

GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	9 November 2021
Date decision will come into force - The decision is final under paragraph 7.25.1(ch) and it is not subject to be called-in.	9 November 2021

SUBJECT

Item 4: MATTERS ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – YSGOL ABERSOCH

DECISION

Resolved not to amend the decision made on 28 September 2021 and to finally confirm the proposal issued through statutory notice to close Ysgol Abersoch on 31 December 2021, and to provide a place for the pupils at Ysgol Sarn Bach from 1 January 2022 in accordance with Section 53 of the School Standards and Organisation Act (Wales) 2013 and the requirements of the School Organisation Code 011/2018.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

On 28 September 2021, the Cabinet resolved to finally confirm the proposal issued through statutory notice to close Ysgol Abersoch on 31 December 2021, and to provide a place for the pupils at Ysgol Sarn Bach from 1 January 2022 in accordance with Section 53 of the School Standards and Organisation Act (Wales) 2013 and the requirements of the School Organisation Code 011/2018.

After this decision was published, it was called in for scrutiny by the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee because of concerns that "the report did not give consideration to the future of housing and employment that will come into force in the Village". In accordance with paragraph 7.25 of the Scrutiny Standing Rules, the Committee decided at its meeting on 21 October 2021 to refer the matter back to the Cabinet for reconsideration, highlighting the matters below:

- a) A new development to construct a new hotel that would create a minimum of 40 full-time posts in the area - employees and their families would need resources, including education for our children.
 - b) Welsh Government, Gwynedd Council's Housing and Property Department and a Housing Association (which owns land in the village) are currently exploring the potential to construct more homes - Welsh Government has stated that a grant is available to develop this land to potentially construct 15 homes. The Housing Association has confirmed that plans have already been drawn up for the Bryn Garmon site.
 - c) There is no mention in the report of the new plan by the Housing and Property Department and nothing about the developments underway in the Village and therefore, by not doing so, the Education Department has not responded to the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act."
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DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

A declaration of interest was received from Cllr Dewi Roberts as he was a member of the Governing Body of Ysgol Abersoch.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which were included in the report.

GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	9 November 2021
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SUBJECT

Item 6: MOTOR HOMES REPORT

DECISION

The report was accepted and the following was approved:

- I. To authorise the Head of Environment Department, in consultation with the Head of Education and Community to hold a pilot project to use up to six of the Council's parking sites (or part of the sites) within the Gwynedd Planning Authority Area, to provide facilities for motor homes to stay overnight, including the designation of the locations, but subject to securing capital funding and necessary permissions.
 - II. That a further report on the outcomes of the pilot are submitted to the Cabinet within three years.
 - III. Give consideration to and take enforcement measures to accompany the above.
 - IV. Present the research to the Welsh Government and ask them to review the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960.
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REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Taking account of the vast numbers of motor home users who have been visiting the County recently and over the past few years, and the concerns raised by the area's communities, it was agreed that it would be useful to carry out some research into the situation in Gwynedd.

The research work has been completed and contains an evidence base that offers a better understanding of the situation locally and further afield. The research also highlights the need for measures to better manage the motor homes sector in the County, and we believe that the decision sought can contribute towards this.

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which were included in the report.

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SUBJECT

Item 7: COMMITTEES FRAMEWORK

DECISION

Resolved to adopt the arrangements for Cabinet meetings in the future with the start date to be determined by the Leader in consultation with the Head of Democracy Services and Monitoring Officer, and after the current restrictions are lifted.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 requirements places a duty for holding multi-location or virtual meetings. The Council is required to adopt and publish arrangements to achieve this. The Cabinet has the right to determine arrangements for its meetings within the relevant legal requirements.

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which were included in the report.

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SUBJECT

Item 8: PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND PROPERTY

DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In order to ensure effective and transparent performance management, Cabinet Members are required to report periodically on the performance of the field for which they are responsible to the Cabinet.

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which were included in the report.

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SUBJECT

Item 9: EDUCATION DIGITAL STRATEGY

DECISION

- I. The Education Digital Strategy was approved in its entirety.
 - II. It was agreed to joint-fund up to half the cost of renewing the devices by committing £2 million from Council balances, with an expectation for schools to pay the other half.
 - III. It was agreed that Gwynedd schools will receive technical support from the Authority's Information Technology service from April 2022 onwards
 - IV. It was agreed to fund £145,000 in order to offer technical support up to April 2022, in order to speed-up the timetable of delivering the devices to schools.
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REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In light of revising the curriculum, digital competence is a statutory responsibility across all learning areas and needs to be considered in all aspects when designing and introducing the curriculum. Digital learning is not just a vision for the future, it is the present, and unless we plan positive measures to introduce a digital provision of the highest quality consistently throughout the education system, we will live with a provision that is only suitable for the past.

The work of developing the strategy began before the pandemic. During the extended periods where schools were closed to face-to-face learning, we saw a significant increase in schools' use of technology. Those times highlighted the need for a digital education strategy, with inconsistent experiences stemming from a lack of investment in suitable devices for children and teachers, along with inconsistency in the skills and confidence of our education workforce.

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which were included in the report.

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SUBJECT

Item 11: THE SCHOOLS IT STRATEGY AND CWMNI CYNNAL

DECISION

- I. The proposed way forward in relation to the future of Cynnal was approved.
 - II. Delegated powers were granted to the Head of Finance Department in consultation with the Head of Legal Service to negotiate such contracts that are reasonably required to facilitate the procedure.
 - III. A request was made for a follow-up report to the Cabinet to approve the distribution and transfer matters agreed upon.
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REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Cabinet's decision to approve and implement the Education Digital Strategy subsequently impacts Cynnal. This report noted the proposed way forward in response to this impact and sought an agreement so that the detailed work and discussions with the company can be commenced.

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

A declaration of interest was received from Cllr Cemlyn Williams and Garem Jackson as they were directors of Cynnal and they left the meeting.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which were included in the report.
