



monmouthshire
sir fynwy

Review Area 2
Mitchel Troy and Cwmcarvan

Consultation period:

8th January 2024 to 19th February 2024

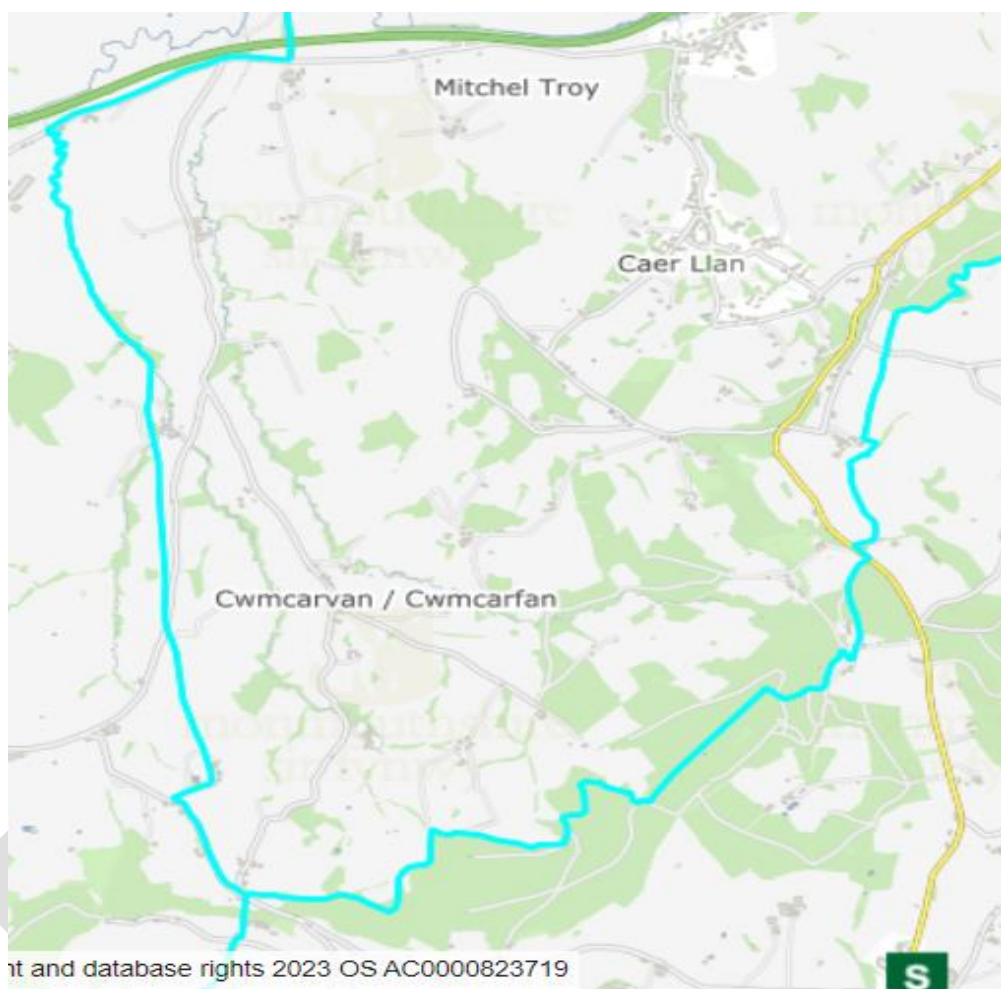
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1. The Proposal

The Council are considering amending the Primary School catchment area for the village of Mitchel Troy and Cwmcarvan. The affected areas currently form part of the catchment area for Overmonnow Primary School, however, feedback received from the local community suggests that the catchment school should be changed to Trellech Primary School. A map detailing the area under review is shown below:



2. The current position

The area under review forms part of the catchment area for Overmonnow Primary School and Monmouth Comprehensive School. For some families living within the affected area, Overmonnow Primary School is considered to be the nearest school as well as the catchment school. For others residing within the affected area, Trellech Primary is the nearest school.

The feedback received from the local community is that the area of Mitchel Troy and Cwmcarvan associates itself more with the Trellech Primary School community, and

that the existing arrangements for catchment areas causes an unwelcome divide within the community when it comes to choosing / attending a primary school.

3. Why are we considering the proposed change?

Community requirements.

Feedback received from within the community suggests that the areas of Mitchel Troy and Cwmcarn have more established links with Trellech Primary School and have asked that the Primary catchment area reflects this in order to provide equity across the community.

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 Trellech Primary as they currently fall within the catchment area for Overmonnow Primary School. The proposals would increase the opportunity of securing school places at Trellech Primary, should proposals be implemented.

Provision of Home to School Transport

The home to school transport policy confirms that free home to school transport will be awarded to the nearest or catchment school if residing more than 1.5 miles (primary) or 2.0 miles (secondary).

Not all children living within the affected area are entitled to free home to school transport to Trellech Primary School as it is not the designated catchment school and in many cases not the nearest school

4. Background information

Our data suggests that there are currently 30 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	%
Overmonnow Primary School	2	6.7
Trellech Primary School	16	53.3
Out of County / Private School	3	10
Raglan Primary	2	6.7
Kymin View Primary	5	16.6
Other	2	6.7
Total	30	

The above data does suggest that the majority (53.3%) opt to attend Trellech Primary School over the catchment school of Overmonnow Primary School (6.7%).

Trellech 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 Trellech Primary School despite it not being their catchment school.

The suggested divide within the community appears to be driven by entitlement to home to school transport. In line with the home to school transport policy, it is only those who reside closer to Trellech Primary School that will receive free home to school transport.

Of the 30 primary age children residing within the area, 12 are closer to Overmonnow Primary, 7 are closer to Trellech Primary, and 11 are relatively equidistant (i.e. within 0.2 miles difference).

Current numbers on roll at School affected by the proposals.

The current number on roll for Trellech and Overmonnow Primary Schools are detailed in the table below:

School	Numbers on roll	Capacity	% surplus places
Trellech Primary School	170	207	17.8%
Overmonnow Primary School	307	390	21.2%

Projected Numbers on roll

The projected number on roll for Trellech and Overmonnow Primary Schools are:

Trellech Primary School	
Academic Year	Projected Number on roll
September 2024	166
September 2025	155
September 2026	140
September 2027	134
September 2028	127

Overmonnow Primary School	
Academic Year	Projected Number on roll
September 2024	298
September 2025	293
September 2026	321
September 2027	335
September 2028	329

5. Advantages and Disadvantages of the proposal

Advantages	Disadvantages
The proposals would reflect the trends within the affected area, where the majority of pupils attend Trellech Primary School	Overmonnow Primary School would have a reduction in the number of children residing within their catchment area
Families residing within the affected area would all receive free home to school transport to Trellech Primary	There is likely to be an increase in home to school transport costs, as some of the affected area is closer to Overmonnow Primary School than it is to Trellech Primary School

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 increased advantage for obtaining school places at Trellech Primary School.

The proposals would still result in a dual home to school transport entitlement for some pupils. If the catchment changed to Trellech Primary School, some pupils would be able to obtain transport to Overmonnow Primary School as the nearest school, should this be their preference.

6. Financial Implications

Overmonnow Primary School is 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, the home to school transport costs would be in the region of £52,920 per annum. However, there are no children currently receiving transport from the affected area so the current costs associated with Overmonnow Primary School are zero.

Trellech 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, the home to school transport costs would be in the region of £56,700 per annum. The Council is currently providing home to school transport to Trellech Primary School for some families residing within the affected area, where Trellech Primary School is deemed to be nearest. The costs of this provision are currently £23,584 per annum.

In light of the above, the immediate financial impact associated with this proposal is thought to be £33,116.

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 Overmonnow 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 the below drop in session:

Review Area	Date	Venue
Mitchel Troy and Cwmcarnan	TBC	Trellech Primary School

- 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 on our website at www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/catchmentconsultation

If you have any questions on the proposals please contact the Access Unit on 01633 644508 or by emailing acesstolearning@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.

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