

SUBJECT:	UPDATE ON CONSULTATION OF ALN AND INCLUSION REVIEW.
MEETING:	CABINET
DATE:	5TH DECEMBER 2018
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL

1. PURPOSE:

This report seeks to conclude the ongoing statutory process undertaken in relation to the local authority's ongoing review of additional learning needs and inclusion services.

This report also seeks to provide members with the details of any statutory objections received against the proposals to undertake regulated alternations to a number of Monmouthshire schools, in line with the above review.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That Members review the full content of this report and agree to implement the below regulated alternations for implementation on 29th April 2019.

- *Change the type of provision offered at the Special Needs Resource Base at Deri View Primary School to accommodate children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Speech Language and Communication difficulties to also include an assessment centre. The facility will offer provision for 8 pupils.*
- *Increase the capacity of Overmonnow SNRB from 20 to 24, and change the type of provision offered in order to cater for Complex Needs including: Severe Learning Difficulties, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Speech Language and Communication Disorder, Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties, Physical and Medical Difficulties.*

That the required building works to increase the capacity of the SNRB at Overmonnow Primary School be funded by the section 106 education contributions received for the "Land and Croft Y Bwla, Rockfield Road" development provided solely for the use of education provision in the Monmouth town area.

- *Change the type of provision offered at the Special Needs Resource base at Pembroke Primary in order to cater for Complex Needs including: Severe Learning Difficulties, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Speech Language and Communication Disorder, Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties, Physical and Medical Difficulties. This facility will be for 20 pupils.*
- *Change the type of provision offered at the 55 place Special Needs Resource Base at Monmouth Comprehensive School, to cater for complex needs including Severe Learning Difficulties, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Speech language and Communication disorder, and Physical and Medical Difficulties.*

- *Change the type of provision offered at the 55 place Special Needs Resource Base at Caldicot School, to cater for complex needs including Severe Learning Difficulties, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Speech language and Communication disorder, and Physical and Medical Difficulties.*

2.2 The following proposals also featured as part of the statutory consultation process associated with the review of ALN and inclusion services, however, did not meet the required need to publish statutory notices. However, in light of the positive feedback received during the consultation, it is recommended that members implement the following proposals with effect from September 2019. The consultation report analysing the consultation responses can be found under appendix 2.

- *Establish two regional Secondary Pupil Referral Units, one in the north and one in the south of the county*
- *Extend the provision of the existing pupil referral service to establish inclusion centres in Caldicot, Chepstow, King Henry VIII and Monmouth secondary schools. This provision will be run by the Pupil Referral Service but will enhance the capacity of schools to provide provision for pupils with challenging behaviour via a referral process*

3. KEY ISSUES:

3.1 On 7th March 2018, Cabinet gave approval for the local authority to engage in the statutory consultation process, which proposed a new model for the delivery of ALN and Inclusion services.

3.2 The proposed new delivery model outlined the following:

Establishment of a new special school that will deliver the full range of provision required to meet the needs of children and young people aged 3-19 with ASD, SEBD, PMLD and severe learning difficulties within the County. The existing Mounton House Special School will close as a result of the proposal and form the site of the new special school.

The new special school will offer provision for a wide range of Additional Learning and behavioural needs delivered through multiple satellite settings placed across the County. The proposal will ensure provision is provided locally to children whose needs cannot be met within mainstream settings and require more specialist support. The existing Pupil Referral Service (PRS) will also be enhanced to provide a greater range of outreach support and provision for children and young people at risk of exclusion.

3.3 The consultation period commenced on 16th April 2018 for a period of 6 weeks, concluding on 27th May 2018.

3.4 During the consultation period, officers engaged in an extensive consultation process with the community and key partners. Consultation sessions with children, staff, governors and parents were undertaken for the 8 schools identified as being directly affected by the proposed new delivery model. A consultation meeting with staff and management committee for the Pupil Referral Service was also undertaken.

- 3.5 On 5th September 2018, Cabinet received the consultation report analysing the feedback received from consultees on the proposed new model for the delivery of ALN and Inclusion Services. Members agreed at this meeting to move the proposals outlined in section 2 of this report to the next stage of the statutory process, namely to publish the required statutory notices to implement the regulated alterations associated with these proposals.
- 3.6 Members also agreed at the Cabinet meeting on 5th September 2018 not to proceed with the below proposals, but to significantly recast the proposals and re-consult:
- *Proposals to close Mounton House Special School and establish a new special school located on the site of the existing Mounton House Special School that will deliver the full range of provision required to meet the needs of children and young people aged 3-19 with ASD, SEBD, PMLD and severe learning difficulties within the County.*
 - *Proposal to establish a Special Needs Resource Base in the south of the county to accommodate children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Speech Language and Communication difficulties to also include an assessment centre.*
 - *The proposal to establish two regional Primary Pupil Referral Units, one in the north and one in the south of the county.*

In light of the above, further recommendations will be brought to Cabinet to engage in a further consultation process that proposes to address the matters above.

- 3.7 Furthermore, members agreed to abandon the following proposal and maintain the status quo.
- *Proposals for the new special school to manage the SNRB centres located at Deri View, Pembroke and Overmonnow Primary Schools, as well as those located at Caldicot and Monmouth Secondary schools.*
- 3.8 The local authority opened the statutory notice period on 24th September 2018 through the publication of the required statutory notices, proposing regulated alterations to the affected schools details in section 2 of this report. Copies of the statutory notices published can be found under appendix 3.

The statutory notice period concluded on 22nd October 2018 (28 days from date of publication). Copies of the statutory notices were circulated electronically to all consultees, published on the council's website, and displayed at the entrance to the sites of the affected schools. Consultees were advised that they could submit a statutory objection against any of the proposals within the 28 day period, and provided with the means of how to do so.

- 3.9 In line with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, the local authority has to publish an Objection Report following the publication of the statutory notices. The Objection Report is at Appendix 3 and provides:
- Details of the Objections received to the proposal.
 - The Local Authorities response to these issues.
- 3.10 There were no statutory objections received in relation to any of the proposals outlined in section 2 of this report. In light of this, the requirements outlined in 3.9 of this report have been removed.
- 3.11 During the statutory objection period, the local authority received a response from the governing body of Deri View Primary School in relation to these proposals. A copy of the response can be found under appendix 3 of this report, however, is not considered to be a statutory objection. A response to offer reassurances against the concerns raised by the governing body will be provided, acknowledging the required support and investment needed should the proposals move forward to implementation.

4. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

There were four options considered, which were detailed in the consultation document considered and agreed by Cabinet on 7th March 2018.

5. EVALUATION CRITERIA

This is included in appendix 3.

6. REASONS:

The consultation process was designed to allow the authority to test some specific models of provision and to illicit key concerns from stakeholders. To that extent the process was very successful and given the richness of the feedback officers require more time to ensure that all of the potential options are tested and any new permutations developed.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The costs for the setting up of the SNRB at Deri View in the next financial year are anticipated to be £119,044. In addition to this, the costs for the inclusion units in our four secondary schools are anticipated to be £170,191.

We will be phase the impact of these costs to ensure that savings are made through the next stage of the ALN and Inclusion review to ensure that there is no impact on resources.

The resource implications associated with Overmonnow SNRB developments to be funded from the £201,000 section 106 contributions associated with the Croft Y Bwla, Rockfield Road development.

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

This is included in appendix 4.

9. CONSULTEES:

CYP DMT
Cabinet Member for Education
Appendix 1 lists a full list of consultees.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Welsh Government School Organisation code

11. AUTHOR:

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