relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will not involve a move to a brand new building for WELSH Medium Education.</p> <p>There is currently no Welsh medium secondary provision in Monmouthshire so there will still be long travelling times to Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw in Torfaen.</p> <p>It is unlikely that there will be a negative impact on existing home to school transport arrangements, as the relocation of the school is only 0.4 miles from its existing site. However, for those residing on the border of the 1.5 miles distance criteria, their entitlement could be withdrawn.</p>	<p>The proposed new building for Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will receive investment in the region of £1 million to refurbish identified areas prior to relocating.</p> <p>MCC will continue to develop its discussions and engagement with Powys County Council and Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council to secure new Welsh medium secondary provision in the north of Gwent / south Powys area to mitigate the potential negative impact of this proposal.</p> <p>The council's Welsh in Education Forum (WEF) will be kept closely informed and involved in discussions on this. The Council will continue its on-going dialogue with Torfaen County Borough Council regarding the provision at Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw so that Welsh medium secondary education at the school remains an attractive option for pupils who wish to</p>

			<p>receive a wholly immersive Welsh education experience.</p> <p>Home to school transport to the new site would only be withdrawn if the new site means that they reside within 1.5 miles from the home address. This is considered to be a reasonable walking distance, and is inside the criteria of 2 miles that is set by Welsh Government</p>
<p>Operational Recruitment & Training of workforce</p>	<p>The increase in Welsh medium capacity will generate the need for a greater number of Welsh Medium teachers and support staff in the Abergavenny area over time. This will create opportunities for Welsh speakers in Monmouthshire and outside of the area to be able to utilise their Welsh language skills in the work environment. Recruitment Will be easier and can be gradually.</p>	<p>There is a risk that we may not be able to secure sufficient Welsh speaking teachers / staff to fulfil the requirements of the new school.</p>	<p>In order to mitigate this risk, we will actively engage closely with our colleagues in the Welsh Government, the Education Achievement Service (EAS) and the local higher education institutes to help facilitate greater numbers of Welsh Medium teachers. We will also use all available recruitment tools at our disposal to aid the recruitment process – social media (twitter, facebook, you tube), council website, bespoke Welsh Medium recruitment sites, Linkedin etc. We will engage with our partners in the Welsh in Education Forum (WEF) to assist us in this process utilising their expertise and range of contacts</p>

<p>Service delivery</p> <p>Use of Welsh language in service delivery</p> <p>Promoting use of the language</p>	<p>Should the consultation document be agreed it will be distributed to stakeholders in both Welsh and English.</p> <p>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</p> <p>The consultation feedback survey will provide the opportunity for respondents to advise us of any positive or negative impacts on the Welsh Language that they feel will occur as a result of these proposals</p>	<p>There is a risk that we will not be able to recruit sufficient Welsh speaking specialist local authority staff to deliver all services in Welsh.</p>	<p>To mitigate this risk, we will actively engage closely with colleagues in the Welsh Government, and the local higher education institutes to help facilitate greater numbers of Welsh Medium staff. We will also use all available recruitment tools at our disposal to aid the recruitment process – social media (Twitter, Facebook, YouTube), council website, bespoke Welsh Medium recruitment sites, LinkedIn etc. We will engage with our partners in the Welsh Medium Education Forum (WEF) to assist us in this process utilizing their expertise and range of contacts</p>
--	---	---	--

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?
<p>A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs</p>	<p>The ability to speak Welsh is either an essential or desirable skill for a growing number of jobs such as health, education, leisure, childcare, retail, and public services. This means that more learners will have increased employment opportunities as a result of being Bilingual in Welsh and English. There will be Increased employment opportunities within the proposed new school</p>	<p>No impact</p>




<p>A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and land, river and coastal ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	<p>No Impact</p>	<p>No Impact</p>
<p>A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood</p>	<p>This proposal would result in more children being able to access Welsh medium provision in their community and be able to walk to school rather than being transported.</p>	<p>No Impact</p>
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected</p>	<p>Parents seeking Welsh medium education for their children in the Abergavenny area will be able to access provision within their community. This will increase the opportunities for more learners to use the Welsh language outside of school in social settings and a range of authentic contexts.</p>	<p>No Impact</p>
<p>A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing</p>	<p>No Impact</p>	<p>No Impact</p>
<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People</p>	<p>If the proposal is agreed The Welsh Government's strategy of One Million Welsh Speakers will be supported by the increase in the number of pupils being educated through the medium of Welsh.</p>	<p>No Impact</p>
<p>Well Being Goal</p>	<p>Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.</p>	<p>What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</p>

Page 128
 128

are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation		
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	The expansion of Welsh medium education in Abergavenny means that more learners will have the opportunity to become bilingual in both English and Welsh and increase their chances of securing employment as adults and fulfilling their potential.	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>	If learners are able to attend a Welsh medium primary school in their local community or within a short traveling time, they are more likely to choose and continue their education through the medium of Welsh.	No Impact
 <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p>	This proposal is supported by our Welsh in Education Forum (WEF), the forum is represented by a number of key partners who are consulted with and are crucial in the delivery of our WESP targets.	No Impact
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>The school is to serve the entire Aberavenny cluster and all those affected by the proposal will be consulted with as part of the statutory consultation process. In addition, the WEF members have been actively engaged on the proposal.</p>	<p>No Impact</p>
 <p>Prevention</p>	<p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>Currently families wanting to access Welsh medium Education may be deterred by the pressured site and temporary accommodation. This may be suppressing demand and resulting in parents not choosing Welsh medium education. Having a purpose built 420 place school for Welsh medium may resolve this issue and also stimulate demand.</p>	<p>No Impact</p>
 <p>Integration</p>	<p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>Having Welsh medium provision available in the local community will have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of pupils in Aberavenny.</p>	<p>No impact</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 arrangement will continue to be in place at the new site.	No impact	No Impact
Corporate Parenting	No Impact		

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

Faithful and Gould condition and suitability survey including identified backlog maintenance requirements (the Proposal document cites local backlog maintenance measures)

Data supplied by Health on the number of "live births" within the County.

Data from Planning on number of Housing Developments planned for the immediate coming years. Current numbers on school rolls and trend analysis.

Surplus places – data from MCC Access team

Planning of school places data – MCC Access team

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 benefits of the proposal is by increasing the number of Welsh medium place in Abergavenny delivered through improved teaching and learning facilities, we are likely to increase the demand for those wishing to be educated through the medium of Welsh. This will in turn increase the amount of Welsh medium places across Monmouthshire so meeting our targets within our WESP. We will also be contributing to the Welsh governments strategy of 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050.

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
N/A		

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
1	CYP DMT	08/01/24	
2	Cabinet – permission to consult	17/01/24	
3	Cabinet – consultation feedback and final decision making	July 24	

This page is intentionally left blank

Monmouthshire's Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2024

People Scrutiny Committee				
Meeting Date	Subject	Purpose of Scrutiny	Responsibility	Type of Scrutiny
23 rd January 2024	Scrutiny of the Budget Proposals	Scrutiny of the budget proposals relating to the Committee's remit.	Peter Davies Jonathon Davies Councillor Garrick/Callard	Budget Scrutiny
Special Meeting 6 th February 2024	Development of Residential Provision: Accommodation and Delivery Model for Care	To scrutinise a model to increase in-county placement options and provide care without profit.	Jane Rodgers	Policy Development
	Scrutiny of the Strategic Equality Plan	Scrutiny of the Strategic Equality Plan following the consultation period.	Matthew Gatehouse Angela Sandles	Policy Development
5 th March 2024	Primary School Catchment Areas	To scrutinise Cabinet's plans and contribute to the consultation arrangements.	Will Mclean Matthew Jones	Policy Development
	Proposal to move Ysgol Y Fenni to a new site	To scrutinise the proposal during the consultation period.	Will Mclean Matthew Jones	Policy Development
16 th April 2024	Empty Homes Update (To be confirmed)		Clare Hamer	Policy Update

Monmouthshire's Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2024

People Scrutiny Committee				
Meeting Date	Subject	Purpose of Scrutiny	Responsibility	Type of Scrutiny
	TBC ~ Local Housing Market Assessment		Sally Meyrick	Pre-decision Scrutiny
11th June 2024	Planning and Provision of School Places TBC	To scrutinise data and projections for pupil places and the impact of future housing development.	Will Mclean Matthew Jones	Policy Development
23rd July 2024	TBC ~ Revised NEET Reduction Strategy	To scrutinise the revised strategy prior to Cabinet decision.	Hannah Jones Louise Wilce	Policy Development
24th September 2024				
12th November 2024				
21st January 2025				
18th February 2025				
1st April 2025				
To be confirmed	Young Carers Strategy and the Carers Strategy	Pre-decision Scrutiny of the strategies.	Kim Dolphin Councillor Chandler	Pre-decision Scrutiny

Monmouthshire's Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2024

People Scrutiny Committee				
Meeting Date	Subject	Purpose of Scrutiny	Responsibility	Type of Scrutiny
To be confirmed	Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan	To receive a progress report.	Rebecca Creswell	Policy Review

This page is intentionally left blank

Action List for People Scrutiny Committee

Meeting:	6th February 2024	
People Scrutiny Committee		
Minute:	Action	Officer / Member
5	<p>Developing children’s residential and 16+ supported accommodation placements</p> <p>ACTION – The committee endorsed the proposals and formal feedback as per the chair’s summary would be given to the Cabinet Member.</p>	<p>Hazel Ilett Jane Rodgers</p>
6	<p>Strategic Equality Plan</p> <p>ACTION: The Committee supported the Strategy and formal feedback as per the chair’s summary would be given to the Cabinet Member.</p>	<p>Matt Gatehouse Angela Sandles</p>

This page is intentionally left blank

Committee / Decision Maker	Meeting date / Decision due	Report Title	Responsible Cabinet Member	Purpose	Author	Date item added to the planner
Council	01-Jul-25	RLDP for Adoption	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To adopt the RLDP following receipt of the Inspector's report, making it the County's Development Plan as defined by S38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004	Mark Hand / Rachel Lewis	23-Aug-22
Cabinet	06-Nov-24	Local Flood Risk Management Strateg			Mark Hand	19-Feb-24
Cabinet	06-Nov-24				Hannah Jones	4-Sep-23
Cabinet	02-Oct-24	Adoption of Abergavenny Placemaking Plan	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To adopt the Abergavenny Placemaking Plan, co-produced with Abergavenny Town Council, to inform future regeneration priorities and grant bids	Mark Hand / Dan Fordham	3-Oct-22
Cabinet	02-Oct-24	Adoption of Magor Placemaking Plan	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Mark Hand / Dan Fordham	3-Oct-22
Cabinet	02-Oct-24	Adoption of Monmouth Placemaking Plan	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To adopt the Monmouth Placemaking Plan, co-produced with Monmouth Town Council, to inform future regeneration priorities and grant bids	Mark Hand / Dan Fordham	3-Oct-22
Cabinet	02-Oct-24	Road Safety Strategy	Catrin Maby	To adopt the Road Safety Strategy	Mark Hand / Paul Keeble	4-Oct-22
Council	19-Sep-24	RLDP submission for examination	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To endorse the submission of the Deposit RLDP to the Welsh Government for examination by an independent Inspector. By agreeing, Council will be saying it wants this document to be the adopted RLDP for Monmouthshire.	Mark Hand / Rachel Lewis	23-Aug-22
Cabinet	04-Sep-24	Pavement Café Policy	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To adopt the pavement café policy as the basis for making decisions on applications for licences	Mark Hand / Paul Keeble	4-Oct-22
Council	20-Jun-24	RLDP Deposit Plan endorsement for consultation	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To endorse the Deposit RLDP for public consultation and engagement.	Mark Hand / Rachel Lewis	5-Jan-23

Council	16-May-24	Political Balance Report	Angela Sandles - Engagement		James Williams	
	16-May-24	Appointments to Committees	Angela Sandles - Engagement		James Williams	
Council	16-May-24	Outside Bodies	Angela Sandles - Engagement		James Williams	
Council	16-May-24	Financial Strategy	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	
Cabinet	15-May-24	Local Housing Market Assessment	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	The LHMA provides a review of the need for affordable and market housing across Monmouthshire and an overview of the current housing market.	Sally Meyrick	8-Jan-24
Cabinet	15-May-24	Local Flood Strategy	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Mark Hand	9-Oct-23
Council	18-Apr-24	CJC Transition Arrangements	Mary Ann Brocklesby - Whole Authority Strategy	To update the Council regarding transition arrangements from CJC to CCR	Paul Matthews	12-Jan-24
Council	18-Apr-24	Placement Development Strategy	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding	development of in-county residential and supported accommodation placements for children who are looked after. To make recommendations about i) changing the use of 3 existing properties in order to support the strategy	Jane Rodgers / Diane Corrister	8-Jan-24
ICMD	17-Apr-24	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 4 held on 7th March 2024	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Dave Jarrett	30-Mar-23
Cabinet	10-Apr-24	Public Spaces Protection Order Dog Controls	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Huw Owen	19-Feb-24

Cabinet	10-Apr-24	Primary School catchment areas consultation feedback	Martyn Groucutt - Education	For Members to receive feedback on the consultation relating to a review of Primary School catchments areas and determine whether to implement proposals	Matthew Jones	20-Nov-23
Cabinet	10-Apr-24	Cconsultation on the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni		To receive feedback on the statutory consultation concerning the proposed relocation and increase in capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni.	Matthew Jones	26-Feb-24
Cabinet	10-Apr-24	Climate and Nature Emergency		To receive an update on progress made towards the Climate and Nature Emergency Strategy and to agree the new overarching Climate and Nature Emergency Strategy and action plan format	Hazel Clatworthy	19-Oct-23
Cabinet	10-Apr-24	Local Transport Plan	Catrin Maby	To adopt the Local Transport Plan	Debra Hill-Howells / Christian Schmidt	4-Oct-22
Cabinet	10-Apr-24	Sustainable Communities for Learning Strategic Outline Programme update	Martyn Groucutt - Education	To provide members with details of the revisions to the Strategic Outline Programme for the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme which will inform the development of projects within the rolling programme of	Debbie Graves	12-Sep-23
ICMD	27-Mar-24	Experimental TRO Prohibition of driving except for access Goldwire Lane Monmouth	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment		Graham Kinsella	
ICMD	13-Mar-24	Increase in building control charges	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Craig O'Connor	
Cabinet	06-Mar-24	To consider a Business Case for the acquisition of a property for use as a registered children's home	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding		jane Rodgers	13-Feb-24
Council	29-Feb-24	Agree the name of the new Welsh-medium Primary School in Monmouth	Martyn Groucutt - Education	Agree the name of the new Welsh-medium Primary School in Monmouth	Debbie Graves	15-Nov-23
Council	29-Feb-24	Standards Committee Appointment			James Williams	6-Feb-24

Council	29-Feb-24	Strategic Equality Plan 2024		To seek approval of a new Strategic Equality Plan for the period 2024-28, incorporating MCCs contribution to national action plans on race equality, LGBTQ and other protected characteristics	Matthew Gatehouse	15-Nov-23
Council	29-Feb-24	Appointment of Monmouthshire Local Access Forum		To secure the appointment of members to the Monmouthshire Local Access Forum for its next 3 year period.	Matthew Lewis	18-Jan-23
Council	29-Feb-24	Final Budget Proposals	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	
Council	29-Feb-24	Capital and Treasury Strategy	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	
Council	29-Feb-24	Council Diary	Angela Sandles - Engagement		John Pearson	
ICMD	28-Feb-24	WCF/Trust Treasury Fund Investment	Ben Callard - Resources			
Cabinet	28-Feb-24	2023/24 Revenue and Capital Monitoring - Month 9	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	27-Apr-23
Cabinet	28-Feb-24	2023/24 Final Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	
Cabinet	07-Feb-24	Economic Development Strategy		REFRESHING THE MONMOUTHSHIRE BUSINESS GROWTH & ENTERPRISE STRATEGY and action plan in setting the economic ambition for the county and providing a strategic framework that guides future economic	Hannah Jones	9-Jan-23
ICMD	24-Jan-24	Amendment to Street Naming and Numbering Policy regarding Replacement or additional Street nameplate signs for Existing Streets	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment		Mark Hand	2-Jan-24

ICMD	24-Jan-24	Community Council & Police Precepts - Determination	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	
Council	18-Jan-24	Introduction of Council Tax Premiums for Second homes from 1 st April 2024	Ben Callard - Resources	Council to re affirm their decision on the Second Home Premium	Ruth Donovan	5-Dec-23
Council	18-Jan-24	Council Tax Reduction Scheme	Ben Callard - Resources		Ruth Donovan	
Council	18-Jan-24	Asset Management Strategy			Nick Keyse	28-Sep-23
Cabinet	17-Jan-24	Community & Corporate Plan performance update	Mary Ann Brocklesby - Whole Authority Strategy	To provide cabinet with the latest performance report of commitments in the Community and Corporate Plan	Richard Jones	5-Sep-23
Cabinet	17-Jan-24	REPURPOSING OF ACCOMMODATION IN THE COUNTY FARMS PORTFOLIO TO SUPPORT HOMELESSNESS AND OTHER POLICY OBJECTIVES		To seek approval for the repurposing of vacant cottages held within the County Farms Portfolio to support policy objectives such as alleviating pressures with homelessness and to address the reliance on unsuitable temporary accommodation.	Nick Keyse	4-Dec-23
Cabinet	17-Jan-24	consultation on the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	Martyn Groucutt - Education		Matthew Jones	23-Aug-23
Cabinet	17-Jan-24	Approval of the revised MCC Counter Fraud, Corruption & Bribery Policy	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Jan Furtek	2-Nov-23
Cabinet	17-Jan-24	Draft Budget Proposals	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	29-Sep-23
ICMD	03-Jan-24	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 3 held on 7th December 2023 Meeting didn't happen	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Dave Jarrett	30-Mar-23

ICMD	20-Dec-23	Community Council & Police Precepts - Proposed payment schedule	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	
ICMD	20-Dec-23	Additional resources for the Revenues and Benefits Shared Service'	Ben Callard - Resources		Ruth Donovan	
ICMD	20-Dec-23	Council Tax Base Report	Ben Callard - Resources		Ruth Donovan	
ICMD	20-Dec-23	LDP Annual Monitoring Report	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To endorse the LDP Annual Monitoring Report for submission to WG	Mark Hand / Rachel Lewis	16-Jan-23
Cabinet	13-Dec-23	King Henry VIII 3 – 19 School Funding Formula	Martyn Groucutt - Education	To update Cabinet with the consultation feedback regarding the proposed fair funding formula for King Henry 3 – 19 School in Abergavenny.	Nikki Wellington	23-Nov-23
Cabinet	13-Dec-23	Children's Services: Foster Carer Recruitment and Retention – Foster Friendly Policy	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding	The purpose of the report is to outline a proposal to create a policy that supports MCC employees who are existing foster carers or wish to become foster carers through offering an appropriate leave entitlement.	Dr Charlotte Drury	9-Nov-23
Cabinet	13-Dec-23	Primary catchment review			Matthew Jones	23-Jun-23
Cabinet	13-Dec-23	Whole Authority Strategic Risk Assessment	Mary Ann Brocklesby - Whole Authority Strategy	To provide Cabinet with an overview of the current strategic risks facing the authority and to seek approval of the strategic risk assessment	Richard Jones	5-Sep-23
Cabinet	13-Dec-23	2023/24 Revenue and Capital Monitoring - Month 6	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Jon Davies	27-Apr-23
Council	07-Dec-23	Relocation of PRS in South Monmouthshire	Martyn Groucutt - Education	Relocation of South Monmouthshire PRS	Morwenna Wagstaff	13-Nov-23

Council	07-Dec-23	DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT		to provide Council with an overview of SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH directorate with a focus on year 2022 – 2023.	Jane Rodgers	31-Jul-23
Council	07-Dec-23	SAFEGUARDING ANNUAL EVALUTION REPORT		To provide Council with the annual self-evaluation of safeguarding from a whole authority perspective.	Jane Rodgers / Diane Corrister	31-Jul-23
ICMD	29-Nov-23	Whole Authority Safeguarding Policy	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding		Naomi Lovesay	3-Nov-23
ICMD	29-Nov-23	Museums - Accredited			Rachael Rogers	12-Oct-23
ICMD	29-Nov-23	A013 Highway Traffic Regulation Amendment Order	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment		Mark Hand	18-Sep-23
ICMD	29-Nov-23	A012 Highway Traffic Regulation Amendment Order	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	Speed limit changes at Caerwent Brook/Dewstow Road	Mark Hand	18-Sep-23
ICMD	15-Nov-23	'Planning Annual Performance Report	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	Double yellows at Main Road, Portskewett, leading to S	Mark Hand / Rachel Lewis	16-Jan-23
ICMD	15-Nov-23	A012 Highway Traffic Regulation Amendment Order MOVED TO 29TH NOV		To endorse the Planning Department Annual Performance Report for submission to WG	Mark Hand	18-Sep-23
ICMD	15-Nov-23	A013 Highway Traffic Regulation Amendment Order MOVED TO 29TH NOV		Double yellows at Main Road, Portskewett, leading to S	Mark Hand	18-Sep-23
Cabinet	15-Nov-23	DEVELOPING THE FUTURE MY DAY MY LIFE BASES	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding	Speed limit changes at Caerwent Brook/Dewstow Road	Jane Rodgers	7-Nov-23
				This report presents the findings of the final options appraisal for the proposed future My Day, My Life bases in Abergavenny, and to seek approval of the recommended base.		

Cabinet	15-Nov-23	Budget Process and timetable	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Jon Davies	
Cabinet	08-Nov-23	Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual letter 2022-23 to Monmouthshire County Council		The purpose is to fulfil the expectation of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales that their report is brought to the attention of Cabinet.	Annette Evans/Matthew Gatehouse	17-Oct-23
Cabinet	08-Nov-23	RIPA Review		To review RIPA strategy and arrangements	Geraint Edwards	25-Sep-23
Cabinet	08-Nov-23	2023/24 Revenue and Capital Monitoring - Month 5	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Jon Davies	
Council	26-Oct-23	Monmouthshire County Council Self- assessment 2022/23		to seek Council approval of the Self-Assessment report 2022/23 in line with requirements outlined in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and to ensure that members have a clear and transparent assessment of the Council's	Richard Jones	4-Jul-23
Council	26-Oct-23	RPB Area Plan			Jane Rodgers	4-Jul-23
Council	26-Oct-23	RLDP Preferred Strategy consultation report	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To endorse the RLDP Preferred Strategy including any proposed changes arising from the public consultation.	Mark Hand / Rachel Lewis	3-Oct-22
ICMD	25-Oct-23	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 2 held on 21st September 2023	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Dave Jarrett	30-Mar-23
Cabinet	11-Oct-23	Disposal of Land at Natgavenny Lane	Rachel Garrick - Resources	To seek Cabinet approval for the disposal of a parcel of land adjacent to the Nantgavenny Lane Busines Park, Mardy, Abergavenny	Nick Keyse	
Cabinet	11-Oct-23	Developing a base for My Day My Life in Monmouth and Abergavenny	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding	Further to the recommendations from the Practice Solutions review, the report sets out the criteria and decision making in respect of which bases to develop for the My Day My Life in both Monmouth and Abergavenny, and makes a recommendation on the	Ceri York	25-Sep-23

ICMD	11-Oct-23	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – TCBC AND MCC HERITAGE SERVICES IN RELATION TO MAMHILAD NYLON SPINNERS LISTED BUILDING.	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	The purpose of this report is to propose that MCC join into an MoU in relation to the provision of Heritage Advice to consider the ongoing management of the Nylon Spinners listed building at Mamhilad.	Amy Longford	22-Sep-23
Cabinet	04-Oct-23	Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Consultation			Cath Fallon	4-Sep-23
ICMD	27-Sep-23	Extending Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPOs) to tackle Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)		To seek approval to extend three Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) in respect of Bailey Park, Abergavenny; Lower Abergavenny (including Castle Meadows) and Monmouth Town (including Chippenham	Andrew Mason	31-Aug-23
Council	21-Sep-23	REPORT ON JOINT SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS FOR CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEES			Hazel Ilett	4-Sep-23
Council	21-Sep-23	Governance and Audit Committee Annual Report 2022/23	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To inform Council of the work and conclusions of the Governance and Audit Committee from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023	Chair of Governance and Audit Committee, Andrew Blackmore	27th July 2023
Council	21-Sep-23	Standards Committee Annual Report		This report is the first annual report from the Standards Committee to Council as required by the change in law set out in the Local Government and Elections Act 2021. It has to report on the discharge of the Committee's functions for the	Matt Phillips	10-Oct-22
ICMD	13-Sep-23	Highway Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 12 MOVED TO 25TH OCTOBER 2023	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	'Agreement to make the traffic order - parking/waiting restrictions at Justins Hill and Wyesham Avenue, Wyesham; Main Road and Castle Way, Portskewett; lane leading to Sugarloaf Llanwenarth car park; and Wonastow	Mark Hand	
ICMD	13-Sep-23	Proposed Changes to the Membership of the School Budget Funding Forum	Martyn Groucutt - Education		Nikki Wellington	
ICMD	13-Sep-23	'Highways Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 12 deferred to September 13th		Agreement to make the traffic order - parking/waiting restrictions at Justins Hill and Wyesham Avenue, Wyesham; Main Road and Castle Way, Portskewett; lane leading to Sugarloaf Llanwenarth car park; and Wonastow	Mark Hand	24-May-23
Cabinet	06-Sep-23	Respite review for people with learning disabilities			Jane Rodgers	31-Jul-23

Cabinet	06-Sep-23	Home to School Transport Policy 2024/25		To consider the adoption of the proposed Home to School Transport Policy for the academic year 2024/25	Deh Hill Howells	
Cabinet	06-Sep-23	Proposal to establish a Welsh medium seedling school in Monmouth		Cabinet to consider objection report and make final determination on how to proceed.	Debbie Graves	27-Mar-23
ICMD	16-Aug-23	Castle Wood Usk Low Cost Home Ownership Future Use	Sara Burch - Inclusive and Active Communities			
ICMD	16-Aug-23	electric vehicle charging rate for public and staff at EV	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment		Deb Hill Howells	20-Jul-23
ICMD	16-Aug-23	Highways Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 11	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	Agreement to make the traffic order - Exception Orders to identify those restricted roads that will remain 30mph in September 2023 instead of defaulting to 20mph	Mark Hand	
ICMD	16-Aug-23	Highways Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 10	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	Agreement to make the traffic order - prohibition of driving Pwll Du, Llanelly Hill and Belmont Close/Belmont Road Abergavenny	Mark Hand	
ICMD	02-Aug-23	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 1 held on 22nd June 2023	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Dave Jarrett	
ICMD	02-Aug-23	Highways Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 10 deferred to August 16th	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	Agreement to make the traffic order - Exception Orders to identify those restricted roads that will remain 30mph in September 2023 instead of defaulting to 20mph	Mark Hand	3-Oct-22
Cabinet	26-Jul-23	Implementation of the My Day My Life review recommendations			Ceri York	
Cabinet	26-Jul-23	Gypsy and Traveller Site Identification			Ian Bakewell	12-Jul-23

Cabinet	26-Jul-23	•Review of the Respite Opportunities Service			Ceri York	14-Mar-23
Cabinet	26-Jul-23	2023/24 Revenue budget progress – early update			Jon Davies	8-Jun-23
Cabinet	26-Jul-23	S016 Funding Castle Park and Arch Bishop Rowan Williams Schools.			Cath Saunders	13-Jun-23
Council	20-Jul-23	Gifts & Hospitality Report			Matt Phillips	12-Jun-23
Council	20-Jul-23	Freedom of the Borough Presentation			Joe Skidmore	5-May-23
Council	20-Jul-23	Recruitment of Local Access Forum		To agree arrangements for the recruitment of the Monmouthshire Local Access Forum for the next 3 year period of appointment	Matthew Lewis	21-Jun-23
ICMD	12-Jul-23	Highways Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 10 DEFERRED TO 16TH AUG	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	Agreement to make the traffic order - prohibition of driving Pwll Du, Llanelly Hill	Mark Hand	19-May-23
ICMD	12-Jul-23	transfer the school balances for both Deri View and King Henry VIII School to the new King Henry VIII 3 – 19 School.	Rachel Garrick - Resources	Both King Henry VIII school and Deri View Primary school are closing on 31 st August 2023 and the new King Henry VIII 3 – 19 School will open on 1 st September 2023, under a statutory closure of schools the financial balances transfer to the Local Authority,	Nikki Wellington	4-Apr-23
	05-Jul-23	Reopen Monmouth Cemetery for new burials			Rhian Jackson	
Cabinet	05-Jul-23	RESERVATION OF GRAVE PLOTS		To seek cabinet approval to cease the provision of reserving grave spaces (not incl cremated remains plots) in Llanfoist Cemetery	Rhian Jackson	7-Nov-22

Cabinet	05-Jul-23	2022/23 Revenue and Capital Monitoring - Outturn Report	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Jon Davies	27-Apr-23
ICMD	28-Jun-23	Highway Traffic Regulation Order	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	Agreement to make the traffic order - making permanent the part-time prohibition of driving on Cross Street and Market Street Abergavenny	Mark Hand	6-Jun-23
Council	22-Jun-23	Gwent Public Services Board Well-being plan		To approve the Public Services Board's Well-being Plan that sets out the steps being taken collaboratively by public services to improve wellbeing in Gwent ahead of approval by the Gwent Public Services Board.	Richard Jones	20-Jan-23
Council	22-Jun-23	Chief Officer Children and Young People's Report 2023			Will McLean	14-Feb-23
Cabinet	07-Jun-23	Adoption of Transforming Chepstow Masterplan	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To adopt the Transforming Chepstow Masterplan, co-produced with Chepstow Town Council, to inform future regeneration priorities and grant bids	Mark Hand / Dan Fordham	3-Oct-22
Cabinet	07-Jun-23	Transforming Towns Strategic Grant regeneration priorities and LUF3 bid	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To agree the priority projects for bids for WG Strategic grant funding to 24/25 and the submission for round 3 of Levelling Up Funding	Mark Hand / Dan Fordham	3-Oct-22
Cabinet	07-Jun-23	Proposal to establish a Welsh medium seedling school in Monmouth		Cabinet to consider the results of the consultation, recommendations and decide whether to publish statutory notices.	Debbie Graves	27-Mar-23
Cabinet	07-Jun-23	Socially Responsible Procurement Strategy	Rachel Garrick - Resources	To endorse the Socially Responsible Procurement Strategy	Scott James	22-Aug-22
ICMD	24-May-23	Highway Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 9	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	Agreement to make the traffic order - including Llantrisant 20mph village lane, 40mph through road, possibly Llantrisant (Usk to Wentwood) 50mph; 20mph Gilwern and surrounding villages	Mark Hand	14-Apr-23
Council	18-May-23	Political Balance Report		The Council is required to review at, or as soon as practicable after, the Council's annual meeting, the representation of different political groups on the bodies to which the Council makes appointments.	Matt Phillips	2-Feb-23

Council	18-May-23	Outside Bodies Report		To appoint representatives to serve on outside	Matt Phillips	2-Feb-23
Council	18-May-23	Appointments to Committees		To appoint committees together with their membership and terms of reference in accordance with the Council's Constitution.	Nicola Perry	2-Feb-23
Council	18-May-23	Constitution update		For the Monitoring Officer to bring proposed amendments and highlight changes made over the previous 12 months	Matt Phillips	2-Feb-23
Council	18-May-23	Corporate Parenting Strategy			Diane Corrister	24-Aug-22
Cabinet	17-May-23	Review of Home to School Transport Policy 24/25.	Martyn Groucutt - Education	The purpose: Is to seek approval to commence consultation on proposed amendments to the Home to School Transport Policy for the academic year 2024/25.	Deb Hill Howells	12-Apr-23
Cabinet	17-May-23	Monnow Street public realm improvements	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To agree how we proceed with proposals for Monnow Street public realm following consultation	Mark Hand / Dan Fordham	6-Mar-23
ICMD	10-May-23	Highways Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 9 MOVED TO 24TH MAY	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	Agreement to make the traffic order - including Llantrisant 20mph village lane, 40mph through road, possibly Llantrisant (Usk to Wentwood) 50mph; 20mph Gilwern and surrounding villages	Mark Hand	3-Oct-22
Council	20-Apr-23	Motion for the Rivers and Oceans update		Deferred - new date to be advised	Hazel Clatworthy	10-Jan-23
Council	20-Apr-23	Community and Corporate Plan		To seek approval of a new Community and Corporate Plan that sets the direction for the council and county of Monmouthshire, articulating the authority's purpose and priorities alongside the steps we will take to deliver these, the	Matt Gatehouse	6-Feb-23
ICMD	12-Apr-23	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 4 held on 9th March 2023	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Dave Jarrett	

Cabinet	05-Apr-23	Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan	Sara Burch - Inclusive and Active Communities	To agree a plan to transition the delivery of homelessness that minimises the use of and the time homeless applicants spend in temporary accommodation	Rebecca Cresswell / Ian Bakewell	24-Jan-23
ICMD	22-Mar-23	Non Domestic Rates application for Hardship Relief - RESTRICTED	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Ruth Donovan	
ICMD	22-Mar-23	Highways Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 8	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	Agreement to make the traffic order - including Monmouth Road, Raglan no right turn onto A40; resi permit parking at Exmouth Place, Chepstow and Ross Road, Abergavenny; 3T weight restriction on Old Wye Bridge Chepstow; waiting	Mark Hand	
Council	09-Mar-23	Pay Policy		To approve the publication of Monmouthshire County Council's Pay Policy, in compliance with the Localism Act."	Sally Thomas	1-Feb-23
Council	09-Mar-23	Council Tax Premiums			Peter Davies	18-Jan-23
Council	09-Mar-23	Capital Strategy & Treasury Strategy			Jon Davies	17-May-22
Council	09-Mar-23	Youth Council			Jade Atkins	7-Dec-22
ICMD	08-Mar-23	Proposed amendment to primary school catchment area – Llandenny Village	Martyn Groucutt - Education		Debbie Graves	10-Jan-23
ICMD	08-Mar-23	Highways Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 8 DEFERRED TO 22 MARCH	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	Agreement to make the traffic order - including Monmouth Road, Raglan no right turn onto A40; resi permit parking at Exmouth Place, Chepstow and Ross Road, Abergavenny; 3T weight restriction on Old Wye Bridge Chepstow; waiting	Mark Hand	
Council	02-Mar-23	Final Budget Sign Off including Council Tax Resolution			Jon Davies	

Cabinet	01-Mar-23	2023/4 Final Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals			Jon Davies	17-May-22
Cabinet	01-Mar-23	2023/4 WCF/Trust Treasury Fund Investments			Dave Jarrett	17-May-22
Cabinet	01-Mar-23	Month 9 budget monitoring report			Jon Davies	6-Feb-23
Cabinet	01-Mar-23	Monmouthshire ECO Flex 'Joint Statement of Intent' and Memorandum of Understanding"			Steve Griffiths	16-Nov-22
Cabinet	01-Feb-23	Tudor Street				9-Jan-23
ICMD	25-Jan-23	Highway Traffic Regulation Amendment Order No 7	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	Agreement to make the traffic order	Mark Hand	15-Dec-22
ICMD	25-Jan-23	Community Council and Police Precepts - final	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Jon Davies	17-May-22
Council	19-Jan-23	'To determine the name for the new 3-19 School in Abergavenny		'To determine the name for the new 3-19 School in Abergavenny	Cath Saunders	28-Nov-22
Council	19-Jan-23	Council Diary		To confirm the Council Diary 23/24	John Pearson	14-Dec-22
Council	19-Jan-23	Appointments		A report for Council to appoint or ratify a number of appointments to bodies and positions	Matt Phillips	

Council	19-Jan-23	Community and Corporate Plan				
Council	19-Jan-23	Tudor Road Call-In			Nicola Perry	3-Jan-23
Council	19-Jan-23	Council Tax Reduction Scheme			Ruth Donovan	31-May-22
Cabinet	18-Jan-23	Garden Waste			Carl Touhig	21-Dec-22
Cabinet	18-Jan-23	Draft Revenue & Capital Proposals			Jon Davies	
Cabinet	18-Jan-23	Council Tax Premiums Consultation - Long Term Empty Properties and Second Homes			Ruth Donovan	
Cabinet	18-Jan-23	Proposal to establish a Welsh Medium Seedling school in Monmouth		To seek cabinet approval to commence statutory consultation processes to establish a Welsh Medium seedling provision in Monmouth.	Debbie Graves	23-Sep-22
ICMD	11-Jan-23	Clydach Ironworks Enhancement	Sara Burch - Inclusive and Active Communities	To seek approval for the transfer of land associated with the Clydach Ironworks Enhancement Scheme	Matthew Lewis	8-Dec-23
ICMD	11-Jan-23	Welsh Church Fund Working Group			Dave Jarrett	17-May-22
ICMD	14-Dec-22	Council Tax Base report			Ruth Donovan	31-May-22

ICMD	14-Dec-22	2023/4 Community Council & Police Precepts - draft			Jon Davies	17-May-22
Cabinet	07-Dec-22	Regional Integration Fund		To consider the financial liabilities and implications of the Regional Integration Fund and its tapered funding model.	Jane Rodgers	21-Nov-22
Cabinet	07-Dec-22	National Adoption Services and Foster Wales Joint Committee			Jane Rodgers	9-Nov-22
Cabinet	07-Dec-22	2022/23 Revenue and Capital Monitoring report - Month 6			Jon Davies	17-May-22
Council	01-Dec-22	Corporate Safeguarding Policy.		For Council to endorse the revised Corporate Safeguarding Policy.	Jane Rodgers	10-Nov-22
Council	01-Dec-22	Governance & Audit Committee Annual Report 2021/22			Andrew Wathan	18-Oct-22
Council	01-Dec-22	RLDP Preferred Strategy	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To seek Council endorsement of the new Preferred Strategy for eight week consultation	Mark Hand / Rachel Lewis	25-Jul-22
ICMD	30-Nov-22	TUDOR STREET		To seek a decision regarding the Council's forward use of the property located in Tudor Street ahead of the outcomes of the wider review of My Day My Life	Jane Rodgers	14-Nov-22
ICMD	30-Nov-22	Govilon Section 106 Funding for Recreation & Play	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Mike Moran	8-Nov-22
ICMD	30-Nov-22	Highways Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 5	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment		Mark Hand	3-Oct-22
ICMD	30-Nov-22	Planning Annual Performance Report (APR) Deferred to 30-Nov-22	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Mark Hand Phil Thomas	3-Oct-22
ICMD	30-Nov-22	Highways Traffic Regulation Amendment Order 6	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	Agreement to make the traffic order	Mark Hand	23-Aug-22
Cabinet	09-Nov-22	Implementing Sharepoint online		To secure funding to implement the project	Sian Hayward	13-Oct-22
Cabinet	09-Nov-22	A County of Sanctuary		To set out the reasons why an earlier decision is required due to time restrictions associated with TAN 15	Matt Gatehouse	20-Sep-22
Cabinet	09-Nov-22	SPF Update Report			Hannah Jones	12-Sep-22
Cabinet	09-Nov-22	Revenue & Capital MTFP update and process			Jon Davies	17-May-22
Cabinet	09-Nov-22	MonLife Heritage Strategy (or ICMD)		DEFERRED	Matthew Lewis	10-Feb-22
Council	27-Oct-22	RESPONSE TO URGENT NEED FOR HOUSING ACCOMMODATION		To present a proposal to enable Council to respond flexibly and promptly to the urgent need for housing accommodation, to address the	Cath Fallon	10-Oct-22
Council	27-Oct-22	Community and Corporate Plan		To seek endorsement of the new Community and Corporate Plan setting out the purpose, values	Matt Gatehouse / Paul Matthews	3-Oct-22
Council	27-Oct-22	Outside Bodies Appointment			John Pearson	3-Oct-22

Council	27-Oct-22	Annual Safeguarding Report			Kelly Turner	24-Aug-22
Council	27-Oct-22	Social Care & Health: Directors Report 2021/22			Jane Rodgers	6-Jul-22
ICMD	26-Oct-22	Welsh Church Fund Working Group			Dave Jarrett	14/7/22
Cabinet	19-Oct-22	PSOW annual letter		Present the Public Services Ombudsman For Wales' annual report as required by the letter	Matt Phillips	28-Sep-22
Cabinet	19-Oct-22	Regional Partnership Board - Gwent Market Position Statement		To provide a Market Stability Report produced by the Regional Partnership Board setting out a high	Phil Diamond Head of Regional Partnership Team	22-Sep-22
Cabinet	19-Oct-22	Community and Corporate Plan		To seek endorsement of the new Community and Corporate Plan setting out the purpose, values	Gatehouse / Paul Matt	20-Sep-22
Cabinet	19-Oct-22	22/23 Revenue and Capital Monitoring report - Month 4			Jon Davies	17-May-22
Cabinet	19-Oct-22	Land adjacent to Caldicot Comprehensive School - Housing Development Opportunity		To seek approval of the disposal of land at Caldicot Comprehensive School for the	Nick Keyse	
ICMD	12-Oct-22	Local Development Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)		DEFERRED TO 26 OCT	Rachel Lewis/Cllr Paul Griffiths	23/08/22
ICMD	12-Oct-22	Welsh Church Fund Working Group		DEFERRED TO 26 OCT	Dave Jarrett	14/07/22
ICMD	12-Oct-22	Ending Library Fines		enabling more people to enjoy reading without the worry of incurring a fine if they are unable to return	Cheryl Haskell/Fookes?	20-Sep-22
ICMD	28-Sep-22	Transport Policy			Deb Hill Howells - MG	22-Aug-22
ICMD	28-Sep-22	B4245 speed limit		DEFERRED TO 26 OCT	Mark Hand	18-Jul-22
Council	27-Sep-22				Nick John	24-Aug-22
Council	27-Sep-22	RLDP Options Report			Rachel Lewis	25-Jul-22
Council	27-Sep-22	Rivers and Ocean			Hazel Clatworthy	9-Jun-22
Council	27-Sep-22	Monmouthshire County Council self - assessment report 2021/2			Richard Jones	23-May-22
ICMD	14-Sep-22	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 2 held on 21st July 2022 (no meeting/no report -			Dave Jarrett	17-May-22
Cabinet	07-Sep-22	Transport Policy Consultation Update.			Deb Hill Howells	22-Aug-22
Cabinet	07-Sep-22	Cost Of Living			Matt Phillips	25-Jul-22
ICMD	31-Aug-22	MY DAY, MY LIFE SERVICE EVALUTATION			Ceri York	15-Aug-22
ICMD	31-Aug-22	Homesearch Policy & Procedure - Amendments & Welsh Translation Requirement			Ian Bakewell	
ICMD	03-Aug-22	Additional Resources in Educations Strategy		Resources required to develop and maintain schools education systems and the implementatin	Sian Hayward	14-Jun-22
ICMD	03-Aug-22	Designation of Secondary Catchment Areas			Matthew Jones	6-Jun-22
ICMD	03-Aug-22	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 1 held on 23rd June 2022 - Moved to ICMD 3rd Aug 2022			Dave Jarrett	

Cabinet	27-Jul-22	Wye Valley Villages Future Improvement Plan			Mark Hand	1-Jul-22
Cabinet	27-Jul-22	Regen Three Year Programme			Mark Hand	1-Jul-22
Cabinet	27-Jul-22	Review of Chepstow High Street closure			Mark Hand	1-Jul-22
Cabinet	27-Jul-22	Home to School Transport Policy 2023-24.			Deb Hill Howells	27-Jun-22
Cabinet	27-Jul-22	MUCH (Magor & Undy Community Hall) report			Nick Keys	9-Jun-22
Cabinet	27-Jul-22	Shared Prosperity Fund Local Investment Plan and Regional Lead Authority Arrangements			Hannah Jones	23-May-22
Cabinet	27-Jul-22	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 1 held on 23rd June 2022 - Moved to ICMD 3rd Aug 2022			Dave Jarrett	17-May-22
Cabinet	27-Jul-22	2021/22 Revenue and Capital Monitoring outturn			Peter Davies/Jon Davies	17-Feb-22
Cabinet	27-Jul-22	Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan 22/23			Matthew Lewis	10-Feb-22
Cabinet	27-Jul-22	Housing Support Programme Strategy (Homeless Strategy)			Ian Bakewell	
Cabinet						

This page is intentionally left blank

Monmouthshire Select Committee Minutes

Meeting of People Scrutiny Committee held at Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK on Tuesday, 23rd January, 2024 at 10.00 am

Councillors Present

County Councillor John Crook (Chairman)
County Councillor Jackie Strong (Vice Chairman)

County Councillors: Fay Bromfield,
Christopher Edwards, Simon Howarth,
Penny Jones, Maureen Powell, Sue Riley,
Maria Stevens

Also in attendance: County Councillor Ben Callard,
Cabinet Member for Resources, County Councillor
Martyn Groucutt, Cabinet Member for Education and
County Councillor Ian Chandler, Cabinet Member for
Social Care, Safeguarding and Accessible Health
Services

Officers in Attendance

Hazel Ilett, Scrutiny Manager
Robert McGowan, Policy and Scrutiny Officer
Peter Davies, Deputy Chief Executive and Chief
Officer, Resources
Jonathan Davies, Head of Finance
Matthew Gatehouse, Chief Officer People,
Performance and Partnerships.
Will McLean, Chief Officer for Children and Young
People
Frances O'Brien, Chief Officer, Communities and
Place
Jane Rodgers, Chief Officer for Social Care,
Safeguarding and Health
Tyrone Stokes, Accountant
Ian Saunders, Chief Officer Customer, Culture and
Wellbeing.

APOLOGIES: None

1. Declarations of Interest

None.

2. Public Open Forum

None.

3. Scrutiny of the budget proposals

Cabinet Member Councillor Callard presented the budget proposal for the upcoming year and answered the members questions with Cabinet Member Ian Chandler, Cabinet Member Martyn Groucutt, Jane Rodgers, Tyrone Stokes, Peter Davies, Will McLean and Jonathan Davies. Councillor Callard explained that the proposals include a decrease in the Mon Life budget by 3.2% and an increase in the resource budget by 6.3%. He confirmed that the draft budget contains a proposal of increasing Council tax by 7.5% and that the Council is currently in the public consultation phase.

Key Points raised by Committee Members:

Education

- In relations to schools' efficiency savings of £854k, questions around what this look will look like realistically for our schools, Members asking for examples of how schools will look to make these savings.
- Members asked whether the Cabinet are concerned with the cessation of £21.3million from the Welsh Government to Teachers Pay fund, combined with efficiency savings, and whether we could potentially lose teachers therefore and how many. The cabinet member was asked if they had lobbied Welsh Government to reinstate the teachers' pay fund for this coming year to alleviate the burden on schools. Members questioned whether class sizes may be increased due to staffing pressures, and whether children may be disadvantaged as a result of these proposals.
- Members asked whether the Cabinet Member has any concern that the efficiency savings could negatively impact the quality of produce school have to procure, resulting in schools opting for cheaper options.
- Members questioned what mitigations would be made in relation to any inequality concerns highlighted.
- In relation to the funding to the Education Achievement Service, Members questioned the effect of the reduction of the core contribution to EAS on Monmouthshire schools.

Social Care

- Questions were asked around redundancies and vacancies - how many, and whether they will be filled.
- Clarification sought on whether assessed need is being reduced and how we can evidence that replacing staff will still meet statutory obligations.
- Some concern as to whether social care assessors will have the adequate qualifications and supervision to be able to do carry out the role, given that signposting to services is different to conducting an assessment, and questions around whether there will be any impact on registered qualified social workers.
- Regarding Budden Crescent, Members sought reassurance that part of the reconfiguration is to redesign the service and ensure shared lives.
- A question relating to the additional finance for care and support, and whether those people will have access to welfare rights advice.
- In relation to foster care, given that we rely heavily on independent foster agencies, Members asked how will the disparity of costs be addressed? How will we attract foster carers to the county and whether a reduction in council tax contribution could be considered?

Gwent Music

- Members questioned the impact for Gwent Music of the loss of the subsidy and their feedback on the proposal. Questions were asked on how many schools would be able to fund whole school music tuition and whether the proposal could negatively affect the most disadvantaged pupils and lead to inequality of opportunity.
- Officers explained that Gwent Music receive funding aside from subsidy that has been offered by the Council. A Member advised that individuals can also support Gwent Music and asked that a reminder be sent to Councillors.

Additional Learning Needs

- Members asked what considerations have been given to minimise the impact of budget proposals on children with additional learning needs and whether the additional monies would follow the child that's been recognised as having additional learning needs.

Other Questions

- Some concern about changes to leisure centre opening hours, especially on the weekend and explanations sought for the reduction.
- Questions were asked around vacant posts and redundancies and the impact on existing staff and service provision.
- Questions of clarification were asked about Council tax, charges and levies and the Police and Fire Authority precept.
- There was a request for a breakdown of schools cost per annum (**Action: Will McLean**)
- Questions were asked around the capital programme, particularly in relation to the impact of funding on continued maintenance of Chepstow School. Members asked for reassurance that Chepstow School and others won't lose out on any necessary maintenance whilst awaiting capital investment.
- Questions were asked around Community Transport and whether there will be changes to Grassroots.

Chair's Summary:

We have fully scrutinised the implications of the budget proposals on the services that fall within this committees remit and asked many questions around schools, domiciliary care, social care pressures, leisure, Gwent Music, foster services and additional learning needs, and many others. The committee has expressed its concern that people are not

disadvantaged by the budget proposals and we ask the Cabinet Members to reflect on the points raised in taking forward the Council's budget for 2024 to 2025.

4. To note the People Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme and Action List

The Care Inspectorate Report will be added to the work programme.

5. To confirm the minutes of the following meetings:

- 1st December 2023 (Special)
- 14th November 2023 Joint Performance and Overview and People Scrutiny Committees

Councillor Powell proposed and Councillor Edwards seconded.

6. Next Meeting:

Special Meeting 6th February 2024.

The meeting ended at **12.06 pm**