

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

CABINET EXECUTIVE

9th June 2020

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies
Portfolio Holder for Education and Property

REPORT TITLE: Transforming Education Programme

REPORT FOR: Information

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Cabinet of the new programme arrangements and governance to deliver the Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys 2020-2030. The Cabinet are also asked to note that the programme is continuing with its implementation during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

1.2 The report is supported by the following appendices:

- **Appendix A** Workstream 1 Plan: All Age Schools and Primaries
- **Appendix B** Workstream 2 Plan: Post-16 provision
- **Appendix C** Workstream 3 Plan: Welsh-medium provision
- **Appendix D** Workstream 4 Plan: ALN provision.

2. Background

2.1 The new Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys 2020-30 was approved by the Leader of the Council on 14th April 2020. The Strategy includes the following four **Strategic Aims**:

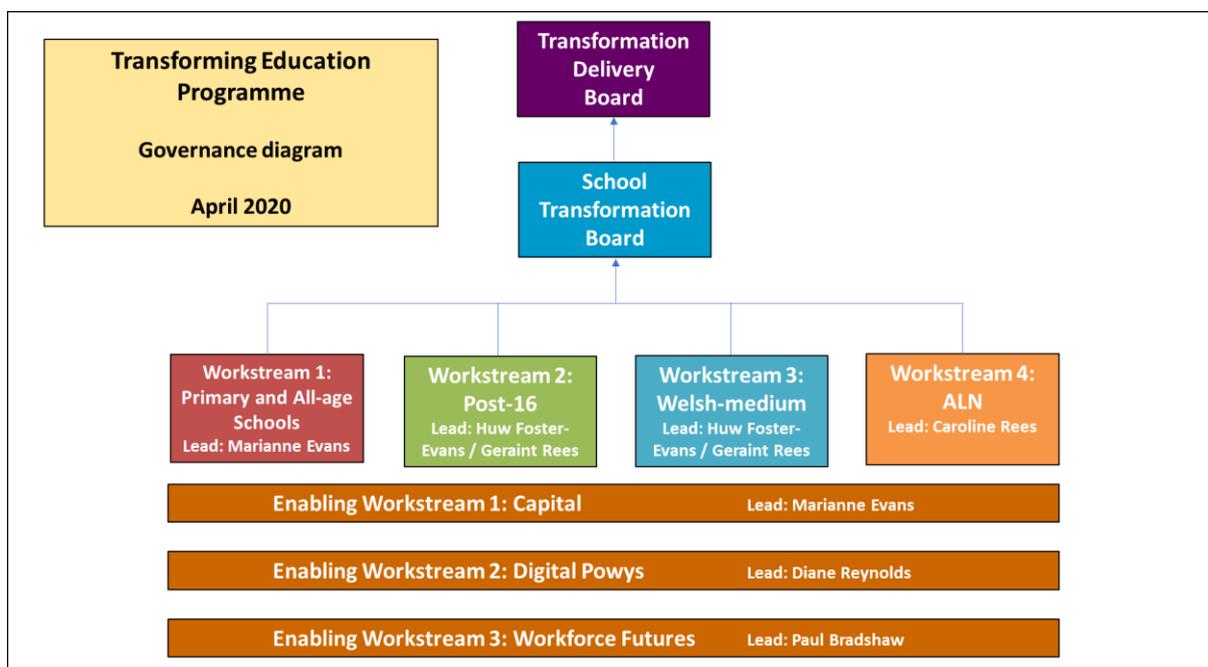
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| Strategic Aim 1 | We will improve learner entitlement and experience |
| Strategic Aim 2 | We will improve learner entitlement and experience for post-16 learners |
| Strategic Aim 3 | We will improve access to Welsh-medium provision across all key stages |
| Strategic Aim 4 | We will improve the provision for learners with SEN/ALN. |

2.2 In order to deliver the Strategy effectively, a new 'Transforming Education Programme' has been established, which was approved by the Schools Transformation Programme Board on the 13th May 2020.

2.3 Four workstreams have been established to deliver the strategic aims, as follows:

- Workstream 1: All-age schools and primaries
- Workstream 2: Post-16 provision
- Workstream 3: Welsh-medium provision
- Workstream 4: ALN provision

2.4 The programme governance is illustrated below:



2.5 Whilst the workstreams have similar terms of reference and membership structures, each has a separate programme plan to deliver specific outcomes and outputs related to the respective strategic aim. However, it is important to note that these workstreams will not operate in isolation of each other, given the significant level of interdependency that exists between the four strategic aims.

2.6 Further detail about each workstream is set out in the appendices. Please note that the plans for workstream 1, 3 and 4 are for 2020-2022, whilst workstream 2 (post-16) has a longer-term plan, to reflect the nature of the work involved to reform post-16 provision.

2.7 The Schools Transformation Programme Board is responsible for ensuring that the programme is on track to deliver to the agreed milestones. However, some elements of the programme may be delayed due to the impact of COVID-19, in particular consultation processes related to workstream one. Further guidance has been sought from the Welsh

Government about whether there may be a change to the legislative requirements, however, it is unlikely that these requirements will be relaxed.

3. Advice

3.1 It is advised that Cabinet note the programme governance as set out above, including the workstream scope and plans that will enable effective governance and delivery of the programme.

3.2 Cabinet is also advised to note the continued implementation of the programme during the current COVID-19 emergency. The programme planning that has been undertaken assumes that it will not be possible to commence any statutory processes until schools are open, and that this will not be possible until September 2020 at the earliest. Should the position change, then some proposals may proceed earlier than September 2020.

4. Resource Implications

4.1 At its meeting on the 13th May 2020, the Schools Transformation Programme Board approved a resource plan to support the delivery of the programme. Appropriate resourcing will be essential to ensure the successful delivery of the programme. A resource analysis has been undertaken and costed as follows:

2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
£1.7m	£1.8m	£1.9m	£1.9m

The figures above include:

- 8.5 FTE posts that are currently within the Council and working on transformation
- 9 new FTE posts, including programme officers, programme support, communications support, legal, HR and finance support
- Specialist external support to provide educational advice, change management expertise and business case expertise
- Additional associated costs e.g. funding of headteachers to lead change processes in individual schools, building disposal costs etc.

Where possible, all staffing costs will be capitalised from the 21st C Schools Programme as agreed, in principle, with the Welsh Government.

At times during the life of this programme, there may be a number of formal consultation proposals undertaken at the same time. Additional support may be required to carry out consultation analysis, or other tasks – this could be resourced by utilising other staff/teams within the Council or externally.

4.2 The Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer) notes the resourcing requirements and sources of funding, should the availability of funding through the 21st C schools Programme not be confirmed by Welsh Government alternative funding will need to be secured or the resource plan amended.

5. Legal implications

5.1 Legal: The recommendation can be supported from a legal point of view.

5.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) has commented as follows: “ I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report”.

6. Comment from local member(s)

6.1 Not applicable.

7. Integrated Impact Assessment

7.1 On the 14th April 2020, the new Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys 2020-30 was approved by the Leader of the Council – an Integrated Impact Assessment was included as part of the Strategy.

8. Recommendation

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Notes the programme governance and workstream plans as outlined in this report and appendices A, B, C and D, and
2. Notes the continuation of the programme during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

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CABINET REPORT TEMPLATE VERSION X

Background Papers used to prepare Report: