

Appendix C

Consultation with Staff and Governors

The Formal Consultation began on the 9th of September and came to an end on the 22nd of October 2013.

Meetings were arranged with Staff and Governors in both Clocaenog and Cyffylliog.

Core Themes: During consultation meetings certain themes emerged. These are included below along with our response.

Question	Response
How long will the school remain on two sites?	By changing from a two site model to a single site we will be able to release revenue funding to draw down additional funding for the project. At this stage we are unable to confirm timescales.
We feel that if the school stays on two sites for more than 2 years, parents will move their children and the school will close?	We need parents to trust us. We can only demonstrate that we have invested in Ysgol Dyffryn Ial (Llandegla) and Ysgol Bro Dyfrdwy (Cynwyd). It is important that you include these fears in your response to the consultation.
Are people from Cyffylliog going to come here when the road to Ruthin is better?	Choice is part of Denbighshire County Council policy. We are planning for the new school to accommodate all existing pupils. Transport will be provided to the new school for existing pupils (If one of the sites are their nearest suitable school), if a parent chooses to attend a school that isn't their nearest suitable school, then they will not receive transport.
What about transport for breakfast and after school provision?	Transport isn't provided from Home to a breakfast club or afterschool provision. If required we can transport pupils from /back to their 'home' school for breakfast and / or afterschool provision. This is the detail that would require the input of the Temporary Governing Body, New Headteacher and discussions with individual families.
How the school will be staffed?	The new school requires a temporary governing body in place to appoint a new Head teacher who will then decide on staffing structure. The Temporary Governing Body is formed by the Local Authority. We will request nominations from both existing Governing Bodies for experienced governors to sit on the Temporary Governing body. The aim will be to ensure balance across the Governing Body with half the members

	representing each school. The local authority will appoint and fund the post of clerk to the TGB.
When will Estyn inspect the new school?	Estyn usually inspect during or after the 4th term the school has been open. Estyn welcome change but inspect to ensure standards are maintained. Support will be provided by GWE and DCC.
We have concerns regarding the current standards in Ysgol Cyffylliog as the Estyn report was poorer. Are standards lower there?	Standards in Ysgol Cyffylliog are good. Estyn were due to monitor Cyffylliog last term and we were confident that they would reaffirm this view.
When will you appoint a Head Teacher?	March onwards. It depends if the TGB chooses an internal or external candidate. We will provide you with a timeline of the process. This will be based upon everything going to plan. It needs to be noted that every school has to review staffing prior to the start of an academic year.
What is the process for establishing one school?	It is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at potential sites • Identify potential funding • Develop Business Case • Bid for funding
We are concerned that pupils from Derwen will move to other schools.	We need you to promote the project as this will help to retain pupils. In Dyffryn Ial pupils have remained.
Pupil numbers are projected to be higher than the 77 capacity for a new school building?	The capacity of the new school will be determined when it is opened. The projections are estimates. We must ensure that any new school doesn't have a deficit or significant surplus of places.
The admission number of 10 which is included in the document is insufficient. Why is this the case?	How a school uses its space decided by the Head Teacher and Governing Body. The Admission number of 10 is based upon current space within both schools for teaching. We must ensure that we don't open a new school with excessive surplus places.
The (lack of) timeframe for moving into a new building is of concern. A new building is required as soon as possible. Why can't you start the feasibility earlier?	Some work has been started already but we cannot commit significant resources prior to the decision taking place.
Transporting pupils between sites is a concern. Are there alternatives to this proposal?	The extent pupils' travel will be decided by the Temporary Governing Body and Head Teacher. Due to the lack of space in Clocaenog, some pupils will be transported if this proposal is approved.

We want parity of resources across both sites if pupils are educated on both sites.	How resources are allocated are up to the School Governors and Head teacher. DCC will support the school to move the resources as required.
What would happen if one of the existing Head teachers was appointed as the permanent Head of the New Area School?	DCC would fund the release of the Head teacher to allow that individual to plan for the new school.
How will the identity of the new school be decided?	We involve the Governing Bodies, Staff and Pupils in the process. It is important that there is a sense of community ownership in the process.
I don't think the proposed class structure will work. Have you considered an alternative strategy retaining KS1 on both sites?	One size doesn't fit all. In the end the final say will be with the Head teacher, Temporary Governing Body and Senior Leadership Team will develop the day to day class structure. We have proposed this as it has worked in the past.
Are Nursery pupils going to be refused?	The proposed capacity is based upon current capacity assessments. We know there is flexibility in Cyffylliog for space to be reused in an alternative way. We cannot change the capacity of a school without agreement of a Governing Body. We will take a practical approach to retain pupils in the area.
Would there be chaperones on taxis?	Welsh Government standards must be met. We try to meet requirements of individual set of parents.
Will the new Temporary Governing Body have a balance of provision?	Yes as much as we can influence. The composition is limited by legislation.
One major worry is families leaving Ysgol Cyffylliog if the new school is Welsh Medium.	We do have a commitment through the Welsh in education strategic plan. However if parents are concerned by this we will talk to them individually to explain what it means. We intend to build provision long term. We also work closely with school admissions to help explain what the change means for parents who are anxious behind the change in category.
Isn't the Ruthin School going to take all the funding?	The new school in Ruthin will involve a lot of funding. It is important for respondents to enhance the status of Phase 2 with elected members. It is a manageable risk.