

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

DECISION NOTICE

SCHOOL STANDARDS AND ORGANISATION (WALES) ACT 2013

On 26 April 2021, after a period of consultation, Bridgend County Borough Council published a statutory notice of its proposal to discontinue Corneli Primary School, Greenfield Terrace, North Cornelly, CF33 4LW and Afon Y Felin Primary School, Heol Y Parc, North Cornelly, CF33 4PA and establish a new English-medium primary community school to be maintained by Bridgend County Borough Council on land off Gibbons Way at Plas Morlais with effect from 1 September 2023 and to make a regulated alteration to Ysgol Y Ferch O'r Sgêr in the form of an enlargement with effect from 2 September 2024.

The affected schools are currently maintained by Bridgend County Borough Council. Objections to the proposal were received during the public notice period. On 22 June 2021, Cabinet carefully considered the published proposal in light of the objections received, in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013. Cabinet determined to approve the proposal.

In determining the proposal, Cabinet were satisfied that this proposal is sound in education, financial and strategic terms.

Summary

In summary, Cabinet have approved the proposal as they believe that it will:

- Maintain the standard of education provision
- Ensure pupil places are suitably located
- Provide efficiency in the resourcing of education

The reasons for the decision in respect to the factors outlined in the School Organisation Code are as follows:

Quality and Standards of Education

Estyn (Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales) is of the opinion that the proposal is likely to at least maintain the current standards in terms of education, provision, and leadership and management.

Need for places and the impact on the accessibility of schools

This proposal will meet the demand for pupil places within the area.

Resourcing of education and other financial implications

This proposal would eradicate backlog maintenance of £525,450 in respect of Afon y Felin Primary School and £419,030 in respect of Corneli Primary School, both of which are currently condition category C+ (poor - exhibiting major defects and/ or not operating as intended). It would also eradicate backlog maintenance of £569,254 in respect of Ysgol Ysgol Y Ferch O'r Sgêr and provide a 21st century enlarged replacement for the dilapidated existing school building, constructed in 1955, which is currently condition category C+ (poor - exhibiting major defects and/ or not operating as intended).

This decision is subject to the call in procedures as set out in the Council's constitution which allows decisions taken by Cabinet but yet to be implemented to be reviewed. Should a call in of the decision take place, all stakeholders would be informed.