

**COFNOD O BENDERFYNIAD WEDI'I DDIRPRWYO GAN
SWYDDOG
RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION**

Penderfyniad Allweddol | Key Decision ✓

PWNC | SUBJECT: Relocation of Flying Start Nursery Provision in Llwynypia.


DIBEN YR ADRODDIAD | PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

The purpose of the report is to outline the reasons for the decision to relocate the Flying Start Childcare provision in Llwynypia, from the current Ynyscynon site to the Coleg y Cymoedd Llwynypia campus.

In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended officer decision of the Group Director Community and Children's Services as described below

PENDERFYNIAD WEDI'I DDIRPRWYO | DELEGATED DECISION:

To relocate the Flying Start childcare provision from the Ynyscynon site to the Coleg y Cymoedd Llwynypia campus.

 Llofnod y Prif Swyddog <i>Chief Officer Signature</i>	GIOVANNI SINGARINI Enw (priflythrennau) <i>Name (Print Name)</i>	30/11/18 Dyddiad <i>Date</i>
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Mae'r penderfyniad yn cael ei wneud yn unol ag Adran 15 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol 2000 (Swyddogaethau'r Corff Gweithredol) ac yn y cylch gorchwyl sy wedi'i nodi yn Adran 5 o Ran 3 o Gyfansoddiad y Cyngor.

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.

YMGYNGHORI | CONSULTATION

b. Leydon.

30-11-18

LLOFNOD YR AELOD YMGYNGHOROL O'R CABINET
CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE

DYDDIAD | DATE

LLOFNOD SWYDDOG YMGYNGHOROL
CONSULTEE OFFICER SIGNATURE

DYDDIAD | DATE

RHEOLAU'R WEITHDREFN GALW-I-MEWN | CALL IN PROCEDURE RULES.

A YW'R PENDERFYNIAD YN UN BRYN A HEB FOD YN DESTUN PROSES GALW-I-MEWN GAN Y PWYLLGOR TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU?:
IS THE DECISION DEEMED URGENT AND NOT SUBJECT TO CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

NAC YDY | NO✓

Rheswm dros fod yn fater brys | Reason for Urgency:

.....
Os yw'n cael ei ystyried yn fater brys - llofnod y Maer/Dirprwy Faer/Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth Cyflogedig yn cadarnhau cytundeb fod y penderfyniad arfaethedig yn rhesymol yn yr holl amgylchiadau iddo gael ei drin fel mater brys, yn unol â rheol gweithdrefn trosolwg a chraffu 17.2:

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:

.....
(Maer | Mayor)

.....
(Dyddiad | Date)

DS - Os yw hwn yn benderfyniad sy'n cael ei ail-ystyried yna does dim modd galw'r penderfyniad i mewn a bydd y penderfyniad yn dod i rym o'r dyddiad mae'r penderfyniad wedi'i lofnodi.

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.

AT DDEFNYDD Y SWYDDFA YN UNIG | FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DYDDIADAU CYHOEDDI A GWEITHREDU | PUBLICATION & IMPLEMENTATION DATES

CYHOEDDI | PUBLICATION

Cyhoeddi ar Wefan y Cyngor | Publication on the Councils Website:- 03/12/18

DYDDIAD | DATE

GWEITHREDU'R PENDERFYNIAD | IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

Nodwch: Fydd y penderfyniad hwn ddim yn dod i rym nac yn cael ei weithredu'n llawn nes cyn pen 3 diwrnod gwaith ar ôl ei gyhoeddi. Nod hyn yw ei alluogi i gael ei "Alw i Mewn" yn unol â Rheol 17.1, Rheolau Gweithdrefn Trosolwg a Chraffu.

Yn amodol ar y drefn "Galw i Mewn", caiff y penderfyniad ei roi ar waith ar 07/12/18
DYDDIAD

Note: This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 3 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 07/12/18
DATE

WEDI'I GYMERADWYO I'W GYHOEDDI: ✓ | APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION : ✓

Rhagor o wybodaeth | Further Information:

Cyfadran Directorate:	Community & Children's Services
Enw'r Person Cyswllt Contact Name:	Nia Thomas
Swydd Designation:	Service Manager – Early Years and Family Support
Rhif Ffôn Telephone Number:	01443 281437

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

KEY DELEGATED DECISION

**REPORT TO ACCOMPANY A DECISION OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR,
COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

30TH NOVEMBER 2018

RELOCATION OF FLYING START CHILDCARE PROVISION IN LLWYNYPIA

Author: Zoe Lancelott, Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to outline the reasons for the decision to relocate the Flying Start Childcare provision in Llwynypia, from the current Ynyscynon site to the Coleg y Cymoedd Llwynypia campus.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The information within this report is considered.
- 2.2 A delegated decision is made to relocate the Flying Start childcare provision from the Ynyscynon site to the Coleg y Cymoedd Llwynypia campus.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Recent changes to Day Nursery provision in Ynyscynon as agreed by Cabinet on 20th September 2018, offers the opportunity to seek a more appropriate alternative venue for the delivery of the Flying Start childcare.
- 3.2 The current Portakabin building from which Flying Start childcare is currently delivered from is no longer fit for purpose and the provision is isolated on the Ynyscynon site, being that the upper school building is no longer in use, since the amalgamation of Ynyscynon infants and Pontrhondda Primary schools.
- 3.3 There is an opportunity to relocate the provision to a purpose built childcare setting at no cost to the Council, as these costs can be met from Flying Start Capital Grant monies available for 2018-19 providing the relocation is completed by 31st March 2019.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Currently Flying Start childcare provision is delivered from a temporary Portakabin on the site of the old Ynyscynon Nursery School. As the old Nursery school building has been unoccupied since November 2017, the childcare provision is isolated.

- 4.2 Whilst the provision meets the Care Inspectorate Wales childcare standards, the physical condition of the Portakabin is far from ideal and requires ongoing work to ensure the setting environment meets requirements. Without central heating the building generates significant running costs during the winter months.
- 4.3 The relocation of the Flying Start childcare provision would enable the Council to release the Ynyscynon site and invite expressions of interest from organisations and community groups wishing to pursue a community asset transfer.
- 4.4 The delivery of Flying Start childcare of 2.5 hours per day in either the morning or afternoon, for five days per week, 42 weeks per year, is governed by Welsh Government Guidance. The Flying Start Quality Childcare Guidance (2014) states that, *“Settings should be within “pram pushing” distance of the children’s home, where possible. For practical purposes this is 10-15 minutes maximum”*.

5. **RELOCATION**

- 5.1 Following Cabinet approval Officers from the Early Years and Family Support Service began the search for appropriate alternative accommodation within the Llwynypia area from which to deliver Flying Start childcare provision.
- 5.2 The search began by identifying Pontrhondda Primary School as the most ideal venue to site Flying Start provision. Whilst the school were positive about the possibility of childcare provision on site, further investigation found there was no suitable accommodation to house provision. However, during these discussions a piece of land on the Coleg y Cymoedd Campus was identified as having potential.
- 5.3 Initial discussions with Coleg y Cymoedd were positive who were keen to make links with Flying Start provision as the QCF, level 2, 3 & 5 Diploma in Children’s Care, Learning and Development, is delivered at the Campus. Having the Flying Start provision on site would provide an ideal opportunity for students to have hands on practice to support their learning in an appropriate CIW registered setting.
- 5.4 Most recent discussions have resulted in an outline agreement from Coleg y Cymoedd to site a wooden framed modular building on the Llwynypia Campus site for the delivery of Flying Start childcare provision, subject to Council’s confirmation they wish to pursue the relocation. The piece of land identified is just inside the main gates of the campus offering good security (with its own gate and fencing) and an ideal space to house a secure childcare provision.
- 5.5 The relocation to the Llwynypia Campus from the Ynyscynon site is a distance of approximately 0.6 miles and is a more central location within the Flying Start area, being next to Pontrhondda Primary School. Remaining within ‘pram pushing’ distance, this would provide more convenience for parents accessing Flying Start childcare and have children attending Pontrhondda Primary School.
- 5.6 Of children currently attending Ynyscynon Flying Start childcare, 14 children reside in the Pontrhondda catchment area and 6 children reside in the upper Trealaw catchment area. Those parents of children in the upper Trealaw catchment area will

continue to have the option to attend provision in either Llwynypia or Trealaw, depending on parental choice. This may also create a future opportunity for children from Ystrad to also access Flying Start provision delivered from the Coleg y Cymoedd campus.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (Public Sector Single Equality Duty) requires public authorities to demonstrate in decision making that they have paid 'due regard' to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

6.2 The United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child also requires the Council to demonstrate that decision making has paid due regard to the rights of children and young people.

6.3 An Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form has been prepared in respect of the relocation of Flying Start childcare provision in Llwynypia for the purposes of this report. The screening has identified that the proposed options have limited impact on children and families, therefore, a full Equality Impact Assessment would not be required. The screening form can be accessed by contacting the author of the report or the Cabinet Business Officer.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 Parents will be fully consulted on the look and feel of the new setting, both internally and externally.

7.2 Staff consultation would be carried out in accordance with the Council's statutory obligations and Managing Change policy. Staff and trade unions would be fully consulted at the appropriate time.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

8.1 As part of the secured Flying Start Capital Grant for 2018-19, £250,000 is available for the re-provision of the Ynyscynon playgroup on an alternative site, providing the relocation is completed by 31st March 2019.

8.2 Ongoing revenue costs of the new setting are likely to be less than current costs as the building should be more energy efficient and the footprint would be more compact than the large Ynyscynon Early Years Centre site, encompassing the previous school rooms.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

9.1 Under the Childcare Act 2006, section 22, the Council must, “secure, so far as it is reasonably practicable, that the provision of childcare (whether or not by it) is sufficient to meet the requirements of parents in their area who require childcare in order to enable them (a) to take up, or remain in work; or (b) to undertake education or training which would reasonably be expected to assist them to obtain work.”

9.2 The duties under the 2006 Act require the Council to shape and support the development of childcare provision in its area in order to make it flexible, sustainable and responsive to the needs of the community. The intention is to ensure that parents are able to access childcare locally that meets their needs and enables them to make a real choice about work. The effect of the wording “*reasonably practicable*” within the 2006 Act is to allow the Council to take into account its resources and capabilities in making decisions about when to intervene to address gaps in the childcare market.

9.3 The Council is not under a duty to provide the childcare directly (although it has the power to make provision if it so chooses). The Council is expected to support the development of childcare where there is sufficient parental demand in order that a childcare setting or a childminder could operate and be sustainable.

9.4 Cabinet must have regard to Welsh Government Guidance when considering its statutory duty under s.22 of the 2006 Act. The particular relevant points from the Guidance in addition to the matters already set out in the Statute itself, and of relevance for this report, state that:

- i. Local authorities should consider the particular issues around access to childcare for black and other ethnic minority parents, lone parents and those making the transition to work, including those training.
- ii. Local authorities will also need to consider availability of childcare to support parents working atypical hours.
- iii. Local authorities are required to secure childcare of sufficient duration and reliability to enable parents to make a real choice about work. Local authorities are required to act to secure sufficient childcare that is registered by the Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales (CSSIW).

9.5 As part of meeting the Council's statutory duties as regards childcare, the Council has prepared its Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) 2017-2022.

10. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT

10.1 This proposal links to the corporate priority of promoting independence and positive lives for everyone by ensuring that the Council continues to facilitate the delivery of high quality day nursery provision that ensures children of RCT receive a great start in life.

10.2 The relocation plans set out in this report offer the opportunity to provide a **long-term** plan for the delivery of Flying Start childcare in Llwynypia. Working in **collaboration** with Coleg y Cymoedd secures the creation of a brand new childcare setting and **involving** parents throughout the process will serve to **prevent** their potential anxieties regarding the relocation of the setting. The Llwynypia Campus provides the opportunities to engage parents in both informal and formal training and learning, encouraging an **integrated** approach to supporting local families.

10.3 This proposal contributes to the following well-being goals:

- **A prosperous Wales** – A new premises will be modern and more energy efficient. This will demonstrate a clear investment in the youngest, most vulnerable members of our community. The premises will be purposely designed to be Care Inspectorate Wales registrable and will take into account good practice in terms of free flow access from inside to outside.
- **A resilient Wales** – Moving the playgroup will reduce service isolation and generate a new feeling of community around the setting which is beneficial to both children and staff. Proximity to the college would encourage greater training links which would ensure that young people beginning their careers in childcare were exposed to the very highest quality standards in childcare delivery.
- **A healthier Wales** – The new premises would be well insulated and warm. Cleanliness would be assured due to new building methods which avoid areas for dirt build up.
- **A more equal Wales** – The youngest Flying Start children would be able to access a modern, purpose built childcare setting in the same way that older children can access modern, state of the art schools.
- **A Wales of cohesive communities** – Location of the playgroup between the college and Pontrhondda Primary School will generate the development of a new community network with children moving on to the school from the setting and young people from the college moving on to train and work in the setting. This would establish both a community network and ecosystem of opportunity. This would support the Community Hub concept by widening the horizon and aspirations of young people and communities through community networking and cohesion.
- **A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language** – With the high quality expectations of childcare that comes with Flying Start, the use of the Welsh language is standard practice and it is used frequently both in spoken and written language.
- **A globally responsible Wales** – new premises would be more energy efficient and would be better designed to ensure children are able to access outdoor learning spaces throughout their session.

11. CONCLUSION

- 11.1 This report has outlined the reasons for the decision to relocate the Flying Start Childcare provision in Llwynypia, from the current Ynyscynon site to the Coleg y Cymoedd Llwynypia campus.
- 11.2 The relocation of the Flying Start setting this financial year offers children a new and much improved childcare environment and parents a more central location with clear links to both Pontrhondda Primary School and Coleg y Cymoedd.

Other Information:-

Relevant Scrutiny Committee -

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Contact Officer –

Nia Thomas, Service Manager – Early Years and Family Support
