



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL**

**RECORD OF DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE**

**DECISION MADE BY: Cabinet    DATE DECISION MADE: 09 April, 2019**

**Cabinet Members Present:**

Councillor A Morgan (Chair), Councillor M Webber (Vice-Chair),  
Councillor R Bevan, Councillor A Crimmings, Councillor G Hopkins,  
Councillor M Norris, Councillor J Rosser, Councillor R Lewis and  
Councillor C Leyshon

**Other Councillor(s) in Attendance:-**

Councillor G Davies  
Councillor T Williams

***Agenda Item : 6***

**SUBJECT: Review of Learning Support Class Revision in Rhondda Cynon Taf**

## **1. DECISION MADE:**

### **Agreed –**

1. To consider the information contained within the report and the Objection Report in Appendix A, which includes details of objections received during the Statutory Notice period, and the comments given in response to the objections.
2. To implement the proposals as published in the Statutory Notices which will:
  - a) Open Key Stage 3/4 LSC provision for pupils with Complex Learning Difficulties in Treorchy Comprehensive School with effect from 1st September 2019.
  - b) Open Key Stage 3/4 LSC provision for pupils with Social, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties in Ysgol Nant Gwyn with effect from 1st September 2019.
  - c) Relocate the Foundation Phase LSC for pupils with Complex Learning Difficulties from Caradog Primary School to Cwmbach Primary School, creating a cross phase provision from Foundation Phase to Key Stage 2 with effect from 1st September 2019.
  - d) Relocate the Foundation Phase LSC for pupils with Complex Learning Difficulties from Penrhys Primary School to Maerdy Primary School, creating a cross phase provision from Foundation Phase to Key Stage 2 with effect from 1st September 2019.
  - e) Re-designate 1 Foundation Phase LSC for Complex Learning Difficulties in Darran Park Primary School and 1 Foundation Phase Observation and Assessment Class at Llantrisant Primary School to become 2 Early Years Assessment and Intervention LSCs for pupils under statutory school age with significant presenting needs with effect from 1st September 2019.
  - f) Close the Foundation Phase LSC for pupils with Complex Learning Difficulties in Heol y Celyn Primary School with effect from 31st August 2019 noting no pupils would be affected by this proposal.
  - g) Close the Foundation Phase LSC for pupils with Complex Learning Difficulties in Penrhys Primary School with effect from 31st August 2019 noting no pupils would be affected by this proposal.
  - h) Close the Key Stage 2 LSC for pupils with Social, Emotional, and Behavioural Difficulties in Penywaun Primary School with effect from 31st August 2019 noting no pupils would be affected by this proposal.
  - i) Close the Foundation Phase LSC for pupils with Complex Learning Difficulties in Pontygwaith Primary School with effect from 31st August 2019 noting no

pupils would be affected by this proposal.

- j) Close the Key Stage 2 LSC for pupils with Complex Learning Difficulties in Heol y Celyn Primary School with effect from 31st August 2019 noting two pupils would be affected by this proposal.
  - k) Agree to an amendment of the proposal in relation to the closure of the Key Stage 2 LSC for pupils with Complex Learning Difficulties in Caradog Primary School. It is proposed the LSC will now close on 31st August 2023 and not the 31st August 2019. This will ensure that no pupils would be affected by this proposal. No further pupils will be placed in the provision. However this decision will be kept under review based on demand level until August 2023
3. To the publication of the relevant Decision Notices in respect of the proposals taken forward as required by the School Organisation Code.

**N.B** With the agreement of the Chairman the following members of the public spoke on this item: Ms G Smith, Ms R Clark and Ms M Love.

**2. REASON FOR THE DECISION BEING MADE:**

The need to progress the proposal in accordance with the process outlined in the Welsh Government legislative guidance (The School Organisation Code) so that an improved continuum of SEN provision can be achieved in RCT.

**3. LINKS TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES/FUTURE GENERATIONS - SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:**

As outlined within Section 9 of the report the proposals ensure that two of the Council's three key priorities are met:- Economy: Building a strong economy; & People: Promoting independence and positive lives for everyone.

The proposals will ensure that some of the Council's most vulnerable pupils will have the best chance of achieving positive outcomes. The redirection of valuable resources from SEN settings which have surplus places will enhance opportunities for providing successful inclusion in local community schools. The proposals will ensure more efficient and effective use of Council resources which promotes the development of social inclusion and positive outcomes for learners. This will also have a beneficial impact on transport costs and on carbon emissions.

Organising services so that they are focussed on early intervention and prevention is a key statutory requirement of the Wellbeing and Future Generations Act and a key element of the Council's Corporate Plan. These proposals will ensure there is renewed capacity for early intervention and prevention thus minimising the need for statutory processes and intervention.

**4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO DECISION BEING MADE:**

The consultation process in respect of this proposal was undertaken under the arrangements outlined in the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code. A consultation ran from the 19th October to the 21st December 2018 and full details are outlined with the consultation document reported to Cabinet on [the 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2019](#).

**5. PREVIOUS CONSIDERATION BY A COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL:**

Cabinet – [3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2018](#).  
Cabinet – [24<sup>th</sup> January, 2019](#).

**6. PERSONAL INTERESTS DECLARED:**

County Borough Councillor R Bevan declared the following personal interest in respect of the items- "I am on the Governing Body of Pontygwaith Primary School but my interest is not prejudicial because of the exemption contained within paragraph 12(2) (a)(iii) of the Members Code of Conduct"

County Borough Councillor M Webber declared the following personal interest in respect of the items- "I am on the Governing Body of Heol y Celyn Primary School but my interest is not prejudicial because of the exemption contained within paragraph 12(2) (a)(iii) of the Members Code of Conduct"

**7. DISPENSATION TO SPEAK (AS GRANTED BY STANDARDS COMMITTEE):**

N/A

**8. (a) IS THE DECISION SUBJECT TO CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:**

**Yes**

**Note:** This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 3 clear working days after its publication i.e. **15 April 2019** to enable it to be the subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

**8.(b) IF NO, REASONS WHY IN THE OPINION OF THE DECISION-MAKER THE DECISION IS EXEMPT OR NON APPLICABLE:**

**I. COUNCIL / SCRUTINY FUNCTION (CALL IN IS THEREFORE NON APPLICABLE):-**

Reason: N/A

**II. URGENT DECISION:-**

Reason N/A

**8.(c) IF DEEMED URGENT - SIGNATURE OF MAYOR OR DEPUTY MAYOR OR HEAD OF PAID SERVICE CONFIRMING AGREEMENT THAT THE PROPOSED DECISION IS REASONABLE IN ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR IT BEING TREATED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULE 17.2:**

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*(Mayor)*

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*(Dated)*

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**PUBLICATION**

Publication on the Councils Website:- **Tuesday, 9 April 2019**

**APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION: ✓**