

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

Penderfyniad Allweddol | Key Decision ✓

PWNC | SUBJECT:

Council Run Nursery Provision – Market Testing to Inform Revised Service Delivery Arrangements

DIBEN YR ADRODDIAD | PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:

The purpose of the report is to approve a market testing exercise to be undertaken to inform revised service delivery arrangements for nursery provision that is currently provided by the Council.

PENDERFYNIAD WEDI'I DDIRPRWYO | DELEGATED DECISION:

It is recommended that:

Approval is granted to undertake a market testing exercise to inform revised service delivery arrangements for nursery provision that is currently provided by the Council.



Llofnod y Prif Swyddog
Chief Officer Signature

Paul Mee

Enw (priflythrennau)
Name (Print Name)

24.11.2022

Dyddiad
Date

Mae'r penderfyniad yn cael ei wneud yn unol ag Adran 15 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol 2000 (Swyddogaethau'r Corff Gweithredol) ac yn y cylich 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



24.11.2022

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

DYDDIAD | DATE

LLOFNOD SWYDDOG YMGYNGHOROL
CONSULTEE OFFICER SIGNATURE

DYDDIAD | DATE

WILL THIS DECISION HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE WARD?
A FYDD Y PENDERFYNIAD YMA'N CAEL EFFAITH AR Y WARD?

BYDD | YES x NA FYDD | NO ✓

Any further comments/Need for Local Member to be informed:
Unrhyw sylwadau pellach/Oes angen rhoi gwybod i'r Aelod Lleol?:

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:

YDY | YES NAC YDY | NO

Rheswm dros fod yn fater brys | Reason for Urgency:

.....

Os yw'n cael ei ystyried yn fater brys - llofnod y Llywydd, y Dirprwy Llywydd neu Bennaeth 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 Presiding Officer or Deputy Presiding Officer 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:

.....
(Llywydd | Presiding Officer)

.....
(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.

DYDDIADAU CYHOEDDI A GWEITHREDU | PUBLICATION & IMPLEMENTATION DATES

CYHOEDDI | PUBLICATION

Cyhoeddi ar Wefan y Cyngor | Publication on the Council's Website: - 24.11.2022

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.

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.

Yn amodol ar y drefn "Galw i Mewn", caiff y penderfyniad ei roi ar waith ar / Subject to Call In the implementation date will be

**30.11.2022
DYDDIAD / DATE**

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

Rhagor o wybodaeth | Further Information:

Cyfadran Directorate:	Children's Services
Enw'r Person Cyswllt Contact Name:	Zoe Lancelott
Swydd Designation:	Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience
Rhif Ffôn Telephone Number:	01443 281435

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

COUNCIL RUN NURSERY PROVISION – MARKET TESTING TO INFORM REVISED SERVICE DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS

24TH NOVEMBER 2022

REPORT OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER (CLLR RHYS LEWIS)

Author(s): Zoe Lancelott, Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to approve a market testing exercise to be undertaken to inform revised service delivery arrangements for nursery provision that is currently provided by the Council.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 Approval is granted to undertake a market testing exercise to inform revised service delivery arrangements for nursery provision that is currently provided by the Council.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To enable revised service delivery proposals to be finalised that will increase the availability of a range of childcare provision for families in local communities in line with the findings of the recent Childcare Sufficiency Assessment and support more efficient service delivery.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Traditionally the Flying Start programme has offered grant funded part time childcare places for families living in particular geographical areas. Parents of children in Flying Start eligible areas are entitled to one funded 2.5 hour session per day, 5 days per week, 39 weeks per year for their child from the term after their second birthday until the term after their third birthday.
- 4.2 As part of the regional Early Years Transformation Programme, a hybrid approach to the delivery of childcare is currently being employed in RCT. This comprises funded childcare places (2.5 hours a day – morning or afternoon sessions, 5 days a

week during term time) for children aged 2-3 years living in Flying Start postcode areas, and also the provision of short term funded childcare places for children outside of Flying Start postcode areas with an assessed need.

- 4.3 Currently the Council commissions 50 Flying Start settings across Rhondda Cynon Taf, of which 4 (8%) are operated by the Council i.e. nurseries based at Tylorstown, Penrhys, Aman and Pontypridd. For information, from 28th October 2022 Ynyscynon nursery transferred to a third-party childcare provider and further detail is included at section 5.6.
- 4.4 Over the past few years, there has been a reduction in the birth rate in Flying Start eligible postcode areas and as such, the number of children accessing Flying Start placements has subsequently declined in Penrhys and Ynyscynon. As a result, both settings have only operated on a part time basis (one session per day) for at least two years, and there is no evidence to indicate that this situation will change in the foreseeable future.
- 4.5 In addition to the delivery of Flying Start childcare, the setting in Pontypridd also operates as a day nursery providing full day care for a small number of fee paying children aged 0-8 years. As a day nursery, Pontypridd is open 7:30am – 6pm, 5 days per week 50-52 weeks per year (depending on parental demand). As such the staffing structure in Pontypridd differs from the other Flying Start settings and the nursery is staffed via two shifts per day (early and late). The day nursery provision is funded in part through charges made to families, the remaining cost is subsidised by the Council.
- 4.6 The provision of Flying Start childcare is managed by the Council, with places commissioned from private and third sector childcare providers. In line with the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2022-2032 priority to increase the number of children receiving nursery education through the medium of Welsh, the adoption of an approved suppliers list has enabled a flexible approach to the commissioning of Welsh medium childcare that is responsive to parental choice.
- 4.7 As a result of the pandemic and limited opportunities for young children and families to socialise during extended lockdown periods, many children are arriving in childcare settings displaying some element of developmental delay. The need to provide a range of local opportunities to enhance the personal and social development of their children has been identified as a priority and the availability of a range of high quality childcare provision locally is a key component to achieving this.
- 4.8 Earlier this year the Welsh Government announced additional funding to support the Flying Start Expansion Programme. The programme of work will see the roll out of Flying Start childcare for all children aged 2-3 years over the coming years. Whilst the Council is in a good position to facilitate this roll out, as a result of the hybrid approach in operation as part of the transformation pilot, it is essential that we prepare the external childcare sector to be able to meet the demand for places.
- 4.9 All Local Authorities in Wales have a responsibility under Section 26 of the Childcare Act 2006 to prepare Childcare Sufficiency Assessments (CSA's). This is to have a

clear understanding of the childcare provision in their area, the needs of parents/carers and to develop an action plan to address any gaps identified. [At the Cabinet meeting held on 18th July 2022](#) the [CSA was most recently considered and reviewed by Cabinet](#). The CSA identifies key strategic priorities for the provision of childcare services in RCT for the next five years. In relation to the areas in which the Council run nurseries are located, the CSA found a lack of out of school registered settings in all areas. It also highlighted a general trend in the last 5 years of sessional care providers having changed their CIW registration to full day care to accommodate wrap around services for nursery aged children.

5. **CURRENT SERVICE DELIVERY**

- 5.1 The Council employs a total of 27 term time staff, both part time and full time to staff the nurseries in Aman, Tylorstown, Penrhys and Pontypridd. This equates to 18.92 FTE posts. The level of staffing is compliant with CIW regulations for staff to child ratios and comprises of the following:

Nursery	Staff	Grade	FTE
Aman	Supervisor	GR8	0.95
	Deputy	GR5	0.94
	Childcare Worker	GR4	4.87
Total FTE			6.76
Tylorstown	Supervisor	GR8	0.95
	Deputy	GR5	0.88
	Childcare Worker	GR4	3.58
Total FTE			5.41
Penrhys	Supervisor	GR8	0.47
	Deputy	GR5	0.44
	Childcare Worker	GR4	0.91
			1.82
Pontypridd	Supervisor	GR8	0.88
	Deputy	GR5	1.48
	Childcare Worker	GR4	2.57
Total FTE			4.93

- 5.2 Below is a summary of occupancy levels for each nursery, showing the number of CIW registered places (this is the maximum number of children to be cared for at any one time and cannot be exceeded); the number of Flying Start commissioned places (each of which is a part-time place – either AM or PM session); and the number of part time places filled. The projected placement figures for Spring Term 2022-23 are based on the number of children living in the geographical area who will be eligible for a Flying Start place as a result of turning two during the Autumn Term (children are eligible for placement the term after their second birthday until the term after their third birthday).

AMAN FS	FS TERM1 Summer term 2021-22	FS TERM 2 Autumn Term 2022-23	FS TERM 3 Spring Term 2022-23
Number of CIW registered places	30 (AM) 30 (PM)	30 (AM) 30 (PM)	30 (AM) 30 (PM)
Number of Flying Start commissioned part time places	48	48	48
Number of part time places filled	36	29	31 (projected)

PENRHYS FS	FS TERM 1 Summer term 2021-22	FS TERM2 Autumn Term 2022-23	FS TERM 3 Spring Term 2022-23
Number of CIW registered places	12 (AM) 12 (PM)	12 (AM) 12 (PM)	12 (AM) 12 (AM)
Number of Flying Start commissioned part time places	12	12	12
Number of part time places filled	9	10	7 (projected)

TYLORSTOWN FS	FS TERM 1 Summer term 2021-22	FS TERM 2 Autumn Term 2022-23	FS TERM 3 Spring Term 2022-23
Number of CIW registered places	26 (AM) 26 (PM)	26 (AM) 26 (PM)	26 (AM) 26 (PM)
Number of Flying Start commissioned part time places	44	44	44
Number of part time places filled	29	31	32 (projected)

PONTYPRIDD FS	FS TERM 1 Summer term 2021-22	FS TERM 2 Autumn Term 2022-23	FS TERM 3 Spring Term 2022-23
Number of CIW registered places	19* (AM) 19* (PM)	19* (AM) 19* (PM)	19* (AM) 19* (PM)
Number of Flying Start commissioned part time places	12	12	12
Number of part time places filled	10	9	6 (projected)

* Please note - this number includes both Flying Start and Day Nursery children

- 5.3 As can be seen above, the occupancy rates vary between settings, however common across all settings are much lower occupancy rates than both Flying Start commissioned places and CIW registered places. This is attributable to the service delivery model of Flying Start only provision and the model's limited flexibility to meet the needs of families, especially working parents requiring full-time day care provision.
- 5.4 The table below provides a summary of the occupancy of the Council's fee paying day nursery at Pontypridd:

PONTYPRIDD DAY NURSERY	TERM 1 Summer term 2021-22	TERM 2 Autumn Term 2022-23	TERM 3 Spring Term 2022-23
Number of CIW registered places	19* (AM) 19* (PM)	19* (AM) 19* (PM)	19* (AM) 19* (PM)
Number of day nursery places available per day	4	4	4
Number of children registered at day nursery	11	11	6 (projected)

* Please note - this number includes both Flying Start and Day Nursery children

- 5.5 The current staffing arrangements support up to four day nursery children at any one time and the projected number of registered children falls by almost half next term. This will have an impact on the income generated through fee paying children.

TRANSFER OF YNYSCYNON NURSERY PROVISION

- 5.6 The Ynyscynon setting is a relatively new purpose built childcare facility within the grounds of Coleg Y Cymoedd in Llwynypia and despite being registered with CIW to operate two sessions per day for up to 26 children per session, the setting currently has on average only 17 children attending in any one day. As such the setting was operating as a part time provision, open to children in the mornings only.
- 5.7 The recent Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2022 identified the need for wrap around childcare and Childcare Offer places within the geographical area serviced by the nursery; however due to the staffing arrangements it would not have been sustainable for the Council to expand their own delivery to include these services without incurring additional financial cost.
- 5.8 The Council was approached by an existing third party commissioned childcare provider who expressed an interest in taking over the existing Flying Start service delivery and the day to day running of the Ynyscynon nursery setting. This also included the TUPE of existing Council staff team to the new provider on their existing terms and conditions, offering protection for staff.
- 5.9 Ynyscynon nursery formally transferred to the new provider on 28th October to deliver full time Flying Start provision to maintain continuity of provision for children already registered with the setting. The provider also has plans to further develop the setting and to expand provision to include full day care and wrap around services for the community. This will enable to setting to offer a range of flexible childcare options including Childcare Offer places for 3-4 year olds.

COMPARISON OF FEE CHARGES (PONTYPRIDD DAY NURSERY)

- 5.10 The current fee charges at Pontypridd Day Nursery are set at the following flat rate irrespective of the age of the child. Whilst not the most expensive in RCT, these rates are well above the average rate for RCT with the weekly rate between £25-£30 more than other day nursery settings in the Pontypridd area:

	Pontypridd	RCT Average (CSA 2022)	Variance
Weekly	£268.15	£221.57	+ £46.58
Full Day	£57.00	£47.85	+ £9.15
Half Day	£32.25	£30.27	+ £1.98

5.11 The above charges result in the Council subsidising the cost of running Pontypridd (fee paying) Day Nursery at a rate of **£17,897** per full time child place, per annum. Furthermore, this subsidy is likely to increase based on the projected demand for places (decreasing) from the Spring Term 2023.

6. **SERVICE DELIVERY OPTIONS**

6.1 The Council run nurseries in their current form offer limited flexibility to meet the range of childcare needs of families within the communities they serve.

6.2 There is also a need for the Council to ensure there are sufficient childcare places to facilitate the roll out of the Flying Start expansion programme to all 2-3 year olds in RCT in the coming years and to support the sector to prepare for this.

6.3 This presents an opportunity to review the current arrangements for the delivery of Council run nurseries and to consider revised service delivery options that will increase the availability of a range of childcare provision for families in local communities. In line with this, service delivery options for consideration are as follows:

6.3.1 **Option 1** - Retain the status quo

Risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The flexibility of provision to meet childcare needs of parents in the locality will remain limited in the four settings i.e. working parents, wrap around care • Reduced opportunity to increase capacity in the sector to facilitate the roll out of the Flying Start Expansion programme • Potential increase in day nursery fees for fee paying children in order to maintain the Council's current level of subsidy
Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No impact on staff • No impact on children and families

6.3.2 **Option 2** – Retain Flying Start provision in all four nurseries and cease the delivery of day nursery provision at Pontypridd

Risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The flexibility of provision to meet childcare needs of parents in the locality will remain limited in the four settings • Reduced opportunity to increase capacity in the sector to facilitate the roll out of the Flying Start Expansion programme • Day nursery registered children currently attending Pontypridd will be required to secure alternative provision • Impact on day nursery staff at Pontypridd
Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuity of provision for Flying Start registered children • No impact on Flying Start staff • YMa developments due to be completed by the end of the year that will see a new day nursery opening in the area, providing an alternative setting for children that currently attend Pontypridd Nursery • Improve / strengthen financial viability of local third sector day nursery providers. • Potential reduction of fees for parents and families seeking alternative day nursery provision. • Eliminate the Council's subsidy of non-statutory day nursery provision as part of ensuring the continued efficient use of public funds

6.3.3 **Option 3** - Retain the three Flying Start nurseries in Aman, Tylorstown and Penrhys and seek a third party provider to take over the running of Pontypridd Nursery

Risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securing a third party provider to take over the running of the Pontypridd Nursery • The flexibility of Flying Start only provision to meet childcare needs of parents in the locality will remain limited in Aman, Tylorstown and Penrhys • Reduced opportunity to increase capacity in the sector to facilitate the roll out of the Flying Start Expansion programme in Aman Tylorstown and Penrhys
Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal impact on staff at Pontypridd as they will be TUPE protected and continue to work in the sector, and no impact on Flying Start staff • Increased opportunity to extend the range of provision available in the Pontypridd area and increase capacity in the sector • Continuity of provision for children / families • Improve / strengthen financial viability of local third sector day nursery providers. • Potential reduction of fees for parents and families seeking alternative day nursery provision. • Eliminate the Council's subsidy of non-statutory day nursery provision as part of ensuring the continued efficient use of public funds

6.3.4 **Option 4** - Seek third party providers to take over the running of all four Council run nursery settings

Risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securing external providers to take over the running of the existing 4 nursery settings
Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal impact on staff as they will be TUPE protected and continue to work in the sector • Increased opportunity to extend the range of provision available in all four areas and increase capacity in the sector to facilitate the roll out of the Flying Start Expansion programme • Increased flexibility to meet childcare needs of parents in all four localities • Continuity of provision for children / families • Improve / strengthen financial viability of local third sector day nursery providers. • Potential reduction of fees for parents and families seeking alternative day nursery provision • Eliminate the Council's subsidy of non-statutory day nursery provision as part of ensuring the continued efficient use of public funds

6.4 In view of the opportunities outlined in the options analysis above, to increase the availability of a range of childcare options for families in local communities, the proposed preferred option is **Option 4** – Seek third party providers to take over the running of all four Council run nursery settings. To assess the capacity and capability of local providers to deliver the proposed preferred option, it is recommended that a market testing exercise is undertaken the results of which will inform next steps and decision-making arrangements.

7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY

7.1 Subject to agreement to undertake a market testing exercise and consideration of results to inform a proposed way forward, equality, diversity and socio-economic duty implications will be considered at this stage.

8. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Subject to agreement to undertake a market testing exercise and consideration of results to inform a proposed way forward, Welsh language implications will be considered at this stage.

9. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT

9.1 There are no consultation requirements as a result of the recommendation in the report.

10. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

10.1 The estimated financial implications of each option is as follows:

Options		Estimated Full Year Saving (£k)
1	Retain the Status Quo	0
2	Retain Flying Start provision in all four nurseries and cease the delivery of day nursery provision at Pontypridd	72
3	Retain the three Flying Start nurseries in Aman, Tylorstown and Penrhys and seek a third party provider to take over the running of Pontypridd Nursery	88
4	Seek a third party provider to take over the running of all four Council run nursery settings.	322

11. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

- 11.1 Under the Childcare Act 2006, section 22, the Council must, “secure, so far as it 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.”
- 11.2 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.
- 11.3 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.
- 11.4 Regard must be given 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)

11.5 As part of meeting the Council's statutory duties as regards childcare, the Council has prepared its Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) 2022-2027. Members will be familiar with the contents of this document which was approved by Cabinet on 18th July 2022.

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

12.1 The provision of Flying Start childcare contributes to the Council's corporate priority that People are independent, healthy and successful, by improving services for children and young people and ensuring the needs of children are considered in everything we do by:

- working in partnership with Welsh Government, strive to reduce child poverty, providing services that encourage and build resilience of children and their families.

12.2 This provision also supports the Council to contribute to all of the seven well-being goals:-

- **A prosperous Wales:** children who receive support at the earliest opportunity are more prepared for adulthood and achieving prosperous futures.
- **A resilient Wales:** children who are given every opportunity to meet their developmental milestones and overcome barriers to developing skills are prepared with the space to grow and the tools to build resilience throughout life.
- **A healthier Wales:** access to high quality childcare supports children to meet their developmental milestones and develop social skills, enhancing their emotional wellbeing.
- **A more equal Wales:** by delivering a full range of childcare provision in all localities to meet the needs of children and parents ensures that children and families have access to high quality childcare irrespective of where they live.
- **A Wales of cohesive Communities:** access to services that are not restricted to particular communities promotes equality and harmony across communities and the means to share community resources in order to be responsive to need and build resilience.
- **A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language:** children who are given the freedom to progress through the early years in the language of their

choice learn to be tolerant and accepting, preparing them for a multi-racial, globalised adult world.

- **A globally responsible Wales:** children who have access to high quality childcare opportunities are afforded experiences that prepare them to be globally responsible adults.

13. STRATEGIC OR RELEVANT TO ELECTORAL WARDS

13.1 The recommendation aims to inform revised service delivery arrangements that will increase the availability of a range of childcare provision for families in local communities, with facilities based in the wards of Aberaman, Pontypridd and Tylorstown / Ynyshir.

14. CONCLUSION

14.1 The report provides details of the current arrangements for the delivery of childcare provision at the four Council run nurseries alongside proposed revised service delivery options for consideration.

14.2 The report recommends a market testing exercise is undertaken to assess the capacity and capability of local providers to deliver the proposed preferred option and to inform next steps.

Other Information:-

Relevant Scrutiny Committee
Community Services Scrutiny Committee

Contact Officer
Zoe Lancelott, Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

24th NOVEMBER 2022

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DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER (CLLR RHYS LEWIS)**

**COUNCIL RUN NURSERY PROVISION – MARKET TESTING TO INFORM REVISED
SERVICE DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS**

Relevant Scrutiny Committee

Community Services Scrutiny Committee

Background Papers

18th July 2022 - 2022 CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT -
<https://rctcbc.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s36042/Report.pdf?LLL=0>

Officer to contact

Zoe Lancelott, Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience