

THE CABINET 27/06/17

Present-

Councillors: Dyfrig L. Siencyn, Mair Rowlands, Gareth Wyn Griffith, Peredur Jenkins, Dafydd Meurig, Dilwyn Morgan, W. Gareth Roberts, Gareth Thomas and Ioan Thomas

Also present:

1. APOLOGIES

Cabinet Members and Officers were welcomed to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Cllr Craig ab Iago and Dilwyn Williams (Chief Executive)

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Councillor Dilwyn Morgan declared an interest in item 6 as he had a grandson who attended one of the schools in the Bala catchment area. It was a prejudicial interest.

3. URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

There were no matters arising from overview and scrutiny

5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2017

The Chairman signed the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 6 June 2017, as a true record.

6. FUTURE OF EDUCATIONAL PROVISION IN THE BERWYN CATCHMENT-AREA

RESOLVED

- I. Withdraw the proposal to establish a Voluntary Controlled 3-19

- Learning Campus (VC, Church in Wales) in accordance with section 55 (5) of the (2013) Schools Standards and Organisation Act 2013.
- II. Request a further report with a recommendation for September 2017 to submit an alternative model for consultation which addresses and corresponds with the requirements of the Business Case approved by the Government.
 - III. Delegate to the Cabinet Member for Education the right to hold a pre-consultation with the Church in Wales in accordance with the School Organisation Code 2013 and report on the results to the Cabinet in September 2017.

DISCUSSION

The report was submitted to the Cabinet noting that the intention of submitting the report was to report back. In March 2016, the Cabinet agreed on the recommendation to consult with school governing bodies in the Berwyn catchment area on the option of withdrawing the proposal to establish a Voluntary Controlled 3-19 learning Campus. It was noted that the consultation work with the governing bodies had been completed and the responses from the six schools supported the current proposal to withdraw the application.

It was clearly noted that these matters were governance and managerial matters regarding a change in the school's status. It was also emphasised that the construction work was ongoing and was following the timetable set. It was expressed that the change in the school's status would not impact the Business Case submitted to the Welsh Government, and that it was a technical matter to change the School's status.

It was added that the Church had respected the opinion of the Governors and had written a letter and had noted that they accepted that the governing bodies of the Bala catchment area were not supportive of the current proposal. It was emphasised that their main priority was the needs of the pupils and, as a result, agreed with the Governing Bodies' request regarding the status of the new 3-19 learning campus.

Observations from the discussion

- It was noted that it was good news that the church had shown support for the application and that there was an agreement across the table.
- It was expressed that it was good news that the construction work was ongoing and that the building would be ready in accordance with the timetable.
- It was added that the campus would be a large investment in children's future education in the Berwyn catchment area.

7. PROVISION OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE IN GWYNEDD

RESOLVED

- i. Achieve the cut of £244,000 in the service by delivering the Partnership Scheme with Town and Community Councils in order to keep the majority of the County's existing public toilets open for the future.
- ii. Close those toilets for which the community has no intention or interest in contributing to a partnership by 1 October 2017.

DISCUSSION

The report was submitted to the Cabinet as the item had been discussed for over a year. Following the Gwynedd Challenge consultation, in March 2016, the Full Council recommended a cut which involved closing 50 of the 73 public toilets in the county. Following this, the Communities Scrutiny Committee recommended that the Cabinet adapted the decision; first of all, by establishing partnerships with the local communities in order to avoid closing the facilities whilst achieving the same amount of savings.

It was noted that in implementing the Partnerships Scheme, it was anticipated that at least 51 toilets would be kept open through the Town and Community Councils' support and co-operation. It was emphasised that the cut would need to be realised and that the toilets would need to be closed where the community had no intention or interest in contributing with partnerships. It was noted that it was intended to continue discussing with the Town and Community Councils until October in order to create the partnerships to attempt to keep more toilets open.

It was reported that there was one change to the appendix that discussions were still ongoing in Penygroes. It was added that a petition had been received from Tywyn that had been signed by 1,000 people.

Observations from the discussion

- It was noted that it was very positive that so many town and community councils were willing to become partnerships and work together for the service to continue.
- It was emphasised that the situation looked much better compared to March 2016, and it was noted that it was commendable to see Community Councils that were willing to work in a different way.

It was noted that the input of the Communities Scrutiny Committee should be praised in leading the drive to keep the toilets open

8. SAFEGUARDING AND THE ROLE OF THE STRATEGIC SAFEGUARDING PANEL

RESOLVED

Approve the expansion of the Strategic Safeguarding Panel's field of work including requirements on the Authority involving counter terrorism, modern slavery, domestic violence and community safety.

Delegate the right to the Strategic Safeguarding Panel to review and agree necessary changes to the Corporate Safeguarding Policy arising from adopting the changes to the terms of reference.

DISCUSSION

The report was submitted to the Cabinet and the importance of the work within the Council was emphasised. Current safeguarding arrangements and specifically the corporation's responsibility to undertake the safeguarding duty had been in place for approximately four years. The panel had been making good progress in terms of awareness and understanding of safeguarding issues across the Council. It was noted simply that the report asked for permission to expand the panel's scope. It

was emphasised that it was time for this as there were changes in terms of regional arrangements and legislative changes that were currently happening.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- It was noted that this was an opportunity to take advantage of extending responsibilities and reducing duplication in the field of safeguarding.
- The difference between the Safeguarding Strategic Panel and the Operational Safeguarding Panel was discussed, and it was noted that the officers of the public were part of the operational panel in order to ensure that the work was being carried out.
- Pride was expressed regarding the comment in relation to safeguard children and vulnerable adults and that the role of the staff within the Council had been highlighted.

9. STRATEGIC SAFEGUARDING PANEL'S ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

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7. STRATEGIC SAFEGUARDING PANEL'S ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

The report was submitted by Cllr Dilwyn Morgan

DECISION

An annual report on the work of the Strategic Safeguarding Children and Adults Panel was accepted.

DISCUSSION

The report was submitted to the Cabinet with the intention of updating what had been achieved by the Strategic Safeguarding Panel during the year. Cllr Mair Rowlands was thanked for chairing and Cllr Gareth Thomas and Cllr W. Gareth Roberts were thanked for being members of the Panel.

It was noted that good work had been made in raising staff awareness of the work of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. In addition, it was emphasised that inspections from external bodies had noted a growth in the panel's work. The future aim of the panel was discussed, and everyone was thanked for bringing additional fields that needed attention into the panel's work and agenda.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- The idea that the item should have a place on the Council agenda in order for all members to be aware of the panel's work was welcomed.
- A question was asked about the exciting changes that CSSIW had noted – and what these changes were. It was emphasised that this was a result of changes in the field of adults due to growth in referrals through investing in a team that would ensure quality.

The meeting commenced at 13:00 and concluded at 13:45

CHAIRMAN