



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL**

**RECORD OF DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE**

**DECISION MADE BY: Cabinet DATE DECISION MADE: 25 February, 2021**

**Cabinet Members Present:**

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

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

Councillor L Walker

***Agenda Item : 8***

**SUBJECT: Review of Special School Provision in Rhondda Cynon Taf County  
Borough Council**

**1. DECISION MADE:**

**Agreed –**

1. To note the content of the report;
2. To acknowledge the pressures on our special schools and the need for a detailed review of special school provision throughout the County Borough;
3. To additional scoping work being undertaken including feasibility studies where appropriate, to inform potential proposals for change; and
4. To receive a further report presenting the outcome of the review including recommendations for potential future investment.

**(Note: With the agreement of the Chair, County Borough Councillor L. Walker spoke on this item.)**

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

The need to provide Cabinet with information on a data gathering exercise that has been undertaken in order to facilitate a detailed review of special school provision throughout the County Borough. The review also considers the impact of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal Act (2018) from a national and local perspective.

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

The proposals will ensure that two of RCTCBC's three key priorities will be met. These include:

- Economy: Building a strong economy.
- People: Promoting independence and positive lives for everyone.

The proposals will ensure that some of RCTCBC's most vulnerable learners will have the best chance of achieving positive outcomes. The proposals will ensure more efficient and effective use of 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 2015<sup>1</sup> and a key element of RCTCBC's Corporate Plan.

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

If approval is granted to progress with any proposals as a result of this review of special schools in the County Borough, where appropriate, the consultation process in respect of the proposals will be undertaken under the arrangements outlined in the Welsh Government's Statutory Code – School Organisation Code (011/2018)

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

None

**6. PERSONAL INTERESTS DECLARED:**

County Borough Councillor L. Walker declared the following personal interest: 'I am on the Governing Body at Ysgol Ty Coch'

**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. **3 March 2021** 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 PRESIDING MEMBER OR DEPUTY PRESIDING MEMBER 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:**

.....  
(PRESIDING MEMBER)

.....  
(Dated)

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**PUBLICATION**

Publication on the Council's Website:- **Thursday, 25 February 2021**

**APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION: ✓**