

CABINET CYNGOR GWYNEDD



Meeting Date:	19 May 2026
Cabinet Member:	Cllr. Dewi Jones
Relevant Officer:	Gwern ap Rhisiart – Head of Education
Item Title:	Ysgol Baladeulyn – Consultation Report

Report to Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet Meeting

1. THE DECISION SOUGHT

- 1.1 The Cabinet is requested to consider the contents of the report on the outcome of the statutory consultation (Consultation Report) on the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn on 31 December 2026 and provide a place for learners at Ysgol Talysarn from 1 January 2027, and approve the publication of a statutory notice on the proposal, in accordance with the requirements of Section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

2 THE REASON FOR THE NEED FOR A DECISION

- 2.1 The attached consultation report (Appendix A) sets out the outcomes of the statutory consultation held on the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn on 31 December 2026 and provide a place for learners at Ysgol Talysarn from 1 January 2027 onwards. The Cabinet is asked to consider the contents of the consultation report, and approve the issuing of a statutory notice on the proposal and to hold a 28-day formal objection period, in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code.
- 2.2 The need for a decision derives from the school's vulnerable position, with low learner numbers for some time, a high percentage of surplus places, high costs per learner, and reliance on additional protection funding. Projections show that the numbers will remain low over the next few years.

3. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Ysgol Baladeulyn is a Category 3 Welsh-medium primary school, located in the village of Nantlle. The school provides education for learners between 3 and 11 years old.
- 3.2 At the January 2026 PLASC census point, there were 6 Reception to Year 6 learners on Ysgol Baladeulyn's register, with a capacity for 55 learners at the school. As a result, there were 49 surplus places in the school, equivalent to 89% of the school's capacity. The school also has capacity for 7 learners in the Nursery class, and there were 2 Nursery learners on register, leaving 5 surplus places in the Nursery class.
- 3.3 Due to the current low numbers, the school is in a vulnerable position and is facing numerous increasing challenges, including:
 - **Low number of learners** – January 2026 data indicated that there were 6 full-time learners and 2 Nursery learners attending Ysgol Baladeulyn.
 - **High percentage of surplus places** – With 6 learners (Reception to Year 6) on the school's register, and a capacity for 55, there are 49 surplus places at the school, which equates to 89% of the

school's capacity. The school also has capacity for 7 learners in the Nursery class; therefore with 2 Nursery class learners on the register, there are also a further 5 surplus places in the Nursery class. Consequently, when combining Nursery - Year 6 capacity and numbers, Ysgol Baladeulyn has 54 surplus places (87%).

- **Very small class sizes and a broad age range** – In Ysgol Baladeulyn (September 2025), there is one single class that includes every learner at the school – namely 6 learners from Reception to Year 6 (Reception, Yr.1 and 2, and Yr. 4 and 5) together with 2 Nursery class learners. Within this class, different groups are formed at various times of the day, with teaching assistants leading activities for the youngest learners. Therefore, this means there is an age range of up to 8 years within the whole class.
- **Projected numbers** – Projections from September 2025 suggest that the number of learners will remain low over the next three years, with an estimated 7 learners from Reception to Year 6 and 1 Nursery learner on the register by September 2028.
- **Catchment-area learners** – January 2026 data shows that 8 children live within the Baladeulyn catchment area. Of these, 25% (2 children) choose to attend Ysgol Baladeulyn, while 75% (6 children) choose to attend schools outside the catchment area.
- **Ysgol Baladeulyn receives an additional sum to the core financial allocation** – Ysgol Baladeulyn receives an additional amount to the usual allocation via the minimum staffing protection policy (which ensures at least a headteacher and a teacher at each school, and a headteacher and an assistant in schools with fewer than 15 full-time learners). The total additional funding for the 2026–27 financial year (based on the numbers in September 2025) will be £74,446.
- **Average cost per learner** – The average cost per learner at Ysgol Baladeulyn in 2026–27 will be £25,123, compared with a county average of £5,998.

3.4 During 2025, the Ysgol Baladeulyn Review Panel (SRP) was established, with representation from the governing body, parents, staff and a Local Member. A series of three SRP meetings were held to discuss the challenges facing the school and to identify options for the school's future. A wide range of options were discussed, which were evaluated and assessed against the factors of the "Excellent Primary Education for the Children of Gwynedd" Strategy and the relevant factors from the School Organisation Code 011/2018.

3.5 On 14 October 2025, a proposal paper was submitted to Cabinet, recommending that a statutory consultation be held on the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn. The Cabinet approved this proposal, noting the need to respond to the school's vulnerable position regarding low numbers, high costs and long-term sustainability of the school.

4. THE STATUTORY CONSULTATION

4.1 In accordance with the Cabinet's decision on 14 October 2025, a statutory consultation was held on the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn on 31 December 2026 and provide places for learners at Ysgol Talysarn from 1 January 2027 onwards. The consultation was held between 10 December 2025 and 28 January 2026, ensuring compliance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code (011/2018).

4.2 A statutory consultation document, an impact assessment pack (including impact assessments on the Welsh language, the community, equality, various travel arrangements, quality and standards of education, and the Well-being of Future Generations Act), a background pack, response forms, and consultation document and questionnaires for children and young people were published on the Council's website. The documentation was distributed to all relevant consultees via e-mail, which included a link to a dedicated page on the Council's website: [Statutory Consultation: Ysgol Baladeulyn](#). Hard copies were supplied upon request.

4.3 Consultees were invited to respond to the consultation by either completing an on-line response form, a paper or electronic copy (PDF), or via e-mail/letter.

4.4 A drop-in session during the consultation period was held for Ysgol Baladeulyn staff, parents, and governors. The purpose of the session was to share information about the proposal and the consultation process, and provide an opportunity for stakeholders to ask questions about the proposal and the process. 12 people attended the drop-in session.

4.5 Separate consultation sessions were conducted for representatives of learners from Ysgol Baladeulyn and Ysgol Talysarn, with an independent facilitator holding the sessions. The purpose of these sessions was to gather the views of the learners about the proposal. A children and young people-friendly version of the consultation document was available on the Council's website to ensure that every learner had the opportunity to contribute, even if they had not attended the session at their school. A report on the matters that arose during the consultation with children and young people has been included in Section 3 of the consultation report (Appendix A).

4.6 Responses to the Consultation

4.7 A total of 30 written responses to the statutory consultation were received, including a response from Estyn. This figure does not include the feedback gathered from learners during the consultation sessions.

4.8 Estyn's full response has been included in the Consultation Report (Appendix A).

4.9 Summary of the Consultation Findings

4.10 The consultation report (Appendix A) provides a full summary of the issues raised by the consultees and the Council's response to those issues. Listed below are the main issues that arose in the responses to the statutory consultation, and a more detailed consideration of each issue can be found in the Consultation Report.

1. COMMENTS ABOUT THE SCHOOL

- 1.1 Quality of Education
- 1.2 Support for learners with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)
- 1.3 A Welsh ethos
- 1.4 Behaviour and Inclusion
- 1.5 Experiences beyond the classroom
- 1.6 Developing Responsibility and Confidence
- 1.7 The advantages of a small school (such as Ysgol Baladeulyn)
- 1.8 Family support

2. COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL

- 2.1 Objections to the Proposal
- 2.2 A call to keep the school open
- 2.3 In favour of the proposal
- 2.4 A call to reconsider the proposal
- 2.5 Comments on the legal status and ownership of the school

3. IMPACT ON LEARNERS

- 3.1 Emotional and well-being impact
- 3.2 Impact of moving to a larger school
- 3.3 Impact on education
- 3.4 Social Opportunities
- 3.5 Losing small school benefits
- 3.6 Impact on vulnerable learners

4. THE WELSH LANGUAGE

- 4.1 Positive comments about the current Welsh language provision
- 4.2 Concern that the proposal would have a negative impact on Welsh education
- 4.3 Impact of the proposal on Welsh in the community
- 4.4 Concern when comparing the number of Welsh-speaking learners in Talysarn and Nantlle
- 4.5 Mitigation measures to safeguard the Welsh language and reduce detrimental impacts
- 4.6 Positive Impact of the Proposal on the Welsh language

5. ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

- 5.1 Staff continuity and ALN support
- 5.2 The impact of a larger school on children with ALN
- 5.3 Well-being, confidence and safety of ALN learners
- 5.4 Increasing demand for ALN provision

6. TRANSPORT, TRAVEL AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Walking, cycling and learners' independence
- 6.2 Transport to Ysgol Talysarn
- 6.3 Concerns regarding travel safety
- 6.4 The impact of further travel on learners' well-being
- 6.5 Lack of public transport
- 6.6 Challenges for families who do not drive
- 6.7 Transport for children under 5 years old
- 6.8 General comments about transport

7. THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES

- 7.1 Family and multi-generational connections
- 7.2 Community Identity and Local Pride
- 7.3 Impact of the proposal on the viability of the community
- 7.4 Community life and social connections
- 7.5 Attracting young families to the village
- 7.6 Comments about the school's role in the village
- 7.7 Impact on families in the community

8. CAPACITY, LOCAL DEMOGRAPHY AND CATCHMENT ARRANGEMENT

- 8.1 Current capacity and impact of developments
- 8.2 Local demography
- 8.3 Catchment arrangements

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Argument against the proposal based on cost
- 9.2 Financial and Cost per Head Inconsistencies across County Schools

10. COMMENTS ON THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENTATION AND THE STATUTORY PROCESS

- 10.1 Sufficiency of impact assessments in general
- 10.2 Community Impact Assessment
- 10.3 Welsh Language Impact Assessment
- 10.4 Engaging and communicating with parents as part of the statutory process
- 10.5 Equality Impact Assessment

11. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 11.1 Keeping the school open (status quo)

- 11.2 Promote and strengthen small schools
- 11.3 Federalisation with ALN provision
- 11.4 Shared leadership
- 11.5 Modify the proposal for the benefit of the Welsh Language
- 11.6 ALN specialist provision
- 11.7 Other alternative options received

5. PRESUMPTION AGAINST THE CLOSURE OF A RURAL SCHOOL

- 5.1 The School Organisation Code 011/2018 introduced new arrangements, in particular in relation to rural schools, thus establishing a procedural presumption against closure. This does not mean that a rural school can never close, but that the case for closure must be strong and all viable alternatives to closure must have been conscientiously considered. Ysgol Baladeulyn is designated as a 'rural school' for the purposes of the Code. This means that a more detailed series of procedures and requirements must be followed when developing a proposal to close.
- 5.2 As reported to the Cabinet on 14 October 2025, additional specific assessments were held, in accordance with the requirements of the Code, in relation to the option to close a rural school and the other reasonable options that have been identified. The Code also sets out special requirements in relation to the preparation of the report following a statutory consultation period. It is therefore a requirement to undertake further assessments, specifically on:
- The likely impact on the quality and standards of education
 - The likely impact on the community
 - The likely impact on different transport arrangements.
- 5.3 The purpose of this further assessment is to consider any additional information that came to light as a result of the consultation or otherwise. Following the consultation period, a further assessment of the proposal and other reasonable options was undertaken, taking into account any further information received that related to the responses during the consultation. A summary of these assessments can be found in Section 7 of the Consultation Report (Appendix A), and the full impact assessments in Appendix C.

6. FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 In addition to the impact assessments held in accordance with the specific 'a presumption against the closure of rural schools' guidance, several other impact assessments were carried out and updated following the statutory consultation. These assessments are included as part of the Impact Assessments appendix (Appendix C), and their conclusions are summarised below.
- 6.2 Welsh Language Impact Assessment
- 6.3 An impact assessment was held on the Welsh language, and the assessment was revised following the statutory consultation. The full assessment can be found in Appendix C.
- 6.4 During the consultation, concerns were expressed about the possible impact of the closure of Ysgol Baladeulyn on the community use of the Welsh language within the village. Numerous respondents emphasised the role of the school in integrating new families, including some from English speaking backgrounds, into the Welsh-speaking life of the village. It was emphasised that the school contributes significantly to the use of the Welsh language in informal contexts, such as social meetings, play after school and interaction between parents and residents. Concern was expressed that the loss of the school could undermine the local linguistic ecosystem, leading to a gradual reduction in community use of the Welsh language.

6.5 The Council acknowledges the concerns raised regarding the role of Ysgol Baladeulyn in supporting the community use of the Welsh language within the village, and accepts that the comments highlight the possible detrimental impact on local linguistic vitality outside the formal educational provision.

6.6 However, based on the information available, the Council's view is that the proposal is not likely to have a negative impact on Welsh-medium educational provision or on learners' linguistic opportunities, for the following reasons:

- The January 2026 PLASC data shows that 29% of learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn speak Welsh fluently at home, compared with 37% of learners at Ysgol Talysarn.
- The proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn) means that learners in the Nantlle catchment area would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium school.
- It is anticipated that the learners would be taught in larger classes and with more children from the same age group, and that the proposal would strengthen opportunities for learners to socialise in Welsh with a wider group of peers.

6.7 Given the above, if the proposal were to be implemented, it is anticipated that there would be more opportunities for learners in the Nantlle catchment area to use Welsh informally with their peers inside and outside the classroom, and that the vitality of the Welsh language and informal use of the language would strengthen.

6.8 At the same time, given the comments from the consultation, the Council recognises that the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn could have a potential negative impact on the use of Welsh within the local community, particularly in terms of its use as a community language outside the educational context; however, it is noted that consideration could be given to mitigation measures, by promoting the use of Welsh by involving the Nantlle community in the alternative school's community activities, as well as considering suitable options for the future use of the school building, taking into consideration the community activities currently held there.

6.9 In the educational context, given the above, it is anticipated that if the proposal were to be implemented, there would be increased opportunities for learners in the Nantlle catchment area to use Welsh informally with their peers both inside and outside the classroom, and that the vitality of the Welsh language would be strengthened.

6.10 Equality Impact Assessment

6.11 An equality impact assessment was carried out on the proposal, and the assessment was revised following the statutory consultation. The full assessment can be found in Appendix C.

6.12 The assessment gives specific consideration to different equality elements such as race, gender, disability, language, religion or belief, and age. The assessment sets out the current situation and shows that policies and arrangements are in place that would ensure that the proposal takes account of and aligns with equal rights.

6.13 As noted in the most recent assessment, during the statutory consultation, several specific equality-related concerns were identified, particularly in relation to vulnerable children, learners with additional learning needs, and families experiencing socio-economic disadvantage. Concerns were expressed that moving some learners to a larger school could reduce the level of personal support available to them, and that travel distance, transport costs or lack of access to private transport could disproportionately affect some families. It was also noted that the loss of the school could undermine opportunities for people to use Welsh as a living, practical language in the everyday life of the community.

6.14 The assessment notes that the Council acknowledges the issues raised and emphasises that equality and inclusion policies are already in operation within the current provision and at Ysgol Talysarn. In addition, it is noted that the Council is committed to ensuring that any transition arrangements prioritise individual needs, including those of vulnerable children and learners with additional learning needs should the school close. Regarding concerns about the community use of the Welsh language, it is noted that mitigation measures would be considered, including promoting ongoing links between the Nantlle community and the alternative school through community

activities, and considering appropriate options for the post-use of the school building in order to support continued use of the Welsh language in the local community.

6.15 After weighing up the relevant factors, including the responses to the statutory consultation, the Council acknowledges that some respondents identified a possible negative impact on certain protected groups, including vulnerable learners, learners with additional learning needs, families experiencing socio-economic disadvantage, and community cohesion. Specific concerns were also raised regarding the potential impact on the use of the Welsh language within the local community, especially in terms of its informal use outside of the educational context. However, based on the overall equality assessment, the evidence set out in the related impact assessments, and the mitigation measures described, the Council remains of the view that the proposal is unlikely to lead to a significant negative impact on equality characteristics. It is noted that policies and procedures are already in place to ensure that there is no unlawful discrimination or harassment, and that individual needs will be appropriately considered.

6.16 The Council remains of the view that implementing the proposal would reduce inequality in cases of socio-economic disadvantage by ensuring that learners have more experiences and access to a wider range of services and activities at Ysgol Talysarn.

6.17 By implementing the proposal, learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn would benefit from an improved learning environment and from having more age-appropriate peers in a school with a larger number of learners, which would help ensure that they receive suitable educational and extracurricular experiences, as well as access to a wider range of extracurricular activities.

6.18 The Council would follow its usual processes of support and monitoring to ensure that all schools comply with equality characteristics, should the proposal be implemented.

6.19 Well-being of Future Generations Act

6.20 An assessment was undertaken on the proposal in relation to the the Well-being of Future Generations Act, and the assessment was updated after the consultation period ended. The 7 aims of the Well-being Act and the Council's well-being objectives were considered, and it concluded that the proposal met the requirements. The full assessment can be found in Appendix C.

6.21 The latest assessment notes that during the consultation, some specific concerns were raised, particularly in relation to the impact of the proposal on vulnerable children, learners with additional learning needs, the well-being of families facing socio economic disadvantage, and the linguistic and community vitality of the village.

6.22 It is acknowledged that should the Cabinet decide to proceed with the proposal, it could result in the loss of a school within the Nantlle community. However, it is noted that a significant proportion of children living within the school's catchment area (75%) already attend other schools, including Ysgol Talysarn (50%), suggesting a link between the schools, and the community of the school already exist. Every effort would be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Talysarn, should the proposal be implemented. Should the proposal be approved, discussions would take place to discuss the possibility that Ysgol Talysarn's community activities would include the Nantlle community where appropriate.

6.23 It is anticipated that the proposal would ensure that children in the area are educated on a site that is suitable and in a naturally Welsh-speaking society, increasing opportunities for socialising and collaborating with others and giving them a fair chance to thrive among their peers.

6.24 Compliance with the Welsh Language Standards (Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011)

6.25 Building on the findings of the Welsh Language Impact Assessment and the Equality Impact Assessment outlined above, the Council confirms that the entire statutory process in relation to reviewing the future of Ysgol Baladeulyn has been conducted in accordance with Welsh Language Standards 88–93 under the Welsh Language

(Wales) Measure 2011. In accordance with Standards 88, 89 and 90, due consideration was given to the potential effects that the policy decision could have on opportunities to use the Welsh language and on not treating the Welsh language less favourably than the English language, including consideration of potential positive and adverse effects, how the proposal could be shaped or adapted to ensure more positive effects, and how any possible adverse effects could be mitigated. In addition, in accordance with Standards 91, 92 and 93, views were sought and considered through the statutory consultation process in relation to these linguistic effects, including views on how the proposal could be formulated or amended to increase positive effects or reduce adverse effects on the Welsh language. These requirements were supported through the undertaking of a Welsh Language Impact Assessment, alongside related impact assessments, including the Equality Impact Assessment, and it is noted that these assessments were reviewed and updated following consideration of the responses received during the statutory consultation.

6.26 Financial Considerations

6.27 As a result of the low number of learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn, the pupil-led allocation is not sufficient to sustain the school. Consequently, Ysgol Baladeulyn receives an additional sum to the core allocation through the minimum staffing protection policy (which guarantees at least a headteacher and a teacher in every school, and a headteacher and a teaching assistant in schools with fewer than 15 full-time learners). An additional £74,446 has been allocated to Ysgol Baladeulyn this year (2026–27) through the Minimum Staffing Protection Policy.

6.28 The allocations for Ysgol Baladeulyn and Ysgol Talysarn for the year 2026–27 are based on the September 2025 numbers, and the amounts allocated to both schools can be seen below:

School	Budget 2026-27		Core allocation Additional Funding (Minimum Staffing Protection Policy)
	Core Allocation Funding	Cost per Pupil	
Baladeulyn	£ 172,848	£25,123	£74,446
Talysarn	£ 539,420	£5,897	-
Cyfartaledd Ysgolion Cynradd y Sir	-	£5,998	-

6.29 The cost per learner at Ysgol Baladeulyn will be £25,123 and the cost per learner at Ysgol Talysarn will be £5,897 (2026–27 budget, based on September 2025 pupil numbers). The county average cost per primary pupil for the same period will be £5,998, meaning that the cost per pupil at Ysgol Baladeulyn will be £19,128 higher than the county average for the same period.

6.30 A total of £712,268 will be allocated to the two schools in the 2026–27 financial year. Ysgol Talysarn does not receive any additional funding through the Minimum Staffing Protection Policy, as the school’s current pupil numbers attract a sufficient budget to sustain appropriate staffing levels.

6.31 From a revenue cost perspective, if the proposal were to be implemented and all Ysgol Baladeulyn learners transferred to Ysgol Talysarn, based on the 2026–27 budget (which is based on September 2025 pupil numbers):

- It is anticipated that the proposal would generate an annual saving of £150,000, minus the estimated additional transport-related needs (up to £30,000) — giving a total saving of approximately £120,000 per year.
- It is anticipated that the core budget allocation for Ysgol Talysarn would increase to £579,000, with a cost per learner of £5,883.

6.32 Any savings in revenue costs would be retained within the Gwynedd Schools budget.

7. RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 Following the statutory consultation, the Council gave full consideration to the matters raised and an appraisal and further impact assessments of the proposal were undertaken in relation to the proposal, the alternative options presented in the consultation document, as well as the alternative options noted in response to the consultation. This included an assessment against the relevant factors for rural schools, which included the presumption against the closure of rural schools, in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code.
- 7.2 Based on consideration of the above elements, it was concluded that none of the alternative options considered addressed the main challenges facing Ysgol Baladeulyn, as outlined in section 3.3 above.
- 7.3 Following consideration of the comments received during the statutory consultation, together with the evidence presented in the Statutory Consultation Document, and the impact assessments, the Council remains of the opinion that the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn is appropriate, proportionate, and in the best interests of learners in the area in the medium and long term.
- 7.4 The Council acknowledges the concerns expressed by consultees, particularly regarding the role of the school within the local community, and the importance of the Welsh language within the community. However, the evidence set out in the consultation document shows that Ysgol Baladeulyn faces significant challenges which are unlikely to be resolved without a fundamental change to the provision.
- 7.5 The proposal addresses these challenges by:
- Responding to the challenge of low learner numbers at Ysgol Baladeulyn, as well as projections that remain low, and the high percentage of surplus places;
 - Offering classes of a more suitable size and age range;
 - Improving opportunities for learners to socialise and work together daily with peers, in an educational environment with more learners of the same age;
 - Reducing the cost per learner for all learners in the county
- 7.6 Overall, having considered the evidence, the comments received during the statutory consultation, the further evaluation of the proposal and the alternative options, together with the Council's strategic direction, the Council confirms that it is of the view that the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn is the most appropriate response to the challenges facing the school (as outlined in section 3.3) and to the reasons identified for the proposal, and therefore continues to recommend it as the most suitable way of addressing the current challenges facing the school.

8. NEXT STEPS AND TIMELINE

- 8.1 If the Cabinet decides to support the recommendation submitted in this report, a statutory notice will need to be published in accordance with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the guidance of the School Organisation Code (011/2018).
- 8.2 The statutory notice will be published on a school day, and a 28-day objection period starting from the date of publishing the notice. During this period, any individual will have the right to submit a formal objection to the proposal.
- 8.3 Following the objection period, a further report will be submitted to Cabinet summarising any objections received, along with a recommendation for a final decision. It should be noted that under certain circumstances the Council's final decision may be referred to Welsh Government Ministers, in accordance with School Organisation Code (011/2018).

8.4 Subject to the Cabinet’s decision, the next steps in the process and an outline timetable are set out below.

June 2026	Statutory Notice Published: If the Council decides to proceed with the proposal, a statutory notice will be published, and a 28-day objection period will be held. Any objection must be submitted within this period.
September 2026	Cabinet: Following the objection period, if objections are received, the Cabinet will discuss the objections report and decide whether the proposal should be confirmed or not. If there are no objections, or if all are withdrawn, the Cabinet Member may make the decision.
October 2026	Refer the decision to Welsh Ministers: In accordance with Section 54 of the 2013 Act, within 28 days of the Cabinet’s decision, the following bodies may refer the proposal to Welsh Ministers for decision: i. Another local authority affected by the proposals; ii. The appropriate religious body for any school affected; iii. The governing body of a voluntary or foundation school subject to the proposals; iv. A trust holding property on behalf of a voluntary or foundation school subject to the proposals; v. A further education institution affected by the proposals.
31 December 2026	Implementation of the Proposal: Ysgol Baladeulyn officially closes, subject to the Cabinet’s decisions.

9. APPENDICES

Appendix A: Consultation Report

Appendix B: Options Appraisal

Appendix C: Impact Assessments:

- Likely Impact Assessment on the Quality and Standards of Education
- Likely Impact Assessment on Travel Arrangements
- Likely Impact Assessment on the Community
- Impact Assessment on the Welsh Language
- Well-being Assessment
- Equality Assessment

Appendix D: [Statutory Consultation Document](#) and Consultation Documentation: [Statutory Consultation: Ysgol Baladeulyn](#)

Appendix E: Comments from the Local Member

10. Statutory Officers Comments

The Monitoring Officer:

“The report follows a period of statutory consultation on the future of Ysgol Baladeulyn. According to the legal principles on consultation, the Cabinet, when considering the decision sought, is required to have regard to the results of the consultation before reaching a decision on the proposal. The report provides comprehensive information for the proper conduct of this exercise. I am therefore satisfied that the Cabinet can properly come to a decision on this matter.”

The Head of Finance:

“From a financial perspective, I cannot see that there has been any change in the situation since the Cabinet discussed this matter in October and the process of closing the school was started. Ysgol Baladeulyn's current situation is not sustainable and the previous report showed that an assessment had been carried out of the options available, and I was satisfied with the robustness of the financial estimates contained therein. I support the decision sought.”