

**SUBJECT: SECTION 106 EDUCATION CONTRIBUTIONS CONCERNING
YSGOL GYMRAEG Y FENNI**

MEETING: CABINET

DATE: 31ST JULY 2019

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To consider the terms of use for the education balances arising from the section 106 education contributions relating to the Deri Farm housing development, Abergavenny.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 Approve the proposed expenditure of Capital Section 106 education contributions to increase the teaching and learning environment at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 The Persimmon Homes housing development on the land at Deri Farm, Abergavenny (planning application reference DC/2014/01360) yielded an off-site education contribution of £110,400 to the local education authority.
- 3.2 The terms of use for this agreement was to provide additional capacity within the Welsh Medium School in Abergavenny.
- 3.3 The site of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni currently offers suitable capacity for 257 children and young people, with an additional 60 places available within the Meithrin for pre school aged children.
- 3.4 However, the Council has seen the demand for welsh medium education in the North of the County increase significantly over recent years, with numbers on roll at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni expected to reach 244 with an additional 26 young people expected into the Meithrin in September.
- 3.5 Members will be aware that, through both the council' Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) and Band B of the 21st Century Schools Programme, the Council is committed to increasing the capacity of our in county provision to those children and young people who wish to receive their education through the medium of Welsh.
- 3.6 Members will be aware that the Strategic Outline Proposals (SOP) concerning Band B proposes an increase in capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to 420 places plus a 60 place nursery. Members will also be aware of the planned investment for a seedling Welsh Medium School to be situated in the Monmouth area of the County, as well as an

extension to increase the capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin from 180 to 210 pupil places. Both the Monmouth and Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin projects are to be funded through a Welsh Government Capital Grant for Welsh Medium provision.

3.7 However, with Band B proposals unlikely to be brought into fruition until 2023 at the earliest, officers propose to utilise the education contributions expected to be received from the Deri Farm development to provide an increase in capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni on its existing site.

3.4 The proposals put forward are to use the funds to provide the school with a double classroom portacabin on site, increasing the capacity of the school from 257 to 317 pupil places plus 60 place Meithrin. This proposal would be subject to the necessary Planning consent.

4. REASONS:

4.1 The Council's Capital budget for 2019/20 has been approved and any proposals to add to or vary this Capital budget requires a decision by Cabinet.

4.2 The proposal ensures that the education contributions received are spent on increasing the capacity of Welsh Medium provision in Abergavenny, as per the terms of the section 106 agreement.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 The building costs associated with the project are anticipated to be in the region of £123,000, with an additional £98,000 expected for the 5 year lease of the building.

5.2 It is proposed that the £123,000 is paid from a combination of the £110,400 section 106 education contributions arising from the Deri Farm development, with the outstanding balance (£12,600) proposed to be funded from the Welsh Government's Capital Funding Grant towards Schools' Maintenance budget.

5.3 The cost of the 5 year lease of the building is anticipated to be in the region of £98,800, payable monthly at an expected rate of £1,650 per month.

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

This is included in appendix 1 of the consultation document.

7. CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team
Departmental Management Team
Headteacher / staff of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni
Property Services
Section 106 Monitoring Group

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

- 8.1 Section 106 Agreement between Monmouthshire County Council and Persimmon Homes Ltd relating to residential development on land at Deri Farm, Abergavenny.

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