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**Review Area 3**  
**Trellech Village & the Surrounding**  
**Areas**

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Consultation period:

18<sup>th</sup> January 2019 to 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019

## Contents

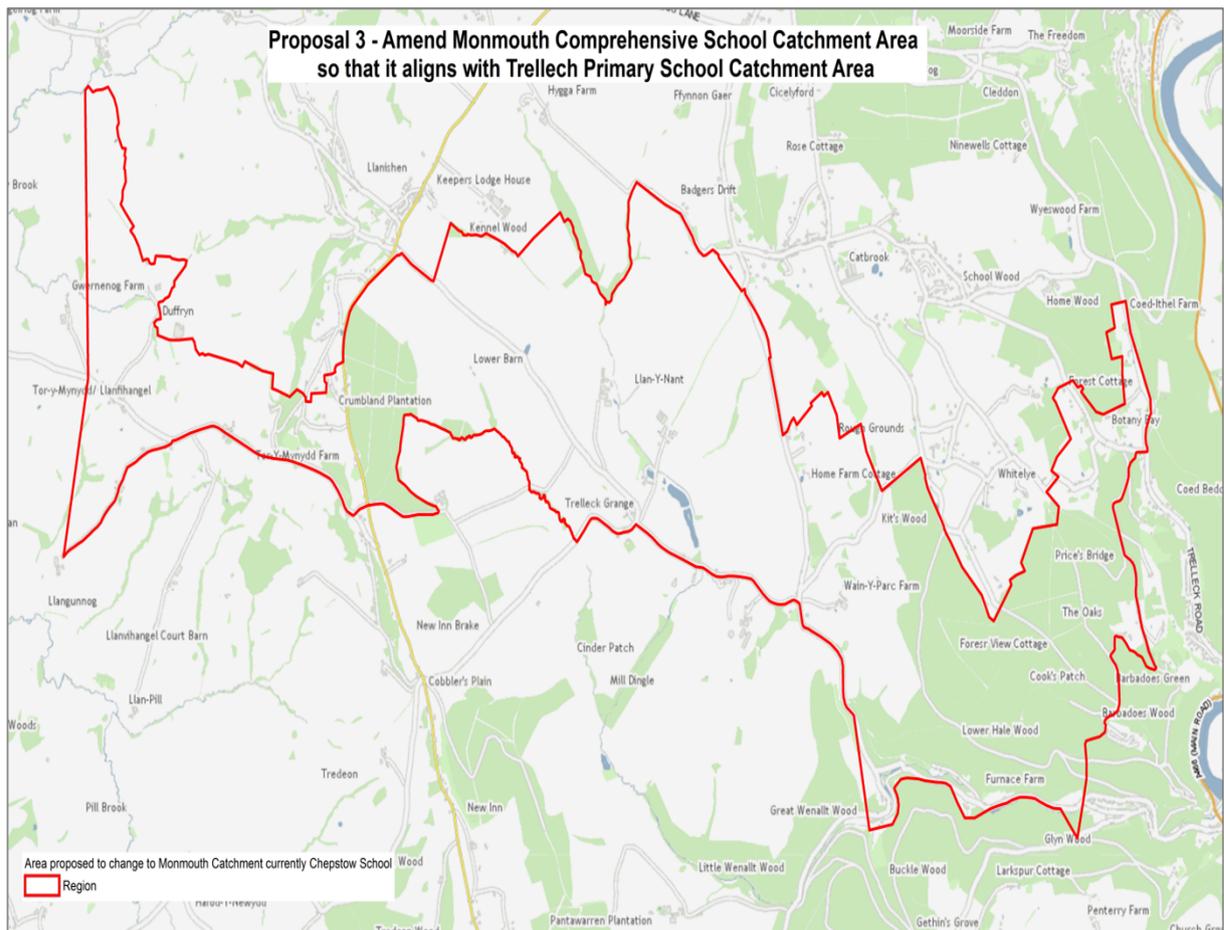
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1. The Proposal .....	3
2. The current position .....	4
3. Why are we considering the proposed change?.....	6
4. Background information.....	7
5. Advantages and Disadvantages of the proposal .....	8
6. Financial Implications .....	9
7. What Next? .....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

## 1. The Proposal

The Council are considering amending the secondary school catchment area for children and young people currently residing within the village of Trellech and the immediate surrounding areas.

The areas identified currently form part of the catchment area for Trellech Primary School, and Chepstow School. The map below illustrates the areas that are being considered under this proposal, and will help you to understand whether you could be affected by the proposed changes



The Council would like to know your views on whether the secondary school catchment boundary should be amended for the specified areas (area identified above), to form part of the catchment area for Monmouth Comprehensive School, thus aligning the entire catchment area for Trellech Primary to a single secondary school.

Alternatively, the Council would like to know your views on whether the status quo should continue, i.e. Chepstow School remaining as the designated catchment school for the affected area.

The proposals would see the provision of free home to school transport offered to Monmouth Comprehensive School as the newly designated catchment school. School transport may also be offered to Chepstow School in the event that it is identified to be the nearest school.

## **2. The current position**

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The area under review forms part of the catchment area for Trellech Primary School. Trellech Primary School is located in the county of Monmouthshire and is considered as a designated feeder school for Monmouth Comprehensive School, however, its catchment area serves more than 1 secondary school:

- 1) **Monmouth Comprehensive School**. Forms the secondary catchment school for the majority of children and young people that reside within the Trellech Primary catchment area.
- 2) **Chepstow School**. Forms the secondary catchment school for the affected area and is also the nearest school in most instances for those residing within the affected area.

The map overleaf illustrates the current position, identifying how the area under review relates to existing secondary school catchment areas. For clarity, the shaded area of this map current forms part of the catchment area for Chepstow School, but is proposed to form part of Monmouth Comprehensive School.



### **3. Why are we considering the proposed change?**

#### **Transitional arrangements between Primary and Secondary School.**

Trellech Primary School is the designated primary school for the affected area and is a feeder school for Monmouth Comprehensive School. The proposed changes would see complete alignment between the catchment area for Trellech Primary School and Monmouth Comprehensive school, lending support to the existing transitional arrangements, and 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 Monmouth Comprehensive school as they do not currently form part of the designated catchment area.

Trellech Primary School, being a feeder for Monmouth Comprehensive School, sees almost all of the children and young people residing within its catchment area wishing to transition to Monmouth Comprehensive School. However, some children and young people from Trellech Primary have been unsuccessful in securing places at Monmouth Comprehensive School during times of oversubscription. This is due to the affected area being outside of the catchment area for Monmouth Comprehensive School.

The above results in some children and young people not being able to transition to Monmouth Comprehensive school with their peer groups.

The proposals outlined would help in addressing 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 2 miles or more from the home address.

The affected area sees the availability of free home to school transport being available to Chepstow School as the nearest / catchment school for the affected area. As a result, should children and young people residing within the affected area

secure places alongside their peers at Monmouth Comprehensive, they would not receive an entitlement to free home to school transport.

The proposals outlined would address this matter.

#### **4. Background information**

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An analysis of parental requests made over the last 5 years show that the vast majority of children and young people attending Trellech Primary School opt to transition to either Monmouth Comprehensive School or Chepstow School. The table below provides the numbers transitioning to each of the secondary schools from Trellech Primary over the last 5 years.

	<b>Transition to Monmouth Comprehensive</b>	<b>Transition to Chepstow School</b>
September 2014	20	0
September 2015	23	0
September 2016	25	0
September 2017	21	3
September 2018	23	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>6</b>

The numbers within the above table show children and young people previously on roll at Trellech Primary School, and demonstrates that the majority of children seek admission into Monmouth Comprehensive School, with only a small number transitioning to the current catchment school of Chepstow School.

Over the last 3 years, three children have opted to attend Chepstow School from within the affected area.

#### Projected Numbers on roll

The table below identifies the number of children that are currently residing within the affected area and therefore those most likely to be affected by the proposed change. The numbers identify the children that will transition from Primary to Secondary school between September 2020 and September 2025.

<b>Current NCY</b>	<b>Primary to Secondary transition</b>	<b>Number of Pupils Affected</b>
Year 5	Sep-20	2
Year 4	Sep-21	0
Year 3	Sep-22	1
Year 2	Sep-23	1
Year 1	Sep-24	1
Rec	Sep-25	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>

The Council's projected numbers on roll for Monmouth Comprehensive school support that the above children could be accommodated should the proposals be supported and agreed.

Pupils currently on roll at Chepstow School.

Children and Young People who are currently on roll at Chepstow School will not be affected by these proposals and existing home to school transport arrangements will remain in place until they are no longer attending the school.

## 5. Advantages and Disadvantages of the proposal

<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
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 Monmouth Comprehensive school should they form part of the catchment area.	Families residing within the affected area would be removed from the catchment area for Chepstow School should proposals be agreed.  However, the Council forecasts that Chepstow School would have sufficient capacity to accommodate any parental requests from the affected area.
Enabling the above would support the robust transition links between Trellech Primary and Monmouth Comprehensive Schools, enabling peer groups to remain together on their transition to secondary school.	
Children and young people residing within the affected area would meet the criteria to receive free home to school transport to Monmouth Comprehensive School.	

Children residing within the affected area would still be able to obtain places at Chepstow School to accommodate any parental preference	
Children residing within the affected area would still be able to receive free home to school transport to Chepstow school in the event that's its determined to be the nearest school.	

## 6. Financial Implications

The aims of this proposal are not are not financially driven, but to reflect the transitional arrangements in place between primary and secondary schools. However, a full cost analysis looking at the financial impacts of the proposal will be undertaken alongside this consultation, paying particular attention to the impact on the Monmouthshire schools affected by the proposal, as well as the impact on home to school transport costs.

A full cost analysis will be presented to the Council's Cabinet alongside the views received as part of this consultation, to determine whether the proposal should be implemented.

## 7. What Next?

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Your views on the proposed changes to secondary 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 sessions:

Review Area	Date	Venue
Trellech and surrounding area	12 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 6pm	Trellech Primary School
All areas day time drop in session	14 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 9.30am to 11.30am	County Hall, Usk

- 2) Completing the online response form available via [www.monmouthshire.gov.uk](http://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk) or
- 3) Contacting the Access Unit on 01633 644508, by emailing [accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk) or by post to @innovation House, Wales 1, Caldicot, NP26 9AN

Please note that the deadline for responses to this consultation is 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019 at 5pm. Any responses received by the local authority after this closing date will not be considered as part of this consultation.