



RHONDDA CYNON TAF

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

DECISION MADE BY: Cabinet DATE DECISION MADE: 26th September, 2011

Agenda Item 6

SUBJECT:

Aberdare Secondary School Reorganisation

Cabinet Members Present: County Borough Councillors:

R.Roberts (Chairman), A.Christopher, R.Bevan, P.Cannon,
(Mrs.)A.Davies, M.Forey, (Mrs.)E.Hanagan, A.Morgan,
(Mrs.)M.Webber and C.J.Willis

Other Members in Attendance County Borough Councillors:

G.Hopkins, P.Jarman and M.Rea

1. DECISION MADE:

Agreed –

- To note the various items of correspondence received during the consultation process.
- To note the key issues that were raised by the consultees.
- To issue a statutory notice in October, 2012; and subject to the comments made in paragraph 5.5 of the report, to:
 - Close Aberdare Girls' Comprehensive School, with the pupils transferring to a new secondary school for Aberdare in September, 2014.
 - Close Aberdare High School, with pupils transferring to a new secondary school for Aberdare in September, 2014.
 - Close Blaengwawr Comprehensive School, with pupils transferring to a new secondary school for Aberdare in September, 2014.
 - Transfer the Speech and language Communication disorder Special Educational Needs provision based at Blaengwawr Comprehensive School to the new secondary school.
 - Create a new 11-18 aged secondary school for Aberdare. The new school will be built on the Ynys site and will open in September, 2014.

Noted: With reference to paragraph 4.2 of the report in respect of the catchment area of the new school, the Director, Education and Lifelong Learning gave assurances to the concern expressed at the meeting by Councillor P.Jarman that whilst the catchment area of the new school will be the same as the combined areas of the three schools proposed for closure the matter will be reviewed as and when circumstances change e.g. the construction of a housing development.

2. REASON FOR THE DECISION BEING MADE:

- The need for Members' to be provided with the feedback following the consultation process in respect of the Aberdare Secondary School Reorganisation in order that they could give approval to proceed to statutory notice to close the three secondary schools.

3. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO DECISION BEING MADE:

- Report to Cabinet – 20th September, 2010.
- Report to Cabinet 6th June, 2011.
- Consultation exercise carried out from 1st October, 2010 to 31st December, 2010.
- A statutory notice is to be issued to close the three schools on the 6th October, 2011 with the statutory period ending on 8th November, 2011.
- Report to be presented to Cabinet in November, 2011 providing feedback on the statutory notice, with a letter to all parents informing them of the current position.
- Decision on the proposal from the Welsh Government, should there be any objections to the proposal, by April, 2012.

4. PERSONAL INTERESTS DECLARED:

- In accordance with the Code of Conduct County Borough Councillor A.Christopher declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting during the debate and decision taken thereon as his brother is a caretaker of Blaengwawr Comprehensive School.

5. DISPENSATION TO SPEAK (AS GRANTED BY STANDARDS COMMITTEE):

N/A

6. (a) IS THE DECISION URGENT AND NOT TO BE THE SUBJECT OF ANY CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

YES

NO ✓

Note: This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 5 clear working days after its publication i.e Friday, 7th October, 2011 to enable it to be subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

6. (b) IF YES, REASONS WHY IN THE OPINION OF THE DECISION-MAKER THE DECISION IS URGENT:

N/A

6. (c) SIGNATURE OF MAYOR OR DEPUTY MAYOR OR HEAD OF PAID SERVICE CONFIRMING AGREEMENT THAT THE PROPOSED DECISION IS REASONABLE IN ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR IT BEING TREATED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULE 17.2:

N/A

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(Mayor)

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(Dated)



28th September, 2011

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(Proper Officer)

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(Dated)