

Report to: Communities Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 23 January 2014

Lead Member/Officer: Lead Member for Education

Report Author: Scrutiny Coordinator

Title: Call-in of Proposed Closure of Ysgol Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd

1. What is the report about?

To consider the Cabinet decision of 14 January 2014 to proceed to publish a statutory notice proposing to close Ysgol Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd on 31 August 2014 and to transfer existing pupils to Ysgol Borthyn, Ruthin, subject to parental preference.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

To seek scrutiny to consider the request that the Cabinet's decision in respect of Ysgol Llanbedr D C be reviewed.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That the Committee:

- 3.1 considers the reasons given for requesting a review of the Cabinet's decision; and
- 3.2 following consideration of the information provided determines whether the decision merits being referred back to Cabinet for reconsideration, and if so the basis and evidence for making the referral.

4. Report details.

- 4.1 Denbighshire's Cabinet at its meeting on 14 January 2014 approved the following recommendation:

"...[to] approve the publication of a statutory notice on the proposal to close Ysgol Llanbedr as of the 31 August 2014 with existing pupils transferring to Ysgol Borthyn, Ruthin subject to parental preference."

- 4.2 The above decision was published on the Council's website on 17 January 2014 and in accordance with the Council's Call-In Procedure (Appendix 1) the decision was not implemented immediately enabling non-Cabinet members to call-in the decision for examination, if they felt it merited scrutiny. To facilitate

a decision to be called-in five non-Cabinet members are required to sign a notice of call-in form.

4.3 A 'Notice of Call-In' form, signed by the required number of non-Cabinet councillors, was received on 20 January 2014. Members will see at Appendix 2 that the grounds for calling-in the decision are:

- (i) failure to consult; and
- (ii) prejudgement of decision to close Ysgol Llanbedr D C

Members are asked to determine, based on the information presented to them, whether the Committee believes that Cabinet should review its original decision, and if so on what grounds.

4.4 As Cabinet's decision of 14 January relates to the Council's education provision the Authority's statutory education co-opted members on scrutiny are permitted to participate fully in the consideration of this matter as voting members of the Committee.

4.5 Copies of the report and appendices considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 14 January have been circulated to all committee members in either electronic or hard copy format. They can also be viewed on the Council's website by following the link below:

<https://modern.gov.denbighshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=281&MId=4758&LLL=0>

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

See relevant section in the report to Cabinet dated 14 January 2014

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

See relevant section in the report to Cabinet dated 14 January 2014

7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report.

See relevant section and appendix C to the report to Cabinet dated 14 January 2014

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

See relevant section and appendices to the report to Cabinet dated 14 January 2014

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

See relevant section in the report to Cabinet dated 14 January 2014

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

See relevant section in the report to Cabinet dated 14 January 2014

11. Power to make the Decision

Section 21, Local Government Act 2000
Article 6.3.2(ch) of the Council's Constitution

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