

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2014**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING**

**Authors: Chris Bradshaw, Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, tel 01443 744001, and Julie Hadley, Head of School Organisation, Planning and Governance tel: 01443 744227.**

**IMPROVING PRIMARY EDUCATION PROVISION IN TREBANOG**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To advise Members of the outcome of the recent publication of a statutory notice in respect of proposals to close Rhiwgarn Infants School, and transfer its pupils to Cymmer Infants School.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are recommended to:-

- 2.1 Note that no statutory objections have been received in respect of the proposal now being put forward, which is to close Rhiwgarn Infants School, and transfer its education provision to Cymmer Infants School.
- 2.2 Note that, as a consequence of no objections having been received, in line with statutory guidelines, Cabinet now takes the decision to close this school with effect from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014, as outlined in the consultation documentation.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Members will recall that, at the meeting of Cabinet held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2014, approval was given for the publication of a Statutory Notice to progress this proposal to the next stage. The Notice was published, as required by law, on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and the 28 day statutory period to receive objections subsequently ended on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014.
- 3.2 The new School Organisation Code, which was introduced by Welsh Government legislation in July 2013 now requires local authorities to produce an Objections Report at the conclusion of the statutory notice period outlined above. This report must be published within 28 days of the conclusion of the objection period and should outline the LA's

responses to any objections received. These objections should then be considered by Cabinet when making their final decision as to whether to implement a statutory proposal, or not.

- 3.3 In the case of the proposal to close Rhiwgarn Infants School, it must be noted that no objections were received as a consequence of the publication of the Statutory Notice. Consequently, no Objections Report can be compiled in this instance.

#### **4. SUMMARY**

- 4.1 Elected Members are therefore requested to note the absence of any objections to this proposal and to confirm that the proposal, which is to close Rhiwgarn Infants School on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014, with the pupils transferring to Cymmer Infants School on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014, should be implemented as outlined.