



RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

Key Decision ✓

SUBJECT: Creation of a 3 – 19 School at Garth Olwg – proposed change to implementation date and extension of consultation period.

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended officer decision: To propose a change to the implementation date of this statutory proposal, which is currently being consulted upon, from 1st September 2018 to 1st September 2019 and seek approval to extend the current consultation initiated on the proposal until 26th January 2018.

DELEGATED DECISION:

It was **AGREED:**

- i. That the proposed implementation date for this school reorganisation proposal be changed from 1st September 2018 to 1st September 2019; and
- ii. That the current consultation process, for this school reorganisation proposal be extended by one month, i.e. until 26th January 2018, to allow for additional comments on this particular proposed change to be made, as referred to in (i) above.

Chief Officer Signature

CD BRADSHAW

Print Name

24/11/17

Date

The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution



CONSULTATION

Jay Rosse

24/4/17

CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE

DATE

CONSULTEE OFFICER SIGNATURE (if required)

DATE

CALL IN PROCEDURE RULES.

IS THE DECISION DEEMED URGENT AND NOT SUBJECT TO CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

YES NO

Reason for urgency: To allow continuation of the current consultation programme.

If deemed urgent - 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:

[Signature]
(Mayor)

24.11.2017
(Dated)

NB - If this is a reconsidered decision then the decision Cannot be Called In and the decision will take effect from the date the decision is signed.



FOR CABINET OFFICE USE ONLY

PUBLICATION & IMPLEMENTATION DATES

PUBLICATION

Publication on the Councils Website:- 24/11/2017

DATE

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

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

Subject to Call In the implementation date will be / /
DATE

Chief Executive

CDBRASHAN

Print Name

24/11/2017

Date



Further Information

Directorate:	Education and Lifelong Learning
Contact Name:	Julie Hadley
Designation:	School Organisation Manager
Tel.No.	01443 744227

DELEGATED DECISION

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO ACCOMPANY A DECISION OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

NOVEMBER 2017

CREATION OF A 3 – 19 SCHOOL AT THE GARTH OLWG CAMPUS, CHURCH VILLAGE

AUTHOR: Julie Hadley, School Organisation Manager

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To amend the proposed implementation date of the above statutory proposal, which is currently at consultation stage, from 1st September 2018 to 1st September 2019 and seek approval to extend the current consultation initiated on the proposal until 26th January 2018.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- i. That the proposed implementation date for this school reorganisation proposal be changed from 1st September 2018 to 1st September 2019.
- ii. That the current consultation process, for this school reorganisation proposal be extended by one month, i.e. until 26th January 2018, to allow for additional comments on this particular proposed change to be made, as referred to in 2(i) above.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Requests to consider a change of the proposed implementation date have been made by school staff and governors at the consultation events held to date, and it is considered that these requests are reasonable and appropriate in the circumstances.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 At their meeting held on 21st September 2017, Cabinet agreed that consultation on a proposal to create a 3 – 19 'all through' school at the Garth Olwg Campus could commence. The new school would be created by closing the existing Ysgol Gyfun Garth Olwg and Ysgol

Gynradd Gymraeg Garth Olwg, and opening a new 'all through' school using the current site and buildings of the existing schools. The statutory consultation period commenced on 2nd October 2017 and is scheduled to end on 29th December 2017.

- 4.2 As part of the consultation process, meetings were organised for school staff, governors and pupils of both schools, on 6th and 7th November 2017; an open evening for parents and the wider community is to be held on 4th December 2017.
- 4.3 In the both meetings held with staff and governors, concern was expressed at the proposed implementation date of 1st September 2018, which all persons in attendance felt left too short a time to undertake the necessary restructuring of the school, including all the staff appointments that would be required.
- 4.4 Our experience of establishing the three new schools at Tonyrefail, Tonypany and Porth has shown that this work does indeed take several months to undertake, including the necessary consultation with the staff and their trades unions. With this in mind, officers agree that the requests made by the staff and governors of the two schools at Garth Olwg are reasonable in the circumstances and would, therefore, wish to propose a revised implementation date of 1st September 2019. This revised date would allow the extra time that is necessary to undertake this important work properly and effectively, for the benefit of all concerned.
- 4.5 The Welsh Government's School Organisation Code requires the Council to undertake additional consultation if there are any changes made to a statutory proposal; this must be undertaken before that proposal is published by means of a statutory notice. If agreed therefore, this additional consultation would be undertaken by means of letter and e mail notification to all consultees/stakeholders of the proposed change of implementation date. To allow all consultees to properly consider this proposed change and make any new or additional comments, it is proposed the consultation period be extended by one month i.e. until 26th January 2018 in order to facilitate this.

5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

The impact assessments required by the School Organisation Code, namely Community, Equality and Welsh Language have already been prepared and published as part of the consultation process; they are available on the Council website for any person to access.



6. CONSULTATION

The statutory consultation required by the School Organisation Code is already underway and a detailed consultation document has already been published and widely circulated to all prescribed consultees. If agreed, the period of consultation would be extended, to 26th January 2018, to allow for any additional comments that may be made as a consequence of the proposed change to the implementation date.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

These are outlined and explained in the consultation document referred to in section 6.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The consultation process is being conducted in line with statutory guidance contained within the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code.

9. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/

This particular proposal forms part of the larger school reorganisation proposals that supplement the Council's 21st Century Schools Programme for Rhondda Cynon Taf

10. CONCLUSION

For the reasons outlined in the report it is requested that the amendment to the proposed implementation date for this school reorganisation proposal, to 1st September 2019, be agreed and that the consultation initiated on this proposal be extended until 26th January 2018.



Relevant Scrutiny Committee

Children and Young People

Contact Officer

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO ACCOMPANY A DECISION OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

PROPOSAL TO CREATE A 3 – 19 SCHOOL AT GARTH OLWG

Background Papers:

Report to Cabinet, 21st September 2017
Consultation Document published on 2nd October 2017 (available on the Council website)

Officer to contact: Julie Hadley, School Organisation Manager