



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

18th JULY 2019

21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS PROGRAMME - PROPOSALS TO REORGANISE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND SIXTH FORM PROVISION IN THE GREATER PONTYPRIDD AREA

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE IN DISCUSSION WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION (COUNCILLOR MRS J ROSSER)

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to advise Members of the outcome of the recent publication of four Statutory Notices in respect of proposals to reorganise primary schools, secondary schools and sixth form provision in the greater Pontypridd area. The four Statutory Notices relate to:

- The alteration of the age range of pupils that may be admitted to Cardinal Newman RC Comprehensive School, from 11 – 19 years to 11 – 16 years, resulting in the removal of the sixth form provision by September 2022;
- The closure of Pontypridd High School and Cilfynydd Primary School and the creation of a new 3 – 16 ‘all through’ school on the site of the current Pontypridd High School by September 2022. There will be no sixth form provision at this school;
- The closure of Hawthorn High School and Hawthorn Primary School and the creation of a new 3 – 16 ‘all through’ school on the site of the current Hawthorn High and Hawthorn Primary Schools by September 2022, with the Local Authority designated ALN specialist class located in Hawthorn High School, as well as the current pupils receiving education through the medium of English at Heol y Celyn Primary School transferring to the new school. There will be no sixth form provision at this school;
- The closure of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pont Sion Norton and Heol y Celyn Primary School and the opening of a new Welsh medium Primary School on the site of the current Heol y Celyn Primary School by September 2022.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- 2.1 Note the information contained within the attached Objection Report in Appendix A, which includes a summary of the 435 objections received during the statutory notice period, and the comments provided in response to the objections and Appendices B-D being the Community, Equality and Welsh Language Impact Assessments.
- 2.2 Agree to implement the proposals as published in three of the Statutory Notices which would:
 - Close Pontypridd High School and Cilfynydd Primary School and create a new 3 – 16 ‘all through’ school on the site of the current Pontypridd High School by September 2022. There will be no sixth form provision at this school;
 - Close Hawthorn High School and Hawthorn Primary School and create a new 3 – 16 ‘all through’ school on the site of the current Hawthorn High and Hawthorn Primary Schools by September 2022, with the Local Authority designated ALN specialist class located in Hawthorn High School, as well as the current pupils receiving education through the medium of English at Heol y Celyn Primary School, transferring to the new school. There will be no sixth form provision at this school;
 - Close Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pont Sion Norton and Heol y Celyn Primary School and open a new Welsh medium primary school on the site of the current Heol y Celyn Primary School by September 2022.
- 2.3 Agree the associated catchment changes detailed in the explanatory notes to the Statutory Notices - such catchment changes becoming effective from 1st September 2022. This excludes the proposed change to the catchment area of Bryncelynnog Comprehensive School as agreed by Cabinet on 21st March 2019 which was not included within the Statutory Notices.
- 2.4 Note that as previously reported, the School Organisation Code makes provision for local authorities to determine their own statutory proposals, with the exception of the proposal relating to Cardinal Newman RC Comprehensive School. The Cardinal Newman RC Comprehensive School proposal relates only to the removal of the sixth form, the implementation (or non-implementation) of which will not prevent or undermine the effective implementation of the other proposals. In accordance with the School Organisation Code this has been referred to Welsh Ministers for determination.

- 2.5 Note that, subject to a decision to proceed with any of the proposals, a separate report on funding arrangements would be presented to Council in due course which would also be subject to approval by Welsh Government.
- 2.6 Note that, subject to a decision to proceed with the proposal to construct a new Welsh medium primary, a separate report to establish a new ALN learning support class at the new Welsh medium school would be presented in due course.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To implement the proposals in accordance with the process outlined in Welsh Government legislative guidance (the School Organisation Code).
- 3.2 Recommendations are aligned with the 21st Century Schools and Education Programme funding criteria. The priorities for this investment are:
- Addressing growth in demand for Welsh medium education;
 - Reducing surplus capacity and inefficiency in the system;
 - Expansion of schools in areas of increased demand for educational services;
 - Addressing condition of educational assets;
 - Making assets available for community use where demand exists, to optimise the infrastructure and resources for public services;
 - Addressing specific demand for places in Faith Based provision.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Members will recall that, at the meeting of the Cabinet held on 3rd October 2018, approval was given to begin a process to formally consult on proposals to reorganise primary schools, secondary schools and sixth form provision in the greater Pontypridd area.
- 4.2 Following the conclusion of the consultation period, and at a subsequent meeting of the Cabinet held on 21st March 2019, a decision was taken to progress to the next phase of the statutory process and to publish four Statutory Notices.
- 4.3 The rationale for the proposals for change as consulted upon were well documented in the consultation document which was circulated widely in line with the requirements of the School Organisation Code. The rationale for the proposals were multi-faceted and were based on a number of factors, which are detailed in turn for consideration.

Sixth Form Changes

- 4.4 There are too many small and unviable sixth forms in the County Borough and a rationalisation would ensure that the needs of learners would be more effectively met if a larger sixth form provision was established. Diminishing retention rates of learners remaining in sixth form education continues to evidence that the majority of learners are not remaining in school to pursue Key Stage 5 studies. The most recent data sets suggest that the number of learners returning to year 12 in September 2018/19 were as follows:

	<u>Number of pupils at the end of Year 11</u>	<u>Number of pupils returning to year 12</u>
Bryncelynnog Comp	172	77
Cardinal Newman	119	43
Hawthorn High	112	40
Pontypridd High	153	49

- 4.5 Since the publication of the consultation report in October 2018, further All Wales Core Data Sets have been published for 2017/18. Details relating to key stage 5 outcomes are detailed below and clearly illustrate that Bryncelynnog has consistently strong performance data across both measures as detailed below. The data illustrates that whilst progress has been made over time for most of the schools, there is still scope for significantly improving outcomes, and ensuring that performance exceeds local and national averages in all schools.

School Name	3 A* – A Grades			3 A* - C Grades		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Bryncelynnog Comp School	8.6	18.9	21.8	46.6	52.8	63.6
Pontypridd High School	5.9	5.6	7.5	27.5	42.6	50.7
Hawthorn High School	0.0	2.1	14.3	14.3	41.7	61.2
Cardinal Newman R.C.	2.7	4.4	4.8	21.3	58.8	57.1
RCT LA	4.0	5.5	10.2	29.0	45.1	54.3
Wales	6.7	10.5	13.4	38.3	54.7	57.9

- 4.6 Data relating to the Average Wider Point Scores is not referenced here as it is no longer utilised as an assessment criteria comparator. This decision was taken by the Welsh Government as so many different types of qualifications are used within this measure that it is not possible to fairly compare the performance of schools.
- 4.7 The FE Colleges Learner Outcomes Report was published by Welsh Government on 7th February 2019. It evidences further progress by Coleg Y Cymoedd across a wide range of curriculum areas including A

Levels. The data shows that the A-level performance at Coleg Y Cymoedd continues to improve with 74.8% of pupils achieving A*-C grades for A Levels.

- 4.8 Effective financial management continues to be an issue for three out of the four secondary schools, Cardinal Newman, Hawthorn High and Pontypridd High, and all have budget deficit recovery plans in place to rectify the budget position. The cumulative deficit for the three schools was £1.2M in 2017/18 and this has increased to £1.5M in 2018/19. All schools are required to make difficult staffing decisions to address this deficit, which will inevitably further impact on the capacity of the schools concerned to provide an extensive curriculum offer in post 16.
- 4.9 It is evident that the unsustainable nature of the sixth form provision in these schools is a significant challenge as low retention rates inevitably result in costly small class sizes which are heavily subsidised by resources intended for Key Stage 3 and 4 learners. This funding equates to on average £700 per pupil in Pontypridd and Hawthorn High School and escalates to £800 in Cardinal Newman. In essence, the decision to maintain unviable sixth form provisions in these schools is to the educational detriment of learners in key stages 3 and 4.
- 4.10 The alternative post 16 provisions at Bryncelynog Comprehensive and Coleg Y Cymoedd will offer students a broader curriculum choice for both traditional A Level and vocational subjects, will have the pupil numbers required to maintain financial viability, and will provide an opportunity for students to learn in a modern, accessible, 21st Century schools' environment. In addition, the Council's Home to School Transport policy will ensure that access to post 16 education is equitable across the County Borough and available to all who choose it.

Creation of 3-16 all-through schools

- 4.11 There remains to be significant challenges relating to surplus places in the Greater Pontypridd area and a total of 785 secondary surplus places alone are projected for 2023. In essence, the Council is funding one secondary school too many in the Greater Pontypridd area.
- 4.12 The condition, location and topography of the primary school buildings and sites included in these proposals are a limiting factor on the development of the curriculum and therefore have an adverse impact on further improvements in educational standards. The cumulative backlog maintenance figure for these four primary schools alone totals over £2.2M.
- 4.13 Investment in the school buildings and the external environments will ensure that learners have access to flexible environments fit for the 21st Century with external areas which will enable delivery of the new

curriculum. Furthermore, the new schools will be wholly inclusive and fully compliant with the Equality Act 2010, and will create modern spaces, both internally and externally, that will benefit not just the learners but also the wider community.

- 4.14 Establishing 3-16 all-through schools have countless benefits which include:
- access to a shared ethos across the 3-16 phase and consistent policies, procedures and protocols;
 - coherent and consistent approaches to teaching and learning across phases and stages will ensure greater continuity in learning which will be further strengthened by access to common approaches to assessment and tracking of learners' progress across the 3-16 phase;
 - enhanced flexibility to curriculum provision and delivery; and,
 - opportunities for learners to access a broader range of specialist accommodation, facilities and learning resources.

The visibility of all ages in an all-through context, where teachers know their pupils and their families well, reinforces the concept of a learning journey and a sense of authentic progression where best practice can be shared and collective opportunities for professional learning provided.

Welsh Medium Proposals

- 4.15 The construction of a new Welsh medium provision in this area affords the opportunity to create a fully accessible Welsh medium 21st Century school. The additional 93 Welsh medium spaces will contribute towards the Council's strategy aimed at enhancing Welsh Medium provision across the County Borough, and the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050: A Million Welsh Speakers target in Rhondda Cynon Taf. A Cabinet report detailing the 'Development of Welsh Medium Education Places' was considered by Cabinet in April 2019, and this proposal forms an important strand of the strategic approach adopted by Rhondda Cynon Taf to enhance the number of Welsh speakers and places in Welsh medium schools.
- 4.16 Following the recent consultation on the Welsh Government's draft Welsh in Education Strategic Plans Regulations (Wales) 2019 guidance which advocates an increase in Welsh medium education provision for all learners, including those with Additional Learning Needs (ALN), and in accordance with the ALN and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018, RCT will consult on establishing a Welsh medium Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 ALN provision in the new school.
- 4.17 The Council's Home to School Transport Strategy exceeds the Welsh Governments statutory obligations, and as such ensures that access to

Welsh medium education is equitable across the County Borough and available to all who choose it.

- 4.18 The majority of pupils attending YGG Pont Sion Norton will be unaffected as nearly 70% of pupils currently attending the school do so utilising school transport. In fact, there will be daily net reduction in the travel distances for the majority of pupils who already access YGG Pont Sion Norton via school transport by nearly 1 mile. It is acknowledged that for some pupils who currently attend YGG Pont Sion Norton there will be an increase in the distance travelled to the new school.
- 4.19 The information outlined in paragraphs 4.12 and 4.13 is also relevant here.
- 4.20 If agreed, these proposals will result in an investment of £37.4m in building new school buildings and making significant improvements to existing learning environments to ensure learners have access to high quality 21st Century educational settings.
- 4.21 There is clearly a need to continue to significantly invest in the Council's educational assets, to provide equity so that all RCT pupils can benefit from 21st Century learning environments; to support an enriched curriculum; to facilitate broader pupil choice and enhanced pastoral support. The investment aims to create environments that meet individual needs and promotes learner retention, achievement and progression.

5. THE STATUTORY PROCESS

- 5.1 The four Statutory Notices for this proposal are outlined in paragraph 1.1 above.
- 5.2 The four statutory notices were published on 30th April 2019, with the period for receipt of objections ending on 31st May 2019. Objections to the statutory notices were received during this period and all have been reviewed by Cabinet Members. In accordance with the School Organisation Code the appended Objection Report includes a summary of the statutory objections received and the Local Authority's response to them.
- 5.3 A total of 435 objections were received during the 31 day objection period. To provide context, the number of directly affected consultees that received information on the proposals was over 3,300, this number does not include the associated schools. Further detail in relation to the breakdown of objections is included in the appended report. To note no MPs or local AMs, directly representing the areas affected by the

proposals, registered an objection. Only one objection was received from a regional AM.

- 5.4 348 of the 435 objections received were generated by a website which facilitated a prewritten objection to be sent directly to the Council's 'schoolplanning' mailbox.
- 5.5 The Objection Report will be published on the Council website within 7 days of the confirmation of the decision. If the proposals are agreed, the Council must also publish a Decision Notice that formally outlines the reasons for the implementation of these proposals at this time.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Equality, Community and Welsh Language Impact Assessments were prepared in respect of the proposals and were published on the Council's website together with the Consultation Document that outlines the proposals in detail.
- 6.2 These documents have been revisited for the purpose of this report. Copies of the three Impact Assessments are attached at Appendices B-D to this report for Members consideration.
- 6.3 Cabinet Members will of course be fully aware and mindful of the general equality duty introduced by the Equality Act 2010 (the "Equality Act") and the specific public sector equality duties applicable to the Council as a local authority in Wales.
- 6.4 In accordance with the Equality Act, the Council (and consequently Cabinet) when exercising its functions has a general duty to have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act;
 - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not; and
 - foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 6.5 The duty covers the following eight protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. Public authorities also need to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination against someone because of their marriage or civil partnership status.
- 6.6 The Equality Act outlines that having due regard for advancing equality involves:

- removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics;
- taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people; or
- encouraging people from protected groups to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

6.7 In addition to the general duty the Council must:

- assess the likely impact of proposed policies and practices on its ability to comply with the general duty;
- assess the impact of any policy which is being reviewed and of any proposed revision;
- publish reports of the assessments where they show a substantial impact (or likely impact) on an authority's ability to meet the general duty; and
- monitor the impact of policies and practices on its ability to meet that duty.

6.8 Members will be aware that the Welsh language has official status in Wales which means that the Welsh language should not be treated less favourably than the English language in Wales. The Equality Impact Assessment considers the potential impact of the proposals on the Welsh language. Members should also have regard to the Council's [Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020](#).

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 The consultation process in respect of this proposal has been undertaken under the arrangements outlined in the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code, which was introduced on the 1st October 2013 and recently updated in November 2018.

7.2 Consultation took place between 15th October 2018 and 31st January 2019 and full details of this process were published in a Consultation Report, which was presented at the meeting of Cabinet held on 21st March 2019 and subsequently published on the Council website.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 If the proposals proceed, it is proposed that £37.4 million be invested in building new and refurbishing / remodelling existing buildings to ensure the pupils have high quality, viable and sustainable 21st Century learning environments capable of facilitating the effective implementation of the new curriculum for Wales. This will be funded by the 21st Century Schools and Education Programme, which includes

a contribution of up to 65% from Welsh Government. The Council's share of the capital costs will be met through prudential borrowing.

- 8.2 As outlined in paragraph 2.5, this funding is subject to approval by the Welsh Government following the submission of the relevant Business Cases.
- 8.3 Any revenue and capital costs that accrue in completing the consultation and preparing financial business cases for Welsh Government approval will be met from within existing budgets.
- 8.4 There will be financial benefits from the sale of assets, economies of scale from managing all through-schools and sharing resources, specialist staff and professional learning opportunities. Revenue savings realised will predominately be premises related as there will be a reduction in the number of buildings that have to be maintained. In addition, the majority of the backlog maintenance costs of over £4m will be removed. Any savings realised from delivering these proposals will be ring-fenced and reinvested in the Council's educational asset portfolio.

9 LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT

- 9.1 The Council's Corporate Plan commits to "Continue to invest in improving school buildings, to ensure the County Borough's pupils have the learning environment fit for the 21st Century."
- 9.2 The proposals considered in the report contribute to all 7 well-being goals within the Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015 and due regard has been made to the Five Ways of Working, as contained within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. This is evidenced below:
 - A prosperous Wales
Improving educational outcomes and educational provision are priorities for every project delivered within the 21st Century Schools Programme, contributing to the development of a skilled and well-educated workforce.
 - A resilient Wales
Newly constructed schools are built to BREEAM excellent standards and include features such as photovoltaic cells, rain water harvesting systems, and a biodiverse forest schools' area, contributing to a healthier natural environment.

- A healthier Wales
The 21st Century Schools Programme delivers modern and multi-use sports provision and flexible external facilities that not only benefit the school but also the wider community. The benefits of which have a positive effect on health and well-being.
- A more equal Wales
All of our new 21st Century Schools are wholly inclusive and fully accessible. All pupils and parents have the opportunity to choose the school of their choice, be it English medium, Welsh medium or a faith provision. In addition, RCT's home to school transport, which exceeds the Welsh Government's statutory requirements, ensures that all pupils have equitable access to any school regardless of social, economic or geographical factors.
- A Wales of cohesive communities
Community facilities are included within our new schools so that schools can provide an additional role within its community and act as a catalyst for creating a local community focus. Facilities include dedicated community rooms, childcare settings, as well as sports facilities that can be used out of hours thus increasing the connectedness of learners and non-learners from different communities.
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
RCT's WESP sets out the Council's vision and objectives to increase the number of Welsh learners; improve the quality of the provision and the educational outcomes; and ensure there is suitably trained and qualified educational workforce. This Plan is a key policy and informs the 21st Century Schools and Education Programme. The proposals will increase the availability of Welsh medium school places in Rhondda Cynon Taf.
- A globally responsible Wales
The larger 21st Century Schools projects are procured using the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU). This is the publication in which all tenders from the public sector which are valued above a certain financial threshold according to EU legislation, must be published, advertising opportunities on a global scale.

9.3 An assessment of the proposals on The Well-being and Future Generations Act five ways of working follows:

<p><u>Long Term</u> (The importance of balancing short term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long term needs)</p>	<p>How does your project / activity balance short-term need with the long-term and planning for the future?</p> <p>Maintaining the existing provision of educational premises within Rhondda Cynon Taf places enormous strain on the Council resources. It is recognised that there is an opportunity through the 21st Century Schools funding to manage these pressures more efficiently in future years.</p> <p>The long term vision for RCT education is to provide all learners with the best opportunity possible to achieve their full potential through the means of education by providing access to the very best learning opportunities with modern, flexible, accessible facilities appropriate for delivering the new curriculum.</p> <p>Improved learning environments will act as a stimulus to creating a better future for through delivering brand new 21st Century Schools facilities for our young pupils through all phases of their educational journeys from foundation phase through to delivering a more efficient and effective post-16 provision. It offers choice and an improved curriculum of opportunities.</p>
<p><u>Prevention</u> (How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives)</p>	<p>How does your project / activity put resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse?</p> <p>The Council recognises the challenges of providing everyone with the facilities and opportunities to receive an excellent education in 21st Century facilities. These proposals will enhance and improve the educational environments for all 3-19 year olds affected.</p>
<p><u>Integration</u> (Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the wellbeing goals, on their objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies)</p>	<p>How does your project / activity deliver economic, social, environmental and cultural outcomes together?</p> <p>The Council recognises the importance of the Welsh language as a vital element to achieve and reinforce social and cultural benefits. These proposals will deliver more Welsh medium places in the Pontypridd area, opportunities for wider community collaboration and participation, a more sustainable and accessible educational building meeting BREEAM targets all providing a more integrated and improved learning experience.</p>
<p><u>Collaboration</u> (Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body meet its well-being objectives)</p>	<p>How does your project / activity involve working together with partners (internal and external) to deliver well-being objectives?</p> <p>As a part of this school organisation programme the Council has already consulted with thousands of learners, staff, and parents and carers, throughout the Pontypridd area. If these proposals are to go ahead then this collaboration will continue when further consultation</p>

	will be undertaken to ensure that all stakeholders have an opportunity to shape the 21 st Century Schools' provision to ensure benefits and well-being opportunities are maximised.
<u>Involvement</u> (The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves)	<p>How does your project / facility involve stakeholders with an interest in achieving the well-being goals? How do those stakeholders reflect the diversity of the area?</p> <p>Consultation meetings were held with the student councils of all of the schools directly affected by the proposals, as well as with staff and governors, and open evenings were held in various locations throughout the area which were open to the public. All comments that were submitted during the consultation process were considered by Cabinet.</p> <p>Moving forward, engagement with learners, staff and RCT residents will continue and input and information gleaned from these sessions will shape the new school facilities. In addition information gathered will influence and inform our future projects so all consultation undertaken shapes the legacy of the 21st Century Schools Programme.</p>

10 CONCLUSION

10.1 The Council is responsible for delivering high educational standards and efficient primary, secondary and sixth form education provision that serves our local communities. This is achieved by ensuring that the right schools, are the right size, are in the right location and are fit for the 21st Century learner.

10.2 Following a robust and comprehensive school reorganisation consultation process in respect of the proposals in the Greater Pontypridd area, the evidence clearly suggests that the rationale for implementing proposals for change as outlined in the Consultation Document and summarised in this and previous reports remains entirely appropriate and valid. The evidence clearly suggests that:

- The sixth form provisions in the three secondary schools remains financially and educationally unviable.
 - There is unnecessary duplication of sixth form provision across schools and colleges.
 - Class sizes are too small and resources intended for learners in key stages 3 and 4 are being utilised to subsidise unsustainable sixth form provisions in settings.
 - The poor retention rates at post 16 is having a detrimental impact financially and educationally.
 - The cumulative deficit position of Cardinal Newman RC School, Hawthorn High School and Pontypridd High School is in excess of £1.5M.

- The creation of the new 3-16 all-through schools will deliver 21st Century School learning environments that will:
 - provide buildings that are fully accessible and which meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010,
 - remove surplus places,
 - create financially sustainable provisions,
 - improve transition,
 - enable greater continuity in teaching and learning opportunities across all key stages, and
 - provide opportunities for developing a wholly inclusive community facility.

- The creation of a new, larger, Welsh medium primary school will:
 - deliver a fully accessible, modern and flexible 21st Century School environment,
 - support the Equality Act 2010 and the inclusion of learners with additional learning needs,
 - provide external spaces to facilitate the delivery of the new curriculum,
 - increase the number of Welsh medium school places in the Pontypridd area in line with Welsh Government legislation and strategy, and
 - provide opportunities for developing a wholly inclusive community facility.

10.3 Members are asked to:

- i. Formally approve the following proposals as consulted upon and agree to:
 - Close Pontypridd High School and Cilfynydd Primary School and create a new 3 – 16 ‘all through’ School on the site of the current Pontypridd High School by September 2022. There will be no sixth form provision at this school;
 - Close Hawthorn High School and Hawthorn Primary School and create a new 3 – 16 ‘all through’ School on the site of the current Hawthorn High and Hawthorn Primary Schools by September 2022, with the Local Authority designated ALN specialist class located in Hawthorn High School, as well as the current pupils receiving education through the medium of English at Heol y Celyn Primary School transferring to the new school. There will be no sixth form provision at this school;
 - Close Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pont Sion Norton and Heol y Celyn Primary School and open a new Welsh medium Primary School on the site of the current Heol y Celyn Primary School by September 2022.

- ii. Agree the associated catchment changes detailed in the explanatory notes to the Statutory Notices - such catchment changes becoming effective from 1st September 2022.
- iii. Note that the Objection Report plus the relevant statutory objections relating to the proposed alteration of the age range of pupils that may be admitted to Cardinal Newman RC Comprehensive School, from 11 – 19 years to 11 – 16 years, resulting in the removal of the sixth form provision from this school, has been forwarded to Welsh Government Ministers for determination.

Other Information:-

Relevant Scrutiny Committee: Children and Young People

Background Papers

The paper included as an appendix to the report is:

- **The Objection Report**

Contact Officer

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

18th JULY 2019

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Item:

Background Papers

Cabinet – 3rd October 2018.

Officer to contact: