



monmouthshire
sir fynwy

CONSULTATION REPORT

Review of Secondary School catchment
areas in Monmouthshire

Consultation period:

18th January 2019 to 1st March 2019

Contents

1. Introduction	2
2. Distribution of the Consultation Report	3
3. Background to the review of school catchment areas.....	4
4. Reminder of the Proposals.....	4
5. Consultation Arrangements.....	6
Background	6
Methodology	6
Public Consultation Meetings	7
Consultation with children and young people	8
6. Consultation results.....	8
Appendix 1 - List of Consultees	8

1. Introduction

On 18th January 2019, the Local Authority commenced the first stage of its ongoing review of school catchment areas across the county. The consultation was open for a period of 6 weeks, concluding on 1st March 2019.

The areas affected by this review were confirmed as:

- Review area 1 – Goytre and immediate surrounding areas
- Review area 2 – Usk and immediate surrounding areas
- Review area 3 – Trellech and immediate surrounding areas
- Review area 4 – Llandogo and immediate surrounding areas

This consultation report now seeks to inform consultees and other interested parties of the outcome of the consultation by means of firstly summarising each of the responses received by consultees, and secondly responding to these by means of clarification, amendment to the proposal, or rejection to the concerns with supporting reasons.

2. Distribution of the Consultation Report

This consultation report has been published on the Monmouthshire Council Council website www.monmouthshire.gov.uk. The following consultees and interested parties will be contacted and advised of the availability of this report

The governing body of the relevant schools

- Governing bodies of All secondary schools in Monmouthshire
 - Caldicot School
 - Chepstow School
 - King Henry VIII Comprehensive School
 - Monmouth Comprehensive School
- Governing bodies of any other secondary schools affected by the proposals:
 - Caerleon Comprehensive School
- Governing bodies of Primary Schools affected by the proposals:
 - Llandogo Primary School
 - Trellech Primary School
 - Goytre Fawr Primary School
 - Usk Church in Wales Primary School

Neighbouring Local Authorities affected by the proposals

- Newport City Council
- Gloucestershire County Council
- Herefordshire County Council

Parents of Children Likely to be affected

- Monmouthshire Parents of pupils living in the affected areas with children on roll in Reception to Year 5

Other key parties

- Members of the School Admission Forum
- County Councillors
- Ward Members for the affected areas
- Any other interested parties responding to the consultation

3. Background to the review of school catchment areas

The majority of 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 many cases the catchment areas do not seem to follow a specific rationale, they are not in all cases based on nearest school and they do not in all cases follow transition arrangements. Some primary school catchment areas also show trends of regular overpopulation.

A review of School Catchment Areas was last undertaken in 2015. The local authority entered into a formal consultation to seek views on the proposed changes to secondary school catchment areas, however, the significance of the proposed changes led to a Cabinet decision to re-engage in a more intensive consultation with the Monmouthshire community prior to implementing any changes.

In February 2018, the Council adopted a new corporate plan that sets out the 22 priorities to be completed by 2022. A review of school catchment areas has been identified within the corporate plan as one of the priorities to be revisited.

4. Reminder of the Proposals

The Council entered into a consultation with affected and interested parties, which proposed to make the following amendments to secondary school catchment areas for implementation in September 2020:

Review area 1 – Goytre and immediate surrounding areas

The Council consulted on proposals to align the catchment area for Goytre Fawr Primary School with King Henry VIII Comprehensive School. The affected area is currently split, with some areas falling within the catchment area for King Henry VIII Comprehensive School (Abergavenny) and others falling within the catchment area for Caerleon Comprehensive School (Newport).

Children and young people affected by these proposals have been identified as being those who currently reside within the village of Goytre, Penperlleni, Nantyderry, Little Mill, Monkswood and Glascoed.

Full details of the proposal on which the Council consulted can be viewed via [Review area 1](#)

Review area 2 – Usk and immediate surrounding areas

The Council consulted on proposals to align the catchment area for Usk Church in Wales Primary School with Monmouth Comprehensive School. The current position is that the affected area largely falls within the catchment area for Caerleon Comprehensive School (Newport), with some small areas falling within the catchment area for Monmouth Comprehensive and Chepstow Schools.

Children and young people affected by these proposals have been identified at large as being those who currently reside within the town of Usk and surrounding villages including (but not exclusive to) Llancayo, Monkswood, Gwehelog, Llangybi and Gwernesney

Full details of the proposal on which the Council consulted can be viewed via [Review area 2](#)

Review area 3 – Trellech and immediate surrounding areas

The Council consulted on proposals to align the catchment area for Trellech Primary School with Monmouth Comprehensive School. The current position is that the affected area largely falls within the catchment area for Monmouth Comprehensive School, however, there are some areas that fall within the catchment area of Chepstow School.

Full details of the proposal on which the Council consulted can be viewed via [Review area 3](#)

Review area 4 – Llandogo and immediate surrounding areas

The Council consulted on proposals to align the catchment area for Llandogo Primary School with Monmouth Comprehensive School. The current position is that the affected area largely falls within the catchment area for Monmouth Comprehensive School, however, there are some areas that fall within the catchment area of Chepstow School.

Full details of the proposal on which the Council consulted can be viewed via [Review area 4](#)

5. Consultation Arrangements

Background

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 this consultation by 1st March 2019 and determine the outcome of the proposals by 15th April 2019 should it wish to implement the proposals for September 2020 onwards.

Methodology

On 5th December 2018, the Council's Cabinet approved proposals to engage with key stakeholders on proposed changes to the School admissions Policy, namely a review of the oversubscription criteria and school catchment areas.

On 18th January 2019, the council engaged in the first stage of its review of school catchment areas, which focussed on reviewing the Secondary School catchment areas for those that reside in the areas listed under section 4 of this report. The formal consultation period lasted for 6 weeks, concluding on 1st March 2019.

The consultation document and key information was either circulated to or made available to the consultees listed under appendix 1 of this report. The document was also published on the Council's website via www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/catchmentconsultation

The Council raised awareness of the consultation through a marketing campaign, which included regular publications via the Councils' social media networks.

Consultees were advised of the following opportunities to respond to the consultation proposals:

- 1) Attending one of the dedicated public consultation sessions.
- 2) Completing the consultation questionnaire, which was made available on our website at www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/catchmentconsultation

Consultees were also advised that they could contact us via 01633 644508 or by emailing acesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk if they had any questions on the proposals.

Public Consultation Meetings

During the consultation process, the Council facilitated public consultation sessions with the communities likely to be affected by these proposals. The purpose of the sessions were to engage with the community who may wish to hear more about the proposals, ask any questions or share their views.

The public consultation sessions took place on the following dates:

Review Area	Date	Venue
Goytre and surrounding areas	5 th February 2019 at 6pm	Goytre Fawr Primary School
Trellech and surrounding area	12 th February 2019 at 6pm	Trellech Primary School
Llandogo and surrounding area	18 th February 2019 at 6pm	Llandogo Primary School
Usk and surrounding area	20 th February 2019 at 6pm	Usk Church in Wales Primary School
All areas day time drop in session	14 th February 2019 9.30am to 11.30am	County Hall, Usk

All of the consultation meetings were attended by senior officers of the councils' directorate for children and young people, and provided interested parties with an opportunity to learn more about the proposals and ask any questions / raise any concerns.

Officers in attendance at the consultation meetings provided reassurance that any comments / concerns raised would be recorded and feed into the consultation outcomes. However, consultees were also encouraged to submit their formal responses through one of the preferred available methods.

Copies of the full consultation document and feedback proformas were made available at each of the consultation sessions.

The comments and key themes of concerns raised during the consultation meetings have been summarised and included as part of the overall consultation results for each of the individual proposals, found under the appendices to this document.

Consultation with children and young people

The Council engaged with a children and young people in years 5 and 6 who are residing within the affected areas. The focus of this engagement was to hear their voice in which secondary school they would like to attend at the appropriate time. The results of this exercise is summarised and included as part of the overall consultation results for each of the individual proposals, found under the appendices to this document.

6. Consultation results

The proposals as consulted on by the Council form four separate review areas. The results to this consultation have therefore been prepared and analysed on this basis and can be found under:

- Appendix 2 – Results of review area 1 (Goytre and surrounding areas)
- Appendix 3 – Results of review area 2 (Usk and surrounding areas)
- Appendix 4 – Results of review area 3 (Trellech and surrounding areas)
- Appendix 5 – Results of review area 4 (Llandogo and surrounding areas)

Appendix 1 - List of Consultees

The governing body of the relevant schools

- Governing bodies of All secondary schools in Monmouthshire
 - Caldicot School
 - Chepstow School
 - King Henry VIII Comprehensive School
 - Monmouth Comprehensive School
- Governing bodies of any other secondary schools affected by the proposals:
 - Caerleon Comprehensive School
- Governing bodies of Primary Schools affected by the proposals:
 - Llandogo Primary School
 - Trellech Primary School
 - Goytre Fawr Primary School
 - Usk Church in Wales Primary School

Neighbouring Local Authorities affected by the proposals

- Newport City Council
- Gloucestershire County Council
- Herefordshire County Council

Parents of Children Likely to be affected

- Monmouthshire Parents of pupils living in the affected areas with children on roll in Nursery to Year 5

Other key parties

- Members of the School Admission Forum
- County Councillors
- Ward Members for the affected areas