



**Establishment of a new All-through
School for pupils aged 4-18 in
Llanfyllin**

Consultation Report

February 2019

CONTENTS

	Page
1. Overview of the Consultation	3
1.1 Consultation methods	3
1.2 Responses received	4
1.3 Summary of issues raised	4
2. Consultation Response Form	5
3. Consultation with Pupils	7
4. Consultation meetings with Governors and Staff	13
5. Estyn	15
6. Issues raised during the Consultation Period	18
1. General comments in support of the proposal	18
2. General comments not in support of the proposal	22
3. Issues relating to the impact on pupils	27
4. Issues relating to the impact on staff	31
5. Queries regarding the impact on feeder schools	34
6. Comments regarding the Welsh language / Welsh-medium education	36
7. Financial queries	47
8. Need for investment in buildings	50
9. Issues related to post-16 provision	52
10. Comments about Llanfyllin High School	54
11. Reference to Council policies / priorities	56
12. All-through School Model	58
13. Comments about the Consultation Documentation	61
14. Other options	68
15. Other queries	73



CONSULTATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW ALL-THROUGH SCHOOL FOR PUPILS AGED 4-18 IN LLANFYLLIN

1. OVERVIEW OF THE CONSULTATION

Powys County Council consulted on proposals to establish a new all-through school for pupils aged 4-18 in Llanfyllin. The proposals were as follows:

- To close Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School
- To establish a new bilingual all-through school for pupils aged 4-18 on the current sites of Llanfyllin C.P School and Llanfyllin High School.

The consultation took place from the 27th November 2018 to the 31st January 2019.

1.1 Consultation methods

The consultation documentation was available on the Council's website throughout the consultation period, and was distributed to stakeholders, as required by the School Organisation Code (2013). A separate version for primary and secondary aged pupils was also available and distributed to pupils, and was also available on the Council's website throughout the consultation period.

Consultees were invited to respond to the consultation by either completing an online consultation form, filling in a paper copy of the form and returning it to the School Transformation Team at County Hall, or by e-mailing / writing to the School Transformation Team.

Informal drop in sessions were held to give parents the opportunity to discuss any queries with officers / county councillors. These were held in Llanfyllin C.P. School on Thursday 10th January 2019 (4-8pm) and in Llanfyllin High School on Wednesday 16th January 2019 (4-8pm). Approximately 9 attended the session in Llanfyllin C.P. School, and approximately 10 attended the session in Llanfyllin High School.

In addition, meetings were held with the following:

- Staff of Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School – 17th December 2018
- Staff of Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School – 17th December 2018
- School Council of Llanfyllin C.P School – 10th January 2019
- School Council of Llanfyllin High School – 16th January 2019

1.2 Responses received

A total of 76 respondents completed the consultation response form which was included in the consultation document. This included paper copies as well as responses submitted using the online response form.

In addition, 4 written responses were received. These included responses from the following:

- Estyn
- UCAC
- RhAG – Rhieni dros addysg Gymraeg

The response received from Estyn is provided on page 15, in-line with the requirements of the School Organisation Code.

1.3 Summary of issues raised

The issues raised in the consultation responses are listed in detail in section 6 on page 18. This includes the Council's response to each issue.

However, the following is a summary of the issues raised:

1. General comments in support of the proposal
2. General comments not in support of the proposal
3. Issues relating to the impact on pupils
4. Issues relating to the impact on staff
5. Queries regarding the impact on feeder schools
6. Comments regarding the Welsh language / Welsh-medium education
7. Financial queries
8. Need for investment in buildings
9. Issues related to post-16 provision
10. Comments about Llanfyllin High School
11. Reference to Council policies / priorities
12. All-through School Model
13. Comments about the Consultation Documentation
14. Other options
15. Other queries

2. CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM

76 respondents completed the consultation response form which was included in the consultation document. This included paper copies as well as responses submitted using the online response form.

The quantitative findings of the questionnaire are summarised below. Written comments were also provided in the consultation response forms, the issues raised in these comments are included in Section 6 of this report.

Section 1 – About you

1. Please indicate how you are associated with Llanfyllin C.P. School and/or Llanfyllin High School:

Parent, carer or guardian	40	53%
Prospective parent, carer or guardian	11	14%
Governor	13	17%
Member of staff	3	4%
Member of the community	16	21%
No association with either school	1	1%
Other	10	13%
Total responses ¹	76	

2. Please specify which school you are associated with:

Llanfyllin C.P. School	29	38%
Llanfyllin High School	42	55%
A feeder school, apart from Llanfyllin C.P. School	13	17%
No association with any school	11	14%
Total responses ²	76	

Section 2 – Consultation Response

3. Do you agree with the current proposal to establish a new all-through school in Llanfyllin?

Yes	40	63%
No	18	29%
Don't know	5	8%
Total responses	63	

¹ Some respondents provided more than one response to this question therefore the total percentage is higher than 100%.

² Some respondents provided more than one response to this question therefore the total percentage is higher than 100%.

4. Do you think that the Council should be considering any other options for Llanfyllin instead of the proposal to establish a new all-through school?

Yes	19	31%
No	28	45%
Don't know	15	24%
Total responses	62	

3. CONSULTATION WITH PUPILS

Officers from the local authority met with the School Council of Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School to get their views on the proposals. The notes of these meetings are provided below:

i) Llanfyllin C.P. School

Officers from the School Transformation Team met with Llanfyllin C.P. School Council on 10th January 2019 to discuss the consultation on the future of Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School.

One session was held with 15 School Council members in attendance.

The officers outlined the background, including the Council's role and the current proposal for the two schools in Llanfyllin. It was explained that the Council wanted to know people's views on the proposal, and that we especially want to know what the pupils think of the idea to establish an all-through school in Llanfyllin:

- To close Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School
- To establish a new bilingual all-through school for pupils aged 4-18 on the current sites of Llanfyllin C.P School and Llanfyllin High School.

The pupils were asked a number of questions and their responses are summarised below:

1. What do you like about Llanfyllin C.P. School?

- We have a fun education
- We can learn new things
- We have good teachers
- We can make lots of friends
- We have lots of opportunities – school trips, opportunities to take part in sport.

2. Is there anything you dislike about Llanfyllin C.P School?

- Issues with the building
 - There is sellotape on the carpet
 - The door doesn't shut properly so there is lots of mud in our classroom
 - People pick the paint off of the walls
 - The toilets
 - Corridors where the pegs are haven't been painted for a long time
 - The plaster is coming off of the walls
 - We had a burst water pipe in the library

- Would like to be able to do more games, e.g. basketball, ballet, drama club, acrobatics
- There is hardly any Wi-Fi in the school

Pupils were asked if they had any further comments/questions. The following comments were asked:

- ***Will it be on building or two separate schools?***

It was explained that they would be separate to start with – primary pupils would continue to go to Llanfyllin Primary School, and secondary pupils would continue to go to Llanfyllin High School. However, there could be opportunities to share some facilities – for example, primary pupils could use some of the facilities in the high school, such as science labs.

- ***Would the high school pupils be able to come down and look after primary children?***

Yes, it is likely that there would be opportunities for high school pupils to come and work with younger children if that was agreed with the Headteacher.

- ***Would school dinners be at the same time? The high school have burgers on the menu?***

The temporary governing body for the new school would need to decide what the arrangements for school dinners would be.

- ***Where will primary school pupils go at break time? Will they stay as they are?***

Yes, they will probably continue to have separate areas for break times, in order to keep everyone safe.

- ***What will happen with assemblies? Will we have assemblies together?***

This will need to be decided by the temporary governing body / Headteacher of the new school. However, there probably wouldn't be room for the whole school to have assemblies together

- ***Would we have our own Headteacher?***

There would probably be one Headteacher for the whole school. The temporary governing body would need to appoint the Headteacher.

- ***When would the change happen?***

The current intention is that the new school opens in September 2020, so for example, pupils in year 4 now would be starting year 6.

- ***What would the name of the new school be?***

The temporary governing body would need to decide the name of the new school. However, it was explained that there would be opportunities for pupils to take part in this.

Pupils were asked what they thought about the idea of establishing a new all-through school in Llanfyllin. They were asked to put their hands up if they thought establishing a new all-through school was a good idea. Most agreed that it was a good idea, 2 thought it was a bad idea, 2 were unsure.

The following advantages were noted:

- It won't be so confusing when pupils go to high school as they will know where to go
- Year 6 can go to the high school to have lessons so they will know where to go when they go to high school
- It would be good if primary pupils could go up to the high school to use their facilities to do PE
- We could save money as we didn't have to buy things the high school already has
- There could be more clubs – we could go and use the gym for Dragon Sports if it was raining

The following concerns were raised:

- Concern about high school children being mean to primary school children
- Unsure how it would work
- Some pupils might get lost
- Concern about what would happen to staff
- Concern about bullying

The following suggestions were also made:

- Maybe we could connect the two schools to make one big school
- Perhaps there could be a competition to name the school

To conclude the session, the officers explained that the consultation will close on the 31st January, and if pupils have any further comments, they were encouraged to write them down and hand them to their teachers, who would ensure that they were passed on to the Council/School Transformation Team.

ii) Llanfyllin High School

Officers from the School Transformation Team met with Llanfyllin High School Council on 16th January 2019 to discuss the consultation on the future of Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School.

One session was held with 12 School Council members in attendance.

The officers outlined the background, including the Council's role and the current proposal for the two schools in Llanfyllin. It was explained that the Council wanted to know people's views on the proposal, and that we especially want to know what the pupils think of the idea to establish an all-through school in Llanfyllin:

- To close Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School
- To establish a new bilingual all-through school for pupils aged 4-18 on the current sites of Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School

The School Council were asked whether they had any questions on the proposal. The following questions were raised:

- **Would we all share a building?**

Not at the moment. The current proposal is that the primary pupils would continue to go to the primary school and secondary pupils would continue to go to the secondary school. However, there would be an opportunity to share facilities, so primary pupils may have the opportunity to use the facilities at the secondary school for some subjects.

- **Would pupils that go to other primary schools in the area still be able to come to the school?**

Yes, pupils from the feeder schools would still be able to join the school in year 7 as they do now.

- **What would happen when Estyn come to inspect the schools?**

It would be one school so there would be one inspection – the whole school, including primary and secondary, would be inspected at the same time.

- **Would everyone have the same uniform?**

This would be a decision for the temporary governing body, which would need to be set up to oversee transition to the new school. They would need to think about the school name, logo, uniform etc. However, there would be opportunities for pupils to contribute to these discussions.

- **Where would the Headteacher's office be? Would there be an impact on the other site if the Headteacher wasn't there?**

The Headteacher would probably have space on both sites. However, here you are on one campus, so the Headteacher would be on the campus anyway.

The pupils were asked to consider the Strengths and Weaknesses of the proposal. The following were suggested:

Advantages / Strengths:

- The primary school has been unable to recruit a Headteacher, so this proposal would mean that they would have a permanent Headteacher. The acting head would be able to teach more. Hopefully this would lead to better teaching and learning
- There could be an opportunity for older pupils to work with younger pupils for some things
- Could be useful for students that want to do teaching, social work or work with children in other ways to have a direct link with the primary school
- More opportunities for years 5 and 6 – they would be able to use facilities such as science labs in the high school
- Transition from year 6 to 7 would be easier for pupils in Llanfyllin Primary School
- Wouldn't be much change for staff, but they could come together for staff meetings etc.
- Younger pupils would feel more comfortable moving into secondary as they would know their teachers already, and teachers would already know the children
- It could reduce the number of pupils that move from Welsh-medium to English-medium when they move into high school, and also during their time in high school.
- Can involve the primary schools in extra-curricular activities e.g. Lonely Tree, the primary pupils always come and watch the plays, so would be able to get them involved in the plays.
- Opportunity for older pupils to run extra-curricular activities with younger pupils
- Primary pupils could use the sports hall at the high school as it is bigger than the hall in the primary school
- More opportunity for the primary school to come and practice their concerts in the hall
- Could be an advantage for pupils with ALN that they could have the same tutors supporting them throughout their time in school

Disadvantages / Weaknesses:

- Concern about the impact on feeder schools – children from the other schools in the catchment might not feel as comfortable when they start here
- Some of the older pupils might be scary to the primary pupils
- Security / safeguarding concerns due to the open nature of the campus – may be more problematic if it was a shared campus
- Concern about different groups of pupils wanting to use facilities at the same time e.g. if year 11 wanted to use the drama studio but primary pupils wanted to use it at the same time – concern about the operational management
- Not sure what it would solve – can see the benefits for the primary school but not sure what the benefits would be for the high school. But at the same time, there aren't really many negatives for the high school – don't think there would be that much change.
- Concern about putting more pressure on teachers if they were expected to teach in the primary and secondary phases

It was also noted that there were some opportunities linked to establishing a new all-through school in Llanfyllin. The following were suggested:

- Opportunity to work more with primary aged pupils, in particular with regard to options e.g. for DT could make something for primary aged pupils
- Opportunity to work with primary aged pupils would be good for older pupils to be able to put on their CV
- Opportunity to start learning languages sooner – for example French, pupils could start learning when they are still in the primary phase
- Opportunity to improve the links with other feeder primary schools
- Opportunity to have responsible for areas of work across the whole age range
- More opportunities for the sixth form to gain experience

It was also noted that there were some concerns / threats linked to establishing a new all-through school in Llanfyllin. The following were suggested:

- Concern about overstressing staff by adding to their workload by being subject leaders across the all-through school
- Concern about putting more pressure on teachers generally by adding to their teaching timescale to teach primary pupils too

The following general comments were also made on the proposal:

- We already have a good relationship with the primary school – for example, they use our facilities. Making it an all-through school wouldn't be too much of a jump – it's more behind the scenes things that would change.
- In terms of the impact on pupils with ALN, whilst there could be a benefit in terms of having one tutor throughout their time in school, they can also be supported successfully by transferring information from one school to the next. There is already quite a strong SEN hub in the school, so teachers can work with pupils from an earlier age. Would like this to continue and to be developed.

The pupils were thanked for their contributions. It was explained that the consultation period ends on the 31st January, and if pupils have any further comments, they were encouraged to submit them before the closing date.

4. CONSULTATION MEETINGS WITH STAFF AND GOVERNORS

Consultation meetings were held with the staff and governors of both schools. The issues raised at these meetings are summarised below:

i) Consultation meeting with Staff of Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School – 17th December 2019

- Will the change happen from September 2019?
- How much will the staffing change – have you got an idea of how many staff will be needed?
- There has been talk in the past about a new build, and possible 21st Century Schools funding. Is there a possibility of money coming to help with the schools coming together?
- The catering staff at Llanfyllin High School are currently employed by the school, not by Powys Catering. Would the catering have to go back to Powys Catering?
- Will staff jobs be ring-fenced as part of the process?
- LSAs are employed on temporary contracts, which only become permanent after 2 years – would they lose this security when moving to the new school?
- Could LSA's be put on a short term contract?
- Are secondary teachers likely to be teaching primary pupils and vice versa?
- Would you build in support for staff to work together during 2019-20 to work towards the new curriculum, changes in ALN etc.
- Would be interested to see how through schools have incorporated the new curriculum across the school – would you be able to recommend schools where this has been done well that we could go to?
- Has there been any feedback to the consultation from feeder primary schools?
- Why isn't there an invitation for some of the other feeder schools to join in this amalgamation?
- Is there going to be a feasibility study on the impact on feeder schools?
- Concern that some parents may think the all-through school may become oversubscribed, and so may want to get the children in early – this would have an impact on the small schools
- What will be the make up of the governing body – how many members will there be?
- The two schools have governing bodies that know their schools well, would be a shame to lose this expertise.

ii) Consultation meeting with Governors of Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School – 17th December 2019

- Could you share some information with us about the themes raised in the meeting with staff held earlier today?
- Many are concerned that the primary school is currently more Welsh than the high school. We don't want to lose the Welsh ethos of the

primary school. The consultation document mentions 'improve the ethos', but doesn't say how.

- Propose that more Welsh is offered in the primary phase – that all children are taught in Welsh – this could be implemented gradually over 5-10 years. All children in the area would then have the opportunity to be bilingual. This would ensure a stronger Welsh stream in the secondary phase
- Have some concerns about the finances, viability of the proposition – still waiting for the new formula to come through
- Concerned that we're not being ambitious enough – need to look beyond 5-18 education and look to encompass more, as this would bring more funding in from other areas
- Suggestion that the school could look at offering apprenticeships, could run libraries within the cluster, could work with social services to provide services
- Should be looking at something more transformational in Llanfyllin which also serves the surrounding villages
- As governing bodies, have capacity now to start taking forward some of these elements before the new school potentially opens in September 2020
- Would be useful for governors to visit some schools that are doing this kind of thing very well – would be useful if you could let us have a list
- The governing body will need support from the local authority and the transformation lead to move forward
- Suggestion that the governing bodies could work with local communities to sell their vision whilst the consultation is ongoing
- Concern that some catchment schools won't contribute to this consultation, however it's important that we do get them to contribute
- What will happen with transition arrangements if a decision is made to proceed with the proposal?
- Will there be another round of VSS?
- Everything we as a governing body are talking about sits within the School Organisation Plan and the Delivery Plan
- The status quo is unsustainable – post-16 for example is a concern. There has always been strong sixth form provision in Llanfyllin, we need to maintain this
- From a Welsh language perspective, the document talks about provision being no worse than it is now – that isn't good enough.
- The aim for us as governing bodies is to improve bilingual education – whether that is the quality or the quantity
- What is the timescale for the fair funding formula? When will we know the outcome?

5. ESTYN

Estyn's response to the consultation is provided below:

Estyn's response to the proposal to close Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School, and establish a new bilingual all-through school for pupils aged 4-18 on the current sites of Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School

This report has been prepared by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education and Training in Wales.

Under the terms of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and its associated Code, proposers are required to send consultation documents to Estyn. However, Estyn is not a body which is required to act in accordance with the Code and the Act places no statutory requirements on Estyn in respect of school organisation matters. Therefore as a body being consulted, Estyn will provide their opinion only on the overall merits of school organisation proposals.

Estyn has considered the educational aspects of the proposal and has produced the following response to the information provided by the proposer and other additional information such as data from Welsh Government and the views of the Regional Consortia, which deliver school improvement services to the schools within the proposal.

Introduction

This proposal is submitted by Powys County Council to close Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School, and establish a new bilingual allthrough school for pupils aged 4-18 on the current sites of Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School.

Summary/Conclusion

The proposer has provided useful information that explains the rationale behind this proposal. This proposal corresponds with the county's School Organisation Policy and Secondary and Post-16 Delivery Plan. The primary and secondary schools' governing bodies have facilitated the discussion and are keen to implement the proposal of establishing a new bilingual all-through school by 01 September 2019.

Estyn is of the opinion that the proposal is likely to maintain the current standards in terms of education, provision, and leadership and management.

Description and benefits

The rationale for this proposal is coherent and the considerations are identified clearly. Evidence is based on facts and valid considerations.

The proposer has identified the expected advantages and disadvantages in comparison with the status quo. They have considered:

1. The status quo – the primary school and secondary school continue to operate independently
2. All-through federation – the primary school and secondary school federate to create a federated all-through school in Llanfyllin

3. All-through school – the primary school and secondary school amalgamate to create a new all-through school in Llanfyllin.

Officers from Powys County Council have conducted a SWOT analysis of these three proposals. The result of this activity is that the first two proposals have been disregarded, and the third option provides the best standards, provision and leadership for the two existing schools.

The advantages of this proposal, namely the third of the proposals above, outline important issues, which include improving educational outcomes, educational provision, and leadership and management, to ensure more efficient educational provision and provide a seamless transition between the two key stages. Overall, the considerations are firmly in favour of this proposal.

The disadvantages of not accepting this proposal include important issues, such as a significant decrease over time in pupil numbers, challenging financial pressures, the need to provide attractive post-16 education, a relatively small Welsh-medium stream in the secondary sector, the need to improve the quality of education, in addition to difficulties appointing a headteacher in the primary sector. These issues are key and ones that are in need of an immediate response. This proposal responds well to these issues.

The proposer has outlined the profound challenges both schools face currently, and the prospects that are based on sound facts do not provide a valid solution for the future. The strengths of this proposal outweigh its weaknesses consistently with nearly all considerations. However, all stakeholders would need further information in order to ensure that the two schools merge smoothly.

Educational aspects of the proposal

The proposer has given appropriate consideration to the proposal's effect on the quality of outcomes, provision, and leadership and management.

Educational Aspects of the proposal

The proposer suggests that there will not be much change for pupils who attend the two schools currently, as they will continue to be taught in the same buildings. There would be better opportunities to use facilities on both sites and the use of staff expertise would be beneficial to pupils' educational experiences. The school would continue to provide a broad curriculum, from the foundation phase throughout all stages at the school.

It is suggested that there would not be a negative effect on pupils from other primary schools in the catchment area who would attend the all-through school in Year 7. There would be no unnecessary disruption and the transition process would be co-ordinated carefully and sensitively.

Overall, the proposer suggests that the standards and progress of all pupils, including those who belong to specific groups, would improve and would have a positive effect over time.

It is suggested that the proposal complies with the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2017-2020 and provides continuous access to Welsh-medium and English-medium primary and secondary education in Llanfyllin. It is anticipated that Welsh-medium provision at the new school would be at least as good as the existing

provision in the two schools, as a result of the potential to share resources, staff and specialist facilities between the key stages. Implementing the proposal would also provide an opportunity to strengthen the linguistic continuum between the educational stages and improve the secondary school's Welsh language ethos.

The proposer states that the governing body of the new all-through school would appoint a headteacher, who would then appoint the school's teaching and support staff. As part of this process, the governing body would have an opportunity to 'ringfence' all teaching and associated staff posts to staff currently employed within the existing schools in the first instance. The new staffing structure would be implemented in line with the relevant Human Resources policies for all members of staff. However, there is not enough rigorous information with a tight timescale about the way in which this proposal will affect all staff, particularly the teaching staff.

It appears that this proposal would save a deficit of approximately £100k - £150k for both schools by 2020. Such a total is not sustainable and does not align with the county's financial policies. The result of establishing an all-through bilingual school would be to ensure one budget that would be run by one headteacher and one governing body. This would enable the school to operate more effectively in comparison with the current arrangements, and this should lead to financial savings by sharing staffing and other resources.

It is suggested that there would be no need for any construction work in the short term, as pupils would be taught in the current buildings. It is identified that the quality of the buildings would need to be improved in the long term, in line with the process that is outlined in the county's Asset Management Plan 2018.

In terms of transport, it is claimed that the Home to School Transport Policy would continue to operate, and it is anticipated that no changes or adaptations would be needed in order to implement this proposal.

Both schools are in the amber category in terms of support capacity. Estyn judged outcomes to be 'Adequate' (Llanfyllin C.P. School – October 2014, Llanfyllin High School – February 2016), and both schools were placed in followup categories. Ysgol Gynradd Llanfyllin was removed from Estyn monitoring in January 2016. However, Llanfyllin High School continues to be in need of significant improvement.

No pupil attainment data was included for either school as part of this consultation.

6. ISSUES RAISED DURING THE CONSULTATION PERIOD

The following tables list the issues raised during the consultation period, and provides the local authority's response to these issues.

1. GENERAL COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSAL		
1.1 Would ensure continued provision in Llanfyllin		
1.1.1	I believe the proposal will secure primary and secondary education in the area	The Council notes these comments which support the establishment of an all-through school in Llanfyllin.
1.1.2	An extremely positive step which will secure dual stream education for 4-18 year olds in the area.	
1.1.3	The proposal will secure secondary education in Llanfyllin, and will ensure the provision of Welsh education in the area	
1.1.4	The proposal would secure Welsh secondary education in the catchment	
1.1.5	Feel that this is the only option we have to safeguard the schools in Llanfyllin – something must be done or we will lose them altogether, which would be devastating for the town, community and surrounding villages and towns in the catchment area.	
1.1.6	Hope the through school will strengthen the 2 schools and secure their future	
1.1.7	The proposal will ensure continued secondary provision in Llanfyllin, which is important.	
1.1.8	An all-through school will provide greater security through greater numbers	

1.1.9	Vital to maintain 4-18 education in Llanfyllin, in whatever form	
1.1.10	Proposal is positive in terms of securing the future of Llanfyllin High School and ensuring that the provision for bilingual education remains local to the community served by the school	
1.1.11	A sensible solution in view of lower pupil numbers	
1.2 Opportunity to improve provision		
1.2.1	Could offer excellent opportunities for shared resources and maximising funding	The Council notes these comments which supports the establishment of an all-through school in Llanfyllin.
1.2.2	Through school could be constructive if done well, supported with time and money to make it a positive growing experience for the school, not a negative cut money saving exercise.	
1.2.3	An all-through school will help with the new Donaldson Curriculum	
1.2.4	The primary school has been unable to recruit a Headteacher, this proposal would mean that they would have a permanent Headteacher.	
1.3 Support for the all-through school model		
1.3.1	It won't be confusing when pupils go to high school as they will know where to go	The Council notes these positive comments regarding the all-through school model.
1.3.2	Year 6 can go to the high school to have lessons so they will know where to go when they go to high school	
1.3.3	It would be good if primary pupils could go to the high school to use their facilities e.g. for PE	

1.3.4	Could save money as wouldn't need to buy things the high school already has	
1.3.5	There could be more clubs – primary pupils could use the gym for Dragon Sports if it was raining	
1.3.6	There is already a good relationship between the primary school and the secondary school – the primary school already use the high school's facilities. Making it an all-through school wouldn't be too much of a jump – it's more behind the scenes things that would change	
1.4 Would offer more choice to parents		
1.4.1	Would help to provide more choice to parents – the current choice for primary schools in the catchment are one village school or another, the only real choice is Welsh or English medium – an all through school would add to the choice	The Council notes this comment with supports the establishment of an all-through school in Llanfyllin.
1.5 General comments		
1.5.1	A positive step for our area and our children	The Council notes these comments which support the establishment of an all-through school in Llanfyllin.
1.5.2	Generally in favour of the proposal	
1.5.3	This is an exciting proposal	
1.5.4	Wonderful news for the education system in the area	
1.5.5	Makes total sense	
1.5.6	Look forward to continuing to champion and support Llanfyllin as a Through School and to celebrating its success and innovative approach as it becomes a centre for authentic lifelong bilingual education that offers and creates opportunities for all	

1.5.7	Hope that these plans will lead to a bright future for Welsh-medium education in the area and an increase in the number of Welsh speakers in the area.	
1.5.8	If this doesn't go through, there will be no focus to improve things in the future	
1.5.9	The status quo is unsustainable – post-16 for example is a concern	Comment noted. It is acknowledged that the two schools in Llanfyllin are currently facing a number of challenges, as outlined in the Consultation Document.
1.5.10	Provides opportunities to access capital investment	<p>The proposal is to establish the new all-through school in the buildings currently occupied by Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School, therefore no capital investment is required in order to implement the proposal.</p> <p>However, as outlined in the Consultation Document:</p> <p>'The Council is aware that there is a need to improve the quality of accommodation at both schools, and this will be considered in accordance with the process outlined in the Council's Schools Asset Management Plan 2018. This states that capital investment in schools is prioritised based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Condition; Suitability; Sustainability</i> - <i>Sufficiency; and</i> - <i>Health & Safety issues.</i> <p><i>Consideration is also given to whether a school is part of a current or future strategic school reorganisation development'.</i></p>

		If it is decided that capital investment is required, the Council would need to put forward a business case to the Welsh Government as part of the 21 st Century Schools Programme.'
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2. GENERAL COMMENTS NOT IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSAL		
2.1 Doubts that the proposal will lead to improvements		
2.1.1	Concern that this will be done as a cost cutting exercise rather than with the aim of improving the education offered to pupils	<p>The proposal is not a cost cutting exercise. The reasons for the proposal are outlined on page 19 of the Consultation Document. The first reason listed is</p> <p>'To improve educational outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More opportunities for staff to move between key stages, to further develop expertise in specific areas ○ Opportunities for pupils in all key stages to benefit from staff expertise in specific subject areas ○ Improved curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for pupils in all key stages.'
2.1.2	Joining the schools will not solve the problem – dual stream schools are the most expensive, this model will not change that	Comment noted.
2.1.3	I'm not sure that the proposal does what it claims it will do – save money (how?), increase pupil numbers (how?), strengthen the Welsh ethos and Welsh-medium education (how?).	The consultation does not claim that the proposal will save money for the Council, or increase pupil numbers in Llanfyllin. However, as indicated on page 28 of the Consultation Document, 'it is expected that establishment of a new all-through school would enable the school to make internal savings and to operate more efficiently, thereby maximising use of the funding provided by the Council.'

		<p>In respect of the Welsh ethos and Welsh-medium education, as outlined on page 33 of the Consultation Document in the summary of the Welsh language impact assessment carried out:</p> <p>‘As the proposal would see the retention of primary and secondary Welsh-medium and English-medium provision in Llanfyllin, it is not anticipated that the proposal would have a significant impact on the Welsh language. It is anticipated that implementation of the proposal would result in improved transition between key stages, which could lead to improvements in the proportion of pupils continuing to access Welsh-medium provision on transfer from the primary sector to the secondary sector.</p> <p>It is also possible that implementation of the proposal could have a positive impact on the Welsh language ethos in the secondary sector in Llanfyllin as a result of amalgamating with a primary school that has a higher percentage of Welsh-medium pupils than Llanfyllin High School.’</p> <p>The Welsh language impact assessment will be updated to reflect comments received during the consultation period, and an updated version will be considered by Cabinet when determining how to proceed.</p>
2.1.4	Concerned that there will not be enough money, there will be no new buildings, there will be no development of Welsh-medium education and the high school’s English ethos will damage the Welsh ethos which exists in the primary school.	Comment noted.
2.2 Concerns about the all-through school model		
2.2.1	Strongly disagree with it – do not like the idea of young children being surrounded by teenagers	The proposal is to establish the new all-through school in the buildings currently occupied by Llanfyllin C.P. School and

		Llanfyllin High School, and as outlined on page 23 of the consultation document, 'It is anticipated that pupils would continue to be educated in their current building – i.e. pupils up to year 6 would be educated on the current site of Llanfyllin C.P. School, whilst pupils from year 7 onwards would be educated on the current site of Llanfyllin High School.' Therefore, it is unlikely that young children would find themselves surrounded by older children.
2.2.2	Concern that there will be less resources to share between all ages and departments	Implementation of the proposal would enable the new school to operate more efficiently compared with the current arrangements, and should result in some efficiencies through shared staffing and sharing of other resources. The ability to use resources across the whole school should mean that there are more resources available, and that in particular, primary pupils can access specialist secondary facilities and resources.
2.2.3	Some parents will take their children out of Llanfyllin schools if this goes ahead – don't want 4 year old children going to school with children up to the age of 18.	<p>Comment noted. The Council identified 'Parents don't want their children to attend an all-through school, so choose for them to move to alternative schools' as a Risk on page 20 of the Consultation Document.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with the proposal to establish a new all-through school in Llanfyllin, it would hope that pupils currently attending Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School would transfer to the new school. However, ultimately, this is a decision for parents. Parents are entitled to apply for a place for their child in any school they choose, and the Council will deal with any applications for places in other schools in accordance with the Council's Admissions Policy.</p>
2.2.4	Concern about high school aged pupils being mean to primary aged pupils	The proposal is to establish the new all-through school in the buildings currently occupied by Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School, and as outlined on page 23 of the

2.2.5	Concern about bullying	consultation document, 'It is anticipated that pupils would continue to be educated in their current building – i.e. pupils up to year 6 would be educated on the current site of Llanfyllin C.P. School, whilst pupils from year 7 onwards would be educated on the current site of Llanfyllin High School.'
2.2.6	Concern that some pupils might get lost	
2.2.7	Unsure how the model would work	<p>Comment noted. Should an all-through school be established in Llanfyllin, it is acknowledged that this would be a new model for Llanfyllin, however this is a model which is operating successfully in other areas, and is growing in popularity across Wales.</p> <p>An overview of the all-through school model is provided on page 18 of the Consultation Document, as well as examples of some all-through schools currently operating in Wales.</p>
2.2.8	Concern about the operational management – what would happen if different groups of pupils wanted to use the facilities at the same time e.g. primary pupils wanted to use the drama studio at the same time that year 11 pupils wanted to use it	Comment noted. Should the proposal be implemented, the operational management of the school and the facilities would be a matter for the school's Headteacher and Leadership Team.
2.3 Concern about the impact on the Welsh language / Welsh-medium education		
2.3.1	Concern that changes will damage the Welsh language in the local area	<p>The Council notes these concerns in relation to the impact of the proposal on the Welsh language / Welsh-medium education.</p> <p>The Council carried out a draft Welsh language impact assessment which was published as part of the consultation. As indicated on page 33 of the Consultation Document, this assessment concluded that:</p> <p>'As the proposal would see the retention of primary and secondary Welsh-medium and English-medium provision in Llanfyllin, it is not anticipated that the proposal would have a</p>
2.3.2	This is an attempt by the Council to keep things exactly as they are in terms of Welsh-medium provision	
2.3.3	The scheme does not understand the needs of Welsh-medium education	

		<p>significant impact on the Welsh language. It is anticipated that implementation of the proposal would result in improved transition between key stages, which could lead to improvements in the proportion of pupils continuing to access Welsh-medium provision on transfer from the primary sector to the secondary sector.</p> <p>It is also possible that implementation of the proposal could have a positive impact on the Welsh language ethos in the secondary sector in Llanfyllin as a result of amalgamating with a primary school that has a higher percentage Welsh-medium pupils than Llanfyllin High School.'</p> <p>This draft impact assessment will be updated to reflect comments raised during the consultation period, and will be considered by Cabinet when determining how to proceed in respect of this proposal.</p>
2.4 No need to change the current model		
2.4.1	Current situation works well and contributes to a vibrant community	<p>Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School have successfully delivered primary and secondary provision in Llanfyllin over a number of years. However, similarly to other schools across Powys, these two schools are currently facing a number of challenges, which are outlined on pages 8-12 of the Consultation Document. The Council's view is that a new all-through school will be better equipped to meet these challenges, and will be better placed to continue to improve the educational opportunities that can be offered pupils in Llanfyllin.</p>
2.4.2	Think this is the worst thing you could do to the school and would 100% ruin it	
2.4.3	Another sorry day for rural education	

3. ISSUES RELATING TO THE IMPACT ON PUPILS		
3.1 Positive impact on pupils currently attending the two schools		
3.1.1	A positive step for our children	The Council notes these comments which outline the proposal's positive impact on pupils currently attending the two schools in Llanfyllin.
3.1.2	Will be a great benefit to the pupils	
3.1.3	Proposal will assist children to achieve a smooth transition from primary to secondary and allow increased integration and interaction	
3.1.4	An all-through school will help with primary to secondary transition	
3.1.5	All-through school will enable primary pupils to access subject expertise	
3.1.6	All-through school will help with ALN	
3.1.7	Going forward, felt that an ATS will enable and ensure that pupils have a high quality learning environment	
3.1.8	Opportunity for older pupils to work with younger pupils on some things – would be especially useful for students wanting to do teaching, social work or work with children in other ways	
3.1.9	Opportunity to work with primary aged pupils would be good for older pupils to be able to put on their CV	
3.1.10	Opportunity for older pupils to run extra-curricular activities with younger pupils	
3.1.11	More opportunities for the sixth form to gain experience	

3.1.12	Opportunities for years 5 and 6 – they could use facilities such as science labs in the high school.	
3.1.13	Transition from year 6 to 7 would be easier for pupils in Llanfyllin Primary School.	
3.1.14	Younger pupils would feel more comfortable moving into secondary as they would know their teachers already, and teachers would already know the children.	
3.1.15	Opportunity for primary schools to take part in extra-curricular activities e.g. Lonely Tree – the primary pupils could be involved in the plays	
3.1.16	Could be an advantage for pupils with ALN that they could have the same tutors supporting them throughout their time in school	
3.1.17	Opportunity for pupils to start learning languages sooner – for example, pupils could start learning French when they are still in the primary phase	
3.2 Negative impact on pupils currently attending the two schools		
3.2.1	Concern about the impact on current pupils during the transition phase	<p>These comments regarding the impact of implementation of the proposal on pupils currently attending the two schools during the transition period are noted. As the proposal is to establish the new school in the buildings currently occupied by the two schools, it is anticipated that there would be very little change to pupils currently attending the two schools during the transition phase.</p> <p>The Council would work with the temporary governing body throughout the transition process, with aim of ensuring that any impact on pupils during the transition period is minimised.</p>
3.2.2	Concern about impact on children's education during the transition phase, as my children will be in critical years of their education.	

3.2.3	Concern about young children being surrounded by hundreds of teenagers, some of which are troublesome and use foul language.	<p>The proposal is to establish the new all-through school in the buildings currently occupied by Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School, and as outlined on page 23 of the consultation document, 'It is anticipated that pupils would continue to be educated in their current building – i.e. pupils up to year 6 would be educated on the current site of Llanfyllin C.P. School, whilst pupils from year 7 onwards would be educated on the current site of Llanfyllin High School.' Therefore, it is unlikely that young children would find themselves surrounded by older children.</p> <p>However, one benefit of an all-through school is the ability for pupils from the primary sector to use facilities in the secondary school and primary pupils would be fully supervised at all times.</p>
3.2.4	It would be terrifying for younger pupils to be around so many 'big' children.	
3.2.5	Some of the older pupils might be scary to the younger pupils.	
3.2.6	Classrooms will be double the size, which will mean less attention to each individual child.	Should the Council proceed with the proposal to establish a new all-through school in Llanfyllin, the new school's class structure would be determined by the temporary governing body. However, as the proposal is to merge one primary school with one high school, it is unlikely that class sizes would be significantly different to their current sizes.
3.2.7	Concern that our children won't have the care nurturing and attention that they need to help them grow into the amazing adults they will surely become.	The proposal is to merge one primary school and one high school to create one all-through school in the buildings currently occupied by the two current schools. It is not anticipated that this will have a negative impact on the care and nurturing provided to pupils. Implementation of the proposal could also have a positive impact on the care provided to pupils, as they will be supported by and have links to the same staff throughout their time in school.
3.3 Impact on pupils attending other primary schools in the Llanfyllin catchment		

3.3.1	Hope that opportunities for primary aged pupils to access more specialised areas of the curriculum can also be extended to other primary school children within catchment schools.	<p>The Council acknowledges on pages 23-24 of the Consultation Document that implementation of the proposal would impact on pupils attending other primary schools in the Llanfyllin catchment as they would be transferring to an all-through school in year 7 rather than transferring to a high school. However, the Council does not anticipate that the impact on them would be negative.</p> <p>As indicated in the Consultation Document:</p> <p>‘The transition arrangements for pupils attending other primary schools in the catchment area would need to be carefully managed, to ensure that the pupils are fully integrated into the school, and are not disadvantaged in any way compared with pupils that attended the primary phase of the all-through school.</p> <p>The proposal to establish a new all-through school in Llanfyllin also provides an opportunity to strengthen the current relationship with other primary schools in the catchment area, in order to provide improved opportunities to pupils attending these schools, and to provide improved transition arrangements for these pupils.’</p>
3.3.2	Understand the benefits of the all-through school model, but what about pupils attending the other feeder primaries?	
3.3.3	Some concern as a parent of a pupil attending a feeder school in the catchment – don’t see any benefits for pupils in the feeder schools, in fact I am concerned that our children will be under a disadvantage compared with primary pupils in Llanfyllin.	
3.3.4	Must have strong support in place for children coming to the high school from feeder primary schools – the children already attending the all through school will be settled and used to school practices, which will be daunting for some children from the feeder schools integrating into a larger school	
3.3.5	Whilst the high school already works closely with other primary schools in the cluster to provide an excellent transition experience, this might need to be developed further so that pupils joining the ATS in year 7 don’t lose out compared with those already in the school	
3.3.6	Important that consideration is given to all feeder schools so that there is no perception that the primary aged pupils at the all through school have advantages denied to pupils at other feeder schools	
3.3.7	Concern that pupils attending other schools in the catchment might not feel as comfortable when they start in the school	
3.3.8	Would pupils that go to other primary schools in the area still be able to come to the school?	

3.3.9	Opportunity to improve links with other feeder schools	The Council agrees that implementation of the proposal would provide an opportunity to improve links with other feeder schools.
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4. ISSUES RELATING TO THE IMPACT ON STAFF		
4.1 Positive impact on staff		
4.1.1	Acknowledge the opportunities for teachers to develop their teaching skills in different sectors or in new curricular areas	Comment noted.
4.1.2	Wouldn't be much change for staff, but would be opportunities for them to come together for staff meetings etc.	Comment noted.
4.1.3	Would provide opportunities for staff to have responsibility for areas of work across the whole age range	Comment noted.
4.2 Negative impact on staff		
4.2.1	Concern about putting more pressure on teachers if they were expected to teach in the primary and secondary phases	Should the proposal be implemented, no staff member would be expected to teach beyond their level of expertise. In accordance with the Education Workforce Council Code of Professional Conduct and Practice, Registrants are required to take responsibility for maintaining the quality of their practice, including seeking support, advice and guidance where necessary.
4.2.2	Concern about overstressing staff by adding to their workload if they were subject leaders across the all-through school	As above, staff need to seek support, advice and guidance where necessary. The school would be signposted to the Estyn publication "Reducing Workload – A Guide for Teachers and Headteachers" to support managing workloads for teachers.

4.2.3	Concern about putting more pressure on teachers generally by adding to their teaching timescale to include teaching primary pupils too	It is intended that teachers working across both campuses would be doing so in the interests of their own development.
4.3 Queries about the impact on staff		
4.3.1	How much will the staffing change – have you got an idea of how many staff will be needed?	It is not anticipated that there would be big changes to the numbers and types of staff needed for the new school, especially amongst teachers and teaching assistants. There may be some small changes in staffing for administrative and leadership staff.
4.3.2	Will staff jobs be ring-fenced as part of the process?	This would be a decision for the Temporary Governing Body once it was established.
4.3.3	LSAs are employed on temporary contracts, which only become permanent after 2 years – would they lose this security when moving to the new school?	Any temporary staff with two or more years' service would be treated the same as permanent staff. Service with predecessor schools would count as continuous service with the new school.
4.3.4	Could LSA's be put on a short term contract?	There may be some fixed term posts in the new structure (e.g. to cover maternity leave or grant funded posts), however the majority of posts would be permanent. Staff not successful in gaining a permanent post in the new structure may consider a temporary role as suitable alternative employment and would retain any redundancy rights in this situation.
4.3.5	Are secondary teachers likely to be teaching primary pupils and vice versa?	Teachers would undertake the majority of their teaching role in the area they have qualified for. However, some "cross teaching" is envisaged as a development opportunity for interested staff.
4.3.6	Will there be another round of VSS?	There have been initial discussions about the potential for a further wave of VSS, and this may be taken forward during the 2019/20 financial year. It is too soon to know whether there

		will be a wave operating in 2020/21. It is important to note that a member of staff can only be released under VSS where the post is being made redundant and there is no suitable alternative employment available for the member of staff. It is anticipated that there would only be a small number of redundancies as a result of the establishment of the new school.
4.3.7	Would welcome confirmation that all teachers in the two schools will keep their jobs in the new school, and will continue with continuous service within the authority	Arrangements for the appointment of staff to the new structure would be agreed by the Temporary Governing Body once established. All members of staff appointed to posts within the new school would have their continuity of service protected.
4.3.8	The catering staff at Llanfyllin High School are currently employed by the school, not by Powys Catering. Would the catering have to go back to Powys Catering?	This would be a decision for the Temporary Governing Body.
4.3.9	How will high school staff feel about working some of their time in primary?	Some “cross teaching” is envisaged as a development opportunity for interested staff.
4.4 Other comments regarding impact on staff		
4.4.1	Restructure should be done in consultation with staff	Should the Council proceed with the proposal, consultation would be carried out with staff, which would include an opportunity for staff to comment on the proposed structure for the school.
4.4.2	Any restructure should be done sensitively	The Council agrees. During each stage of a School Transformation review, the Local Authority pledges to take all reasonable steps to ensure that this process is managed sympathetically, fairly and in a way that minimises disruption and uncertainty to staff, governors, pupils and the community.
4.4.3	Any redundancies should be voluntary if possible	The Council agrees. Measures will be introduced to avoid or minimise compulsory redundancy.

4.4.4	Concern that it will be harder to find staff – especially a headteacher	It is anticipated that many staff will see greater development opportunities within a Through School and this, together with the safeguarding of local education provision the proposal would bring, is expected to improve recruitment and retention of staff rather than having a negative impact.
4.4.5	The schools employ extremely dedicated staff that deserve a successful future as well as the students.	The Council agrees. Both existing governing bodies have acknowledged the professionalism and excellence of the current staff.
4.4.6	New head could have extra support staff with extra responsibility	The staffing structure (including the leadership team structure) will be developed by the Temporary Governing Body.
4.4.7	Important that teachers receive full support, appropriate training and the necessary resources to develop their careers to teach different age groups of different areas of the curriculum	See answer to 4.2.1 above.
4.4.8	If the Council establishes a school for pupils aged 3 to 18, important that the school's leadership has specialism in the primary and secondary sectors	The Council agrees. This will be aspect to be considered by the Temporary Governing Body when establishing the staffing structure for the new school.

5. QUERIES REGARDING THE IMPACT ON FEEDER SCHOOLS		
5.1	Concern about potential impact of the ATS on other primary schools in the cluster	The Council notes these concerns about the impact of establishing an all-through school on other primary schools in the Llanfyllin catchment. There is currently one other all-through school in Powys – Ysgol Bro Hyddgen in Machynlleth. Establishment of this school has not had a negative impact on pupil numbers at other primary schools in the catchment.
5.2	Ultimately this will bring about the demise of other local primaries	
5.3	A number of other feeder schools feed the current high school, any plans will need to safeguard these schools to ensure that enough pupils transfer to the secondary sector in Llanfyllin.	

		Any changes to the organisation of any other schools in the catchment area would be subject to the requirements of the School Organisation Code, including the appropriate consultation and decision-making processes.
5.4	Has there been any feedback to the consultation from feeder primary schools?	Information about the consultation was provided to all feeder primary schools. Some feedback was received from stakeholders associated with these schools, the issues raised in these responses are reflected in this report.
5.5	Concern that some catchment schools won't contribute to this consultation, however it's important that they contribute.	
5.6	Is there going to be a feasibility study on the impact on feeder schools?	
5.7	Why isn't there an invitation for some of the other feeder schools to join in this amalgamation?	<p>As outlined in the Consultation Document, the proposal was developed following an invitation from the governing bodies of Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School for the Council to meet with them to discuss the all-through school model. No requests were received to extend these discussions to other schools in the catchment.</p> <p>Should any feeder schools express a wish to be part of the all-through school model, the Council would consider any such requests. However, the Council's current focus is on working with communities to develop proposals.</p>
5.8	Concern that some parents may think the all-through school may become oversubscribed, and so may want to get the children in early, so they will want their children to attend the primary phase of the all-through school not the other feeder schools in the area – this would have an impact on the small schools	This concern is noted, however this does not reflect what happened in the Bro Hyddgen area. In that area, numbers in the two smallest schools in the catchment have increased since the establishment of an all-through school in Machynlleth.

6. COMMENTS REGARDING THE WELSH LANGUAGE / WELSH-MEDIUM EDUCATION		
6.1 Need to retain dual stream provision in Llanfyllin		
6.1.1	Some years ago a survey was carried out to get a better understanding of the communities preference in terms of Welsh-medium education – in Llanfyllin most families expressed a preference for dual stream education	Comments noted. The proposal is to establish a new dual stream all-through school in Llanfyllin, which would continue to provide access to Welsh-medium and English-medium primary and secondary provision in the town.
6.1.2	Essential to reflect the bilingual nature of the local population – the Council must avoid any move towards a single medium school	
6.1.3	The Council must avoid any move towards any single medium education in Llanfyllin	
6.1.4	Need to maintain dual stream education at both schools – I do not want my daughter taught in Welsh.	
6.1.5	Support trying to encourage parents and pupils to learn through the medium of Welsh, but fear that lack of choice, particularly at secondary level, might drive some potential pupils over the border	
6.1.6	Llanfyllin is a bilingual area and bilingual education is needed in the town (possibly with the aid of Trisgol for A levels)	
6.2 All Foundation Phase / Primary pupils should be taught in Welsh		
6.2.1	Every child in the Llanfyllin Through School should benefit from the opportunity to be fully bilingual through an education that begins in the pre-school provision and continues throughout the school. This would link with Welsh Government target to increase the number of Welsh speakers to one million by 2050. Such provision could be introduced over a number of years to steadily increase the number of fully bilingual places being offered in the foundation phase, so that eventually the school becomes fully bilingual	<p>The Council fully recognises that early immersion in the Welsh language is the best way of creating fluent Welsh speakers.</p> <p>The Council the currently has no plans to introduce bilingual foundation phase classes across Powys. Should the Council wish to introduce this provision, either across the whole of Powys or in some areas, this would need to be approved by Cabinet, and the Council would need to carry out the statutory</p>

		process as outlined in the School Organisation Code.
6.2.2	The primary school should be fully bilingual which would feed into the high school and increase numbers there – this would benefit the children, parents and the area generally.	
6.2.3	Focussing the efforts of staff, governors and officers on providing bilingual education i.e. Welsh-medium education for all children in Llanfyllin primary school would save more money (cheaper than maintaining dual stream), would increase learning standards (easier for teachers to prepare lessons for a smaller age range) and would improve social unity.	
6.2.4	Need to normalise bilingualism urgently, and Welsh-medium education for all starting in the early years is the only way to ensure this.	
6.2.5	Should use this as an opportunity to put right the situation where a huge number of children in Powys have very little knowledge or experience of the Welsh language because their parents and schools withhold this opportunity from them.	
6.2.6	Opportunity for the new school to play a key role in revitalising the bilingual nature of Montgomeryshire, whilst reducing the polarity between people who do and do not speak Welsh	
6.3 References to ‘Trochi’ provision		
6.3.1	Trochi model was successful in increasing the number of Welsh speakers in the High School when it had been in operation, would be a good model to use in encouraging pupils coming from English-medium primary schools to speak Welsh.	Comment noted. The Trochi provision at Llanfyllin High School was previously funded by the Welsh in Education Grant, however this grant ended some years ago.
6.3.2	Stopping the Trochi provision was a huge backwards step as it took away the opportunity for children to access the Welsh	The Council’s WESP for 2017-20 includes a commitment to ‘identify opportunities to establish late immersion provision’. Whilst there are no definite plans for this as yet, consideration

	language unless they were already fluent in Welsh before they were 11 years old.	will be given to the need to reintroduce provision in Llanfyllin when planning this.
6.3.3	Need strengthen the Welsh stream by reintroducing Trochi – this should be a priority and central to any developments you take forward	
6.4 Reference to the Welsh language in the area		
6.4.1	Statistics for the school's catchment area show that the status quo is having a very negative impact on the number of Welsh speakers in the area – in order to maintain the number of Welsh speakers, all pupils need to have the opportunity to be bilingual, and only 'Welsh medium education' offers this opportunity.	Comments noted.
6.4.2	Census figures show that the percentage of Welsh speakers in the catchment have decreased from 44% to 33% in 20 years – if the decline continues at this rate, nobody will be able to speak Welsh in the area in less than 60 years. The decline has been greater in areas where the Welsh language was strongest.	
6.4.3	Concern that changes would damage the Welsh language in the local area	<p>The Council notes this concern about the proposal's impact on the Welsh language. However, as outlined on page 32 of the Consultation Document:</p> <p>'It is anticipated that the Welsh-medium provision in the new school would be at least at the same level as the current provision in Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin high School, and would also provide improved opportunities for sharing resources between educational phases, sharing of staff and sharing of specialist facilities. Implementation of the proposal would also provide an opportunity to strengthen the linguistic continuum between the educational phases.'</p>
6.5 Concern about the impact on primary provision		

6.5.1	The primary school is strong in promoting use of the Welsh language as first and second language, concern that this may become diluted.	<p>The Council notes this concern about the proposal's impact on the Welsh language in the primary sector. However, as outlined on page 32 of the Consultation Document:</p> <p>'It is anticipated that the Welsh-medium provision in the new school would be at least at the same level as the current provision in Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin high School, and would also provide improved opportunities for sharing resources between educational phases, sharing of staff and sharing of specialist facilities. Implementation of the proposal would also provide an opportunity to strengthen the linguistic continuum between the educational phases.'</p> <p>In addition, as outlined on page 33 of the Consultation Document:</p> <p>'It is also possible that implementation of the proposal could have a positive impact on the Welsh language ethos in the secondary sector in Llanfyllin as a result of amalgamating with a primary school that has a higher percentage of Welsh-medium pupils than Llanfyllin High School.'</p>
6.5.2	All staff in the primary school are Welsh speaking and the school has a Welsh ethos – concern that this will be weakened by merging	
6.5.3	The primary school is currently more Welsh than the high school – we don't want to lose the Welsh ethos of the primary school.	
6.6 The proposal won't improve Welsh-medium provision		
6.6.1	The quality of the Welsh medium provision won't change just by adding on the primary school	Comment noted.
6.6.2	Concern that the Welsh language will suffer – there is no vision in the plan as it is that the proposal will strengthen the Welsh stream.	<p>The Council notes this comment regarding the proposal's impact on the Welsh language. However, the Council's view is that the proposal is also an opportunity to develop Welsh-medium education in the area. Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, the Council would encourage individuals who are concerned about the impact on Welsh-medium education to engage with the new school in</p>
6.6.3	The authority has acknowledged for a number of years that improvement is needed to Welsh-medium provision in Llanfyllin, this raises doubts about the value and purpose of the proposed	

	plan to establish an all-through school, as there are no details about how this will improve the provision	order to encourage the further development of Welsh-medium education in the school.
6.6.4	Need a more ambitious vision to increase the number of pupils that are fully bilingual when leaving education in Powys	The Council's view is that the proposal does provide an opportunity to develop Welsh-medium education in the area. Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, the Council would encourage individuals who are concerned about the impact on Welsh-medium education to engage with the new school in order to encourage the further development of Welsh-medium education in the school.
6.6.5	The new governing body will be responsible for Welsh-medium primary education as well as secondary – this is a huge threat to the future of Welsh-medium education in Llanfyllin due to the lack of understanding of Welsh-medium education shown by the governing body of Llanfyllin High School.	Should the proposal be implemented, one new single governing body would be responsible for the school, which would replace the two existing governing bodies. A temporary governing body would initially be established to oversee the strategic and operational transition to the new school. The temporary governing body would be appointed from the current members of the two governing bodies, and every effort would be made to ensure a balance in terms of representation from the two current governing bodies.
6.6.6	The council and the Llanfyllin governors want to keep the situation as it is, meaning that it will never be possible for Welsh-medium pupils to achieve their full potential.	Following the establishment of any new school, a permanent governing body would be established, and governors would be appointed in accordance with The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005. The Council notes the comments which suggest that implementation of the proposal would be a threat to the future of Welsh-medium education, however the Council's view is that this is also an opportunity to develop Welsh-medium education in the area. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to establish an all-through school in Llanfyllin, the Council would encourage individuals who are concerned about the impact on Welsh-medium education to engage with

		the new school, and to take any opportunities to be a member of either the temporary governing body or the permanent governing body.
6.7 Opportunity to improve Welsh-medium provision		
6.7.1	An opportunity to strengthen and improve the provision of a fully bilingual education for all pupils.	Comment noted.
6.7.2	The ATS could lead to an improvement in the provision of an ethos around Welsh-medium provision in the secondary phase as it would be able to learn from and replicate the success achieved at primary level by the existing primary school.	Comment noted. The Council agrees that implementation of the proposal could improve the Welsh ethos in the secondary sector – as outlined on page 33 of the Consultation Document, ‘It is also possible that implementation of the proposal could have a positive impact on the Welsh language ethos in the secondary sector in Llanfyllin as a result of amalgamating with a primary school that has a higher percentage of Welsh-medium pupils than Llanfyllin High School.’
6.7.3	An opportunity to increase the provision of education through the Welsh language from reception through to Sixth Form	Comment noted.
6.7.4	Hope that the plans will increase the numbers transferring from the primary sector to the Welsh stream in the high school – this could lead to a more Welsh ethos in the school	Comment noted. The Council’s aim is that implementation of the proposal would provide an opportunity to improve this – as indicated on page 33 of the Consultation Document,
6.7.5	It could reduce the number of pupils that move from Welsh-medium to English-medium when they move into high school, and also during their time in high school.	‘Implementation of the proposal would also provide an opportunity to strengthen the linguistic continuum between the educational phases’ and ‘It is anticipated that implementation of the proposal would result in improved transition between key stages, which could lead to improvements in the proportion of pupils continuing to

		access Welsh-medium provision on transfer from the primary sector to the secondary sector.'
6.8 Need to increase Welsh-medium pupil numbers		
6.8.1	Need to strengthen the Welsh stream in Llanfyllin by increasing the number of primary aged children educated in Welsh	Comment noted.
6.8.2	Numerous pupils currently move from the bilingual stream to the English stream when transferring to secondary school because there are more opportunities available to them in the English stream.	<p>Comment noted. The Council's aim is that implementation of the proposal would provide an opportunity to improve this – as indicated on page 33 of the Consultation Document,</p> <p>'Implementation of the proposal would also provide an opportunity to strengthen the linguistic continuum between the educational phases'</p> <p>and</p> <p>'It is anticipated that implementation of the proposal would result in improved transition between key stages, which could lead to improvements in the proportion of pupils continuing to access Welsh-medium provision on transfer from the primary sector to the secondary sector.'</p>
6.9 Reference to benefits of Welsh-medium education		
6.9.1	The opportunity to speak Welsh opens up incredible cultural, social and work opportunities and is within all or most children's capabilities	Comment noted.
6.10 General comments about the impact on Welsh-medium education		
6.10.1	Concern that people's understanding of 'bilingual' school varies – for some it means a Welsh language school where English is taught as a second language, for others it is dual stream.	Comment noted.

6.10.2	Not felt that the ATS would have a negative impact on the Welsh language provision within the schools	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>As indicated on pages 32-33 of the Consultation Document, the Council's view is that the Welsh-medium provision in the new school 'would be at least at the same level as the current provision in Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School, and would also provide improved opportunities for sharing resources between educational phases, sharing of staff and sharing of specialist facilities. Implementation of the proposal would also provide an opportunity to strengthen the linguistic continuum between the educational phases.'</p>
6.10.3	Welsh language and Welsh medium teaching need to be considered in the decision making process	Impact on the Welsh language and Welsh-medium education is one of a range of issues to be considered by Cabinet when determining how to proceed in respect of this proposal.
6.11 Criticism of the dual stream model		
6.11.1	Dual stream schools are the most expensive, this model will not change that	<p>The dual stream model is an integral part of the authority's provision of Welsh-medium education, and many pupils have benefitted from being part of this system over a number of years.</p> <p>However, the Council recognises that the model does cause some difficulties, and states in its WESP for 2017-20 that 'the current method of delivering Welsh-medium education in Powys has led to a situation where access to this provision is a 'postcode lottery', where the type and level of provision available to pupils at each phase of their education varies significantly depending on where they live. This does not provide equality for Welsh-medium learners compared with English-medium learners.'</p> <p>The WESP goes on to state that 'The authority fully agrees</p>
6.11.2	The dual stream model does not work – either make it English and stop pretending that children are getting a truly bilingual education or make it possible to do most or all subjects in Welsh at all levels	
6.11.3	The Powys policy of community dual stream schools is not sustainable, financially or educationally	

		<p>with the view of Welsh Government that pupils are more likely to become fully bilingual after attending Welsh-medium schools, particularly when they come from non-Welsh speaking homes, and acknowledges that designated Welsh-medium schools are the preferred model of delivery for Welsh-medium education.</p> <p>The Council has also recognised that ‘it is desirable to establish a category 2A school’, and work is proceeding towards achieving this, as outlined in the Council’s Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2017-20.</p> <p>However, even if a category 2A school was established, it is not anticipated that this would replace the current dual stream provision, and dual stream schools would continue to be an important element of the Welsh-medium provision offered in Powys. The Council and the Welsh Government’s intention is that all schools develop along the Welsh language continuum, therefore the expectation is that all schools, in particular dual stream schools, would continue to develop their Welsh language provision in order to provide the best possible opportunities to pupils. Funding will be provided to support this provision in accordance with the new funding formula.</p>
6.11.4	Powys’ policy of providing Welsh-medium secondary education in community dual stream schools is a way of maintaining pupil numbers in less viable schools for the benefit of English-medium pupils at the cost of Welsh-medium pupils by offering them a limited inferior provision in a school with an English ethos, and that this is acceptable because it is a community school.	Comment noted. The Council acknowledges in its Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2017-20 that ‘the current method of delivering Welsh-medium education in Powys has led to a situation where access to this provision is a ‘postcode lottery’, where the type and level of provision available to pupils at each phase of their education varies significantly depending on where they live. This does not provide equality for Welsh-medium learners compared with English-medium learners.’
6.11.5	Welsh-medium all-through schools want to protect pupils’ linguistic standards during transition from KS2 to KS3. However, the small	The Council notes this concern, and acknowledges that the proposal to establish an all-through school in Llanfyllin would

	Welsh stream in Llanfyllin does and will 'lead to a challenge in terms of providing a comprehensive Welsh-medium curriculum to learners, particularly when they move through the school' (page 10) – here is the authority acknowledging that they know that the situation is totally different, and that the comparison with other all-through schools is not valid.	not change the number of pupils currently being educated through the medium of Welsh and English. The consultation document outlines a number of challenges currently facing the schools in Llanfyllin, and whilst it is acknowledged that implementation of the proposal would not address all of these challenges, the Council's intention would be that implementation of the proposal would enable the more efficient delivery of education in Llanfyllin.
6.11.6	The main problem in terms of failure to provide full Welsh-medium and English-medium education is that Llanfyllin is a 'community' dual stream school with a small number of pupils, and creating a dual stream all-through community school won't make any difference.	Implementation of the proposal could also have a positive impact on the number of Welsh-medium pupils in the secondary phase in particular, as it could lead to a reduction in the number of pupils transferring to the English-medium stream on transition between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3.
6.12 Criticism of the Council's actions regarding Welsh-medium education		
6.12.1	Powys has made numerous promises to parents of Welsh-medium pupils over the years, and the statutory requirements following the introduction of the Education Act 2013 show the authority's failure to show that it is serious.	The Council is committed to developing and improving access to Welsh-medium education in Powys, as outlined in its Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). The Council's latest WESP for 2017-20 was prepared in accordance with Welsh Government requirements, and was approved by the Welsh Government in March 2018.
6.12.2	Concern that the council's officers said during the consultation event on the school site that subject specialism wasn't important for key stage 3 teachers. With the difficulty to provide some Welsh-medium subjects because of a lack of teachers, the school and the authority are obviously willing to accept that any teacher who can speak Welsh is acceptable – this isn't the way to improve the quality of education.	It is not true that the school and the authority are willing to accept that 'any teacher who can speak Welsh is acceptable'. Schools are currently planning for the introduction of the new curriculum, which will see the introduction of 6 areas of learning, including areas such as humanities and science & technology. This will provide opportunities for experienced and qualified teachers to teach across subjects within these areas, particularly in key stage 3. This would apply to teachers teaching through the medium of Welsh and teachers teaching through the medium of English.

		<p>Even when a teacher has a particular specialist subject which was the focus of their own studies, they often have second or third subjects which they are also qualified to teach, and it is not uncommon for teachers in secondary schools to teach more than one subject – this applies to teachers teaching through the medium of Welsh and teachers teaching through the medium of English.</p>
6.12.3	<p>Unacceptable that Council officers think it's acceptable that Powys' plans means that not all pupils will have a practical opportunity to attend a Welsh-medium secondary school</p>	<p>Powys is the only area in Wales where pupils are unable to access designated Welsh-medium secondary provision in Powys. The Council has acknowledged that this is an issue, and is working on plans to establish provision in Powys.</p> <p>There are a number of considerations with regard to where this provision should be located, however unfortunately, given the size and rurality of Powys, it will be impossible to establish a single provision in a location which will be convenient for all Powys pupils.</p> <p>Based on the current timescales, it is anticipated that provision could be established by approximately 2022/2023.</p> <p>Should Welsh-medium secondary provision be established in Powys, consideration would then need to be given to any further opportunities to develop this provision, to ensure that it becomes more accessible to pupils across Powys.</p>

<p>7. FINANCIAL QUERIES</p>

7.1 Reference to need for transition funding		
7.1.1	Sufficient funding needs to be provided for the transition period	<p>As indicated on page 29 of the Consultation Document, 'The Council provides funding to support schools during transition to new governance models to support the additional work that is required when developing new staffing structures, curriculum planning, etc. Should the Council proceed with the proposal, the amount of transitional funding to be provided would be agreed with the temporary governing body.'</p> <p>Support would also be provided by HR, finance and other service areas as appropriate.</p>
7.1.2	SLT of both schools will need to devote time to planning and preparation work as soon as plans are approved, therefore funding will be needed for backfilling.	
7.1.3	The success of the ATS will be dependent on having sufficient transition funding to support heads and other members of the SLTs who will need to invest significant time in setting up the new school, so their current posts would need backfilling.	
7.1.4	Given that the proposal is in line with the Council's School Organisation Policy and Delivery Plan 2018-21, hoped that adequate funding will be provided to support the schools during transition to new governance models and to support the additional work needed to develop new staffing structures and curriculum planning, especially in view of the wholesale changes in the curriculum facing the schools.	
7.1.5	Funding for any restructuring will need to be identified and additional support from PCC might be required to cover issues such as finance and HR.	
7.2 Reference to need for financial support		
7.2.1	Proposal needs to be supported with time and money to make it a positive growing experience for the school, not a negative money saving exercise.	<p>The Council does not consider this proposal to be a money saving exercise, although should the proposal be implemented, the Council would expect the school to be able to operate more efficiently compared with the current arrangements.</p>
7.2.2	Need money and resources to create quality bilingual education.	
7.2.3	Support the proposal as long as it is constructively done with funding	<p>As indicated on page 29 of the Consultation Document, 'The Council provides funding to support schools during transition</p>

7.2.4	Hope that the Council will provide the funding and resources needed over a number of years to ensure the success of these plans.	to new governance models to support the additional work that is required when developing new staffing structures, curriculum planning, etc. Should the Council proceed with the proposal, the amount of transitional funding to be provided would be agreed with the temporary governing body.'
7.2.5	Would you build in support for staff to work together during 2019-20 to work towards the new curriculum, changes in ALN etc.?	
7.3 Reference to new funding formula		
7.3.1	Many questions remain unanswered re the move to the new fair funding formula	It is expected that the funding to be provided based on the new formula will be released to schools before the end of the February 2019 half term break. Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School will each receive information on the funding that would be provided to them based on the new formula. Once the figures have been released to schools, the Council will re-run the new formula based on establishing an all-through school in Llanfyllin. This information will be included in the report considered by Cabinet when determining whether or not to proceed with this proposal.
7.3.2	A comparison of the new fair funding formula with existing budgets for both schools would be useful	
7.3.3	Would like to see the fair funding formula run for both schools independently and compared with existing budgets to gauge the degree of challenge the new school would face in staying within budget	
7.3.4	Would be helpful if the implications for each school in financial terms of the Fair Funding Formula review could be provided at the earliest opportunity as well as the figures based on the ATS proceeding – this will enable detailed budget and financial planning to happen at the earliest opportunity, avoiding difficulties or queries at a later stage.	

7.3.5	Have some concerns about the finances, the viability of the proposition – still waiting for the new formula to come through	
7.3.6	What is the timescale for the fair funding formula? When will we know the outcome?	
7.4 References to cost cutting		
7.4.1	Concern that this will be done as a cost cutting exercise	<p>This proposal is not a cost cutting exercise. The 'financial impact' section on pages 28-29 of the Consultation Document does not refer to any anticipated savings to the Council from implementing this proposal, however the Council is currently carrying out a review of its fair funding formula, and as stated in the document: 'As the outcome of the review of the fair funding formula is currently unknown, it is not possible to estimate what the financial impact would be.'</p> <p>The Consultation Document goes on to state that 'Regardless of whether or not implementation of the proposal would result in a financial saving to the Council, it is expected that establishment of a new all-through school would enable the school to make internal savings and to operate more efficiently, thereby maximising use of the funding provided by the Council.'</p>
7.4.2	Seems like another LEA cost cutting exercise	
7.5 Other queries		
7.5.1	More information regarding finances is needed sooner rather than later	Comment noted.
7.5.2	Concerns from the high school about lack of knowledge of the primary school's current financial status	As indicated on page 9 of the Consultation Document, Llanfyllin C.P. School is projected to be in a deficit budget position by the 2019/20 financial year.

		Should the Council proceed with the establishment of a new all-through school in Llanfyllin, any budget deficits would be written off in line with the Council's Scheme for Financing Schools, therefore any deficit in the budget of either school would not be carried over to the new school. However, the new school would be expected to operate within the budget allocated to it based on the new fair funding formula.
7.5.3	Reassurance needed that any deficit budgets the individual existing schools have if the ATS proceeds will be written off by the Council	As indicated on pages 28-29 of the Consultation Document, 'It is currently estimated that there would be a net deficit position of approximately £100k-£150k for both schools by September 2020, which would need to be written off in line with the Council's Scheme for Financing Schools should the current proposal be implemented.'
7.5.4	5.2 has to be reviewed in the context of Brexit and revoked by the Council as it clearly impacts on numbers and therefore budget and quality of provision at secondary level	The Scheme for Financing Schools is regularly reviewed as required.

8. NEED FOR INVESTMENT IN BUILDINGS		
8.1	Current primary building is in poor condition, this is an opportunity to invest for the future.	The current proposal is to establish a new all-through school in the buildings currently occupied by Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School, therefore as indicated on page 29 of the Consultation Document, 'no capital funding would be required in order to implement the proposal'. However, the Council also acknowledges that there is a need to improve the quality of accommodation at both schools, particularly the primary school. As outlined on page 30 of the Consultation Document:
8.2	Issues with the primary school building e.g. sellotape on the carpet, doors don't shut properly, paint being picked off the walls, issues with the toilets, plaster coming off the walls, had a burst water pipe in the library	
8.3	Issues with Primary and Secondary building condition	

8.4	Concern that the school buildings, particularly on the primary school site, are not fit for purpose, and that some capital investment is essential	<p>'The Council is aware that there is a need to improve the quality of accommodation at both schools, and this will be considered in accordance with the process outlined in the Council's Schools Asset Management Plan 2018. This states that capital investment in schools is prioritised based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>'Condition; Suitability; Sustainability</i> - <i>Sufficiency; and</i> - <i>Health & Safety issues.</i> <p><i>Consideration is also given to whether a school is part of a current or future strategic school reorganisation development'.</i></p> <p>If it is decided that capital investment is required, the Council would need to put forward a business case to the Welsh Government as part of the 21st Century Schools Programme.'</p>
8.5	Primary school is barely fit for purpose and the high school needs updating.	
8.6	Hoped that PCC will provide funding for a new primary school building which could be incorporated into the high school site.	
8.7	Imperative that funding is provided for a new primary school due to the condition of the present buildings	
8.8	Acknowledge that the primary school needs capital investment, consultation document also acknowledges the need to improve the quality of accommodation at both schools.	
8.9	Would like to know whether either school will be invested in – new buildings and refurbished	
8.10	Need money to sort building/heating issues	
8.11	Hoped that the ATS will be able to work with the Council to seek to access capital investment in line with the Council's schools asset management plan priorities as detailed in the consultation, in particular as the proposed ATS would be part of a strategic school reorganisation development.	
8.12	Whilst no capital funding is required to implement the proposal, hoped that the ATS may be able to take advantage of the Council's Delivery Program priority of improving the schools estate using 21 st Century Schools Welsh Government funding programme and the County's Asset Management programme.	

8.13	Would wish to work with the Council to put forward a business case to Welsh Government as part of the 21 st Century Schools programme.	
8.14	There has been talk in the past about a new build, and possible 21 st Century Schools funding. Is there a possibility of money coming to help with the schools coming together?	
8.15	Whilst investment in the primary school is the most urgent, piecemeal developments can lead to future problems and consideration needs to be given to further development of buildings and facilities at the high school – will need a long term view with well thought out plans for the future	Comments noted.
8.16	Appreciate that funding for building work on the High School might not be immediately available, however hope that plans can be drawn up for the whole site which would take account of potential future needs and prevent buildings being incorrectly sited.	
8.17	Security / safeguarding concerns due to the open nature of the campus – may be more problematic if it was a shared campus.	The Council notes these concerns regarding the open nature of the campus.

9. ISSUES RELATING TO POST-16 PROVISION		
9.1 Opportunity to improve post-16 provision		
9.1.1	Would hope that the ATS would provide education right through to post 16, and are interested in providing a wide ranging curriculum that might include some less academic subjects for post 16 where there is an identified demand.	Comment noted.
9.1.2	Aim that the ATS would offer access to high quality post 16 provision, which expands the existing provision and could be	Comment noted.

	extended to HE provision locally, including vocational subjects, working in partnership and minimising learner travel and retaining young learners in the county.	
9.1.3	The proposal will provide an opportunity for the new school to explore more post 16 qualifications and to become a centre for learning for all in North Montgomeryshire	Comment noted.
9.1.4	Post-16 collaborative working arrangements already exist, but felt that these can be developed further in conjunction with existing partnership schools and other partners, including private sector business to ensure that the Council's stated priority can be met within the catchment.	Comment noted.
9.1.5	Desire to explore the use of IT (distance learning) to increase the range of subjects available	The Council is in the process of developing a digital learning strategy for all schools in Powys, which will enable courses to be taught via technology.
9.2 Don't agree that the all-through school should include post-16 provision		
9.2.1	Agree with forming a 3-16 all-through school for Llanfyllin, however the 6 th form component should align with the outcome of the current strategic study	The current proposal is to establish an all-through school for pupils aged 4-18 in Llanfyllin, which would continue to provide access to sixth form provision in Llanfyllin.
9.2.2	Don't agree that the school should be up to 18 – the figures show clearly that post 16 education is not sustainable at Llanfyllin – the 4-16 element is fine.	However, a key priority of the Council's School Organisation Delivery Plan is to 'Develop a new county-wide sixth form delivery model...'
9.2.3	The current proposal includes a small (and decreasingly small) 6 th form – to continue with all secondary phase schools having separate 6 th forms is economically eroding the system, is not competitive with out of county schools, and is denying our A level students the breadth and quality of education they deserve.	Should any changes to sixth form provision across Powys be proposed in the future which would affect the provision in Llanfyllin, these would be subject to a separate consultation exercise.

9.2.4	The proposal was developed without a coherent view of the whole structure – the inclusion of post 16 education is ridiculous.	
9.3 Other comments / queries regarding post-16 provision		
9.3.1	There has always been a strong sixth form provision in Llanfyllin, we need to maintain this	The proposal is to establish a new all-through school providing education for pupils aged 3-18, therefore continuing to provide access to sixth form provision in Llanfyllin.
9.3.2	Will there be less security for sixth form?	
9.3.3	Pupils attending Llanfyllin High School often travel an hour or more before they reach the school campus, to travel further for post-16 education is completely impractical.	Comment noted. The proposal is to establish a new all-through school providing education for pupils ages 3-18, which would continue to provide access to post-16 education in Llanfyllin, therefore there would be no requirement to travel any further.

10. COMMENTS ABOUT LLANFYLLIN HIGH SCHOOL		
10.1 Comments outlining challenges faced by Llanfyllin High School		
10.1.1	Pupil numbers at the high school dropped due to the bus fiasco, and the fact that The Marches is now an academy and offering A levels instead of North Shropshire	Comment noted. It is acknowledged that these factors have contributed to the decrease in pupil numbers at Llanfyllin High School.
10.1.2	Dropping numbers is cited as a major reason for combining the schools. However, this is at least in part due to the uncertainty which has hung over the high school for many years, and the implementation of 5.2 which has been detrimental to all years but particularly the sixth form	Decreasing pupil numbers is listed in the Consultation Document as one of 6 challenges facing the two schools in Llanfyllin to explain why change is needed in Llanfyllin. It is acknowledged that a number of factors have contributed to the decrease in pupil numbers at Llanfyllin High School.
10.2 Criticism of Welsh-medium provision at Llanfyllin High School		

10.2.1	The current ethos of Llanfyllin High School is English – no Welsh is spoken by pupils in the corridors, and Welsh-medium pupils are heard answering questions asked by staff in Welsh in English.	Comment noted. The Council's view is that establishment of a new all-through school in Llanfyllin provides an opportunity to improve the Welsh ethos across the school – as indicated on page 33 of the Consultation Document, 'It is also possible that implementation of the proposal could have a positive impact on the Welsh language ethos in the secondary sector in Llanfyllin as a result of amalgamating with a primary school that has a higher percentage of Welsh-medium pupils than Llanfyllin High School.'
10.2.2	Welsh-medium provision in the high school has gone backwards over the last decade – this is seen by the reduction in the number of Welsh-medium lessons in key stage three, the fact that there is no choice of subjects to be studied through the medium of Welsh for GCSE and the fact that there are almost no A level subjects available fully through the medium of Welsh.	The Council notes these concerns about the current Welsh-medium provision at Llanfyllin High School.
10.2.3	Acknowledge that the current leadership at Llanfyllin High School wish to reverse the decline in Welsh-medium provision at Llanfyllin High School, it is important that they are fully supported with this.	Comment noted.
10.2.4	The influence of English has an impact on the deterioration of pupils' standards in Wels within one term of starting at the high school in year 7 – this isn't the type of transition seen in single stream all-through schools.	Comment noted. The Council's view is that the establishment of a new all-through school in Llanfyllin provides an opportunity to improve transition between key stages, to ensure that pupils' Welsh language skills continue to improve throughout their time in the school. As indicated on page 33 of the Consultation Document, 'Implementation of the proposal would also provide an opportunity to strengthen the linguistic continuum between the educational phases.'
10.2.5	How many Welsh-medium teachers in Llanfyllin have specialist qualifications to teach Welsh subjects? Using Welsh speaking teachers without specialist qualifications will impact on the quality of provision.	All teachers in Llanfyllin High School are appropriately qualified.

10.3 Comments about Llanfyllin High School's Governing Body		
10.3.1	For decades, Llanfyllin's governors have not shown that they can offer true support for Welsh-medium education	<p>The Council notes these comments regarding the governing body of Llanfyllin High School.</p> <p>Should the proposal be implemented, one new single governing body would be responsible for the school, which would replace the two existing governing bodies.</p> <p>A temporary governing body would initially be established to oversee the strategic and operational transition to the new school. The temporary governing body would be appointed from the current members of the two governing bodies, and every effort would be made to ensure a balance in terms of representation from the two current governing bodies.</p> <p>Following the establishment of any new school, a permanent governing body would be established, and governors would be appointed in accordance with The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005.</p>
10.3.2	Governors of Llanfyllin High School have used incorrect information to claim that the Welsh-medium provision at Llanfyllin High School is much better than it is	
10.3.3	The lack of information, understanding and prioritisation of Llanfyllin High School's governors is evidence that the future of Welsh-medium education won't be safe in their hands	
10.3.4	Llanfyllin High School's governors aren't qualified to be responsible for Welsh-medium education	
10.4 Other comments / queries		
10.4.1	The canteen at Llanfyllin High School is run by the school not by Powys catering – this is the major asset of the school and should continue.	Comment noted. Whether or not the canteen is run by the school or Powys Catering would be a decision for the temporary governing body of the new school.

11. REFERENCE TO COUNCIL POLICIES / PRIORITIES		
11.1 School Organisation Policy and Delivery Plan		
11.1.1	The proposal for an All Through School sits within the Council's School Organisation Policy and its aspiration for developing	Comment noted. It is true that the proposal meets the Council's aspirations for the schools infrastructure in Powys,

	educational infrastructure in Powys together with the Delivery Plan for 2018-21 adopted by Cabinet and the Council.	as outlined in the School Organisation Policy, and the priorities outlined in the Council's School Organisation Delivery Plan, which are outlined on pages 7 and 8 of the Consultation Document.
11.1.2	Long term aim that the ATS will be able to be assessed as condition A or B, will enable improved access to early years provision, and enable high quality post 16 provision to be offered, which meets the aspirations outlines in the School Organisation Policy	
11.1.3	Proposal allows communities to take advantage of the Council's priority as outlined in the Delivery Plan of placing a greater focus on working in partnership with schools and the communities they serve, enabling the ATS model to capitalise on and expand the support and collaboration with the catchment schools within the cluster and progress towards a new localised and sustainable Post 16 and Early Years provision.	Comment noted.
11.2 Reference to Welsh in Education Strategic Plan		
11.2.1	The Council's WESP for 2014-17 reported that the intention was that high schools like Llanfyllin would offer 80% of Welsh-medium subjects in key stages 3 and 4 by 2020, however this was not achieved and there is no reference to it in the document – the WESP was misleading and the authority failed to acknowledge the problem.	<p>It is true that the Council's WESP for 2014-17 included a Strategic Aim to 'provide robust linguistic continuity of Welsh-medium provision across all key phases of education', and stated that 'Within the current context of secondary education in the county, it is expected that all six dual-stream schools will maximise their Welsh-medium provision, with the aim that they will all become Category 2B schools by 2020 in order to ensure that Welsh-medium pupils have an equal choice of subjects as English-medium pupils.'</p> <p>However, this became increasingly challenging due to the financial pressures faced by the Council, and it became necessary to identify alternative options in order to improve the opportunities available to Welsh-medium and English-medium pupils through all stages.</p>

		<p>In March 2015, the Council’s Cabinet agreed a new Secondary Reorganisation Programme, which would be taken forward based on four priorities, one of which was ‘Review of Secondary Education in North Powys, with a focus on Welsh medium provision’. Initial work on this took place during the summer of 2015, and in September 2015, Cabinet determined that it was ‘desirable to establish a bi-lingual, category 2A school or schools in North Powys’. The Council’s latest WESP, for 2017-20, reflects this aim.</p> <p>The WESP for 2017-20 was produced in accordance with Welsh Government guidelines, and was approved by Welsh Government in March 2018.</p>
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12. ALL-THROUGH SCHOOL MODEL		
12.1 Queries about the model		
12.1.1	Can’t see what would change apart from having 1 headteacher	
12.1.2	Will there be separate areas and facilities for different aged children?	<p>The proposal is to establish the new all-through school in the buildings currently occupied by Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School, and as outlined on page 23 of the consultation document, ‘It is anticipated that pupils would continue to be educated in their current building – i.e. pupils up to year 6 would be educated on the current site of Llanfyllin C.P. School, whilst pupils from year 7 onwards would be educated on the current site of Llanfyllin High School.’</p> <p>Therefore, whilst it is likely that there would be some opportunities for primary aged pupils to access specialist</p>

		secondary facilities, they would mainly be in separate areas and have access to separate facilities.
12.1.3	Will the school be on one building or two separate schools	They will be on separate sites – primary pupils would continue to go to Llanfyllin Primary School and secondary pupils would continue to go to Llanfyllin High School. However, there could be opportunities to share some facilities – for example, primary pupils could use some of the facilities in the high school.
12.1.4	Would high school pupils be able to come down and look after primary children?	Yes, it is likely that there would be opportunities for high school pupils to come and work with younger children if that was agreed with the Headteacher.
12.1.5	Would school dinners be at the same time? The high school have burgers on the menu	The temporary governing body for the new school would need to decide what the arrangements for school dinners would be.
12.1.6	Where will primary school pupils go at break time? Will they stay as they are?	Yes, they will probably continue to have separate areas for break times, in order to ensure that everyone is safe.
12.1.7	Will we have assemblies together?	This would need to be decided by the temporary governing body / Headteacher of the new school. However, there probably wouldn't be room for the whole school to have assemblies together.
12.1.8	Would there be one Headteacher or two Headteachers?	There would probably be one Headteacher for the whole school. The temporary governing body would need to appoint the Headteacher.
12.1.9	What would happen when Estyn come to inspect the schools?	It would be one school so there would be one inspection – the whole school, including primary and secondary, would be inspected at the same time.
12.1.10	Would everyone have the same school uniform?1	This would be a decision for the temporary governing body, which would need to be set up to oversee transition to the

		new school. They would need to think about the school name, logo, uniform etc. However, there would be opportunities for pupils to contribute to these discussions.
12.1.11	Where would the Headteacher's office be? Would there be an impact on the other site if the Headteacher wasn't there?	The Headteacher would probably have space on both sites. However, as the schools are on one campus, the Headteacher would be on the campus anyway.
12.2 Reference to other all-through schools		
12.2.1	Cannot compare the all-through schools listed in the consultation document to Llanfyllin as they are all either English-medium schools or schools with a majority of Welsh-medium pupils – with only approximately 20% Welsh-medium pupils in Llanfyllin High School, there are different implications	Comment noted. It is acknowledged that the linguistic make up of Llanfyllin High School is different to the schools listed on page 18 of the consultation document, however some dual stream schools are included on the list.
12.2.2	Single stream Welsh-medium or English-medium all-through schools provide transition benefits and seamless progression for pupils between key stages 2 and 3, however there is no evidence that this would happen in Llanfyllin because the English stream in the high school is so much bigger than the Welsh stream.	Establishing an all-through school in Llanfyllin will provide an opportunity to shape the school which meets the needs of pupils in Llanfyllin, and the Council will work with the temporary governing body to ensure that consideration is given to the needs of Welsh-medium pupils.
12.2.3	Would be interested to see how other through schools have incorporated the new curriculum across the school – would you be able to recommend schools where this has been done well that we could go to?	It is agreed that it would be useful for stakeholders associated with the school to visit other through schools across Wales and further afield. Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, the Council would make suggestions to the school.
12.2.4	Would be useful for governors to visit some schools that are doing this kind of thing very well – request for the local authority to provide a list.	

13. COMMENTS ABOUT THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENTATION		
13.1 General comments about the Consultation Document		
13.1.1	ATS option as outlined in the consultation document provides an opportunity to access capital investment, develop and inclusive model and share best practice for and in accordance with the reasons set out in section 8.	Comment noted.
13.1.2	As outlined in the document, pleased to note that if Cabinet proceeds with the proposals, opportunities will be provided for parents to contribute to the process of establishing the ATS, and that other primary schools will be fully engaged in the process.	Comment noted.
13.1.3	Both governing bodies are keen to ensure that the risks identified in Section 9 are mitigated or avoided entirely.	Comment noted.
13.1.4	Assurances in the consultation document that the Council will continue to provide advice and support to both schools and the shadow governing body to ensure continued improvements in standards and performance during the transition process is reassuring – it is assumed that funding is available within the Council's central budget to achieve this in accordance with its stated priorities and policies.	Comment noted. As outlined on page 29 of the Consultation Document: 'The Council provides funding to support schools during transition to new governance models to support the additional work that is required when developing new staffing structures, curriculum planning etc. Should the Council proceed with the proposal, the amount of transitional funding to be provided would be agreed with the temporary governing body.'
13.1.5	Establishment by the Council of a 'Management of Change' workstream as detailed in the consultation document is welcomed as part of this support – adequate funding for these areas is crucial if the Council wishes such proposals to be brought forward and successfully progressed in accordance with their stated priorities.	Comment noted.
13.2 Queries about the rationale for the proposal		

13.2.1	The rationale for change does not marry up with the apparent drivers for change	Section 3 of the Consultation Document, 'Why Change is Needed in Llanfyllin', outlines the current challenges facing the two schools in Llanfyllin – 6 challenges are listed, which are as follows:
13.2.2	The document presents 4 reasons why the all-through scheme was presented, however the document doesn't explain how the plan will address the issues raised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Decreasing pupil numbers, particularly in the secondary sector ii) Budget pressures iii) Need to provide an attractive post-16 curriculum iv) Relatively small Welsh-medium stream in the secondary sector v) Need to improve quality of provision vi) Difficulties with appointing a headteacher in the primary sector <p>The Council does not claim that implementation of the current proposal would address all of the challenges outlined in section 3.</p> <p>The reasons for the proposal are outlined on page 19 of the Consultation Document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To improve educational outcomes - To improve educational provision - To improve leadership and management - To improve efficiency in the delivery of education - To provide more seamless transition between key stages
13.2.3	The strategic introduction refers to 'increasing demand for Welsh-medium education' and states that one of the Council's priorities is to 'establish new Welsh-medium provision', however there is nothing in the document that explains how the authority will implement this or offering a strategy to meet these strategic promises.	The 'Strategic Context' outlined on page 7 outlines the aspirations set out in the Council's School Organisation Policy, as well as the priorities outlined in the Council's Delivery Plan. It is true that these include 'Increases demand for Welsh-medium provision...' and 'New Welsh-medium

		<p>provision to be established'. However, not all proposals will reflect all of the aims / priorities.</p> <p>The move towards establishing an all-through school in Llanfyllin was initiated by the governing bodies of the two current schools following the introduction of the new School Organisation Policy and Delivery Plan. This proposal is focussed on the Delivery Plan priority of: 'Secondary schools to become 'all-through schools', or part of multi-sited arrangements'.</p> <p>The Council's priorities for developing Welsh-medium education are outlined in its Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2017-20. It is acknowledged that the current plans do not outline any specific plans for the Llanfyllin catchment, however the need to develop Welsh-medium provision in this area will be considered the Council's next WESP.</p>
13.2.4	<p>Any plan of any substance must consider the implications on the English stream and the Welsh stream. As the consultation document doesn't do this, it is not valid.</p>	<p>The consultation document has been written in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code (2018).</p> <p>Whilst the document doesn't specifically refer to Welsh-medium or English-medium pupils, the Council's view on the impact of the proposal considers the impact on all pupils attending the two schools.</p> <p>In addition, for proposals affected schools which provide teaching through the medium of Welsh, the School Organisation Code requires proposers to carry out an assessment of the impact of proposals on the Welsh language and an explanation of how the proposal forms part of the WESP.</p>

		<p>A draft Welsh language impact assessment was carried out and published with the consultation documentation. This will be updated to take account of the issues raised during the consultation period, and an updated version will be considered by Cabinet when determining how to proceed.</p> <p>How the proposal forms part of the Council's WESP is outlined in section 20 on pages 32-33 of the consultation document.</p>
13.2.5	<p>The arguments presented in favour of an all-through school are so poor, inconsistent, incorrect, unfair that I am astonished that the Council has been so cheeky as to present them in the same document as the strategic promises.</p>	<p>The reasons for the proposal are outlined on page 19 of the Consultation Document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To improve educational outcomes - To improve educational provision - To improve leadership and management - To improve efficiency in the delivery of education - To provide more seamless transition between key stages <p>The Council's view is that implementation of the proposal would lead to these outcomes.</p>
<p>13.3 Impact on Welsh stream / Welsh-medium provision</p>		
13.3.1	<p>Apart from section (20) Welsh in Education Strategic Plan, there is no reference to Welsh-medium education or the existence of the Welsh stream in Llanfyllin High School in the consultation document between pages 11 and 46. The authority is ignoring the reality of the situation because it doesn't have the answers.</p>	<p>The consultation document has been written in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code (2018).</p> <p>Whilst the document doesn't specifically refer to Welsh-medium or English-medium pupils, the Council's view on the impact of the proposal considers the impact on all pupils attending the two schools.</p>

		<p>In addition, for proposals affected schools which provide teaching through the medium of Welsh, the School Organisation Code requires proposers to carry out an assessment of the impact of proposals on the Welsh language and an explanation of how the proposal forms part of the WESP.</p> <p>A draft Welsh language impact assessment was carried out and published with the consultation documentation. This will be updated to take account of the issues raised during the consultation period, and an updated version will be considered by Cabinet when determining how to proceed.</p> <p>How the proposal forms part of the Council's WESP is outlined in section 20 on pages 32-33 of the consultation document.</p>
13.3.2	The document refers to the school's pupils as though streaming of two languages doesn't exist in the school – for example 'Opportunity to create one culture and ethos' on page 15	The Consultation Document makes clear on page 5 that 'Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School are two bilingual (dual stream) schools located in the town of Llanfyllin, in north Powys.' This is also noted in the table on page 5, which specifies that the language category of Llanfyllin C.P. School is 'Dual Stream' and the language category of Llanfyllin High School is 'Bilingual Dual Stream – Category 2C'.
13.3.3	By presenting the arguments on the basis of the existence of a community school, the authority has avoided giving any serious consideration in the consultation document to the rights and needs of Welsh-medium pupils in Llanfyllin.	<p>The consultation document has been written in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code (2018).</p> <p>Whilst the document doesn't specifically refer to Welsh-medium or English-medium pupils, the Council's view on the impact of the proposal considers the impact on all pupils attending the two schools.</p>

		<p>In addition, for proposals affected schools which provide teaching through the medium of Welsh, the School Organisation Code requires proposers to carry out an assessment of the impact of proposals on the Welsh language and an explanation of how the proposal forms part of the WESP.</p> <p>A draft Welsh language impact assessment was carried out and published with the consultation documentation. This will be updated to take account of the issues raised during the consultation period, and an updated version will be considered by Cabinet when determining how to proceed.</p> <p>How the proposal forms part of the Council's WESP is outlined in section 20 on pages 32-33 of the consultation document.</p> <p>A meeting with the School Council of both schools took place during the consultation period. Pupils from both the Welsh-medium stream and the English-medium stream were represented at both of these meetings.</p>
13.3.4	The consultation document mentions 'improve the ethos' with regard to Welsh language, but it doesn't say how.	As stated on page 33 of the Consultation Document, 'It is also possible that implementation of the proposal could have a positive impact on the Welsh language ethos in the secondary sector in Llanfyllin as a result of amalgamating with a primary school that has a higher percentage Welsh-medium pupils than Llanfyllin High School.'
13.3.5	The consultation document talks about provision being no worse than it is now – that isn't good enough.	Comment noted.
13.4 Reference to impact assessments		

13.4.1	<p>Disappointing to see that the Equality Impact Assessment (21.i) considers maintaining Welsh-medium and English-medium education as 'equality'. Equality is ensuring that all children can access fluency in both languages, and can choose which language to use in life, not be limited to using one language because the child can only speak one language or because one of the audience only speaks one language. To provide equality, you must have bilingual education for all – this means Welsh-medium education for all in the early years, because the school is the only place in the lives of the majority of children in the area where the Welsh language can hold its ground.</p>	<p>The full draft equalities impact assessment, which was published with the consultation documentation, considers the proposal's impact on pupils belonging to the protected characteristic groups, which are as follows: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, marriage and civil partnership, sex and sexual orientation.</p> <p>As outlined on page 33 of the consultation document, the assessment concluded as follows:</p> <p>'The proposal aims to improve the educational opportunities offered to all pupils in Llanfyllin, including any pupils that belong to the protected characteristic groups. Whilst the proposal would impact on some pupils belonging to these groups, primary and secondary Welsh-medium and English-medium provision would be retained in Llanfyllin, therefore it is not anticipated that the proposal would have a negative impact.'</p>
13.4.2	<p>Community impact assessment (21.ii) – chapels and societies that operate in Welsh are declining because of a lack of numbers of people that can speak Welsh. Clubs that claim to be bilingual actually operate in English.</p>	<p>Comment noted. The draft community impact assessment which was published with the consultation documentation will be updated to take account of issues raised during the consultation period, and an updated version will be considered by Cabinet when determining how to proceed.</p>
13.4.3	<p>Welsh language impact assessment (21.iii) – Llanfyllin High School's catchment area was expanded to attract pupils that would have previously attended high schools in Welshpool or Oswestry. The school grew from 500 to well over 800. Although the Welsh-medium/bilingual stream grew, the school's Welsh ethos didn't. Concern that the deterioration seen over the last few years in the Welsh medium provision reflects the priorities of the high school governors – much more emphasis is given to English-medium education than Welsh-medium education. Concern that merging</p>	<p>Comment noted. The draft Welsh language impact assessment which was published with the consultation documentation will be updated to take account of issues raised during the consultation period, and an updated version will be considered by Cabinet when determining how to proceed.</p>

	the two schools now will mean that the high school's ethos of maintaining the status quo of dual stream education in the primary school will prevail, rather than developing bilingual education for all.	
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14. OTHER OPTIONS		
14.1 Status Quo		
14.1.1	Remain the same with better funding, wide creative curriculum, strong leadership	<p>Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School have successfully delivered primary and secondary provision in Llanfyllin over a number of years. However, similarly to other schools across Powys, these two schools are currently facing a number of challenges, which are outlined on pages 8-12 of the Consultation Document. The Council's view is that a new all-through school will be better equipped to meet these challenges, and will be better placed to continue to improve the educational opportunities that can be offered pupils in Llanfyllin.</p> <p>'Status Quo' is considered as an option in the Consultation Document, however as indicated on page 16:</p> <p>'Option 1 (Status Quo...)' has been discounted for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is currently no permanent leadership in place at the primary school - Would not lead to any financial efficiencies - Two separate schools, therefore there is no strategic overview of the provision in Llanfyllin - Financial threat - Declining pupil numbers in the secondary school
14.1.2	Improved funding for the high school	
14.1.3	Funding to be made available so that more subjects can be taught through the medium of Welsh at the High School, including GCSE and A level.	
14.1.4	Maintain the status quo without consistently undermining the high school with threats to its future (main school and sixth form) with regard to consulting on mergers and closures and with regard to undermining student numbers with a farcical bus policy.	
14.1.5	Leave it as it is	
14.1.6	It's perfect as it is, it needs to be left alone	

		- Relatively small Welsh-medium stream in the secondary school'
14.2 More use of technology		
14.2.1	Use of technology to deliver lessons across multiple school sites where class sizes don't allow delivery of subjects that would be uneconomic, and avoid transporting children miles across country at huge cost in terms of finance, time and the environment	The Council is in the process of developing a digital learning strategy for all schools in Powys, which will enable courses to be taught via technology.
14.3 Need a more ambitious plan		
14.3.1	The simple and binary plan to establish an all-through school is not transformational or ambitious enough to secure quality bilingual education in North Powys. The Council should consider a hub (on the Llanfyllin site) catering for and addressing social, community and educational needs from birth to death. This should include, but not be limited to, pre & anti natal support, nursery, early years, vocational training, distance learning (including and beyond post-GCSE & tertiary education), libraries, Welsh language courses, social care and services all beyond the normal school day and terms (ie breakfast/lunch clubs and community learning during non-term periods)	Comments noted.
14.3.2	New all-through school should become a centre for lifelong learning, providing education for post-16 and into adulthood – the school campus is spacious, and although it requires investment to realise such plans, it is geographically convenient for a huge part of North Powys.	
14.3.3	Would be fantastic to see an extension of the all through school model to incorporate nursery provision and post 16 education (other than A levels) for young people who are on apprenticeships and currently travelling long distances for the 'classroom' components.	

14.3.4	Include the youth and community centre as part of the plans, ensuring the future of early years education and the library services.	
14.3.5	We're not being ambitious enough – need to look beyond 5-18 education and look to encompass more, as this would bring more funding in from other areas	
14.3.6	The school could look at offering apprenticeships, could run libraries within the cluster, could work with social services to provide services	
14.4 Changes to 6th form provision		
14.4.1	A decent 6 th form in the north of the county on a single site	<p>The current proposal is to establish an all-through school for pupils aged 4-18 in Llanfyllin, which would continue to provide access to sixth form provision in Llanfyllin.</p> <p>However, a key priority of the Council's School Organisation Delivery Plan is to 'Develop a new county-wide sixth form delivery model...'</p> <p>Should any changes to sixth form provision across Powys be proposed in the future which would affect the provision in Llanfyllin, these would be subject to a separate consultation exercise.</p>
14.4.2	Formation of a 3-16 school is fine, but there are better options for regional provision of 6 th form education, of which Llanfyllin may or may not be a part	
14.4.3	Should be 4-16 only, not up to 18.	
14.5 Increase Welsh-medium pupil numbers		
14.5.1	Primary school has been successful in offering Trochi type opportunities for pupils from non Welsh speaking homes – many have become fluent in Welsh. This is not available at all feeder schools. Funding should be made available for Trochi classes at	<p>The Council's WESP for 2017-20 includes a commitment to 'identify opportunities to establish late immersion provision'. Whilst there are no definite plans for this as yet, consideration will be given to the need to reintroduce provision in Llanfyllin when planning this.</p>

	the High School for those pupils who wish to transfer to Welsh medium education later in their school career.	
14.5.2	Need to increase the number of Welsh-medium pupils to ensure the development of Welsh-medium provision at Llanfyllin HS – need to start in the primary school. It would be good if Powys were to provide support for Welsh-medium pre school provision, and that Llanfyllin Primary School became a Welsh-medium school. Then there would be growth in numbers, and more demand for Welsh-medium secondary education.	Comment noted.
14.6 Introduce bilingual foundation phase / primary		
14.6.1	Focus on making primary education bilingual for all	<p>The Council fully recognises that early immersion in the Welsh language is the best way of creating fluent Welsh speakers – this is acknowledged in the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2017-20, which states that: 'The authority fully agrees with the view of Welsh Government that pupils are more likely to become fully bilingual after attending Welsh-medium schools, particularly when they come from non-Welsh speaking homes, and acknowledges that designated Welsh-medium schools are the preferred model of delivery for Welsh-medium education.'</p> <p>The WESP also outlines the Council's objectives in order to develop Welsh-medium education during the period 2017-20, which include establishing Welsh-medium provision in the primary and secondary sectors.</p> <p>The Council the currently has no plans to introduce bilingual foundation phase classes across Powys. Should the Council wish to introduce this provision, either across the whole of Powys or in some areas, this would need to be approved by Cabinet, and the Council would need to carry out the statutory process as outlined in the School Organisation Code.</p>
14.6.2	Offering bilingual education for all would save money which is being wasted every year subsidising English medium streams – all children in Powys should have the opportunity to be bilingual.	
14.6.3	Need to concentrate on creating a stronger foundation for the Welsh/bilingual stream first. Need to prioritise the whole foundation phase being fully bilingual before moving on to the rest of the primary school – Powys County Council could be innovating, and setting an example for other counties. This is the only way to safeguard the Welsh language in our communities.	

		The Council would be happy to work with the governing body of any new all-through school established in Llanfyllin to work towards increasing the bilingual teaching in the foundation phase, if that was the wish of the new school's governing body.
14.7 Establish Welsh-medium schools		
14.7.1	Welsh medium secondary for north Powys – Grangetown in Cardiff recently opened its most recent Welsh medium school! The quality and accessibility of proper Welsh medium education in Powys is shameful	Since 2016, the Council has recognised that 'it is desirable to establish a category 2A school', and work is proceeding towards achieving this, as outlined in the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2017-20.
14.7.2	There is no consideration of a designated Welsh-medium school in the document – this is the option that would best meet the needs of Welsh-medium pupils, especially pupils from non Welsh speaking homes	The options considered were based on establishing an all-through school model in Llanfyllin, and not a change of language category. If there was a need to change language category, this would be subject to another consultation.
14.7.3	Alternative proposal that the Welsh-medium stream of Llanfyllin Primary School becomes a Welsh-medium primary school, and the English-medium stream of Llanfyllin Primary School merges with Llanfechain to create a new English-medium primary school	Llanfechain Primary School is not currently under review, and has recently federated with another nearby Church in Wales School.
14.8 Should include other feeder schools		
14.8.1	Should be looking at something more transformational in Lanfyllin which also serves the surrounding villages	As outlined in the Consultation Document, the proposal was developed following an invitation from the governing bodies of Llanfyllin C.P. School and Llanfyllin High School for the Council to meet with them to discuss the all-through school model. No requests were received to extend these discussions to other schools in the catchment. Should any feeder schools express a wish to be part of the all-through school model, the Council would consider any such

		requests. However, the Council's current focus is on working with communities to develop proposals.
14.9 Other		
14.9.1	Not all options have been considered as consideration has only been given to community schools	As both current schools are community schools, this was considered to be the most suitable category for the proposed new school. The alternative would be to have proposed opening a new Voluntary Aided or Voluntary Controlled School, however schools of these categories are usually Church in Wales schools.

15. OTHER QUERIES								
15.1	What will happen to the provision for the playgroup and the cylch who have recently moved into the primary school to deliver early years education from age 3?	Any decision to establish an all-through school in Llanfyllin would not directly impact the current arrangements for early years provision, which would continue as per the existing contract.						
15.2	Request for confirmation of the timelines for key decisions within the process	<p>The Council is continuing to work to the indicative timescale outlined in the Consultation Document:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Consultation Report to be published, and considered by Full Council and Cabinet</td> <td>February / March 2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">If Cabinet decide to proceed:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Publish Statutory Notice (28 days objection period)</td> <td>April / May 2019</td> </tr> </table>	Consultation Report to be published, and considered by Full Council and Cabinet	February / March 2019	If Cabinet decide to proceed:		Publish Statutory Notice (28 days objection period)	April / May 2019
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New school opens	1 st September 2020															
15.3	Will the change happen from September 2019?	The current proposal is to establish the new school from September 2020.														
15.4	What will be the make up of the governing body – how many members will there be?	<p>As indicated on page Consultation Document, the new Governing Body is likely to include the following number of governors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent Governor – 6 LEA Governor – 5 Tacher Governor – 2 Staff Governor – 1 Community Governors – 5 Headteacher – 1 														

15.5	<p>The two schools have governing bodies that know their schools well, it would be a shame to lose this expertise.</p>	<p>Should the proposal to establish an all-through school proceed, a temporary governing body would initially be established. The temporary governing body would be formed from current members of the two governing bodies, which would ensure that the expertise of current members of the two governing bodies is retained.</p> <p>A permanent governing body would be established once the new school was open, and members would be appointed in accordance with the Regulations. However, there is no reason why current members of the two governing bodies could not be members of the new school's governing body, should they wish.</p>
15.6	<p>What would the name of the new school be?</p>	<p>The temporary governing body would need to decide the name of the new school. However, it is likely that there would be opportunities for pupils to take part in this.</p>