



monmouthshire  
sir fynwy

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**Review Area 1**  
**The villages of Tredunnock,**  
**Llanhennock and Llandegveth**

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Consultation period:

**8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

## Contents

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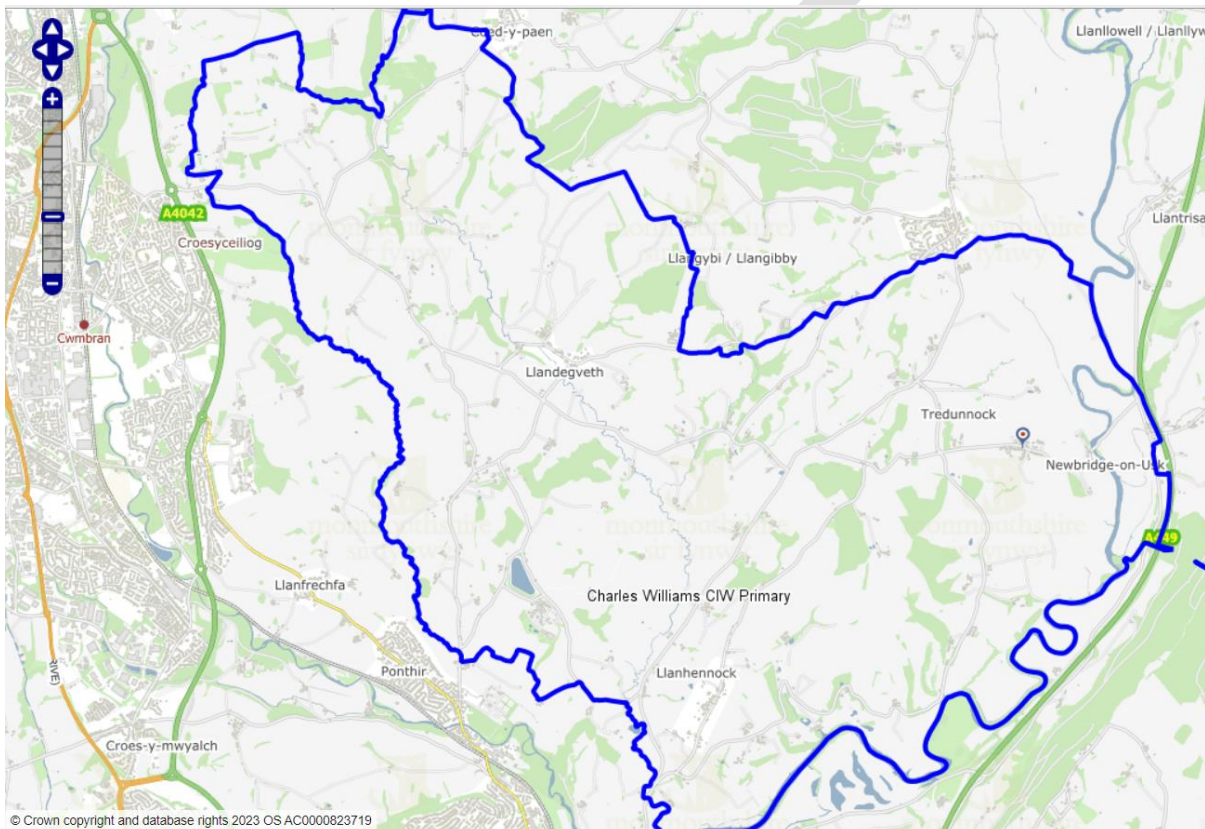
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## 1. The Proposal

The Council is considering amending their school admission arrangements to accommodate the villages of Tredunnoch, Llanhennock and Llandegveth into the catchment area for Usk Church in Wales Primary School.

The affected area currently forms part of the catchment area for Charles Williams Church In Wales Primary School, Newport, and does not have a designated primary catchment that falls within Monmouthshire. A map detailing the affected area can be shown below:



The Council would like to know your views on whether the catchment area for Usk Church in Wales Primary School should be amended to incorporate the areas of Tredunnoch, Llandegveth and Llanhennock, or whether the status quo should remain.

**Important:** Charles Williams CIW Primary School is a Voluntary Aided School, which means that the governing body for the school is responsible for their school admission arrangements, including its catchment area. Monmouthshire County Council is not able to amend the catchment area for Charles Williams CIW Primary School, but can amend the catchment area for Usk CIW Primary School by incorporating the affected area into its admission arrangements.

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The proposals would see the provision of free home to school transport offered to Usk Church in Wales Primary School as the newly designated catchment school.

## **2. The current position**

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The area under review currently forms part of the catchment area for Charles Williams Primary School and Monmouth Comprehensive School. For those residing within the affected area, Charles Williams Church in Wales Primary School is considered to be the nearest school for the majority, with Usk Church in Wales Primary being the nearest Monmouthshire Primary School.

In 2018 a review of secondary school catchment areas was undertaken and a decision taken to place the affected area into the catchment area for Monmouth Comprehensive School. Prior to this, the catchment secondary school was Caerleon Comprehensive, however, it was felt that Monmouthshire residents should be able to access a School within the County should they wish to do so.

This consultation forms the next stage of this review, where we propose to enable the primary age children residing within the affected area with the opportunity to educate their children at a primary school within the county, through establishing that the catchment area is within that of Usk Church in Wales Primary School.

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

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### **No designated catchment school within Monmouthshire.**

One of the identified aims of our catchment review has been to consider the areas of Monmouthshire that do not currently have a designated catchment School that falls within County. The primary catchment school is presently one that falls within the city of Newport. The proposed changes to the affected areas would allow children resident in Monmouthshire to access a primary school that is within the county in which they live.

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

Charles Williams Primary School is the designated primary school for the affected area, with Monmouth Comprehensive School being the designated secondary school catchment. The current arrangements do not align with our transition arrangements between primary and secondary school, as the current primary catchment school is not a feeder school for the designated secondary catchment school. The proposed changes would see an alignment between the primary and secondary school catchments for the affected areas, 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 a Monmouthshire School as they do not have a designated primary catchment school within the county in which they live. The proposals would address 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 1.5 miles (primary) or 2 miles (secondary) or more from the home address.

The affected area does not currently qualify for free home to school transport to a Monmouthshire School.

## 4. Background information

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Our data suggests that there are currently 28 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	%
Charles Williams Primary	13	46.4
Usk CIW Primary School	9	32.1
Private School	2	7.1
Other	4	14.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	

The above data suggests that there is a demand from the affected area for children to be educated within the county.

Usk Church in Wales 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 Usk Church in Wales Primary School despite it not being their catchment school.

We are aware of 9 primary age children where parents have expressed a preference for their children to attend Usk Church in Wales Primary School, although these children will not be eligible for free home to school transport.

Current numbers on roll

The current numbers on roll at Usk Church in Wales Primary School are:

School	Numbers on roll	Capacity	% surplus places
Usk CIW Primary School	249	280	11%

Projected Numbers on roll

The projected numbers on roll for Usk Primary School are:

Usk Church in Wales Primary School	
Academic Year	Projected Number on roll
September 2024	238
September 2025	234
September 2026	220
September 2027	211
September 2028	202

The data received from health suggests that the following number of children from within the catchment area of Usk CIW Primary and the affected area (currently Charles Williams CIW Primary) will be seeking Reception school places over the coming years

Academic Year	Usk CIW Primary	Affected area (currently Charles Williams catchment)
September 2024	35	2
September 2025	27	4
September 2026	25	2
September 2027	30	1

Usk Church in Wales Primary School currently has capacity for 40 children per year group.

## 5. Advantages and Disadvantages of the proposal

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Advantages	Disadvantages
The proposals are increasing the opportunities for those residing in Monmouthshire to have access to a school that is within the county.	The proposed catchment school is further away for the majority of affected families than the current catchment school.
Families residing within the affected area would have a designated catchment school within the county in which they live	There is likely to be an increase in home to school transport costs due to the increase in travelling distances
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 Monmouthshire school	Parents will still have the opportunity to apply for places at Charles Williams Primary school and we will have a duty to provide transport as this is the nearest school.
There will be an increase in the number of children that can access Usk CIW Primary School which should impact positively on their numbers on roll going forward	
Children and young people residing within the affected area would meet the criteria to receive free home to school transport to a Monmouthshire School.	
The proposals are supportive of transitional links between primary and secondary schools	
Enabling the above would support the robust transition links between Usk CIW Primary and Monmouth Comprehensive School, enabling peer groups to remain together on transition to secondary school.	



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## 6. Financial Implications

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Charles Williams CIW Primary School is currently 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 and require home to school transport assistance, the home to school transport costs would be in the region of £41,580 per annum. However, there are no children currently receiving transport from the affected area to Charles Williams CIW Primary School so the costs of current provision is zero.

Usk CIW 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, they would receive an entitlement to free home to school transport, with the costs estimated to be in the region of £41,580 per annum.

In light of the above, the immediate financial impact associated with this proposal is thought to be £41,580.

**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 Charles Williams CIW 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?

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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 one of the below drop in sessions:

Review Area	Date	Venue
Tredunnock, Llanhennock and Llandegveth	6 <sup>th</sup> February 2024. Open drop in session between 4pm – 6pm	County Hall, Usk
	7 <sup>th</sup> February 2023. Open drop in session between 1pm – 4pm	County Hall, Usk



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 [here](#).

If you have any questions on the proposals please contact the Access Unit on 01633 644508 or by emailing [accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk).

Please note that the deadline for responses to this consultation is 19<sup>th</sup> 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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