



RHONDDA CYNON TAF

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

DECISION MADE BY: Cabinet DATE DECISION MADE: 22nd July, 2013

Agenda Item 1

SUBJECT:

Improving Primary Education Provision in Pentre

**Cabinet Members Present
County Borough Councillors:**

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

**Apology for Absence
County Borough Councillor:
M.Webber**

**In Attendance
County Borough Councillors**
S.Bradwick, S.Carter, C.Davies, G.R.Davies, P.Jarman, S.Rees-
Owen, M.J.Watts, M.Weaver, E.Webster and T.Williams

1. DECISION MADE:

Agreed –

- To note the various items of correspondence received during the consultation exercises, including a summary of responses to the consultation questionnaire.
- To progress the proposal to close Pentre Primary School to the next stage of the review process by issuing an appropriate statutory notice.

Noted: With the permission of the Chairman the following Members commented on this matter, raising objections to the proposal to close Pentre Primary School:

County Borough Councillors:

S.Rees-Owen outlined her concerns in relation to the impact on local businesses, potential drop in property prices and loss of disposable income for families should the proposal to close Pentre Primary School go ahead.

M.Weaver raised concerns in respect of “safe routes to school” as there are a number of heavy vehicles that use the same route as the children, the cost of bus fares for parents transporting their children from Pentre to Treorchy together with the restrictions for pushchairs on buses.

E.Webster commented that should the proposal to close Pentre School and the children being transferred to Treorchy Primary School (subject to parental preference) that the plans detailing the retention of the canteen and kitchen at Treorchy Primary School be adhered to.

C.Davies indicated that there is uncertainty for the Headteacher and staff at Treorchy Primary School on the number of children that would be transferred to their school as some may wish to go to Ynyswen Primary School and also raised concerns that the proposal would generate an increase in traffic.

Mr.P.Rowlands (Spokesperson for Pentre Action Group) also spoke on this item and stated that as the Pentre Primary School is due for another inspection in September of this year and therefore requested that no action be taken until the outcome of the inspection is known. He also outlined concern with regards to the accuracy of the surplus places and the issue concerning “Safe Routes to School”.

2. REASON FOR THE DECISION BEING MADE:

- The need to advise Members of the outcome of the recent consultation in respect of the proposal to close Pentre Primary School and transfer pupils to Treorchy Primary School, subject to parental preference in September, 2014.

3. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO DECISION BEING MADE:

- Report to Cabinet – 22nd April, 2013.
- Details of Consultation undertaken as shown at Appendices 1 and 2 to the report.

4. PERSONAL INTERESTS DECLARED:

- County Borough Councillor C.Middle declared a personal interest in this matter - "the Chair of Governors of Pentre Primary School is an acquaintance of mine and Mrs.M.Evans and Mr.P.Rowalnds (Speaker) are also known to me".
- County Borough Councillor M.Weaver declared a prejudicial interest in this matter but in accordance with paragraph 12(2)a(iii) of the Code of Conduct was able to speak on this matter – "I am a Governor of Pentre Primary School".
- County Borough Councillor E.Webster declared a personal interest – "I am a Governor of Treorchy Primary 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, 2nd August, 2013** to enable it to be the 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)



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(Proper Officer)

24th July, 2013

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(Dated)