

## Caerphilly County Borough Council - Integrated Impact Assessment

This integrated impact assessment (IIA) has been designed to help support the Council in making informed and effective decisions whilst ensuring compliance with a range of relevant legislation, including:

- Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011
- Socio-economic Duty – Sections 1 to 3 of Equality Act 2010
- Statutory Consultation v Doctrine of Legitimate Expectation and Gunning Principles
- Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

**PLEASE NOTE:** Section 3 *Socio-economic Duty* only needs to be completed if proposals are of a strategic nature or when reviewing previous strategic decisions. See page 6 of the Preparing for the Commencement of the Socio-economic Duty Welsh Government Guidance.

<b>1. Proposal Details</b>			
<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Head of Service</b>	<b>Service Area &amp; Department</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Andrea West</b>	<b>Sue Richards</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools, Education and Corporate Services</b>	<b>01/03/2021</b>

<b>Is this proposal a... (please tick relevant box)</b>											
<b>Policy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Strategy / Plan</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Practice</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Procedure</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Restructure</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Project</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<b>What is the proposal to be assessed?</b> <i>Provide brief details of the proposal and provide a link to any relevant report or documents.</i>
<p>21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Colleges Programme - Band B Phase 1 – <b>Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon</b></p> <p>Schools in Wales need to be in good condition and suitable for the delivery of education. In some cases, schools can be modernised, repaired, refurbished, extended, or partially rebuilt to meet the standards needed for contemporary teaching and learning. However, some existing schools are no longer in the right place and in such cases, we might propose new schools or changes to existing schools.</p> <p>CCBC aspires to continue to raise school standards and improve the quality of the learning environment to create fit-for-purpose 21<sup>st</sup> century schools and give every child in Caerphilly the best possible start in life. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Colleges programme is a</p>

major, long-term, strategic capital investment programme. It is jointly funded by the Welsh Government and local authorities and aims to create a generation of 21st century schools in Wales.

Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon has been identified as one of the priority projects in the 21st Century Schools Band B programme.

Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon is designated as a 'Community School' as per the definition in Chapter 4 of Part 1 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 and aims to assist primary age pupils within its catchment area "*to reach their full potential in an environment where the Welsh Language thrives*". – School Mission Statement.

**The Council wishes to make a 'regulated alteration' to a maintained school in line with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code 2018.**

- To relocate Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon to a new purpose-built Welsh-medium provision school to be situated at the former Cwmcarn High School site (*Cwmcarn, NP11 7NG*) with an anticipated occupation date of September 2022.
  - It is proposed that the new building will incorporate a primary facility with Childcare, Special Resource Base (SRB), Nursery, Rising Threes and main school classrooms, main assembly hall, food technology space, a library and Information Technology space.
  - The new building will have improved outside learning space offering external play areas, a tarmac Multi Use Games Area and access to a grass pitch. The use of sporting facilities will also be considered for the community at suitable times in keeping with the curriculum timetable.
- To stimulate demand for Welsh medium education, which we know is more sustainable for families if education provision is expanded in line with childcare availability in line with the Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP).
- To provide additional opportunities for Welsh immersion, facilitate growth in Welsh medium education and use of the Welsh language that will contribute to meeting the Welsh Government's aim of one million Welsh speakers by 2050.
- To agree that officers can proceed to procurement and construction and agree the establishment of an earmarked reserve facility in the Education area of the Council's accounts.

Further information is available on the [21st Century Schools webpages](#)



# Ysgolion yr 21ain Ganrif

## 21st Century Schools



### 2. Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011

*(The Public Sector Equality Duty requires the Council to have “due regard” to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and foster good relations between different groups). Please note that an individual may have more than one protected characteristic.*

<u>Protected Characteristics</u>	Does the proposal have any positive, negative or neutral impacts on the protected characteristics and how?	If there are negative impacts how will these be mitigated?	What evidence has been used to support this view?
Age (people of all ages)	<p><b>Positive</b> The proposal seeks to cater for pupils aged 3-11 and with plans to support community usage, therefore has the potential to benefit all age ranges.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> Children and young people will be supported to increasingly speak Welsh as part of their everyday routine, improve potential education and career prospects and realise the value of the language.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> The proposal seeks to maintain and expand Welsh Language</p>	<p>The Council acknowledges the importance of the Learner Travel. The site identified for the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon is the former English Medium Secondary Cwmcarn High School site. The safety of children is of paramount importance and the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 requires local authorities to assess the suitability of travel for learners between home and places of education and training. It is the intention of the Authority to provide a system of transport that will seek to ensure pupils can safely and</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 (legislation.gov.uk)</u></a></p> <p>Key legislation giving the Welsh Language official legal status in Wales.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Caerphilly - Census 2011 ward profiles</u></a></p> <p>According to the 2011 Census, Caerphilly county borough had 19,251 Welsh speakers (11.2% of the population) and according to the Pupil Level Annual School Census figures from January 2016, 16.9% of the primary school population and 12.7% of the</p>

	<p>Educational provision to include childcare and Additional Learning Needs Provision. The development of Welsh medium childcare provision on site adjacent to the Welsh medium Foundation Phase nursery will enable continuity of provision for parents as well as continue to strengthen the Welsh language acquisition of the youngest children.</p> <p><b>Positive</b></p> <p>The provision of wraparound, after school and holiday provision will enable working families to have the same access to provision as their English medium counterparts as well as enabling children to have social play experiences through the medium of Welsh. There is a positive impact on the Welsh language of all services being on a single site in a cohesive development and making it sustainable for the longer term.</p> <p><b>Positive</b></p> <p>The proposal would seek to extend regular informal opportunities for parents to develop their Welsh language skills so as to assist their children to acquire and gain confidence in their ability to use the Welsh language.</p>	<p>comfortably access their education. The proposed new location was a former school site and as such a number of 'Safe Travel' routes, as far as reasonably practicable are already established which includes designated bus points, underpass/overpass points, lighting and designated footpaths. The walking route from the existing site is less than 1 mile and as such would not be deemed to cause unreasonable levels of stress or take an unreasonable amount of time in line with the measure.</p> <p>The Authority has recognised the relationship between the existing school and maintaining the Welsh Language in the village and the school's contribution towards it. The current school site hosts a limited number of activities for the community to participate in through the medium of Welsh and English and this would be extended at the new facility.</p> <p>However, the Authority will look to minimise any adverse effects that the relocation of the school through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting existing Welsh-language community activities and share good practice.</li> </ul>	<p>secondary school population were in Welsh medium education.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Caerphilly - Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022</u></a></p> <p>The target to increase the Welsh speaking population by 3% over the duration of the strategy</p> <p>This proposal will support the following areas identified in the Strategy.</p> <p><i>Strategic area 1-</i></p> <p>Promoting use of the Welsh language within the Family through an Increase in the number of families where the Welsh language is spoken with the children</p> <p><i>Strategic area 2 -</i></p> <p>Increase the use of the Welsh language amongst children and young people, improve their awareness of the value of Welsh, and ensure better access to Welsh-medium social events and services through increasing the number of children accessing Welsh medium education.</p> <p><i>Strategic area 3-</i></p> <p>Support community groups and help them to increase the use of the Welsh language within their localities.</p> <p><i>Strategic area 5-</i></p>
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	<p><b>Positive</b></p> <p>The current Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon school site has reached its capacity in terms of accommodation and any further expansion on site. The main building has a Category C rating and due to a camber on site, there are split levels. A new school will facilitate positive educational outcomes for children in the future on the area who wish to be educated through the medium of Welsh</p> <p><b>Negative</b></p> <p>Proposal seeks to relocate the school to a location 0.7 miles from the existing school on the site which may result in additional travel for pupils in certain age groups dependent on their current home location from existing school.</p> <p><b>Negative</b></p> <p>Proposal seeks to relocate the school to a location 0.7 miles from the existing school on the site which may result in additional travel for certain adult groups who use the existing school for meeting and community use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting community groups to mainstream the use of the Welsh language and offer learners the opportunity to practice it.</li> <li>• Providing specific support to community initiatives in order to enable them , for example supporting the community to access the local library as a meeting place (Abercarn public library is within 2 minutes walking distance of the current school).</li> </ul> <p>Those that attend, work and use the building will benefit from a fit for purpose, innovative 21<sup>st</sup> Century facility. In addition, the proposal intends to extend access at the new premises to include community use and childcare provision. To this end the design process will seek to include measures to enable safe ‘zoning’ of parts of the new school building, including the hall and a multi-functional classroom compliant space which could be adapted for use. The Wi-Fi and Information Technology infrastructure will be established to support public access and community use. The use of sporting facilities will also be considered for the community at suitable times in keeping with the curriculum timetable.</p>	<p>Increase opportunities for people to use the Welsh language in the workplace by enabling and supporting fluent staff and staff who are learning, to use the Welsh language in the workplace.</p> <p><a href="#">Menter Iaith Caerffili : Welsh Language Profile 2016</a></p> <p>This profile examines the position of the Welsh language in the County Borough of Caerphilly, and the way that Welsh speakers in the area use the Welsh language in their communities.</p> <p>Welsh Speaking by Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abercarn 11.7%</li> <li>• Crosskeys 9%</li> <li>• Newbridge 8.9%</li> <li>• Risca West 9%</li> </ul> <p>Abercarn area had a 2.6% increase in welsh speakers between the 2001 and 2011 census. The highest in the borough.</p> <p><a href="#">Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC)</a></p> <p>Statistical Information relating to the numbers of pupils at local</p>
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		<p>authority level and their language medium for education:</p> <p>Caerphilly Region Figures (2019/20 data set)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welsh Medium – 4,676</li> <li>• English medium – 23,126</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020</u></b></p> <p>One of the identified objectives is specific to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme ‘Work with 21st Century Schools team in Welsh Government to identify funding in Band B of 21st Century Schools programme, for the development of sufficient Welsh medium places in areas where they are coming under pressure, in particular Bedwas Trethomas Machen area, and the Islwyn East area.’</p> <p>This proposal would also support the following outcomes identified in the plan:</p> <p>Outcome 1: More seven-year-old children being taught through the medium of Welsh</p> <p>Outcome 6: Welsh-medium provision for learners with Additional Learning Needs</p>
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			<p>Outcome 7: Workforce planning and Continuous Professional Development</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Technical Advice Note 20 – Planning and the Welsh Language</u></a></p> <p>The purpose of TAN20 is to provide guidance on how the Welsh language may be given appropriate consideration in the planning system and on compliance with the requirements of planning and other relevant legislation</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language Strategy – Cymraeg 2050.</u></a></p> <p>The strategy recognises the need to provide Welsh speakers with easily accessible opportunities to use their skills in social and work settings.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language Impact Assessment</u></a></p> <p>– Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon (included as part of the original Equality Impact Assessment)</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Consultation Document</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Consultation Report</u></a></p> <p><b>Objection Report</b></p>
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<p><b>Disability</b> (<i>people with disabilities/ long term conditions</i>)</p>	<p><b>Positive</b> The current school site has limited accessibility for both pupils and the wider public. The sites operates over a camber which means the internal configuration of the main building has several internal steps to access the split level. There are also a number of modular buildings on the site used for educational provision as well as a canteen which again operates over the split levels. Whilst the current site has been modified since first occupied, disabled children currently require support to access all areas. The proposed relocated school will be an accessible facility which is able to cater for anyone with additional needs and empower them to be independent, further contributing to their wellbeing.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> The proposal seeks to provide a Welsh Language Special Resource Base for some of our most vulnerable children, through the provision of modern 21<sup>st</sup> Century Educational facilities for children and young people with complex needs.</p> <p><b>Negative</b></p>	<p>The Council acknowledges the importance of the Learner Travel. The site identified for the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon is the former English Medium Secondary Cwmcarn High School site. The safety of children is of paramount importance and the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 requires local authorities to assess the suitability of travel for learners between home and places of education and training. It is the intention of the Authority to provide a system of transport that will seek to ensure pupils can safely and comfortably access their education. The proposed new location was a former school site and as such a number of ‘Safe Travel’ routes, as far as reasonably practicable are already established which includes designated bus points, underpass/overpass points, lighting and designated footpaths. The walking route from the existing site is less than 1 mile and as such would not be deemed to cause unreasonable levels of stress or take an unreasonable amount of time in line with the measure.</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 (legislation.gov.uk)</u></a></p> <p>Key legislation giving the Welsh Language official legal status in Wales.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015</u></a></p> <p>The Act puts in place seven well-being goals which the local authority must work to achieve.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• A Resilient Wales</li> <li>• A More Equal Wales</li> <li>• A Healthier Wales</li> <li>• A Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> <li>• A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language</li> <li>• A Globally Responsible Wales</li> </ul> <p><a href="#"><u>Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020</u></a></p>

	<p>Proposal seeks to relocate the school to a location 0.7 miles from the existing school on the site which may result in additional travel for pupils in certain age groups dependent on their current home location from existing school.</p> <p><b>Negative</b>  Proposal seeks to relocate the school to a location 0.7 miles from the existing school on the site which may result in additional travel for certain adult groups who use the existing school for meeting and community use.</p>	<p>The Authority has recognised the relationship between the existing school and maintaining the Welsh Language in the village and the school's contribution towards it. The current school site hosts a limited number of activities for the community to participate in through the medium of Welsh and English. The Authority will look to minimise any adverse effects that the relocation of the school may have on the local Cwmcarn village residents and the community's ability to continue to sustain such activities, for example supporting the community to access the local library as a meeting place (Abercarn public library is within 2 minutes walking distance of the current school).</p>	<p>One of the identified objectives is specific to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme 'Work with 21st Century Schools team in Welsh Government to identify funding in Band B of 21st Century Schools programme, for the development of sufficient Welsh medium places in areas where they are coming under pressure, in particular Bedwas Trethomas Machen area, and the Islwyn East area.'</p> <p>This proposal would also support the following outcomes identified in the plan:</p> <p>Outcome 1:More seven-year-old children being taught through the medium of Welsh  Outcome 6:Welsh-medium provision for learners with Additional Learning Needs  Outcome 7:Workforce planning and Continuous Professional Development</p> <p>Consideration of future need for Welsh medium Secondary Provision in the area as part of a potential future 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools project could also support</p> <p>Outcome 2:More learners continuing to improve their language skills on transfer from</p>
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			primary school to secondary school Outcome 3:More learners aged 14-16 studying for qualifications through the medium of Welsh
<b>Gender Reassignment</b> <i>(anybody who's gender identity or gender expression is different to the sex they were assigned at birth)</i>	<b>Neutral</b> No anticipated change	Not applicable because the facility is accessible to pupils and the wider community regardless of other specific protected characteristics	Not applicable
<b>Marriage or Civil Partnership</b> <i>(people who are married or in a civil partnership)</i>	<b>Neutral</b> No impact	Not applicable because the facility is accessible to pupils and the wider community regardless of other specific protected characteristics	Not applicable
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b> <i>(women who are pregnant and/or on maternity leave)</i>	<b>Neutral</b> No impact	Not applicable because the facility is accessible to pupils and the wider community regardless of other specific protected characteristics	Not applicable
<b>Race</b> <i>(people from black, Asian and minority ethnic communities and different racial backgrounds)</i>	<b>Neutral</b> No anticipated change	Not applicable because the facility is accessible to pupils and the wider community regardless of other specific protected characteristics	Not applicable
<b>Religion or Belief</b> <i>(people with different religions and beliefs including people with no beliefs)</i>	<b>Neutral</b> No anticipated change	Not applicable because the facility is accessible to pupils and the wider community regardless of other specific protected characteristics	Not applicable

<b>Sex</b> (women and men, girls and boys and those who self-identify their gender)	<b>Neutral</b> No anticipated change	Not applicable because the facility is accessible to pupils and the wider community regardless of other specific protected characteristics	Not applicable
<b>Sexual Orientation</b> (lesbian, gay, bisexual, heterosexual)	<b>Neutral</b> No anticipated change	Not applicable because the facility is accessible to pupils and the wider community regardless of other specific protected characteristics	Not applicable

### 3. Socio-economic Duty (Strategic Decisions Only)

*(The Socio-economic Duty gives us an opportunity to do things differently and put tackling inequality genuinely at the heart of key decision making. Socio-economic disadvantage means living on a low income compared to others in Wales, with little or no accumulated wealth, leading to greater material deprivation, restricting the ability to access basic goods and services)*

**Please consider these additional vulnerable groups and the impact your proposal may or may not have on them:**

- Single parents and vulnerable families
- People with low literacy/numeracy
- Pensioners
- Looked after children
- Homeless people
- Carers
- Armed Forces Community
- Students
- Single adult households
- People misusing substances
- People who have experienced the asylum system
- People of all ages leaving a care setting
- People living in the most deprived areas in Wales (WIMD)
- People involved in the criminal justice system

<u>Socio-economic Disadvantage</u>	Does the proposal have any positive, negative or neutral impacts on the following and how?	If there are negative impacts how will these be mitigated?	What evidence has been used to support this view?
<b>Low Income / Income Poverty</b> <i>(cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing, transport etc.)</i>	<p><b>Positive</b> Providing educational facilities fit for the future will improve the education and life outcomes of the present and future pupils at Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon</p> <p><b>Neutral</b> The facility will be fully accessible to people with learning disabilities</p>	Not applicable	<p><u><a href="#">Is Wales Fairer? – The state of equality and human rights</a></u> (EHRC 2018) Equality and Human Rights Commission acknowledge that Socio-economic disadvantage has a knock-on effect on education and health outcomes.</p>

	<p>regardless of any specific socio-economic disadvantage</p>		<p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 (legislation.gov.uk)</u></a></p> <p>Key legislation giving the Welsh Language official legal status in Wales.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Caerphilly - Census 2011 ward profiles</u></a></p> <p>According to the Pupil Level Annual School Census figures from January 2016, 16.9% of the primary school population and 12.7% of the secondary school population were in Welsh medium education. Attainment of qualifications in the medium of Welsh provides wider access to employment and career opportunities in Wales and beyond.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Caerphilly - Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022</u></a></p> <p>The target to increase the Welsh speaking population by 3% over the duration of the strategy</p> <p>Strategic area 5-</p> <p>Increase opportunities for people to use the Welsh language in the workplace by enabling and supporting fluent staff and staff who are learning, to use the Welsh language in the workplace.</p>
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<u>Socio-economic Disadvantage</u>	Does the proposal have any positive, negative or neutral impacts on the following and how?	If there are negative impacts how will these be mitigated?	What evidence has been used to support this view?
<p><b>Low and/or No Wealth</b> (<i>enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provisions for the future</i>)</p>	<p><b>Neutral</b> The facility is accessible to pupils and the wider community regardless of any specific socio-economic disadvantage</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
<p><b>Material Deprivation</b> (<i>unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, hobbies etc.</i>)</p>	<p><b>Positive</b> It is a pre-requisite of Welsh Government funding that Council's optimise the use of infrastructure and resources to enable flexibility for space and facilities to be made available as community assets. Whilst the internal design of the proposed extension is yet to be finalised, subject to Cabinet approval to progress, discussions have included the zoning of the school to support access during school time and after hours.</p> <p><b>Negative</b> During the Consultation Period and Objection period, respondents indicated concerns as to perception of local demand and the need to invest in English</p>	<p>As outlined in the Consultation Report and Objection Report there is no requirement identified for an additional English medium secondary provision. Both local English medium secondary schools have been identified as having adequate provision at their current locations for their catchment pupils. In addition, there has recently been significant investment of £2 million through the 21st Century Schools and Colleges Band A programme at Newbridge School.</p> <p>The Council continuously improves the quality of school buildings through the Capital Investment Programme. All</p>	<p><u><a href="#">Consultation Document</a></u> As part of outlining the current proposal, an options appraisal was undertaken to consider the relative desirability, viability and feasibility of the proposal. In addition, information relating to the community usage and community benefit requirement relating to this proposal is outlined in this document.</p> <p><u><a href="#">Consultation Report</a></u> This report was produced as per the requirements of the School Organisation Code 2018 to summarise 'views' of consultees received as part of the consultation period which took place between 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020. As part of findings, community usage, the impact relating to the</p>

	<p>medium provision in the area at primary and secondary level.</p>	<p>schools are invited to submit applications annually to support improvement works. Any works that are identified via the Health and Safety team are also undertaken.</p>	<p>proposed usage of the development site and the implication of English medium provision in the area has been raised by consultees and addressed as part of this report.</p>
<p><b>Area Deprivation</b> (<i>where you live (rural areas), where you work (accessibility of public transport)</i>)</p>	<p><b>Positive</b> The design process will seek to include measures to enable safe ‘zoning’ of parts of the new school building, including the hall and a multi-functional classroom compliant space which could be adapted for use. The usage of facilities will also be considered for the community at suitable times in keeping with the curriculum timetable. It will also strengthen and safeguard the promotion of inclusivity and wellbeing within the Community</p> <p><b>Positive</b> Procurement will include Community Benefits as a core requirement e.g. around local targeted recruitment and training, supply chains, community and education initiatives in the provision of the proposed new facility.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> The facility will provide inclusive facilities which will be accessible to vulnerable children and young</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Consultation Document</u></a></p> <p>Information relating to the community usage and community benefit requirement relating to this proposal is outlined in this document.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Consultation Report</u></a></p> <p>This report was produced as per the requirements of the School Organisation Code 2018 to summarise ‘views’ of consultees received as part of the consultation period which took place between 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020. As part of findings, community usage, the impact relating to the proposed usage of the development site and the implication of English medium provision in the area has been raised by consultees and addressed as part of this report.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD)</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Electoral Ward Profile</u></a></p>

	<p>people alongside supporting the holistic needs of their wider family and supporting their future wellbeing. When the site is being used by the community they will be able to access the facilities regardless of requirements.</p>		<p>Abercarn ward profile from the 2011 Census information has been reviewed</p>
<p><b>Socio-economic Background</b> <i>(social class i.e. parents education, employment and income)</i></p>	<p><b>Positive</b> Facility is accessible to pupils and the wider community regardless of any specific socio-economic disadvantage</p> <p><b>Positive</b> The proposed facility would include the expansion of community usage to support and upskill parents, carers and the wider community including welsh courses for parents.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> Provision for Welsh language childcare and vulnerable learners will be fully inclusive and accessible for all at a single location in the area.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> The facility will provide inclusive facilities for children and young people alongside supporting the holistic needs of their wider family and supporting their future wellbeing.</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD)</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Electoral Ward Profile</u></a> Abercarn ward profile from the 2011 Census information has been reviewed</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Consultation Report</u></a> This report was produced as per the requirements of the School Organisation Code 2018 to summarise 'views' of consultees received as part of the consultation period which took place between 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020. As part of findings, community usage, the impact relating to the proposed usage of the development site and the implication of English medium provision in the area has been raised by consultees and addressed as part of this report.</p>

<p><b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b> <i>(What cumulative impact will the proposal have on people or groups because of their protected characteristic(s) or vulnerability or because they are already disadvantaged)</i></p>	<p><b>Positive</b> It is a pre-requisite of Welsh Government funding that Council's optimise the use of infrastructure and resources to enable flexibility for space and facilities to be made available as community assets. Whilst the internal design of the proposed extension is yet to be finalised, subject to Cabinet approval to progress, discussions have included the zoning of the school to support access during school time and after hours</p> <p><b>Positive</b> The proposal aims to stimulate and provide local, accessible, sustainable, community-focused provision to meet the growing demand for Welsh medium education in the area.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> Opportunities will be available as part of this proposal for to facilitate the use of the Welsh Language for those fluent and learning, within the local community.</p> <p><b>Negative</b> During the Consultation Period and Objection period, respondents indicated concerns as to perception of local demand</p>	<p>As outlined in the Consultation Report and Objection Report there is no requirement identified for an additional English medium secondary provision. Both local English medium secondary schools have been identified as having adequate provision at their current locations for their catchment pupils. In addition, there has recently been significant investment of £2 million through the 21st Century Schools and Colleges Band A programme at Newbridge School.</p> <p>The Authority has recognised the relationship between the existing school and maintaining the Welsh Language in the village and the school's contribution towards it. The current school site hosts a limited number of activities for the community to participate in through the medium of Welsh and English. This will be further enhanced and encouraged at the new site.</p> <p>The Council continuously improves the quality of school buildings through the Capital Investment Programme. All schools are invited to submit applications annually to support</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 (legislation.gov.uk)</u></a></p> <p>Key legislation giving the Welsh Language official legal status in Wales.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Caerphilly - Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022</u></a></p> <p>The target to increase the Welsh speaking population by 3% over the duration of the strategy</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Menter Iaith Caerffili : Welsh Language Profile 2016</u></a></p> <p>This profile examines the position of the Welsh language in the County Borough of Caerphilly, and the way that Welsh speakers in the area use the Welsh language in their communities.</p> <p>Abercarn area had a 2.6% increase in welsh speakers between the 2001 and 2011 census. The highest in the borough.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD)</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Electoral Ward Profile</u></a></p>
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	<p>and the need to invest in English medium provision in the area at primary and secondary level.</p> <p><b>Negative</b> Perceived disadvantage to pupils and families that are non-Welsh speaking.</p>	<p>improvement works. Any works that are identified via the Health and Safety team are also undertaken.</p> <p>The proposal for Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon is to relocate the existing provision and provide additional capacity on site to accommodate up to 420 places plus additional nursery and special resource base provision. We recognise that this proposal will initially create surplus places at the school and this has been identified and considered an acceptable low level risk. The process of managing admissions over a number of years, whilst playing a contributing factor to surplus places initially, will ensure the impact on surrounding schools is mitigated as far as reasonably practicable.</p>	<p>Abercarn ward profile from the 2011 Census information has been reviewed</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Consultation Report</u></a></p> <p>This report was produced as per the requirements of the School Organisation Code 2018 to summarise 'views' of consultees received as part of the consultation period which took place between 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020. As part of findings, community usage, the impact relating to the proposed usage of the development site and the implication of English medium provision in the area has been raised by consultees and addressed as part of this report.</p>
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#### 4. Corporate Plan – Council’s Well-being Objectives

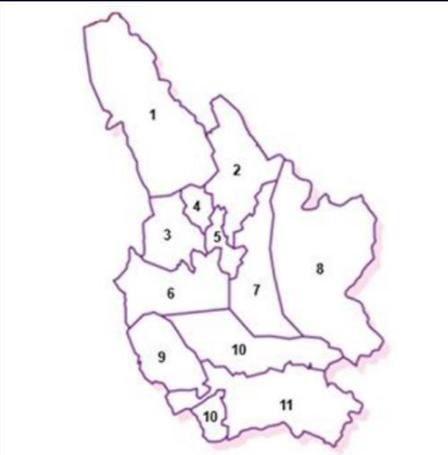
*(How does your proposal deliver against any/all of the Council’s Well-being Objectives? Which in turn support the national well-being goals for Wales as outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Are there any impacts (positive, negative or neutral? If there are negative impacts how have these been mitigated?) [Well-being Objectives](#)*

**Objective 1** - Improve education opportunities for all

**Positive**

This proposal seeks to secure equality of access by promoting and supporting the development of inclusive Welsh medium education and giving a commitment to providing the best possible quality of education and services. Caerphilly currently has 11 Welsh-medium primary schools, each providing education for pupils between 3 and 11 years. The establishment of this new fit-for-purpose facility and the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon Welsh-medium primary school will assist in reaching the objectives of Caerphilly's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)

The catchment areas are as below:

Welsh medium primary school catchment areas	
	1 Ysgol y Lawnt
	2 Ysgol Bro Sannan
	3 Ysgol Penalltau
	4 Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach Fargoed
	5 Ysgol Gymraeg Trelyn
	6 Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Allta
	7 Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Derwen
	8 Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon
	9 Ysgol Ifor Bach
	10 Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg y Castell
	11 Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Caerffili

This is the only Welsh medium school in a 5 mile radius of the existing Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon site. The next nearest community Welsh medium school is Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Derwen, Therefore the investment is required to future-proof the educational outcomes and meet the growing demand.

**Positive**

The WESP identifies that with the development of Cylchoedd Meithrin and increasing parental awareness the number entering Foundation Phase will rise. The existing collaboration between Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon and the Cylch Meithrin/Ti a FI in the area which act as feeders to the school is a significant strength which contributes to the success and very high standards achieved by the school. The collaboration aims to ensure that each pupil who attends a Welsh medium school within the Caerphilly county borough receives educational opportunities which will enable them to reach their potential and this would be further developed as part of this proposal.

**Positive**

The proposal seeks to strengthen and safeguard the promotion of the Welsh language, culture and heritage within the community supporting Welsh Government's charter of achieving 1 million Welsh speakers across Wales by 2050.

**Neutral**

The relocation of the existing Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon to a new purpose built facility at a new location within a 1 mile radius of the existing site has been identified to minimise any disruption to the existing cohort and on travel arrangements.

**Negative**

To mitigate any impact on local English Medium school admission numbers, increasing the admission number by a manageable amount will allow stimulation of the demands for Welsh medium while not over

	<p>developing the provision to destabilise other already established educational provisions within the area. It is anticipated that the admission number for the new school will be 45 when the school initially opens and will be increased incrementally by 5 per year until it reaches its full capacity of 60 pupils.</p>
<p><b>Objective 2</b> - Enabling employment</p>	<p><b>Positive</b> As part of the funding requirements for all 21<sup>st</sup> Century School proposals, Welsh Government stipulates that Community Benefits are a core requirement of any procurement process related to the award of contracts and will therefore be scored as part of the Quality evaluation. These include a number of targets around local recruitment and training, supply chains, community and education initiatives.</p>
<p><b>Objective 3</b> - Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes throughout the county borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being</p>	<p>Not applicable to this proposal</p>
<p><b>Objective 4</b> - Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impact on the environment</p>	<p><b>Neutral</b> There is a Statutory duty placed upon the Authority to provide pupils with free transport to their nearest suitable school if they reside beyond 'walking distance' to that school. All pupils are assessed in accordance with the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008. However, the Authority does offer a more generous policy than what is statutorily required by the Measure. It is anticipated that a status quo will be maintained as the relocation is less than 1 mile from the existing site.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> The site identified for the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon was a former school site and as such a number of 'Safe Travel' routes, as far as reasonably practicable are already established which includes designated bus points, underpass/overpass points, lighting and designated footpaths.</p>
<p><b>Objective 5</b> - Creating a county borough that supports healthy lifestyle in accordance with the Sustainable Development principle with in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015</p>	<p><b>Positive</b> In order to contribute to the Welsh Government target of one million Welsh speakers by 2050, there is significant importance in improving and expanding provision in Welsh medium childcare and education, as well as working in partnership with community based groups or organisations to continue the use of conversational Welsh</p>

socially or in the workplace following the end of formal education. This is also reflected in:

**Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020**

Outcome 1: More seven-year-old children being taught through the medium of Welsh

**Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

- A Prosperous Wales
- A More Equal Wales
- A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

Without the continued use of Welsh there is a risk young people from English speaking households may lose confidence in their Welsh language skills. The development proposed includes Welsh medium childcare from age 2 years upwards enabling early development of Welsh language using immersion methodology.

**Positive**

The provision of Welsh medium wraparound, after school and holiday provision will also enable continuation of the Welsh language social skill development and is critical for working parents to provide a full Welsh medium service with parity for those in English medium provision.

Menter Iaith Caerffili are integral to this delivery model to deliver the wraparound and after school clubs in Welsh schools in the county borough. Delivery is further enhanced through provision of holiday clubs during the school holidays to enable parents to continue working while their children enjoy educational activities through the medium of Welsh with their friends and children attending other Welsh medium schools in the county borough.

**Positive**

The current Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon site the occupies has a total area of approximately 0.3 Hectares which accommodates 5 structures and limited outdoor play areas. The site is enclosed on all sides, with no

	<p>option for expansion, and has no direct access routes other than via a side street adjacent to the local public houses and village institute. Notably the site is also on a slanted gradient, resulting in multiple levels for both indoor and outdoor space which significantly reduces access and functionality for less able-bodied individuals, negatively impacting on the pupils, parents and support staff from an empowerment and wellbeing perspective. This proposal will provide a stimulating teaching and learning environment with 21st Century facilities including improved ICT facilities, outdoor play and extended access provision for community use, centred on the learning, self-esteem and wellbeing of all.</p> <p><b>Positive</b></p> <p>Providing educational facilities fit for the future will improve the education and life outcomes of the present and future pupils at Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon. The facility will be fully accessible to people with learning disabilities regardless of any specific socio-economic disadvantage, enabling children accessing the school to thrive, with the knock-on positive effect for the children, their families and the local area.</p>
<p><b>Objective 6</b> - Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>	<p><b>Positive</b></p> <p>The Council acknowledges that some children who attend nursery provision in the borough then go on to attend the English medium primary school because parents do not want to put their children on a school bus at such a young age to take them to the nearest Welsh medium school, so Welsh medium education loses potential pupils. The development of holistic Welsh medium childcare provision on site adjacent to the Welsh medium Foundation Phase nursery will enable continuity of provision and ease of transition for pupils and for parents as well as continue to strengthen the Welsh language acquisition of the youngest children.</p> <p><b>Positive</b></p> <p>The provision of wraparound, after school and holiday provision will enable working families to have the same access to provision as their English medium counterparts as well as enabling children to have social play experiences through the medium of Welsh. There is a positive impact</p>

on the Welsh language of all services being on a single site in a cohesive development and making it sustainable for the longer term.

Menter Iaith Caerffili deliver the wraparound and after school clubs in Welsh schools in the county borough. Delivery is further enhanced through provision of holiday clubs during the school holidays to enable parents to continue working while their children enjoy educational activities through the medium of Welsh with their friends and children attending other Welsh medium schools in the county borough.

**Positive**

*'The Cwricwlwm Cymreig is at the heart of the school's work programme and provision for developing the Welsh language is promoted very effectively. The wide range of extra-curricular activities that are provided helps pupils to develop a number of key personal and social skills well' – Estyn 2013*

The above comment was provided by Estyn in relation to the existing school and the proposed project will take into account the desire to encourage and facilitate further development to strengthen and safeguard the promotion of the Welsh language, Culture and Heritage within the Community.

**4a. Links to any other relevant Council Policy**

*(How does your proposal deliver against any other relevant Council Policy?)*

The proposal contributes the following Strategies:

- **Shared Ambitions Strategy (2019-2022)**

This proposal will deliver upon the Council's ambition to provide every learner with the best life chances through the provision of high quality teaching, learning and leadership across our impressive 21st Century school settings.

- **Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (2018 – 2020)**

The Council's commitment to Welsh medium education development is a priority as evidenced in Band B of the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools programme. The Council's vision is to secure equality of access by promoting and supporting the development of inclusive education and giving a commitment to providing the best possible quality of education and services within available resources. Furthermore, in equipping schools and education providers the aim is to increase standards in Welsh and promote the use of the Welsh language within families, communities and workplaces.

- **Caerphilly Welsh Language Strategy**

The baseline for the strategy is the current language profile of the borough. According to the 2011 Census, Caerphilly county borough had 19,251 Welsh speakers (11.2% of the population) with a further 12% less fluently, and according to the Pupil Level Annual School Census figures from January 2016, 16.9% of the primary school population and 12.7% of the secondary school population were in Welsh medium education. This strategy therefore proposes a minimum 3% target increase in the number of Welsh speakers between 2017 and 2022. This target therefore means that by the 2021 Census, Caerphilly county borough will have a minimum 14.2% Welsh speaking population. This proposal will support future parental preference for Welsh medium education moving forward.

- **Caerphilly Strategic Equality Plan**

A statutory document under the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011, this four-year plan explains in straightforward terms what each of the equalities issues actually means and under what wider legislation we have responsibilities as a council. It highlights links to legislation and regulations covering the Welsh Language Standards and Human Rights issues and how it supports 4 of the 7 aims of Welsh Government's Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; A healthier Wales, A more equal Wales, A Wales of cohesive communities and A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language.

- **Childcare Sufficiency Assessment**

A report that brings together a range of different data and information to develop a picture of the current childcare market and to identify whether there are any gaps in supply including Childcare for those who receive or may require childcare in the Welsh language/bilingual provision.

The utilisation of this new Integrated Impact Assessment design will further help support the Council in making informed and effective decisions whilst ensuring compliance with a range of relevant legislation, including:

- Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011
- Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011
- Socio-economic Duty – Sections 1 to 3 of the Equality Act 2010
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- Statutory Consultation v Doctrine of Legitimate Expectation and Gunning Principles

## 5. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 – The Five Ways of Working (ICLIP)

*(Also known as the sustainable development principles. The Act requires the Council to consider how any proposal improves the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales using the five ways of working as a baseline)*

<u>Ways of Working</u>	How have you used the Sustainable Development Principles in forming the proposal?
<p><b>Long Term</b></p> 	<p>The relocation and expansion of the highly successful Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon provides a platform, meeting the Welsh medium need through provision for learners over the long term, through the provision of a custom built and fit for purpose relocation from the existing school site. The new school infrastructure set out within the Consultation Document, Consultation Report and Objection Report, will secure opportunities for pupils, families and the wider community in utilising the facility to its fullest, in utilising the Welsh language and in supporting the Authority in meeting the Welsh Government targets as outlined in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and Five Year Strategy.</p> <p>Within the borough, as evidenced in the WESP, more learners are continuing to improve their language skills on transfer from primary to secondary school and progression rates remain at a consistently high level. In consideration of the potential impact of this proposal, the site layout and configuration will be undertaken strategically to ensure space maximisation and provide the potential to facilitate Secondary provision in the future should the need to increase capacity be identified in that area.</p>
<p><b>Prevention</b></p> 	<p>Providing learners in the catchment area of the existing school (within the Islwyn East) with a custom built Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon will enable pupils to access a 21<sup>st</sup> century facility and to receive tailor made learning opportunities in the language of their preference designed to meet their specific educational needs. Purpose built school which will cater for current and future demand for Welsh medium education in the county borough.</p>
<p><b>Integration</b></p> 	<p>The proposal to relocate Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon will impact on Wellbeing Goals ‘A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language’ and ‘A More Equal Wales’. The new facility will provide opportunities to directly engage in the promotion and utilisation of the Welsh language for pupils, families and within the wider community.</p>
<p><b>Collaboration</b></p> 	<p>The Council has worked with staff and pupils at Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon to shape many of the proposals to enhance existing facilities. The Council has also worked with partners in the childcare arena to provide value added opportunities from the expanded school site.</p>

## Involvement



The School Organisation Code (2018) prescribes a number of explicit consultation and engagement steps and consultees.

### **Consultation Period**

A consultation period opened on Monday 14th September 2020 and concluded at midnight on Monday 26th October 2020. Consultees were given at least 42 days to respond to the proposal as outlined in the Consultation Document, with at least 20 of these being school days as defined by Section 579 of the Education Act 1996.

Consultees were advised of the proposal and availability of the consultation documentation when it went live on the 14th September 2020 via letter/email and were therefore invited to take part in the statutory consultation to gather their 'views' on the proposal as outlined in the consultation document.

- 388 responses 'view's' were received during the consultation period.
- 48 responses were received in the medium of Welsh.
- 95% supported the proposal as outlined in the Consultation document.
- 3% did not support the proposal as outlined.
- 2% provided a neutral or no comment response.
- 3 alternative options were raised by consultees and considered by Education Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet.

The Learner Voice was also captured as part of this process.

In the initial consultation document, consideration was given to hosting a virtual consultation session with representatives from the schools affected. However, through discussions with the relevant head teachers and the 21st Century Schools team, the decision was taken for the local teaching staff to engage with all year groups and not just a representative sample. Utilising the child friendly version of the consultation document and the accompanying video, children were engaged in a familiar environment, at the appropriate comprehension level and in the language of their preference. It was felt that due to the current 'bubble' situation in schools, this was the best way to ensure the fullest return possible to capture the learner voice. Many of the children provided comments on what they would like to see in the future and how they felt about the proposal. These comments were included as part of the Consultation Report.

### **Statutory Notice / Objection Period**

Following the decision by Cabinet (9.12.2020) to proceed to Statutory Notice, anyone wishing to make an objection to this proposal was able to do so as per the requirements of the School Organisation Code 2018. To be considered as a statutory objection, objections had to be made in writing or by email and sent to the Council within the 28 days of the

	<p>date on which the proposal was published. This is referred to as the “objection period” and ran from the 11th January 2021 to the 7th February 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Statutory Objections received.</li> </ul> <p>It should be noted that this process as prescribed by Welsh Government, provided no opportunity for inclusion of responses in support of the proposal. It should also be noted that the Objection figure quoted includes all responses received irrespective of any duplicates.</p> <p>The Objection Report provides a summary of the findings and original copies of all correspondence are made available to Cabinet Members for consideration as part of the decision making process.</p> <p><b>Planning Consultation</b> There will be a separate planning application process that will address a number of material planning considerations. This process will enable further involvement and engagement opportunities for interested parties.</p>
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## 6. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

<u>Well-being Goals</u>	Does the proposal maximise our contribution to the Well-being Goal and how?
<p><b>A Prosperous Wales</b> <i>An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work</i></p>	<p><b>The Welsh Language is a valuable skill for the workforce in all sectors in Wales and extends employment opportunities.</b></p> <p><b>This proposal supports this Well-being goal by:</b></p> <p><b>Embodied Carbon / Operational Carbon</b> The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Band B Programme looks to deliver a combination of new school builds, expansions, amalgamations, relocations and refurbishments, all with the potential to support the Welsh Government and Council’s strategies on decarbonisation and provide a new model of delivery. As such, skilled and knowledgeable workforce sectors will be engaged to deliver this outcome.</p> <p><b>Childcare:</b></p>

	<p>The development of Welsh medium childcare provision on site adjacent to the Welsh medium Foundation Phase nursery will enable continuity of provision for parents as well as continue to strengthen the Welsh language acquisition of the youngest children. The provision of wraparound, after school and holiday provision will enable working families to have the same access to provision as their English medium counterparts as well as enabling children to have social play experiences through the medium of Welsh. There is a positive impact on the Welsh language of all services being on a single site in a cohesive development, supporting use of the Welsh language in the workplace and in the wider community and making it sustainable for the longer term.</p> <p><b>Future Prospects:</b></p> <p>The Welsh language is a valuable skill for the workforce in all sectors in Wales and extends employment opportunities. This proposal will develop a future generation of Welsh speakers in the area as well as supporting employment opportunities and use of the Welsh language in the wider community.</p>
<p><b>A Resilient Wales</b>  <i>A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for climate change)</i></p>	<p><b>The Welsh Language contributes to the growth of innovative and sustainable business as well as strengthening the public sector and third sector.</b></p> <p><b>This proposal supports this Well-being goal by:</b></p> <p><b>Future Demand</b></p> <p>It is clear how important the Welsh language is to life in Wales. Maintaining and increasing the range of Welsh medium provision is a significant challenge for the Council. Changes to Welsh medium primary education will inevitably have an impact upon Welsh medium secondary education</p> <p>The more pupils who enjoy a Welsh medium primary education, the more are likely to attend Welsh medium secondary education and have the fullest opportunities to live their lives in Wales using the Welsh language in all aspects of life day to day.</p> <p>Within the borough, as evidenced in the WESP, more learners are continuing to improve their language skills on transfer from primary to secondary school and progression rates remain at a consistently high level. In consideration of the potential impact of this</p>

proposal, the site layout and configuration will be undertaken strategically to ensure space maximisation and provide the potential to facilitate Secondary provision in the future should the need to increase capacity be identified in that area.

The Welsh Language contributes to the growth of innovative and sustainable business as well as strengthening the public sector and third sector.

**Bilingual healthcare meets people’s needs on more than one level, and being able to speak more than one language is beneficial to individuals’ health and to community well-being.**

**This proposal supports this Well-being goal by:**

**The School:**

The current Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon has reached its full potential in relation to building reconfiguration and any further developments on site. There are currently 207 pupils on roll, receiving their education on a site originally designed to accommodate 80. Future projected numbers are:

<b>Projected numbers for the next six years</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Derwen</b>		
	<b>No. on Roll</b>	<b>Excluding Nursery</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
<b>2020</b>	217	190	210
<b>2021</b>	218	192	210
<b>2022</b>	221	195	210
<b>2023</b>	219	193	210
<b>2024</b>	219	192	210
<b>2025</b>	222	196	210

It is proposed that the new school facility would accommodate up to 420 pupils, plus 60 nursery places and 16 special resource base places.

The proposal for a new fit for purpose school building will provide a stimulating teaching and learning environment with 21<sup>st</sup> Century facilities including improved ICT facilities, centered on the learning, self-esteem and well-being of all pupils and improve lifelong

**A Healthier Wales**

*A society in which people’s physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood*

learning opportunities for members of the community to strengthen and safeguard the promotion of the Welsh language, culture and heritage across Caerphilly East. The new building will have improved outside learning space offering external play areas, a multi-use games area (MUGA) and access to a grass pitch. The usage of sporting facilities will also be considered for the community at suitable times in keeping with the curriculum timetable.

**Maximising choice:**

A Welsh medium education assessment in accordance with the (Wales) Regulations 2013 has been conducted in accordance with the 3 year cycle requirement. A parental demand survey was also undertaken in 2018. These are the basis for all trend future projections of demand and provide evidence of need for additional places and location in the borough. Previously the parental surveys have influenced the language provision of new build schools, for example, Ysgol Penalltau was opened as a Welsh medium primary school to meet the increasing demand and local area need for Welsh medium provision. There are substantially decreasing surplus places in the Welsh medium Schools and an increasing demand from parents using Cylchoedd Meithrin. The location will better serve those further down the valley as well as enable increased size of provision to meet the increasing evidenced demand including through the Childcare Offer for 3-4year olds.

**Distance and Growth:**

This is the only Welsh medium school in a 5 mile radius of the existing Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon site. The next nearest alternatives are shown below:

<b>Nearest Alternative</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Postcode</b>	<b>Distance</b>
<b>Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Derwen</b>	Welsh	NP12 0JL	5 miles
<b>Abercarn Primary School</b>	English	NP11 5LH	1.8 miles
<b>Cwmcarn Primary</b>	English	NP11 7LZ	0.7 miles
<b>Waunfawr Primary</b>	English	NP11 7PG	1.5 miles

The Council has secured funding under the Welsh Medium Grant to expand capacity on at Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Derwen to be able to meet growing demand from within catchment.

The 3 following Community English Medium Primary Schools are within close proximity to the existing site and the proposed new site for Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon.

<b>Projected numbers for the next six years</b>									
<b>Year</b>	<b>Abercarn Primary School</b>			<b>Cwmcarn Primary</b>			<b>Waunfawr Primary</b>		
	<b>No. on roll</b>	<b>Excl. Nursery</b>	<b>Capacity</b>	<b>No. on roll</b>	<b>Excl. Nursery</b>	<b>Capacity</b>	<b>No. on roll</b>	<b>Excl. Nursery</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
<b>2020</b>	256	224	244	249	220	261	187	162	178
<b>2021</b>	252	221	244	242	212	261	187	163	178
<b>2022</b>	249	219	244	241	208	261	189	164	178
<b>2023</b>	249	218	244	244	210	261	195	170	178
<b>2024</b>	247	216	244	256	223	261	194	169	178
<b>2025</b>	243	212	244	260	227	261	198	173	178

**Specific requirements for Special Resource Base Users:**

The Authority recognises the impact of the Additional Learning Needs Act (2018) and the need to future proof Welsh language provision. Through this proposal consideration of the correct types, quantity and quality of provision to meet the future needs of the population has been considered and this project will further support Welsh language resource for those children who require specialist provision outside of mainstream school. This proposal meets the requirements as set in Additional Learning Needs (ET) Act, Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, Welsh Education Strategic Plan regulations, the Council’s Strategic Equality Plan 2020-2024 and the Council’s Five Year Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022.

Bilingual healthcare meets people’s needs on more than one level, and being able to speak more than one language is beneficial to individuals’ health and to community well-being.

<p><i>A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio-economic background and circumstances)</i></p>	<p><b>This proposal supports this Well-being goal by:</b></p> <p><b>Community Use:</b> Those that attend, work and use the building will benefit from a fit for purpose, innovative 21<sup>st</sup> Century facility. In addition, the proposal intends to extend access at the new premises to include community use and childcare provision.</p> <p>As part of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century School remit, consideration must be given for the school to benefit from enabling the facilities to be shared with the wider community. The proposed project will take into account the desire to encourage and facilitate community use of the asset. To this end the design process will seek to include measures to enable safe ‘zoning’ of parts of the new school building, including the hall and a multi-functional classroom compliant space which could be adapted for use. The Wi-Fi and Information Technology infrastructure will be established to support public access and community use. The use of sporting facilities will also be considered for the community at suitable times in keeping with the curriculum timetable.</p> <p><b>Impact on other schools:</b></p> <p>Increasing the admission number by a manageable amount will allow stimulation of the demands for Welsh medium education in the area, while not over developing the provision to destabilise other already established educational provisions within the area. It is anticipated that the admission number for the new school will be 45 when the school initially opens and will be increased incrementally by 5 per year until it reaches its full capacity of 60 pupils. Everyone living in Wales should be able to live their lives and achieve their potential through the medium of Welsh.</p>
<p><b><u>Well-being Goals</u></b></p>	<p><b>Does the proposal maximise our contribution to the Well-being Goal and how?</b></p>
<p><b>A Wales of Cohesive Communities</b> <i>Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities</i></p>	<p><b>The Welsh Language is a vital element of vibrant communities, contributing to a strong economy, a sense of heritage and national identity.</b></p>

**This proposal supports this Well-being goal by:**

**The School:**

Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon caters for pupils at primary school age who wish to be educated in Welsh. It is a highly inclusive community where all pupils feel safe and valued. Pupils play an active and influential role in shaping the life and work of the school. The school's exemplary levels of care, support and guidance mean that nearly all pupils develop as enthusiastic learners who acquire a strong understanding of their rights and responsibilities. The aim of the proposal is to ensure that we continue to build on the mature leadership and excellent Estyn rating of the school through relocation to a new fit for purpose facility located within less than 1 mile from the existing school and still within the locale and existing catchment area.

There is a clear link between new and improved school buildings and improved performance as highlighted by ESTYN. Increased school performance will lead to additional pupils accessing Welsh Medium Education locally, increasing the critical mass and providing more professional teaching opportunities for teachers. The Council believes that this proposal represents the best opportunity to safeguard and sustain educational standards for the future and provides a platform for improvement through significant investment in permanent facilities. This will provide a stimulating teaching and learning environment with 21<sup>st</sup> Century facilities including improved ICT facilities, outdoor play and extended access provision for community use, centred on the learning, self-esteem and wellbeing of all.

**Active Travel:**

It is the intention of the Authority to provide a system of transport that will seek to ensure pupils can safely and comfortably access their education. The proposed new location was a former school site and as such a number of 'Safe Travel' routes, as far as reasonably practicable are already established which includes designated bus points, underpass/overpass points, lighting and designated footpaths. The walking route from the existing site is less than 1 mile and as such would not be deemed to cause unreasonable levels of stress or take an unreasonable amount of time in line with the measure.

	<p>The catchment area for the school will remain unchanged, however it is inevitable that some children will now be eligible, and others will no longer be, dependent on where they reside. At present, the authority is projecting an increase in capacity, but this will be controlled through the admissions intake but at this stage it will be difficult to interpret eligibility. Whilst the on-going cost implications have been considered and a contingency has been factored into the Authority's Medium-Term Financial Plan, it is not possible at present to determine the exact figure due to individual pupil needs determining the method of transport required.</p> <p>The Welsh language is a vital element in vibrant communities, contributing to a strong economy, a sense of heritage and national identity.</p>
<p><b>A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language</b>  <i>A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation</i></p>	<p><b>The country's culture acknowledges and celebrates being bilingual in all aspects of everyday life.</b></p> <p><b>This proposal supports this Well-being goal by:</b></p> <p><b>Cultural Heritage and Welsh Language in the Community:</b>  The Local Authority is fully aware of its obligations under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. The Welsh language has official status in Wales and the measure places duties on bodies to use the Welsh language, and the rights which arise from the enforceability of those duties, which enable Welsh speakers to use the language in dealings with those bodies (such as the provision of services by those bodies); This proposal ensures that through educational provision, the treatment of the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language and supports parental preference in enabling freedom for pupils wishing to use the Welsh language to do so.</p> <p><b>Welsh Language Commissioner (Standards and 5 Year Strategy)</b>  Through promoting the use of the Welsh language and facilitating the use of the Welsh language through relocation and expansion of Welsh medium primary education in the East Islwyn area, the Council is demonstrating its commitment to meet increasing demand, working towards ensuring that the Welsh language is treated no less favourably than the English language.</p>

	<p>The country's culture acknowledges and celebrates being bilingual in all aspects of everyday life and in providing Welsh medium opportunities in education, it supports the active usage of Welsh language for pupils, families and in the wider community.</p> <p>Further details are found in section 7 of this document.</p>
<p><b>A Globally Responsible Wales</b>  <i>A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being</i></p>	<p><b>The Welsh Language is an intrinsic part of the well-being of the whole of Wales and its identity and unique language enriches the global community of diverse cultures.</b></p> <p><b>This proposal supports this Well-being goal by:</b></p> <p><b>Community Impact:</b>  Where possible, the current school encourages use by the community, but this is restricted by the access and facilities on offer to a handful of Welsh classes, Mother and Toddler sessions and an ICT class. However, the site accommodates 5 structures with limited space and outdoor play areas. The site is enclosed on all sides, with no option for expansion, no parking facilities and has no direct access routes other than via a side street adjacent to the local public houses and village institute. Notably the site is also on a slanted gradient, resulting in multiple levels for both indoor and outdoor space which significantly reduces access and functionality for less able-bodied individuals.</p> <p>The proposed project will take into account the desire to encourage and facilitate community use of the asset. To this end the design process will seek to include measures to enable safe 'zoning' of parts of the new school building, including the hall and a multi-functional classroom compliant space which could be adapted for use. The usage of sporting facilities will also be considered for the community at suitable times in keeping with the curriculum timetable. New site will be accessible and will create opportunities to integrate the facility into the community with community usage opportunities helping to upskill people including opportunities for parents to learn Welsh. It will strengthen and safeguard the promotion of the Welsh language, Culture and Heritage within the Community.</p> <p>As outlined in the Community Impact Assessment, it is envisaged that a number of the current activities that the school supports the community in undertaking will continue at the new venue. It is proposed that the existing school premises (subject to approval to</p>

relocate the school) would be declared surplus to requirements by the Local Education Authority and in turn could produce a Capital Receipt that would help support future strategic plans. For groups unable to travel the additional distance, the Council will mitigate lost usage of school by providing facilities at the local library based in the community or look at supporting alternative venues where appropriate.

**Community Benefits:**

As part of the funding requirements for all 21<sup>st</sup> Century School proposals, Welsh Government stipulates that Community Benefits are a core requirement of any contract procurement and will therefore be scored as part of the Quality evaluation. These include a number of targets around local recruitment and training, supply chains, community and education initiatives.

**Early Years Transition**

Our strategic development of childcare provision on school sites enable a smooth transition from the school / nursery provision to the childcare unit. The proposal includes the unit designed in the school from the beginning enabling the best location to be designed including movements of children between provision as well as pick up / drop off access for parents. This maximises the benefits of co-location and enables the best transition for children who could be on site from 2 years old.

This is part of a key priority in the 21<sup>st</sup> century Band B schools programme and as such makes economies of scale being included in the design and implementation from the start and shows the commitment from the local authority in developing Welsh medium provision.

**Design for the Future**

Within the borough, as evidenced in the WESP, more learners are continuing to improve their language skills on transfer from primary to secondary school and progression rates remain at a consistently high level. In consideration of the potential impact of this proposal, the site layout and configuration will be undertaken strategically to ensure space maximisation and provide the potential to facilitate Secondary provision in the future should the need to increase capacity be identified in that area.

The Welsh language is an intrinsic part of the well-being of the whole of Wales and its identity and unique language enriches the global community of diverse cultures.

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## 7. Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and Welsh Language Standards

(The Welsh Language Measure 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards require the Council to have ‘due regard’ for the positive or negative impact a proposal may have on opportunities to use the Welsh language and ensuring the Welsh language is treated no less favourably than the English language) [insert link to WL Commissioners Policy Making Standards Guidance](#)



Requirement	Does the proposal have any positive, negative or neutral impacts on the following and how?	If there are negative impacts how will these be mitigated?	What evidence has been used to support this view? <i>e.g the WESP, TAN20, LDP, Pupil Level Annual School Census</i>
<p>Links with Welsh Government’s <a href="#">Cymraeg 2050 Strategy</a> and CCBC’s <a href="#">Five Year Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022 and the Language Profile</a></p>	<p><b>Positive</b> A request for education through the medium of Welsh can already be accommodated at present. In so doing, there is capacity to meet the language preference and the rights of the individual to receive their education through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> Through the relocation and expansion of the school to include childcare, this proposal reflects demand in the area as identified through an increase in Welsh speakers in the Abercarn area by 2.6% (2011 census)</p> <p><b>Positive</b></p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p><a href="#">Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020</a> One of the identified objectives is specific to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme ‘Work with 21st Century Schools team in Welsh Government to identify funding in Band B of 21st Century Schools programme, for the development of sufficient Welsh medium places in areas where they are coming under pressure, in particular Bedwas Trethomas Machen area, and the Islwyn East area.’</p> <p><a href="#">Technical Advice Note 20 – Planning and the Welsh Language</a> The purpose of TAN20 is to provide guidance on how the Welsh language may be given appropriate consideration in the</p>

	<p>Through an integrated multi-agency approach operating on site, Welsh language preference can be supported holistically to include childcare and special resource base provision.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> Engagement with Caerphilly's Welsh Language Forum will be undertaken as part of the implementation of this proposal to ensure that all the relevant organisations are involved so that opportunities can be delivered through the medium of Welsh.</p>		<p>planning system and on compliance with the requirements of planning and other relevant legislation</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language Strategy – Cymraeg 2050.</u></a> The strategy recognises the need to provide Welsh speakers with easily accessible opportunities to use their skills in social and work settings.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Menter Iaith Caerffili : Welsh Language Profile 2016</u></a> This profile examines the position of the Welsh language in the County Borough of Caerphilly, and the way that Welsh speakers in the area use the Welsh language in their communities.</p> <p>Welsh Speaking by Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abercarn 11.7%</li> <li>• Crosskeys 9%</li> <li>• Newbridge 8.9%</li> <li>• Risca West 9%</li> </ul> <p>Abercarn area had a 2.6% increase in welsh speakers between the 2001 and 2011 census. The highest in the borough.</p>
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			<p><a href="#"><u>Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC)</u></a></p> <p>Statistical Information relating to the numbers of pupils at local authority level and their language medium for education:</p> <p>Caerphilly Region Figures (2019/20 data set)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welsh Medium – 4,676</li> <li>• English medium – 23,126</li> </ul> <p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language Impact Assessment</u></a> – Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon (included as part of the original Equality Impact Assessment)</p>
<p><b>Compliance with the <a href="#"><u>Welsh Language Standards</u></a>.</b> <i>Specifically Standards 88 - 93</i></p>	<p><b>Positive</b> A request for education through the medium of Welsh can already be accommodated at present. In so doing, there is capacity to meet the language preference and the rights of the individual to receive their education through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> Any meetings with the school to discuss provision of education through the child / family's preferred language</p>	<p>Not applicable</p> <p>All documentation published on the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools website relating to the Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon proposal has been translated through the CCBC Welsh Language Unit</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language Strategy – Cymraeg 2050.</u></a></p> <p>The strategy recognises the need to provide Welsh speakers with easily accessible opportunities to use their skills in social and work settings.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language Impact Assessment</u></a> – Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon (included as part of the original Equality Impact Assessment)</p>

	<p>and the right that they have to this under the Welsh Language Measure can be accommodated at present. This creates opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language and treats the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> Through an integrated multi-agency approach operating provision from the Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon site, Welsh language preference can be accommodated</p> <p><b>Positive</b> All documentation including the website relating to the proposal is produced in Welsh and English, further supporting use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> All consultation and objection responses were able to be sent and received in Welsh and English ensuring that the Welsh language is treated no</p>	<p>The process during both the Consultation period and Objection period ensured that key consultees were targeted as outlined in the School Organisation Code 2018 because of their vested interest.</p> <p>In addition, as highlighted in the Consultation Document and Consultation Report, the views of children and young people affected by the proposal were consulted with through targeted information and feedback sessions and the production of child friendly versions of the documentation.</p>	<p>Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon Consultation Webpage – <a href="#">Link to Welsh page</a> Page includes all documentation produced as part of the proposal including the key documentation (Consultation Document, Equality and Welsh Language Impact Assessment, Response Forms, Consultation Report, Notification Letters)</p>
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	less favourably than the English language.		
<b>Opportunities to promote the Welsh language</b> <i>e.g. status, use of Welsh language services, use of Welsh in everyday life in work / community</i>	<p><b>Positive</b> A request for education through the medium of Welsh can be accommodated at present. In so doing, there is capacity to meet the language preference and the rights of the individual to receive their education through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> Any meetings with the school to discuss provision of education through the child / family's preferred language and the right that they have to this under the WL Measure can be accommodated at present</p> <p><b>Positive</b> All signage in the proposed new extension will be bi-lingual</p> <p><b>Positive</b> The Community Usage element which will be an opportunity to promote activities through the medium</p>	<p>Not applicable</p> <p>Reception services answer the phone with a bilingual greeting</p> <p>All documentation published on the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools website relating to the Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon proposal has been translated through the CCBC Welsh Language Unit</p> <p>Signage will be bilingual</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language Strategy – Cymraeg 2050.</u></a> The strategy recognises the need to provide Welsh speakers with easily accessible opportunities to use their skills in social and work settings.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Technical Advice Note 20 – Planning and the Welsh Language</u></a> The purpose of TAN20 is to provide guidance on how the Welsh language may be given appropriate consideration in the planning system and on compliance with the requirements of planning and other relevant legislation</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020</u></a> A Welsh medium education assessment in accordance with the (Wales) Regulations 2013 has been conducted in accordance with the 3-year cycle requirement.</p>

	<p>of Welsh for the whole family and wider community.</p> <p><b>Positive</b></p> <p>Consultation was undertaken bilingually with and targeted to specific people and groups because of their vested interest in the field</p>		<p>A parental demand survey was also undertaken in 2018.</p>
<p><b>Opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language e.g. staff, residents and visitors</b></p>	<p><b>Positive</b></p> <p>A request for education through the medium of Welsh can be accommodated at present. In so doing, there is capacity to meet the language preference and the rights of the individual to receive their education through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p><b>Positive</b></p> <p>When considering the expansion of provision, recruitment and selection processes will reflect the local need but will also support job creation.</p> <p><b>Positive</b></p> <p>The proposal will create further opportunities for people to use the Welsh language through day to day activities, including pupils, families, teachers, catering staff,</p>	<p>Not applicable Welsh provision is currently offered</p> <p>Recruitment and Selection processes includes the essential skill to employ Welsh speakers on site</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020</u></a></p> <p>A Welsh medium education assessment in accordance with the (Wales) Regulations 2013 has been conducted in accordance with the 3-year cycle requirement.</p> <p>A parental demand survey was also undertaken in 2018 and is updated regularly.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language Strategy – Cymraeg 2050.</u></a></p> <p>The strategy recognises the need to provide Welsh speakers with easily accessible opportunities to use their skills in social and work settings.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language Impact Assessment</u></a> – Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon (included as part of the original Equality Impact Assessment)</p>

	<p>cleaning staff and the caretaker.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> The Council is pro-active in supporting staff with free Welsh courses with some tailored to specific work areas. This proposal would support staff in accessing any provision as required.</p>		
<p><b>Treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language</b></p>	<p><b>Positive</b> A request for education through the medium of Welsh can be accommodated at present. In so doing, there is capacity to meet the language preference and the rights of the individual to receive their education through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p><b>Positive</b> Any meetings with the school to discuss provision of education through the child / family's preferred language and the right that they have to this under the WL Measure can be accommodated at present.</p> <p><b>Positive</b></p>	<p>Not applicable</p> <p>Welsh provision is currently offered</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020</u></a></p> <p>A Welsh medium education assessment in accordance with the (Wales) Regulations 2013 has been conducted in accordance with the 3-year cycle requirement.</p> <p>A parental demand survey was also undertaken in 2018 and is updated regularly.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language Strategy – Cymraeg 2050.</u></a></p> <p>The strategy recognises the need to provide Welsh speakers with easily accessible opportunities to use their skills in social and work settings.</p>

	<p>All documentation including the website relating to the proposal is produced in Welsh and English</p> <p><b>Positive</b> All consultation and objection responses were able to be sent and received in Welsh and English</p> <p><b>Positive</b> As in previous section add that the consultation was targeted to include people / groups / organisations with a vested interest.</p>		<p><a href="#"><u>Welsh Language Impact Assessment</u></a> – Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon (included as part of the original Equality Impact Assessment)</p> <p>Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon Consultation Webpage – <a href="#"><u>Link to Welsh page</u></a></p> <p>Page includes all documentation produced as part of the proposal including the key documentation (Consultation Document, Equality and Welsh Language Impact Assessment, Response Forms, Consultation Report, Notification Letters)</p>
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**7a. Having considered the impacts above, how has the proposal been developed so that there are positive effects, or increased positive effects on (a) opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and b) treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.**

**Need and demand**

The Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon proposal seeks to further support the local and national agenda in the development of Welsh standards in education to equip a bilingual Wales with a skilled bilingual workforce, supporting the Welsh Government’s vision for Welsh in Education. The more pupils who enjoy a Welsh medium primary education, the more are likely to attend Welsh medium secondary education and have the fullest opportunities to live their lives in Wales using the Welsh language.

Demand for Welsh medium provision in the East Islwyn Area has been identified through the WESP and the current site has reached its capacity. Further investment in the existing school site would not accommodate increased demand as the site can no longer be developed. An options appraisal was carried out as outlined in the Consultation Document and Consultation Report which provides clarity as to why relocation was the preferred option moving forward and a suitable existing alternative was not available in the locale.

The development of Welsh medium childcare provision on site adjacent to the Welsh medium Foundation Phase nursery will further enable continuity of provision for parents as well as continue to strengthen the Welsh language acquisition of the youngest children. The provision of wraparound, after school and holiday provision will enable working families to have the same access to provision as their English medium counterparts as well as enabling children to have social play experiences through the medium of Welsh. There is a positive impact on the Welsh language of all services being on a single site in a cohesive development and making it sustainable for the longer term.

### **Method and process**

The School Organisation Code 2018 is the prescribed process for progressing this proposal. The proposal seeks to relocate and expand the existing Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon. It is proposed that the new school facility would accommodate up to 420 pupils, plus 60 nursery places and 16 special resource base places providing increased educational opportunities through the medium of Welsh.

### **Location**

The relocation site has been identified within the existing locale and was formally an educational establishment. The former Cwmcarn High School site has been proposed as it provides minimal disruption to existing pupil travel arrangements and remains located central to the existing catchment area being within 1 mile of the existing Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon site. In addition, the site will provide opportunities to future proof Welsh language provision should the establishment of a secondary Welsh language provision be identified (currently on 1 Welsh Language Secondary School with a split site)

The proposed developments is sensitive to the needs of such communities and there is also a clear understanding from the details provided in this Integrated Impact Assessment and supporting consultation exercises and documentation to the proposal that the current and projected linguistic profile of communities and area support the need for Welsh medium education.

### **Timing**

Subject to Cabinet approval on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and a separate full planning application process, it is envisaged that an anticipated occupation date would be circa September 2023.

The existing Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon site would then be declared surplus to requirements by the Local Education Authority and in turn could produce a Capital Receipt that would help support future strategic plans.

Whilst no proposal has yet to be developed, it is clear how important the Welsh language is to life in Wales. Maintaining and increasing the range of Welsh medium provision is a significant challenge for the Council. Changes to Welsh medium primary education will inevitably have an impact upon Welsh medium secondary education. The more pupils who enjoy a Welsh medium primary education, the more are likely to attend Welsh medium secondary education and have the fullest opportunities to live their lives in Wales using the Welsh language.

Within the borough, as evidenced in the WESP, more learners are continuing to improve their language skills on transfer from primary to secondary school and progression rates remain at a consistently high level. In consideration of the potential impact of this proposal, the site

layout and configuration will be undertaken strategically to ensure space maximisation and provide the potential to facilitate Secondary provision in the future should the need to increase capacity be identified in that area.

## 8. Data and Information

*(What data or other evidence has been used to inform the development of the proposal? Evidence may include the outcome of previous consultations, existing databases, pilot projects, review of customer complaints and compliments and or other service user feedback, national and regional data, academic publications and consultants' reports etc.)*

<b>Data/evidence</b> <i>(Please provide link to report if appropriate)</i>	<b>Key relevant findings</b>	<b>How has the data/evidence informed this proposal?</b>
<p><b>Initial Evidence (National and Regional Data)</b></p> <p>There are presently 11 Welsh medium primary schools across the County Borough with a combined capacity of approaching 3000 places.</p> <p>The Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2017-2020 clearly states that the Authority will work with the 21st Century Schools Team in Welsh Government to identify funding for the development of sufficient Welsh medium places in areas where they are coming under pressure, in particular Bedwas Trethomas Machen area, and the Islwyn East area. This proposal is linked to the Islwyn East area.</p> <p>As part of the research for this proposal, the findings of the Welsh medium education assessment 2018 and the parental demand survey 2018, undertaken as part of the Authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan was referred to. These are the basis for all future trend projections of demand and provide evidence of need for additional places and location in the county borough.</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Consultation Document</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Consultation Report</u></a>  <b>Objection Report</b></p> <p>There is growing demand for Welsh Language provision within Caerphilly county borough as supported by the data contained in the Menter Iaith Caerffili : Welsh Language Profile 2016</p> <p>Welsh Speaking by Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abercarn 11.7%</li> <li>• Crosskeys 9%</li> <li>• Newbridge 8.9%</li> <li>• Risca West 9%</li> </ul> <p>Abercarn area had a 2.6% increase in welsh speakers between the 2001 and 2011 census. The highest in the borough.</p> <p>The 21st Century Schools and Colleges programme is a major, long-term, strategic capital investment programme. It is jointly funded by the Welsh Government and local</p>	<p>The proposal will benefit pupils from within the Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon catchment area in providing a modern fit-for purpose 21<sup>st</sup> Century provision to further enhance and support the delivery and increase of education in the medium of Welsh in the East Islwyn area.</p> <p>The views obtained as part of the Consultation Period and Objection Period have been addressed as part of the Councils response in each document. This Integrate Impact Assessment and the Objection Report will be presented to Education Scrutiny Committee on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 and Cabinet on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021 alongside</p> <p>As outlined in the Consultation Document, Consultation Report and the Objection Report a separate planning application process including further consultation will be undertaken to address building and transport related issues.</p>

<p>In addition, a number of consultees have made the suggestion that the proposed build site in relation to the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon is utilised for English medium secondary provision. Whilst a number of variations on this theme have been raised, from providing a new secondary provision to replace the former Cwmcarn High School, relocation Newbridge School, or amalgamation of Newbridge School and Risca Comprehensive onto a single site, the merits of each option have been considered prior to this proposal taking into account the likely impact on quality and standards, community, surplus places and travelling arrangements. As outlined in the Consultation Report and Objection Report there is no requirement identified for an additional English medium secondary provision. Both local English medium secondary schools have been identified as having adequate provision at their current locations for their catchment pupils. In addition, there has recently been significant investment of £2 million through the 21st Century Schools and Colleges Band A programme at Newbridge School.</p> <p><b>School based 'existing evidence'</b></p> <p>The existing Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon has occupied their current site for over 20 years. Located in the heart of a small village in Abercarn, the school is the 3<sup>rd</sup> occupier of the site which has seen multiple incarnations over the years to utilise the asset to its fullest extent. There are approximately 260 pupils</p>	<p>authorities and aims to create a generation of 21st century schools in Wales with the priority areas being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the number of poor condition schools</li> <li>• Ensure that we have the right size schools in the right location <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide enough places to deliver Welsh and English medium education</li> <li>• Ensure the effective and efficient use of the educational estate</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon is a Welsh medium primary education facility, accommodating circa 260 pupils in a site originally designed for 80. The use of the site has been maximised to accommodate growing demand but there is no further room for expansion.</p> <p>The School Organisation Code 2018 is made under Sections 38 and 39 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and applies to proposals in respect of maintained schools as defined at Section 98 of the 2013 Act. That is a school in Wales, which is a community, foundation or voluntary school, a community special school or a maintained nursery school. This does not include pupil referral units (PRUs). The School Organisation Code 2018, provides clear statutory guidance as to the processes that need to be adhered to when bringing forward a proposal.</p>	
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<p>on role, an additional 180 to the original concept to house 80 when the school was originally handed occupancy of the site. The latest information available from the latest condition survey undertaken on the premises utilising the industry recognised 'Faithful and Gould' building surveying methodology has classified the school as Category C for condition. This means the overall condition of the school is 'poor, showing major problems or not operating adequately'.</p> <p>The site is enclosed on all sides, with no option for expansion, and has no direct access routes other than via a side street adjacent to the local public houses and village institute. Notably the site is also on a slanted gradient, resulting in multiple levels for both indoor and outdoor space which significantly reduces access and functionality for less able-bodied individuals.</p> <p><b>Consultation Period</b> The consultation period opened on Monday 14th September 2020 (a school day) and concluded at midnight on Monday 26th October 2020. Consultees were given at least 42 days to respond to the document, with at least 20 of these being school days as defined by Section 579 of the Education Act 1996.</p> <p>Consultees were advised of the proposal and availability of the consultation</p>	<p>The consultation process has followed the Welsh Government requirements as set out in the School Organisation Code 2018.</p> <p><b>Consultation Period</b> 388 responses 'view's' were received during the consultation period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 48 responses were received in the medium of Welsh.</li> <li>• 95% supported the proposal as outlined in the Consultation document</li> <li>• 3% did not support the proposal as outlined</li> <li>• 2% provided a neutral or no comment response.</li> <li>• 3 alternative options were raised by consultees and considered by Education Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet.</li> </ul> <p>Full details are provided as part of the Consultation Report</p> <p><b>Objection Period</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Statutory Objections were received.</li> <li>• Objections were summarised into 2 areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Prioritisation of Welsh medium education</li> <li>➤ Need for a new secondary school in the area</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Full details are provided as part of the Objection Report.</p> <p>Progression at each stage is subject to scrutiny, review and approval by Cabinet</p>	
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<p>documentation when it went live on the 14th September 2020 via letter/email and were therefore invited to take part in the statutory consultation to gather their 'views' on the proposal as outlined in the consultation document.</p> <p>The Council was aware that the proposal relates to Welsh Language provision so the Welsh Language Commissioner was also advised in this instance.</p> <p><b>Objection Period</b> Following the decision by Cabinet (9.12.2020) to proceed to Statutory Notice, anyone wishing to make an objection to this proposal was able to do so as per the requirements of the School Organisation Code 2018. To be considered as a statutory objection, objections had to be made in writing or by email and sent to the Council within the 28 days of the date on which the proposal was published. This is referred to as the "objection period" and ran from the 11th January 2021 to the 7th February 2021.</p> <p>Of the 2 Statutory Objections received, these were summarised into 2 areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritisation of Welsh medium education</li> <li>• Need for a new secondary school in the area</li> </ul> <p>The Objection Report provides full details and in addition original copies of all correspondence are made available to</p>	<p>Members and in addition, Welsh Government are engaged in the process as one of the key delivery partners and co-funders.</p>	
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Cabinet Members for consideration as part of the decision making process.

**Were there any gaps identified in the evidence and data used to develop this proposal and how will these gaps be filled?**

*Details of further consultation can be included in Section 9.*

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the Legislation (Wales) Act 2019, provides a series of standards and places a statutory duty on the Council to assess the demand for Welsh medium education in the area. The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan sets out Caerphilly's commitment to the Promotion of Welsh language and the provision of quality, attractive educational facilities. Within the WESP we are striving to stimulate demand for Welsh medium education, which we know is more sustainable for families if education provision is expanded in line with childcare available. Respondents as part of the Consultation and Objection periods have indicated concerns relating to the prioritisation of Welsh language education facilities for investment in the area and also alternative usage for the proposed relocation site to accommodate perceived demand for English medium secondary education. These concerns have been addressed in the Consultation Report and the Objection Report.

There are clear processes which need to be followed as per the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code 2018. Respondents as part of the Objection period and subsequent to this have indicated concerns relating to lack of consultation with local residents and the wider community. The Council has undertaken stakeholder engagement and produced documentation at the appropriate stage of the process in line with statutory requirements. The consultation was also targeted to specific people/ groups /organisations with a vested interest in this area of work and also shared available via the Council's website, social media channels and parents and other consultees were made aware via letter. These concerns have been addressed in the Consultation Report and the Objection Report.

**9. Consultation**

*(In some instances, there is a legal requirement to consult. In others, even where there is no legal obligation, there may be a legitimate expectation from people that a consultation will take place. Where it has been determined that consultation is required, [The Gunning Principles](#) must be adhered to. Consider the [Consultation and Engagement Framework](#). Please note that this may need to be updated as the proposal develops and to strengthen the assessment.*

**Briefly describe any recent or planned consultations paying particular attention to evidencing the Gunning Principles.**

The consultation process will proceed in line with the requirements of Welsh Government Statutory Code document no 011/2018 - School Organisation Code 2nd Edition 2018.

The process also supports the Involvement Principle under the 5 ways of working in relation to the Socio-economic Duty, with specific reference to the need to “be guided by the voices of socio-economically disadvantaged people”.

The School Organisation Code 2018 is made under Sections 38 and 39 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and applies to proposals in respect of maintained schools as defined at Section 98 of the 2013 Act. That is a school in Wales, which is a community, foundation or voluntary school, a community special school or a maintained nursery school. The School Organisation Code 2018, provides clear statutory guidance as to the processes that need to be adhered to and the stages to follow.

A prescribed list of recipients (as outlined below) has been written to at either the commencement of the Consultation Period, and/or Objection Period.

All documentation was made available in both Welsh and English throughout the process and other formats were available on request.

Parents, prospective parents, guardians and carers of all pupils of schools directly affected by the proposal

Headteacher, staff and governors of schools directly affected by the proposal

Pupils/Pupil Councils of schools directly affected by the proposal

Directors of Education of all bordering LAs – Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Newport, Powys, Rhondda Cynon Taf,

Torfaen Catholic Diocesan Board of Education o Church in Wales Diocesan Board

Local Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

Governing body of other schools which the proposer considers are likely to be affected by the proposal

Local CCBC Members

All Assembly Members and Members of Parliament representing the area served by the schools directly affected by the proposal

Welsh Ministers

ESTYN

Teaching Associations

Support Staff Associations

South East Wales Consortium (EAS)

South East Wales Transport Alliance (SEWTA)

Gwent and South Wales Police and Crime Commissioners

Local Town and Community Councils

Menter Iaith Caerffili

Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership

Parent Network

Welsh Education Forum

Welsh Language Commissioner

As outlined in the original Equality Impact Assessment Document, the principles of engagement outlined in the Local Authority's Consultation and Engagement Framework 2020 will also be acknowledged and the project team will engage with any additional 'interested parties' as required.

The principles of engagement outlined in the Local Authority's Consultation and Engagement Framework 2020 will also be acknowledged and the project team will engage with any additional 'interested parties' as required.

The School Organisation Code 2018 states that when undertaking a consultation process in connection with a school proposal, the Council must publish information to enable transparent, balanced and open decision making. At time of writing, the process being followed is synergistic with the vision of our Consultation and Engagement Framework 2020-25 and ensures the appropriate level of consultee engagement and transparency.

The proposal is still in the formative stage until a final determination is made by Cabinet who act as the decision making body in this instance.

The Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon proposal has progressed through several stages of the process to date:

### **1) Consultation Period**

A consultation period ran from the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020 seeking the views of consultees as defined by the code.

As part of this proposal, the following documentation was published:

- [Consultation Notification Letter](#)
- [Consultation Document](#)
- [Child Friendly Consultation Summary](#)
- [Consultation Video](#)
- Artist's Impression of proposed new school [Image 1](#) / [Image 2](#) / [Image 3](#)
- [Consultation Response Form \(Online\)](#)
- [Consultation Response Form \(Printable PDF\)](#)
- [Equalities and Welsh Language Impact Assessment](#)
- [Consultation Frequently Asked Questions](#)

As part of the initial Equality Impact Assessment undertaken, it was envisaged that a series of targeted sessions will be held over a given day between the hours of 10am and 8pm to provide information and the opportunity to pose questions to designated officers concerning the proposal. Individuals will be required to book 10 minute appointment slots and a translator will be available if required. As part of this process, the target audiences who will be engaged with include – Pupils (School Council), School Staff, School Governors, Parents/Guardians and the wider Community. However, Due to the implications of COVID-19 at the time this consultation was due to take place and after taking advice from Welsh Government, this consultation process refrained from undertaking any face-to-face consultation

sessions to support social distancing and maintain safe working practices for all. It should be noted that there is no obligation to consult face-to-face and therefore a written paper consultation exercise was undertaken to discharge the Council of its duty under the School Organisation Code 2018.

The Council acknowledged that the voice of young people is about involving them as active participants in the development, delivery, management and improvement of their educational and student experience and needs to be at the heart of planning, provision and evaluation. Learner Voice. A summary version of the main consultation document was also prepared, published and targeted specifically at children and young people.

### [Child Friendly Consultation Summary](#)

This summary version was released online as part of the consultation pack and hardcopies were made available on request.

As identified in the Consultation Document, consideration was given to hosting a virtual consultation session with representatives from the schools affected. However, through discussions with the relevant head teachers and the 21st Century Schools team, the decision was taken for the local teaching staff to engage with all year groups and not just a representative sample. Utilising the child friendly version of the consultation document and the accompanying video, children were engaged in a familiar environment, at the appropriate comprehension level and in the language of their preference. It was felt that due to the current 'bubble' situation in schools, this was the best way to ensure the fullest return possible to capture the learner voice. Many of the children provided comments on what they would like to see in the future and how they felt about the proposal. These comments were included as part of the Consultation Report.

Notes from each session were recorded and have been included as part of the consultation responses which will be made available to Cabinet. Where answers were provided in other formats, these have been transcribed ad-verbatim and summarised in the Consultation Report.

## **2) Statutory Notice / Formal Objection Period**

A 'Statutory Notice' was published and the formal 'Objection Period' opened on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and closed on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

Notices were published on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 as follows:

- A [Statutory Notice was published](#) on the [council website](#)
- A [Statutory Notice](#) was displayed in several locations, on or near the main entrance of the school which was subject to the proposal
- The school was provided with hardcopies of the Statutory Notice to distribute to pupils, parents/carers and staff.
- Prescribed consultees as listed in the School Organisation Code 2018 were notified in writing and sent a copy of the [Statutory Notice Notification Letter](#)

- Social Media Messages were released on Facebook and Twitter to advise of the publication of the Notice and direct interested parties to the Council website

The School Organisation Code 2018 states that *“It is essential that proposers seek and achieve high standards both in the information that underpins school consultations and in the consultation documents that are published. These will be examined closely by communities, school staff and parents, and errors in details can easily undermine confidence in a proposal.”*

There is no requirement for proposers to hold consultation meetings although there will be circumstances where proposers will consider that meeting with certain groups of consultees will assist greatly in the dissemination of information and provide a suitable platform for the consultees to make their views known.

Proposers may use other ways to engage consultees as they think appropriate.

The proposal is still progressing through the Statutory process as prescribed by the School Organisation Code and at time of writing, no final determination has been made.

The key finding of the initial consultation exercise were summarised in a Consultation Report that was presented to Scrutiny and Cabinet for consideration.

This Consultation Report is the prescribed method as outlined by the School Organisation Code 2018 for reflection, review and assessment to provide Cabinet with the information to make an informed decision as to whether to proceed with the proposal to the next stage, amend the proposal taking into account further information that has come forward through the consultation process or to close this proposal with no further actions taken. The Report is divided into several sections with the aim to:

- Outline the consultation processes undertaken
- Provide clarification in relation to the information provided and consultee engagement
- Summarise each of the issues raised by consultees
- Set out Estyn’s response to the consultation in full
- Respond to issues raised by means of clarification, amendment to the proposal or rejection of the concerns, with supporting reasons

- [Consultation Report Notification Letter](#)
- [Consultation Report](#)
- [Child Friendly Consultation Report](#)
- [Estyn’s Response](#)
- [Notice of Cabinet Decision from the meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020](#)

The outcome of the Objection Period has been summarised in an Objection Report that will be presented to Education Scrutiny Committee for review on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 and then formally presented to the decision making body ‘Cabinet’ at its meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021 for final determination.

As part of the development of the proposal, a number of benefits and disbenefits were identified as outlined in the Consultation Document. The consultation process was an opportunity to consult with relevant stakeholders to understand what they see as positive outcomes and what negative consequences may be delivered. An Equality and Welsh Language Impact Assessment and a Community Impact Assessment were carried out to initiate discussion and invite comments as to whether the principles for the proposal are supported. All comments have been recorded and will be made available for Cabinet as a separate annex to this Consultation Report.

## 10. Monitoring and Review

**How will the implementation and the impact of the proposal be monitored, including implementation of any amendments?**

The programme is managed by a Project Board comprising of the Corporate Director – Education and Corporate Services, Head of Education Planning and Strategy, Chief Education Officer, Cabinet Member for Education and Achievement, Interim Head of Property Services and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Manager. The Project Board provides the overall direction, management and control for the Programme, being accountable for the success of the Programme and is the ultimate decision making body for the Programme.

A Project Management Team comprising of the Head of Education Planning and Strategy, and resources and staff from Property Services will oversee the day to day development and implementation of each constituent project, reporting to the Board and other relevant senior officers, as appropriate.

Key personnel have received Equality Impact Assessment Awareness, Integrated Impact Assessment sessions and Equalities Awareness Training and attended training and information sessions delivered by Welsh Government. Training needs will be constantly reviewed throughout the process and addressed when the need is evident.

In addition, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Manager and Principal Officer have met with representatives from the Equalities, Welsh Language and Consultation Team to take guidance where required.

**What are the practical arrangements for monitoring?**

The Council recognises that the whole organisation must be skilled in making the very best use of available resources. Good project management is recognised as being an essential ingredient to success in tackling our strategic work programme.

Project management principles will be followed (Prince2 and MS Project) throughout the programme. Programme management principles will be employed for the overarching Band B programme and the project will utilise the experience of the project team involved in the Band A project. This will commence with a Programme execution plan that will define the programme objectives, responsibilities, dependant actions and risks. The latter will include risk elimination or mitigation actions and risk owner. An overall programme monitoring tool will integrate and coordinate procurement, design and construction programmes and will highlight key dependencies and the critical path.

In addition to the numerous reports that need to be produced in line with the requirements of the School Organisation Code 2018 and internal Caerphilly County Borough Council decision making processes, A business case model is followed to secure Welsh Government funding.

An initial Outline Business Case / Strategic Outline Business Case was developed at the concept stage based on the five key areas that underpin the Better Business Case Process (Five Cases Business Model).

The Business Case focused on:

- the strategic justification and investment objectives for the project (Strategic Case)
- the reasoning behind reduction of the long list to a short list of options and analysis of the options appraisal and benefits (Economic Case)
- the outline cost of the project and details of match funding and profile of spend (Financial Case)
- the proposed management structure (Management Case)
- the commercial strategy (Commercial Case)

Approval to secure the funding in principle is agreed by Welsh Government at this point prior to the proposal progressing through the consultation processes.

As the proposal progresses through the consultation processes, regular meetings with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Officers in Welsh Government are held to update them on progress.

	<p>Once a final determination is made on the proposal by Cabinet, a Full Business Case will be submitted to Welsh Government which will solely focus on the tendered costs unless anything has changed since agreement to the original business case was submitted. At this point, with the approval of Welsh Government, the funding is released to implement the proposal.</p> <p>Should the proposal then be implemented (based on approval as outlined above), on completion of the works a Welsh Government Closing Report is produced, supported with full project costings and analysis as to whether the community benefits have been achieved.</p> <p>The 21st Century Schools team are required to monitor projects for their first five years through completion of post occupancy evaluation workshops with pupils and staff. This is also reported to Welsh Government and supports the Council in considering best practice and any areas for improvement on future projects.</p>
<p><b>How will the results of the monitoring be used to develop future proposals?</b></p>	<p>The Council produces a protocol document for each school opening/closure/amalgamation project. This outlines individual and team responsibilities for the full list of actions required over the 3 stages of design and pre-construction, construction and school occupation and decommissioning.</p> <p>Regular monitoring meetings take place and typically involve 21st Century Schools Team, Headteachers, Education advisers, Property Services, Catering Services, ICT, Traffic Management, Procurement and Audit representation. Relevant stakeholders will also be involved in post project evaluation to review outcomes to ensure improvements are made for future projects.</p> <p>Benefits Realisation will be monitored by the project team and Caerphilly County Borough Council and reported to Welsh Government through the project closure report and other relevant documentation. Community benefits will be reported quarterly and yearly and when the project ends.</p> <p>The project will be subject to gateway review as required by the funding agreement. The review is one by which independent practitioners from outside the programme/project use their experience and expertise to examine the progress and likelihood of successful delivery of the programme or project. Any recommendations of the review team will be taken on board and implemented as appropriate.</p>

	A post contract review will also be undertaken.
<b>When is the proposal due to be reviewed?</b>	<p>Further to review at Education Scrutiny Committee on the 22d March 2021, this document will be considered in full at a Cabinet meeting due to be held on 7th April 2021.</p> <p>Decisions (in relation to proposals which require approval or determination) must be made and issued in the form of a decision letter. The decision letter must set out clearly the reasons for the decision with reference to the School Organisation Code 2018. The Decision letter will be published electronically on the Council's website and the consultees as outlined in Section 5.6 of the School Organisation Code will be advised by letter/email of the availability of the document.</p>
<b>Who is responsible for ensuring this happens?</b>	<p>Cabinet Members will be asked to review the proposal and make the final determination as to whether to implement the proposal as outlined below: To relocate Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon to a new purpose-built Welsh-medium provision school to be situated at the former Cwmcarn High School site.</p> <p>If approved, it will be the responsibility of the Author of this report (or nominated officer within their section) to ensure the Integrate Impact Assessment and proposal is reviewed and any mitigating actions followed up on and actioned.</p>

## 11. Recommendation and Reasoning

Implement proposal with no amendments

Implement proposal taking account of the mitigating actions outlined

Reject the proposal due to disproportionate impact on equality, poverty and socio-economic disadvantage

Have you contacted relevant officers for advice and guidance?

Yes

No

## 12. Reason(s) for Recommendation

*(Provide below a summary of the Integrated Impact Assessment. This summary should be included in the "Summary of Integrated Impact Assessment" section of the Corporate Report Template. The Integrated Impact Assessment should be published alongside the Report proposal).*

It is the recommendation of this Integrated Impact Assessment and in line with the processes outlined in the School Organisation Code 2018 that Members endorse the proposal to relocate Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon to a new purpose-built Welsh-medium provision school to be situated at the former Cwmcarn High School site.

The information gathered and reviewed as part of this IIA and through the consultation phase and formal objection period demonstrate the growing demand for Welsh medium education and the benefits of providing this through a single, integrated facility in the Islwyn East area. Whilst concerns relating to the proposed location (Cwmcarn High School) and the impact on the local community in relation to English medium secondary provision has been identified, supporting evidence provided as part of the Consultation Report and Objection Report clearly establish that investment as proposed into a Welsh medium primary provision is warranted.

Therefore, Cabinet Members are asked to consider this Integrated Impact Assessment alongside the Objection Report and provide a final determination in support of progressing to full implementation of the project which involves full business case submission to Welsh Government and Property Services undertaking their full statutory planning application process.

## 13. Version Control

*(The IIA should be used in the early stages of the proposal development process. The IIA can be strengthened as time progresses to help shape the proposal. The Version Control section will act as an audit trail to evidence how the IIA has been developed over time)*

Version No.	Author	Brief description of the amendments/update	Revision Date
1.	Andrea West	An Equality Impact Assessment was completed on the Council's 2019 proforma to support the proposal and was published as part of the original Consultation Pack.	01.09.2020
		<a href="#">Equality and Welsh Language Impact Assessment 01.09.2020</a>	
		In addition, a Community Impact Assessment was undertaken in line with the recommendations outlined in the School Organisation Code 2018 and summarised within the Consultation Document (pages 22-23)	
		Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon <a href="#">Consultation Document</a>	14.09.2020
2.	Andrea West	As part of the Statutory processes being followed in relation to the Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Gwyddon proposal as per the requirements of the School Organisation Code 2018, at this stage in the process, a formal 'Objection	01.03.2021

		<p>Report' will be presented to Education Scrutiny Committee on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021, with the final decision making body (Cabinet) meeting after the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.</p> <p>To ensure compliance with the new socio-economic duty set out in section 1 of the Equality Act 2010, which comes into force on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, this newly established Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) template has been utilised to act as the update and revision to the existing Equality Impact Assessment and Community Impact Assessment to include the relevant information highlighted through the statutory consultation processes.</p>	

### Integrated Impact Assessment Author

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Andrea West</b>
<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>21<sup>ST</sup> Century Schools Manager</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<i>A.West</i>

### Head of Service Approval

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Sue Richards</b>		
<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Head of Education Planning and Strategy</b>		
<b>Signature:</b>	<i>S.Richards</i>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>8.3.2021</b>