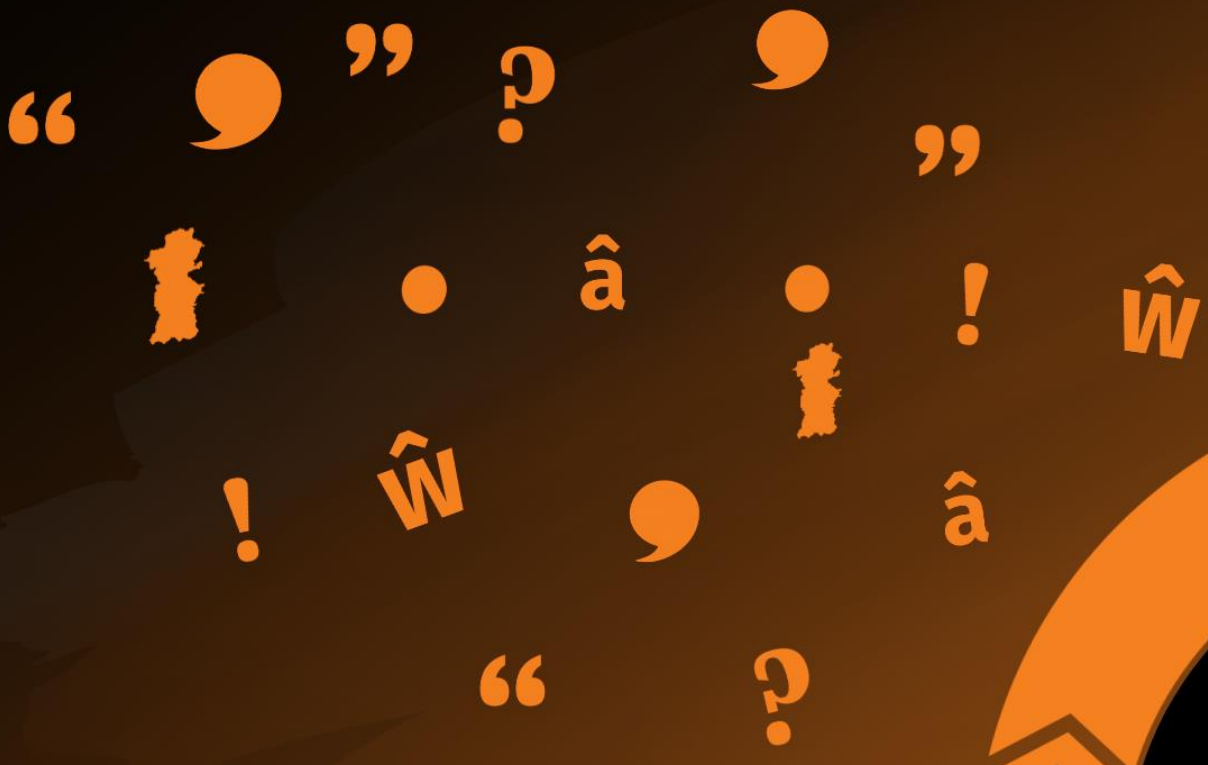




Changing the language category of Ysgol  
Dyffryn Trannon  
Consultation Report



# Consultation on changing the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon

## Contents

<b>1. OVERVIEW OF THE CONSULTATION</b> .....	<b>3</b>
i) Consultation methods .....	3
ii) Responses received .....	3
iii) Summary of issues raised .....	4
<b>2. CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>3. CONSULTATION WITH PUPILS</b> .....	<b>8</b>
i) A virtual meeting with the School Council of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon .....	8
ii) Summary of other comments made by pupils.....	11
<b>4. CONSULTATION MEETINGS WITH STAFF AND GOVERNORS</b> .....	<b>13</b>
i) Consultation meeting with Staff of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon .....	13
ii) Consultation meeting with Governors of Ysgol Dyffryn.....	14
<b>5. ESTYN</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>6. ISSUES RAISED DURING THE CONSULTATION PERIOD</b> .....	<b>22</b>

If you require a copy of the document in a different format, please contact the Transforming Education Team on 01597 826618, or e-mail [school.organisation@powys.gov.uk](mailto:school.organisation@powys.gov.uk).

# Consultation on changing the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon

## 1. OVERVIEW OF THE CONSULTATION

Powys County Council consulted on a proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon. The proposal was as follows:

- To make a regulated alteration to alter the medium of instruction at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon to Welsh-medium
- This would be introduced on a phased basis, year-by-year, starting with Reception in September 2022

The consultation took place from the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021 to the 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

### i) 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 (2018). A separate version for pupils 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 Transforming Education Team at County Hall, or by e-mailing / writing to the Transforming Education Team.

Meetings were held virtually with the following:

- Staff of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon – 23 March 2021
- Governors of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon – 23 March 2021
- Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon School Council – 24 March 2021

### ii) Responses received

A total of 71 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, 9 written responses were received from respondents, including Estyn. The response received from Estyn is provided on page 18, in-line with the requirements of the School Organisation Code.

As well as responses from parents, prospective parents, members of staff and members of the community, responses were received from the following organisations:

Trefeglwys Community Council  
Llanidloes Town Council  
Mudiad Meithrin  
Rhieni Dros Addysg Gymraeg - RHAG

### iii) **Summary of issues raised**

The issues raised in the consultation responses are listed in detail in section 6 on page 22. This includes the Council's response to each issue. The following is a summary of the issues raised:

1. General support for the proposal
2. General disagreement with the proposal
3. Impact on pupils
4. Reference to English language provision / skills
5. Reference to the need for choice
6. Concern about impact on pupil numbers at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon in the future
7. Additional support that would be needed to support the change of language category
8. Reference to transport arrangements
9. Comments about Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon
10. Comments about other schools
11. Financial impact
12. Impact on staff
13. Impact on families / parents
14. Reference to early years provision
15. Reference to transition arrangements
16. Impact on the community
17. Comments about the Welsh language
18. Reference to Welsh-medium education delivery models
19. Reference to discrimination / inequality
20. Impact on protected characteristic groups
21. Comments about the consultation documentation
22. Comments about the consultation process
23. Reference to council strategies
24. Reference to alternative options

## 2. **CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM**

56 respondents completed the English language consultation response form which was available online, and 15 respondents completed the Welsh

language consultation response from which was available online. 8 respondents sent responses by email in English, and 1 respondent sent a response by email in Welsh.

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.

## Part 1 – About you

1. Please indicate how you are associated with the schools affected by this consultation:

Response	No.	%
Parent, carer or guardian	28	39.4%
Prospective parent, carer or guardian	9	12.7%
Governor	0	0.0%
Member of staff	1	1.4%
Member of the community	14	19.7%
Organisation	5	7.0%
No association	5	7.0%
Other	7	9.9%
Not Answered	2	2.8%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

2. Please specify which school you are associated with:

Response	No.	%
Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon	39	54.9%
Another school	6	8.5%
No association with any school	24	33.8%
Not Answered	2	2.8%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

3. Please provide your postcode:

Response	No.	%
Caersws / Carno / Trefeglwys	25	35.2%
Llanidloes / Llangurig	20	28.2%
Machynlleth	5	7.0%
Newtown	2	2.8%
Aberystwyth	2	2.8%
Cardiff / Penarth	1	1.4%
Hay on Wye	1	1.4%
Llandrindod Wells	1	1.4%
Brecon	1	1.4%

Newport	1	1.4%
Montgomery	1	1.4%
Telford	1	1.4%
Not answered	10	14.1%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Part 3 – About you

12. How old are you?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Under 16	1	1.4%
16-23	0	0.0%
25-34	11	15.5%
35-44	30	42.3%
45-54	9	12.7%
55-64	6	8.5%
65-74	4	5.6%
75-84	0	0.0%
85+	0	0.0%
Prefer not to say	10	14.1%
Not answered	0	0.0%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

13. What is your gender?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Male	12	16.9%
Female	49	69.0%
Gender Fluid	0	0.0%
Non-Binary	0	0.0%
Gender neutral	0	0.0%
Prefer not to say	10	14.1%
Not answered	0	0.0%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

14. Can you understand, speak or write Welsh?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	47	66.2%
No	10	14.1%
Prefer not to say	14	19.7%
Not answered	0	0.0%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

15. If you have school-aged children, are they entitled to receive free school meals?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	3	4.2%
No	44	62.0%
Prefer not to say	24	33.8%
Not answered	0	0.0%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

16. If you have school-aged children, do they have any additional learning needs?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	3	4.2%
No	44	62.0%
Prefer not to say	24	33.8%
Not answered	0	0.0%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

17. Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	0	0.0%
No	58	81.7%
Prefer not to say	13	18.3%
Not answered	0	0.0%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

18. What is your ethnic group?

<b>Response</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
White	59	83.1%
Asian	0	0.0%
Black, African or Caribbean	0	0.0%
Mixed	0	0.0%
Gypsy/Traveller	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
Prefer not to say	12	16.9%
Not Answered	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### 3. CONSULTATION WITH PUPILS

Comments received from pupils are outlined below. This includes the notes of a meeting held with pupils at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, as well as a summary of the written responses received from pupils to the consultation exercise.

#### i) A virtual meeting with the School Council of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon

Officers from the local authority met with the School Council of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon to get their views on the proposal.

The notes of these meetings are provided below:

#### **A meeting with the School Council of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon**

24th March 2021 – Held virtually on Microsoft Teams

**Present:** Marianne Evans, Sarah Astley, Huw Rowlands – Powys County Council

Officers from Powys County Council met virtually via Microsoft Teams with representatives from the School Council of Ysgol Dyffryn Trann to discuss the consultation to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon from dual-stream to Welsh-medium.

The session was held with two different groups of pupils from the school council, one group representing the English stream and the other representing the Welsh stream.

#### **English stream group**

The group consisted of one pupil in year 6 and one in pupil in year 4.

Officers explained the proposals for changing the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, and that they would like to have the views of the pupils on the proposal. The pupils understood that if the change was implemented, it would mean that there would be no English stream in Dyffryn Trannon, and all classes would be taught through the medium of Welsh. This would be phased over time and the proposal would therefore have no effect on existing pupils.

The pupils were asked several questions and their responses are summarised below:

What do you like about the two streams in Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon?

- Having two streams is very unique as there are not many bilingual schools



- I like being in a school with Welsh-medium pupils. I like things how they are.

What do you not like about the two streams in Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon?

- Nothing really. I like things as they are.

If things were to change, and the English medium provision was phased out of the school, what do you think about that? Do you have any concerns or questions about that?

- Over the last couple of years, numbers in the English stream have increased, as we have gained five pupils from the Welsh stream, and one from another school in Powys. There are now fifteen pupils in my class, but in September, when pupils go to high school, there will only be ten.

How many years do you have in your class and do you think that works well??

- Year 6, 5, 4, 3 and year 2. It can be a bit of a struggle, but it's working really well as we're all great friends and we're independent as well.

Do you mix with children of the Welsh stream, for example at playtime?

- Because of the pandemic, we now have our own bubbles. But before, we had lots of friends in the Welsh stream, even though they were in different classes.

If the proposal goes ahead, what do you think the effect of any change would be?

- I think that we have the best of both worlds at the moment, as we can speak English but also learn Welsh as well.

Any other comments?

- I don't think that enough people know of the English stream at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon. We are going to make posters and leaflets to let people know about the English stream at Dyffryn Trannon. I would like more children in my class.

### **Welsh stream pupils**

The group consisted of six pupils, years, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

Officers explained the proposals for changing the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, and that they would like to have the views of the pupils on

the proposal. The pupils understood that if the change was implemented, it would mean that there would be no English stream in Dyffryn Trannon, and all classes would be taught through the medium of Welsh. This would be phased over time and the proposal would therefore have no effect on existing pupils.

The pupils were asked several questions and their responses are summarised below:

### **Questions asked to pupils**

What do you think of the dual-stream system? Is it good or bad?

- There are not many pupils in the English stream – there are far more in the Welsh stream. Children in the Welsh stream can speak both languages

Before you had to form bubbles, were the children of the Welsh and English stream mixing?

- Not really, no, only a little. Welsh stream pupils tend to play with Welsh stream pupils and English stream pupils tend to play with English stream pupils

Do you think that it would be better if Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon only had a Welsh stream?

- I'm not sure. There are not many pupils in the English stream, but they might go to other schools where they are only taught in English
- It would be good just to have one stream, as then everybody would be able to speak Welsh, and more Welsh would be spoken at home

Do you think that there will be a problem if a new family which doesn't speak Welsh moves to the area, and Welsh is the only language of the school?

- Yes, it could be a problem, maybe children would go to other schools, further away than where they live.

### **Questions pupils asked**

I would like to know if children will have to speak Welsh all the time if the school's language category was changed.

- If the school's language category was changed, Welsh will be the school's language and you would speak Welsh as you do now.

Why are you considering this change?

- Because Powys County Council are concerned that there aren't enough children in the English stream at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, and no children whatsoever in the lower classes of the school, and the Council thinks that the school could be run better with only one language.

Will the English stream teacher have the opportunity to learn Welsh?

- Yes, every opportunity and support will be given for the English stream teacher to learn Welsh, if she so wishes

What will happen to the English stream teacher?

- She will stay, because the English stream will still be here for some years, and she will have the opportunity to learn Welsh.

But when the English stream has ended, will she still have a job?

- That is something which will have to be considered at a later time, if this proposal goes forward.

Why do pupils not go to schools in England if they want to be taught in English?

- In Wales, there are two languages, Welsh and English, and both are the official languages of Wales. There are English schools in the area, such as in Caersws, Llandinam and Llanidloes primary. Dyffryn Trannon is the only school in the area which teaches in Welsh.

Why can't the children themselves choose whether they want to attend the English stream or the Welsh stream?

- It was explained that Powys County Council were worried that pupil numbers in the English stream were very small, and because most pupils were in the Welsh stream, it might be better for the school to be just a Welsh-medium school, as the school could be better run with only one language. However, we are here to listen to what everyone has to say, as we haven't yet made a final decision.

Pupils and the school were thanked for their time in attending the meeting and providing their views.

## ii) **Summary of other comments made by pupils**

In addition to the meeting with the School Council, 1 online responses and 0 written responses were received from pupils. Here is a summary of the issues raised in these responses:

- If people want to go to Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon and they are from England they won't understand Welsh as good as other people would and so they would have to go to the English and so they would live in Trefeglwys but have to go to another school.
- It is a lot easier to read with Mum and Dad in English than Welsh because their Welsh is rubbish but they tried hard. Lockdown has been easier because I am in the English class. People in the Welsh class their parents probably didn't understand as much Welsh and so if the English class shuts they will have to move school or just keep going with the same Welsh even if they don't understand.
- I enjoy going to Urdd club and doing Urdd activities since I moved into the English class. I go to DM Pro and after school club and Urdd club where I see more of my other friends from the Welsh class.
- If people have to get buses to go home it is more tricky for them to go to clubs.
- I like working with older pupils in the class, it helps me with hard stuff. I like helping the younger people. It is much easier to show Miss my work in the English class and there are not so many people shouting across the room to another person.
- Don't shut down the English class as younger siblings won't be able to go to the school.
- We could make posters and hang them around places to tell people the English stream is important and know there is an English stream in Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.
- If the English class shuts and pupils have to go to another school it would be harder for them to do after school things.
- Why are the questions on this form so hard to understand? There is good presentation for kids but no kids form to fill in.

#### **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 Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon**

- Will there be a meeting for parents as part of the consultation?
- How are responses recorded – are names recorded?
- Will the finance currently provided to Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon as a dual-stream school remain the same if the school is a Welsh stream school?
- If the proposal goes ahead, and if for example there is only one pupil in the English stream, would there be a commitment from the authority that the pupil will be funded?
- Would children from Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's Welsh stream be feeding Ysgol Bro Hyddgen or Llanidloes High School?
- Would transport be arranged if pupils wished to attend the secondary provision at Ysgol Bro Hyddgen?
- Will Llanidloes High-School continue to be a dual-stream school if this proposal goes forward?
- As a result of changes to Powys Admissions Policy, only Dyffryn Trannon pupils will be transferring to the Welsh stream at Llanidloes in the future, and they will not have the opportunity to mix with other children and make new friends with other children in the community.
- If parents decide that their children should have English-medium education, what school would they attend, and would they have transport provided?
- Pupils currently in the English stream have the uncertainty of not knowing for how long they will be together.
- Pupils in an English stream in a dual-stream school have the opportunity to mix with pupils in the Welsh stream, and therefore have the opportunity to improve their Welsh. I am concerned that if pupils move to an English-medium school, they will not have this opportunity.
- A lot of changes will be made by the new Welsh curriculum, and as people move into the area, they will have the opportunity to see that Welsh isn't just in the classroom, but it is in the corridor, a living language, and they will be able to blend into the community and it is a positive change happening in Wales.
- After lockdown and all the home learning, you have Welsh learners in homes where there are non-Welsh speaking parents. How sure are you that if you do go forward with the transformation, these families will want to stay in a Welsh stream school because it might have raised the question for some families that at the end of the foundation phase, it would be better for them to go into the English stream? Will you be looking at definite numbers to know how many children in the next stage

of the foundation phase will be wanting to go into the Welsh stream? Otherwise they will be leaving to go to other schools in the catchment area, when we know a school like Llanidloes have large class sizes already.

- There is chatter between parents whose children are due to start with us in Reception this year. They are nervous because they were choosing Trefeglwys because of the safety net of the English stream should the Welsh stream not work out for them. We could lose those children altogether if parents do not feel their children will have that safety net. I don't know what the answer is, but I know they are anxious and a few of them are re-thinking their options.
- There are still a few children in the English stream class who have moved out of the Welsh stream classes as they cannot keep up with it. What is the back-up plan for those children, as there could be many more and what will the provision be for those?
- A pupil has already left Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon because of the consultation. They were afraid of the outcome of the consultation. I feel that the village will be split. You have so many coming in by bus to the school and you will find the children being bussed out of the village as well.
- If we were a Welsh-medium school then we could encourage people to speak Welsh on the playground and in the corridors, and their Welsh language ability would be much better. At the moment, being a dual-stream, it is difficult to encourage children to speak Welsh when they are playing with children who are non-Welsh speaking. If it was all in Welsh, they would be immersed in Welsh and would pick it up a lot easier.
- Staffing in a Welsh-medium school is difficult. Do Powys have a scheme where we can recruit Welsh speaking staff to come to the school? We find it difficult to find Welsh language staff as there are very few in the area, so what can the Council do in relation to this?

## **ii) Consultation meeting with Governors of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon**

- There is a question regarding the finance of the school going forward and the continuity of education.
- What is the long-term plan when children reach 11 in terms of the local provision.
- There is a fear for the school that if there is nowhere for the pupils to move on to when 11, the concern is that parents would vote with their feet, with the school diminishing in size as a consequence. People need to see a strategy in place.
- The provision in Machynlleth is too far, and I don't think parents would choose to send their children there.
- What are the numbers required to make the English stream viable?
- I like the concept of a dual-stream school, although I appreciate that there are challenges because the numbers never add up and they will

never add up. It strikes me that this is the beginning of the end for the dual-stream schools concept if this proposal goes forward. Are you saying that dual-stream schools have no future full stop?

- There is a more transient nature to population these days. Trefeglwys village is growing, and it is possible that the outlook of some parents will be short term. They might see themselves moving elsewhere in a few years and therefore Welsh language provision might not be attractive to them. I am therefore concerned that we will see many parents sending their children out of Trefeglwys to their nearest English-medium school.
- What language category will YDT be if the proposal goes forward under the proposed Welsh Government new language categories?
- The concern is unless the secondary option is strong, the school would not necessarily go under, but that could weaken the school from the point of view of parents.
- What are the numbers in Caersws and Llandinam?
- If a Welsh-medium stream was introduced in Llanidloes, and the children who travel in by bus from Llanidloes end up going to Llanidloes instead, what effect will that have on the school?
- The school has a unique selling point being dual-stream, it just needs to be promoted better. Many people don't understand what dual-stream means. We could expand the promotion of the English stream, and COVID hasn't helped. Maybe we could pause the consultation process for the promotion to have time to work. It needs time for the promotion of the English stream to work. The past 12 months have made it difficult.
- Both my daughters attend the English stream and both can speak Welsh. I don't see the system broken, it just needs enhancing. It has been said that this proposal is not about saving money, but I think it is because you're funding two schools and can see a way to save money because of the decline of the English. We need to keep what we've got and just do it better.
- The decline of the promotion of the dual-stream has happened over a number of years. Had the dual-stream been actively promoted we wouldn't be having this conversation now.
- Let's maintain what we have, which is unique to any other school in the area.
- In the past the language in Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon was 50/50 split. The school has seen a sustained level of uptake in the Welsh language, despite the fact that we don't have the secondary provision we should have.
- Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon needs to be a future part of the estate in Powys – a stream in Llanidloes could take half of the pupils we have in Trefeglwys.
- I was pleased and relieved to see the commitment from Powys that all current English stream pupils will continue to be able to be taught in the English stream.

- What level of assurance can Powys can give about the continuity of English provision should the proposal be implemented, as the numbers may taper off in the English stream.
- What were the drivers for Dyffryn Trannon being selected for this process at this time, when there are other dual-stream schools or small schools?
- What consideration was given for the consultation to be undertaken on a cluster basis so that we could see better how the pieces of the jigsaw for the cluster fitted together because many of the queries we have had tonight relate to unknown quantities because the picture for the cluster as a whole was unclear.
- Why is Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon being consulted for change when Transforming Education talked about the future of small schools as well as dual-stream schools. Why are we not looking at other schools in the cluster? All the other schools in the cluster are small schools which would potentially realise similar if not greater financial savings than Dyffryn Trannon, then why are you not moving those schools along the language continuum, as all the other schools in the cluster are English-medium.
- What method is the local authority using for those with low or no literacy ability to ensure that they are able to contribute to the consultation?
- The Integrated Impact Assessment refers to activities should the school move along the language continuum, such as enhanced Urdd participation and Menter Maldwyn, all of which are already in place. I just wonder if the Integrated Impact Assessment will be revised further in the process, to reflect the reality of the situation as I don't feel it currently reflects the extent of the extra-curricular and Welsh cultural language activities taking place at the school.
- Will it be possible for Welsh stream pupils to transfer to the English stream after September 2022 should they wish to do so?
- What consideration has Powys given to the potential detrimental impact on recruiting pupils to the Welsh stream by not having a dual-stream site which gives parents the flexibility of moving to the English stream if things don't work out?
- The School Organisation Code on page 9 stipulates that projected transport costs needs to be included and I'm interested in CO2 emissions. None has been included in the Integrated Impact Assessment. Will it be included?
- There are some pupils in this village which if the proposal goes ahead will need to be bussed to alternative provision. There will be data available to make a reasonable assumption as to projected transport costs to make the Impact Assessment a more balanced document.
- We need to embrace this as a positive going forward. The parents have chosen to send their pupils to the Welsh stream.
- We need more detail to make an informed decision.



- I have no doubt that a dual-stream is very beneficial to the pupils' experience.
- I have long term concerns that the numbers of pupils coming to Welsh-medium would plummet.
- There is no evidence of any proactive justification for YDT's proposed change of status – no strategic context i.e. the case made for change appears to be YDT in isolation with no real strategy evident.
- All the reasons cited in support of the proposal could be questioned – the disadvantages listed are fewer in number but potentially have a bigger impact – the risks are understated. Reference is made to impact on other schools but what about the impact on YDT of decisions taken by other schools? – evidence of current / future need or demand appears to ignore the current building work going on and expansion of the village – it is claimed that the impact of the proposal on the community would be minimal but it could well be extremely divisive if we see the children from the village being transported to Llanidloes for their education.
- In approx 2005, the language balance was almost a mirror image of where we have been in the last 5 years or so – admittedly not quite as extreme as the current position but indicative, nevertheless, of an often highly unpredictable issue.
- What is the PCC methodology for reviewing and presenting responses to Cabinet?
- What lessons learned have been considered from elsewhere in Powys or further afield on ALN impact, what is the evidence base to show outcomes ALN pupils taught through a language that may not be spoken at home are comparable to the outcomes of pupils taught in their first language?

## 5. ESTYN

Estyn's response to the consultation is provided below:

### **Estyn's response to the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon**

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**

The proposal is by Powys County Council. The proposal is to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon. The proposal is as follows.

- To make a regulated alteration to alter the medium of instruction at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon from dual stream to Welsh-medium.
- This would be introduced on a phased basis, year-by-year, starting with Reception in September 2022, with the aim of all of the school's pupils receiving Welsh-medium provision, ensuring that all pupils are fluent in both Welsh and English.

#### **Summary/Conclusion**

The proposal aligns with the Welsh Government's aim of achieving a million Welsh speakers by 2050 (Cymraeg 2050: A Million Welsh Speakers) by increasing the use of the Welsh language in education in Powys.

The proposal is consistent with the objectives of Powys County Council's strategy to transform education in Powys, which includes the aim to 'improve

access to Welsh-medium provision across all key stages' and the objective to 'move schools along the language continuum'.

The proposal is also consistent with Estyn's recommendation in its report on Powys County Council's local authority education services, namely 'ensure that the organisation of provision for non-maintained, post-16, Welsh-medium education and secondary education meets the needs of the children and young people of Powys'. The Council has given appropriate consideration to a range of options and has chosen the above proposal.

Estyn is of the opinion that this proposal is at least likely to maintain the current standards of education.

### **Description and benefits**

The proposer provides a clear and rigorous rationale for the logic behind the proposal. It notes fairly that this proposal aligns with the objectives of Powys County Council's strategy to transform education in Powys, in addition to the Welsh Government objectives to increase the number of Welsh speakers.

The proposer identifies clearly the reasons for the proposal, which include improving educational outcomes, improving educational provision, improving leadership and management, improving efficiency in the delivery of education, and increasing the number of pupils who receive Welsh-medium education.

The proposer identifies the advantages, disadvantages and risks associated with the proposal, and the different options in a balanced way. It states firmly why it favours the proposal, and refers soundly to the benefits of changing the language category of the school. The proposal has given valid consideration to other options. These include maintaining the status quo, changing the language category to English-medium, and the favoured option, namely to change the school's language category to Welsh-medium.

The proposer has given thorough consideration to the proposal's effect on Welsh-medium provision within the authority. It states fairly that the proposal would have a positive effect on that provision, and asserts firmly that Welsh-medium education is the best way to ensure that young people become fully bilingual in Welsh and English.

This point of view aligns with the Education Minister's statement in the foreword of 'Guidance on Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Welsh Government 2021), as follows: 'Cymraeg 2050 is clear that Welsh-medium immersion – which is where the medium of teaching and learning is delivered wholly or predominantly through the medium of Welsh – is the most reliable model for creating Welsh speakers with the skills and confidence to use the language comfortably in their everyday lives.'

The proposer has given sufficient consideration to the proposal's effect on the community and the travel arrangements for pupils who choose English-medium education. It identifies clearly that there are currently very few children in the English stream, and that there are no pupils in the English stream in the Reception class and Year 1. It acknowledges in a balanced way that should pupils choose to attend English-medium provision rather than attend the Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, that there would be an increase in distance and travel time. However, it identifies correctly that there are three English schools in the Llanidloes catchment area, two of which are within five miles of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon. As a result, it states reasonably that distance and travel time to alternative English-medium provision would not be excessive.

### **Educational aspects of the proposal**

The proposer gives detailed consideration to the proposal's effect on the quality of outcomes, provision and leadership within the school.

It refers relevantly to the outcomes of the latest Estyn inspection reports for Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, in addition to the latest inspection of Powys County Council's local authority education services.

It concludes reasonably that it does not anticipate any negative effects on the quality of standards of education, wellbeing and learning experiences for pupils who currently attend the school. It outlines fairly that should the proposal be implemented, the change to the school's language category would be introduced on a phased basis. As a result, pupils who currently receive English-medium provision within the school will be able to continue to receive that provision until they leave the school.

The proposer asserts strongly that the proposal will have a positive effect on pupils' education, including provision, standards and pupils' progress. It states firmly that resources will be able to be used more effectively as there will be no need to duplicate provision in both languages. It will also avoid teaching pupils in small classes with several year groups in each class, as is currently the case in the English stream. It states clearly that this will have a positive effect on the school's ability to teach a full curriculum in the foundation phase and all other relevant key stages.

The proposer identifies decisively that the proposal will lead to all pupils being taught together, which will ensure better cohesion and a consistent language continuum across the school, which will have a positive effect on pupils' wellbeing.

It acknowledges in a balanced way that the school would be required to provide a high level of support for pupils from families that speak little or no Welsh at home, in order to meet their particular educational needs.

The proposer has conducted an equality impact assessment and asserts reasonably that the proposal should not have a detrimental effect on any particular groups. It states robustly that the proposal would have a positive effect on pupils that belong to those groups. The proposer has given appropriate consideration to the possible disruption to current pupils, and has taken suitable action to minimise any effect on them.

## 6. ISSUES RAISED DURING THE CONSULTATION PERIOD

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

### 1. GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL

1.1	I welcome the proposal to change the school from dual stream to Welsh medium. This will be a great opportunity for the people and rural economy.	Comment noted.
1.2	The proposal could attract a greater calibre of pupils from neighbouring communities who want to attend a first Welsh language medium school.	Comment noted.
1.3	I think it's a fab idea. People have choice as there is an English school in Llani.	Comment noted.
1.4	A sensible idea.	Comment noted.
1.5	I would like to express my support for the plans to change the language of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.	Comment noted.
1.6	I agree with the consultation, by creating a fully Welsh educational setting, PCC are striving to maintain and support the Welsh language whilst offering English first language a fantastic setting in Llanidloes to thrive.	Comment noted.

1.7	I'm fully supportive of this proposal and am pleased that Powys is taking positive steps to transform the Welsh-medium education provision in the county, specifically in the Llanidloes catchment – it's a vital step forward to create a bilingual Wales and bilingual young people for the future, particularly by 2050.	Comment noted.
1.8	I think changing the school's language category to Welsh-medium is a positive first step towards expanding Welsh-medium education in Powys.	Comment noted.
1.9	I fully support the school becoming a Welsh Medium school. Llanidloes has a well-established English medium school to ensure that parents have a choice about the language their child is taught through.	Comment noted.
1.10	I support the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, and to implement the change over time.	Comment noted.
1.11	I think this is a GREAT idea! More schools in Powys should be through the medium of Welsh.	Comment noted.
1.12	An excellent proposal – which is much too late.	Comment noted.

1.13	The Llanidloes area has suffered a lack of Welsh-medium education for years. This is now improving with a Welsh-medium nursery, a Welsh-medium Cylch Meithrin and now the possibility of a Welsh-medium school. This is essential for the future of the language and to give pupils in the area the best future.	Comment noted.
1.14	We completely support the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon to a Welsh medium only school.	Comment noted.
1.15	Excellent – the school is mostly Welsh-medium already, and this provision needs to be formalised to support the revival of the language in the area.	Comment noted.
1.16	The proposal makes sense in many respects.	Comment noted.
1.17	It makes sense because of the low numbers in the English stream.	Comment noted.
1.18	I agree with the proposal to change the school's language category.	Comment noted.
1.19	Surely this is a big step in the right direction.	Comment noted.
1.20	The vast majority of the pupils that come through Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon go through the Welsh stream so surely this is common sense.	Comment noted.



1.21	Agree with the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon from dual stream to Welsh Medium as it important to encourage as much Welsh Medium teaching as possible in the local area.	Comment noted.
1.22	It's just all positive.	Comment noted.
1.23	We welcome this proposal. We know that the numbers in the English stream are small, and that now is the time to establish this school as a Welsh-medium school.	Comment noted.
1.24	We fully support the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon from dual stream to Welsh-medium.	Comment noted.
1.25	This is the best option for Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon and the Llanidloes catchment in my view.	Comment noted.
1.26	It's clear that a designated Welsh-medium school is needed in this area and as the school already has a strong Welsh stream, this is an excellent opportunity to strengthen the Welsh-medium provision further in this area, and to contribute to increasing the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium provision in the county.	Comment noted.
1.27	A proposal of this kind is a massive opportunity for the area.	Comment noted.

1.28	We need to embrace this as a positive going forward. The parents have chosen to send their pupils to the Welsh stream.	Comment noted.

## 2. GENERAL DISAGREEMENT WITH THE PROPOSAL

2.1	It will be such a shame to change the set-up of the school.	Comment noted, however as outlined in the consultation document issued in respect of this proposal, the numbers currently accessing the English stream at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon are very low, and also means that not all pupils attending the school have the opportunity become fully bilingual in Welsh and English.
2.2	I think it would be a real shame to remove the English stream at YDT.	As above.
2.3	I am totally against this proposal.	As above.
2.4	YDT school should remain dual stream. I do not think the school should be changing to Welsh medium only.	As above.
2.5	As a parent from an English-speaking home, I feel changing the school to Welsh stream only is not a positive way forward.	As above.
2.6	In such a large village as Trefeglwys with so many young families who move to the area, it is such a shame to make this a purely Welsh medium only school.	As above.

2.7	The village of Trefeglwys isn't strong enough (Welsh language wise) to support a single stream school.	As above.
2.8	I find it such a shame that a school with such an inclusive and long standing history will no longer be offering education through both Welsh and English medium.	As above.
2.9	I cannot see any positives in making the school a Welsh speaking school.	As above.
2.10	I think it is a great sadness that the school may become Welsh only in the near future.	As above.
2.11	I do not support the preferred option to move YDT along the language continuum by discontinuing English medium provision at the school.	As above.
2.12	We are deeply concerned about the impact should this proposal go through and are strongly opposed to it.	As above.
2.13	I totally disagree with this proposal as there is a real need for a dual stream school in Trefeglwys.	As above.
2.14	Don't shut down the English class I want my little sister to be able to go to Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon and she won't be able to. Please don't shut the English stream down.	As above.
2.15	We were really disappointed, though not surprised, to learn about the consultation on the status of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon (YDT) from a dual-stream school to a Welsh-language only school.	As above.

2.16	Please stop making changes that affect our children and the focus of local communities. This will not directly affect me but this does not mean we do not feel strongly about the impact on the community and its children.	As above.
2.17	I do not see any positive effects for the proposal to Welsh or English stream students. I think it is simply Powys County Council trying to close another country school.	As outlined in the consultation document issued in respect of this proposal, the numbers currently accessing the English stream at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon are very low, and also means that not all pupils attending the school have the opportunity become fully bilingual in Welsh and English. The Council is not 'trying to close another country school'.
2.18	I do not agree with the proposal that Ysgol Dyffryn Trefeglwys becomes a Welsh speaking school only, the focus should be on the quality of the teaching as a priority not the prejudice decision of a single language.	The Council's view is that changing the school's language category would enable the school to focus on teaching all pupils in one language stream, and through one language medium, which would have a positive impact on the quality of teaching at the school.
2.19	Turning this school into an all Welsh unit would kill a village school and turn it into an elitist Welsh unit providing not for the village but for Llanidloes.	The Council does not agree with this statement. Whilst pupils from Llanidloes would continue to attend Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon to access Welsh-medium provision, the school would continue to be available to pupils living in the village of Trefeglwys.
2.20	The proposal is discouraging the English language.	The proposal is not discouraging the English language. Should the proposal be implemented, all pupils at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon would eventually access Welsh-medium education, ensuring that they would be fluent in both Welsh and English.

2.21	I am shocked that yet again, we are trying to make changes to schools in Powys that are not beneficial to the children and wider community.	The Council's view is that the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon would be beneficial to the children and the wider community.
------	---	---

### 3. IMPACT ON PUPILS

#### 3.1 Positive impact on pupils

##### 3.1.1 All pupils would have the opportunity to be bilingual

3.1.1.1	When children are immersed in a language at a very young age they will pick it up more easily. Being bi-lingual is not detrimental to children but improves and enriches their lives, making them understand our rich and colourful culture here in Wales.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.2	There is a gap in terms of Welsh-medium schools in the county, and it's essential that our children and young people have the option to learn in Welsh. This will be a huge benefit to them when looking for jobs in years to come. I strongly believe that this should not be dependent on postcode.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.3	The school needs to become a Welsh-medium school so that the pupils have the best opportunity to be confident in Welsh. The children have plenty of opportunities to speak and hear English everywhere, so there is a need to increase their opportunities to use Welsh.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.4	This will be beneficial to them when looking for jobs in years to come.	Comment noted.

3.1.1.5	Thousands of pupils in Powys have missed out on their right to receive Welsh-medium education in the past – thousands that could be Welsh speakers by now. It's time to take action to offer Welsh-medium education, which is the basic right of all children.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.6	Provides an additional opportunity as it will enable all children to be bilingual.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.7	Changing the school's language category would ensure that children in the area have a brighter future. What better than bilingual education.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.8	Being able to use the Welsh language and be fluent in Welsh will be a benefit to all children, and will expand their horizons.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.9	Being able to communicate, write and read confidently in Welsh are skills that many employers are looking for. This will improve the opportunities for young people to stay in their local areas.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.10	Will improve the opportunities and job prospects for our children to remain in Wales after the completion of their education.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.11	Welsh-medium education raises confident children, with the language opening new doors for them, and providing additional opportunities for a whole generation of children.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.12	There are numerous benefits to being bilingual, especially in a bilingual country such as Wales. Powys citizens will benefit if the Council takes positive steps such as this in all catchments.	Comment noted.

3.1.1.13	Welsh-medium education will ensure that all children leave the school fluent in Welsh and English. The only children that can currently communicate confidently in Welsh and English are the children that access Welsh-medium education. This is true bilingualism. Continuity in education from the early years through to post-16 / further education is key with the need for fluency in both languages for the workforce.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.14	The proposal would provide opportunities for all children in the area to be totally bilingual, which would improve their employment opportunities in the future, and will provide additional opportunities for them to contribute to community life.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.15	The proposal would improve pupils' confidence in using Welsh.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.16	All pupils would leave the school fully bilingual and would have the opportunity to be fluent / confident in Welsh and English. This doesn't happen with the current arrangement.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.17	The proposal would give the pupils the confidence to use the Welsh language in the community.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.18	Being able to speak Welsh throughout the day e.g. during break times would benefit pupils' language skills and normalize speaking Welsh socially rather than it being something that just happens during lessons.	Comment noted.
3.1.1.19	If we were a Welsh-medium school then we could encourage people to speak Welsh on the playground and in the corridors, and their Welsh language ability would be much better. At the moment, being a dual-stream, it is difficult to encourage children to speak Welsh when they are playing with children who are	Comment noted.

	non-Welsh speaking. If it was all in Welsh, they would be immersed in Welsh and would pick it up a lot easier.	
--	--	--

### 3.1.2 Positive impact on the provision at the school

3.1.2.1	Including lots of year groups in the same class in the English stream causes challenges in terms of teaching and learning, and means that it is more difficult to give the children the best possible opportunities. Teaching them with their peers in one Welsh stream would provide better opportunities and experiences for them. All children would also develop bilingual skills, as opposed to only the children in the Welsh stream, which would provide a range of activities for them.	Comment noted.
3.1.2.2	The proposal would enable the school to get the best possible teaching force, streamline the running of the school and enable the school to focus on educating children.	Comment noted.

### 3.2 Concern about negative impact on pupils

#### 3.2.1 Concern that pupils would be disadvantaged

3.2.1.1	You are putting our amazing and talented children at a huge disadvantage against the English competitors.	The Council notes these concerns regarding the impact of the proposals on pupils. In order to minimise the impact on any pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, the proposal is to introduce any change to the school's language category on a phased basis, year by year. This would mean that
---------	---	--



		<p>pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school would be able to continue to access this provision until they leave the school.</p> <p>Any new pupils starting school would be able to access Welsh-medium provision when they start school, meaning that they would be fully immersed in the Welsh language, and would have the Welsh language skills needed to access Welsh-medium provision throughout their time in school.</p> <p>Across Wales, a significant proportion of pupils that access Welsh-medium education come from homes where no Welsh is spoken, and this does not impact on their ability to succeed in their education. Should the proposal be implemented, Welsh would eventually become the main language of communication within the school, which would enable all pupils to improve their Welsh language skills, and should enable those from non-Welsh speaking homes to develop more fluency in Welsh, ensuring that they are better able to thrive in Welsh-medium education.</p> <p>Alongside any change to the school's language category, the Council would ensure that additional provision such as immersion provision and additional language support would be available to support pupils and their families.</p>
3.2.1.2	Surely it is about the child learning in the best language that suits them. Many parents I know have on times have indeed	As above.

	<p>moved their child from the Welsh to the English. Or, moved them to another school as they felt at threat that the English would be taken away and the low class numbers. Others whose children have started High School have also opted for them to study in English. What does that tell you? That it is the need of the child that is the most important issue here.</p>	
3.2.1.3	<p>As a parent I am not happy with this option as it limits the options for my children if they struggle through the medium of Welsh.</p>	As above.
3.2.1.4	<p>This provides less variety for the children, less equality, cultural experience and may limit opportunities.</p>	As above.
3.2.1.5	<p>As a community, English is the main language, so is this fair on our pupils – that they attend a Welsh-medium school with nowhere to use the language?</p>	As above.
3.2.1.6	<p>It's great that the school has an English stream, I think changing it to just Welsh would be unfair for English people living in and around Trefeglwys.</p>	As above.
3.2.1.7	<p>Don't do it. You will disadvantage the children by stemming vocabulary in the national language – English.</p>	As above.
3.2.1.8	<p>It's the basic right of each child to be educated in their mother tongue.</p>	As above.
3.2.1.9	<p>There would be a positive impact on the language within the school, but it's unfair to the children if they don't have opportunities to use the language within the village.</p>	As above.

3.2.1.10	The ability to speak Welsh is important but to be taught in the medium of Welsh is a disadvantage.	Evidence in Wales would indicate that pupils from non-Welsh speaking backgrounds accessing Welsh-medium education have educational outcomes which are at least equivalent to their peers in English-medium schools.
3.2.1.11	It would be a missed opportunity given they could learn something that they can use to further Wales' and their own interests in a global world. Why handicap children in this way? Welsh will not increase any chances other than those of working for Welsh Government!	As above.
3.2.1.12	It would not help their future to look inward in this way. Welsh is only spoken in remote areas, not all of Wales. It is also split into two languages, north and south. So the statistics on speakers are showing speakers of two different languages. Why not give them a forward looking option rather than Welsh which is only useful in minimal circumstances. A pet project applied to a nations' children is morally questionable.	Welsh is a national language of Wales and is spoken across the country. Welsh isn't split into two different languages – like any language there are local dialects that enrich the language.
3.2.1.13	There is a significant amount of evidence that demonstrates that children thrive in a lower ratio class and therefore this would raise their educational attainment.	The greatest influence on the standards of pupil progress is the quality of teaching. Highly skilled teachers are able to differentiate learning to ensure all learners are able to make appropriate progress. The size of a class is not the determining factor as to whether learners make progress.

### 3.2.2 Concern that pupils will need to move schools / attend different schools

3.2.2.1	Trefeglwys children would be denied all the benefits of having a school within walking distance, lengthening their school day	Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn
---------	---	---

	considerably and also of making new school friends within their village.	<p>Trannon, Trefeglwys children would still be able to attend the school to access Welsh-medium provision, and they would continue to be able to benefit from having a school within walking distance.</p> <p>Whilst the Council would hope that pupils living in Trefeglwys would access Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, ultimately parents / pupils are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's language category, pupils / parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference, however this would mean that pupils living in Trefeglwys would no longer attend a school in the village.</p>
3.2.2.2	Many pupils travel into the area to access Welsh-medium provision, but it is children from the village itself that attend the English stream. If Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is a community school for the village and the local area, how can we take that choice away from them.	As above.
3.2.2.3	Children will not be able to join the school if this change goes ahead so will have to go elsewhere.	This statement is untrue. Should the Council proceed with the proposal, pupils from all backgrounds would continue to be able to join the school.
3.2.2.4	Due to the global pandemic and the unsettled affect it has on children parents will have to look at sending their children to a different school if it changes to just Welsh.	Comment noted. Should the Council proceed with the proposal, it would hope that pupils currently attending Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon would continue to

		do so, however ultimately parents / pupils are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose, and pupils / parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.
3.2.2.5	If pupils that are attending the Welsh stream were to struggle with the Welsh language and moving them to the English was the only option to better their learning, they would have to go to a different school (Llanidloes or Caersws) where they would leave behind their friends. Imagine what that would do to their confidence and social skills.	The Council is not expecting that any children should attend a different school.  Any new pupils starting school would be able to access Welsh-medium provision when they start school, meaning that they would be fully immersed in the Welsh language, and would have the Welsh language skills needed to access Welsh-medium provision throughout their time in school.
3.2.2.6	Currently the children who access the Welsh stream have the opportunity to move into the English stream when they are struggling with their learning and development. If the proposal goes ahead children who struggle will need to move schools.	As above
3.2.2.7	Pupils attending the Welsh stream know that because there is an English stream they can transfer classes not schools if things don't work out.	As above
3.2.2.8	Some pupils struggle in the Welsh unit so can move to the English unit within the school. If there was no English within the school, they may have to move to an English school.	As above
3.2.2.9	It would be such a shame for the English stream to miss out and have to travel further afield.	Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, the change in the school's language

		category would be phased in over a number of years. All pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school would be able to continue to access this provision until they leave the school.
3.2.2.10	If people want to go to Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon and they are from England they won't understand Welsh as good as other people would and so they would have to go to the English and so they would live in Trefeglwys but have to go to another school.	<p>The Council's 'Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys' includes a strategic objective to 'develop immersion opportunities', and work is underway to develop these opportunities in Powys. Online immersion provision was introduced in January 2021, and this will be developed further over the coming months.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change the school's language category, officers would work with the school to identify and introduce the support needed to support any pupils already attending Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon as well as any pupils that might move to the area in the future.</p>
3.2.2.11	A pupil has already left Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon because of the consultation. They were afraid of the outcome of the consultation.	Comment noted. No decision has yet been made to proceed with implementation of the proposal, however it is acknowledged that consultation processes can be unsettling for pupils / families and that sometimes, pupils / parents decide to move schools before processes are complete.
3.2.2.12	Pupils currently in the English stream have the uncertainty of not knowing for how long they will be together.	The proposal is to change the school's language category on a phased basis, year by year. All pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school would be able to continue to access this provision until they leave school.

--	--	--

### 3.2.3 Concern about parents' ability to help with homework / provide support at home

3.2.3.1	We could not in confidence be able to send our son to Welsh language only school knowing we could not assist him in homework or would be uncertain of what his secondary school prospects are if we decided relocate back to England in the future.	<p>The Council notes these concerns about the ability of parents who don't speak Welsh to help with homework. Across Wales, Welsh-medium schools have introduced many strategies to help parents support their children with homework, ensuring that pupils who do not have Welsh speaking parents are not disadvantaged.</p> <p>In addition, it has been shown to be beneficial to children to be able to discuss their homework in English with their parents because bilingualism aids conceptual development.</p> <p>Should the proposal be implemented, the Council would work with the school to ensure that appropriate arrangements are put in place to support pupils and their families.</p>
3.2.3.2	We would also be worried that we would have to do his homework in both Welsh and English just so we know that he is getting a fair start to his education in case he wanted to move to England in the future when he is an adult.	As above.
3.2.3.3	Unfortunately if the school becomes Welsh only he won't be able to attend as we are an English speaking family and want to be able to support his homework (in English) as well as learn Welsh with him. Surely with the new houses in Trefeglwys this will be the same for many families?	As above.

3.2.3.4	It amazes me the number of English speaking parents have educated their children through the medium of Welsh. Home conversation must have been very interesting and then we have had home schooling – that will have definitely been a disaster. Come on parents – they need as much help as possible to go on don't give them a huge disadvantage before they even start.	Evidence in Wales would indicate that pupils from non-Welsh speaking backgrounds accessing Welsh-medium education have educational outcomes which are at least equivalent to their peers in English-medium schools.
3.2.3.5	If we are working towards a more equal Wales how is this change going to support poorer educational attainment when children would have to move schools when they struggle with bilingualism because their families do not speak Welsh at home.	Evidence in Wales would indicate that pupils from non-Welsh speaking backgrounds accessing Welsh-medium education have educational outcomes which are at least equivalent to their peers in English-medium schools.
3.2.3.6	Neither of his parents can speak Welsh, therefore English was better suited as he had a greater backup at home when help was required with school work.	<p>Evidence in Wales would indicate that pupils from non-Welsh speaking backgrounds accessing Welsh-medium education have educational outcomes which are at least equivalent to their peers in English-medium schools.</p> <p>Across Wales, Welsh-medium schools have introduced many strategies to help parents support their children with homework, ensuring that pupils who do not have Welsh speaking parents are not disadvantaged.</p> <p>In addition, it has been shown to be beneficial to children to be able to discuss their homework in English with their parents because bilingualism aids conceptual development.</p>



		Should the proposal be implemented, the Council would work with the school to ensure that appropriate arrangements are put in place to support pupils and their families.
3.2.3.7	My eldest has not long moved to the English stream due to the increased difficulties of teaching at home forcing her to loose a lot of her Welsh language and I no plenty of other children in the same situation.	These concerns regarding difficulties parents who do not speak Welsh and pupils from homes where no Welsh is spoken have experienced supporting home learning during the Covid pandemic are noted.
3.2.3.8	It is a lot easier to read with Mum and Dad in English than Welsh because their Welsh is rubbish but they tried hard. Lockdown has been so much easier I think because I am in the English class. People in the Welsh class their parents probably didn't understand as much Welsh and so if the English class shuts they will have to move school or just keep going with the same Welsh even if they don't understand.	As above.
3.2.3.9	After lockdown and all the home learning, you have Welsh learners in homes where there are non-Welsh speaking parents. How sure are you that if you do go forward with the transformation, these families will want to stay in a Welsh stream school because it might have raised the question for some families that at the end of the foundation phase, it would be better for them to go into the English stream? Will you be looking at definite numbers to know how many children in the next stage of the foundation phase will be wanting to go into the Welsh stream? Otherwise they will be leaving to go to other schools in the catchment area, when we know a school like Llanidloes have large class sizes already.	<p>Any new pupils starting school would be able to access Welsh-medium provision when they start school, meaning that they would be fully immersed in the Welsh language, and would have the Welsh language skills needed to access Welsh-medium provision throughout their time in school.</p> <p>Across Wales, a significant proportion of pupils that access Welsh-medium education come from homes where no Welsh is spoken, and this does not impact on their ability to succeed in their education. Should the proposal be implemented, Welsh would eventually become the main language of communication within the school, which would</p>

		<p>enable all pupils to improve their Welsh language skills, and should enable those from non-Welsh speaking homes to develop more fluency in Welsh, ensuring that they are better able to thrive in Welsh-medium education.</p> <p>Alongside any change to the school's language category, the Council would ensure that additional provision such as immersion provision and additional language support would be available to support pupils and their families.</p> <p>The Council will continue to monitor pupil numbers in the English stream as the proposal moves forward. Ultimately, pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's language category, pupils / parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.</p>
3.2.3.10	<p>Welsh stream pupils from English speaking families have the comfort of some English being spoken in school. English stream pupils pick up more Welsh language. Nervous English speaking parents will be unsure about starting in the Welsh stream if there is no 'fall back' to English stream available.</p>	<p>As above.</p>

### 3.2.4 Concern that English-medium pupils would have less exposure to Welsh in an English-medium school

3.2.4.1	Children have a much better experience learning the Welsh language at a dual stream school than if they go to an English stream school.	All schools are required to teach Welsh as a second language to pupils and to provide opportunities for pupils to use the Welsh language.
3.2.4.2	The exposure of children in the English stream at YDT to Welsh language in assemblies, corridor displays, other opportunities is arguably greater because the school is dual stream. By removing the English stream from YDT PCC would be reducing the exposure of children to the Welsh language.	As above.
3.2.4.3	English stream pupils learn a fair amount of Welsh and there is a good balance – pupils speak reasonable Welsh for non Welsh first language kids.	As above.
3.2.4.4	Pupils in an English stream in a dual-stream school have the opportunity to mix with pupils in the Welsh stream, and therefore have the opportunity to improve their Welsh. I am concerned that if pupils move to an English-medium school, they will not have this opportunity.	As above.
3.2.4.5	English-medium pupils like being in a school with Welsh-medium pupils.	Comment noted. However, the number of pupils currently accessing English-medium provision is small, this is the reason why the Council is consulting on changing the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.
3.2.4.6	Pupils in the English stream have the best of both worlds at the moment, as they can speak English but also learn Welsh as well.	Pupils in the English stream learn Welsh as a second language, as do all English-medium pupils in Powys, regardless of whether they attend an English-medium school or an English-medium stream in a dual stream school. Only a small minority of pupils accessing English-medium provision become fluent in Welsh.

--	--	--

#### 4. REFERENCE TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROVISION / SKILLS

4.1	If parents are strong Welsh at home it would most certainly be advantageous to learn English! After all there are much more English jobs out in the UK than Welsh so you are limiting your Welsh students.	<p>The Council fully acknowledges the need for pupils to be able to communicate effectively in English. The aim of Welsh-medium education is to ensure that pupils become bilingual, and are able to communicate effectively in both Welsh and English.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change the school's language category, all pupils would continue to study English to GCSE level, and would be able to talk, read and write in English as well as Welsh.</p>
4.2	Welsh is not spoken outside government run institutions, English is spoken worldwide.	As above.
4.3	I think that if my son decides to live in Wales in the future it gives him huge advantages speaking both languages but if he chooses to move to England he will struggle with a Welsh only education.	As above.
4.4	Sadly, I don't feel there is a benefit and the English language is being discouraged.	As above.
4.5	Children need to learn both languages. Welsh is fine but to go out in the big world you need English nowadays, and Welsh is a hard language to learn if you're not from a Welsh background!	As above.
4.6	The proposal is making the English language less favourable. Both languages can be positively used side by side equally.	As above.

4.7	The proposal will make all students speak Welsh as the main language then I cannot see how this change will impact the remaining students. They already speak Welsh as their first language and will continue to do so. I can see that it will impact their ability to speak/write English. If Powys County Council believe that all students who attend this school will go on to be further educated/live in Wales only then fine – however I believe that this will not be the case and it will have an adverse effect on the life prospects for students who attend a Welsh Only school.	As above.
4.8	English is known by the entire nation and indeed world. Furnish children with useful assets rather than the pet projects of an insular few. The monies spent on Welsh annually could build another school or fund many teachers. Any Welsh product has an extremely limited market, in a global world stop looking inwards. The culture will not suffer for a lack of unnecessary spending on historic whimsy. Let those who speak Welsh do so, but stop wasting time, materials and finance on this.	As above.
4.9	Teach the children in the national / international standard that is English and furnish them with the option of another language that might actually be of use in their later life and help Wales' influence outside the UK. If Wales continues to be inward looking it will never step up from where it is now.	As above.
4.10	Welsh is a linguistic cul de sac in terms of communication, so many children have a need of communication improvement for the workplace – do this and give the children help, not hinder them. I know of nowhere that a person cannot communicate with English in Wales. Besides which Welsh would you teach north or south? They are not interchangeable. (The words of a fluent	As above.

	<p>Welsh speaker.) I went to Welsh lessons at primary and secondary school and I have ZERO peers that still speak it today – its simply removing good learning time. Don't waste the children's time with this – teach something they will actually benefit from.</p>	
4.11	<p>Welsh should not be taught as a first language; we all speak English in Wales, (bar a very few) why curtail development of Wales' &amp; the children's opportunities with this insular move? It is contrary to everything else the Welsh Gov talks about. Stop building walls, use education time to best effect. I was taught Welsh in primary and secondary school. The only time it might have been useful would be in far north Wales, however my school Welsh was not the same language as they speak in N. Wales, (being south Welsh). Discovering this I gave up on the language as I saw no use for it, I took up Latin which my comprehensive offered at the time. It has been useful for all other EU languages. One example of a positive outward looking option. Find more!</p>	As above.
4.12	<p>If one is able to carry on to University to suddenly be taught in the language that you have been brought up with is a huge disadvantage and making the student less competitive on the job market. How many banks will accept a financial or agricultural report or analysis in Welsh? None. Fine if you work for the Welsh Assembly as a civil servant but pointless in the big wide world. We have left the EU. It won't be much point turning up to a meeting to discuss selling products to the rest of the world talking in Welsh.</p>	<p>The Council fully acknowledges the need for pupils to be able to communicate effectively in English. The aim of Welsh-medium education is to ensure that pupils become bilingual, and are able to communicate effectively in both Welsh and English.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change the school's language category, all pupils would continue to study English to GCSE level, and would be able to talk, read and write in English as well as Welsh.</p>

		Many generations of students from Welsh-medium schools from across Wales have successfully attended universities in England, Scotland and further afield as well as universities in Wales, and have secured employment in roles which has required to work them in English, in Welsh or in both languages.
--	--	--

## 5. REFERENCE TO THE NEED FOR CHOICE

5.1	I believe strongly that people should have a choice. This will be taken away if the decision to move to a Welsh-medium school is reached.	<p>The Council notes these comments about the need for choice of Welsh-medium provision or English-medium provision. The majority of people attending Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon choose Welsh-medium provision, and the proposal to change the school's language category to Welsh-medium reflects this choice.</p> <p>Pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's language category, pupils / parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.</p>
5.2	All members of the local community should have the right to be offered education in their language of choice. Once this is removed the community will no longer have the option of choice.	As above.
5.3	Parental choice is extremely important.	As above.

5.4	It should remain a dual stream school giving the opportunity for the local children/parents to have the choice to learn in the Welsh or English medium.	As above.
5.5	Really don't think it is a positive thing for the school taking away the choice of English and Welsh learning.	As above.
5.6	It's about giving people choice and you are removing their choice with this proposal.	As above.
5.7	Surely the current arrangement gives Welsh and English students the choice and doesn't benefit either language more than the other.	As above.
5.8	That there will no longer be a local choice on offer for parents/pupils in this area who want to send their children to an English medium school.	As above.
5.9	The Welsh language is an important part of our national identity and culture. I fully support families having choice of language in which their children are educated.	As above.
5.10	The proposal takes away choice from people living locally who do not wish to send their children through Welsh Medium and will therefore have to travel out of the area to reach an English Medium school.	As above.
5.11	It takes away choice from people living locally who do not wish to send their children through Welsh Medium and will therefore have to travel out of the area to reach an English Medium school.	As above.



## 6. CONCERN ABOUT IMPACT ON PUPIL NUMBERS AT YSGOL DYFFRYN TRANNON IN THE FUTURE

### 6.1 Concern that there would be a reduction in pupil numbers at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon

6.1	This will be a concern to upcoming parents also and I fear the numbers attending this school will decrease through the medium of Welsh.	<p>The Council notes these concerns about the possible impact of changing the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon on pupil numbers at the school in the future.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, the intention is that this would be introduced on a phased basis, year by year. This would mean that pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school would be able to continue to access this provision until they leave school, therefore minimising the impact on pupil numbers. Any new pupils starting school would be able to access Welsh-medium provision when they start school, meaning that they would be fully immersed in the Welsh language, and would have the Welsh language skills needed to access Welsh-medium provision throughout their time in school.</p> <p>As indicated in the consultation document issued in respect of this proposal:</p> <p><i>'It is possible that changing the school's language category could have some impact on pupil numbers, should pupils from the local area choose to attend alternative English-medium providers. However, it is also possible that changing the school's language category could lead to an increase in pupil numbers,</i></p>
-----	---	---

		<i>as more pupils could choose to attend the school to access Welsh-medium provision.'</i>
6.2	Numbers will drop in the school as non Welsh speaking families will not rush going to the Welsh unit.	As above.
6.3	Changing the language will impact on the number of children that register which will have an impact on future funding.	As above.
6.4	This will reduce the future pupil numbers at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon school.	As above.
6.5	Further, pupils of the current English stream will leave the school.	As above.
6.6	The English stream has been depleted in recent years. Will the current 'trend' of parents choosing to place their children within the Welsh provision (which is their choice) be sustained?	The Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys includes a clear commitment to increasing the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium provision in Powys. With this in mind, the Council's aim would be that the numbers accessing Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon would be at least maintained, with the possibility that this could increase further in the future.
6.7	I predict that the number of Welsh medium applicants might significantly reduce because of the removal of the perceived 'safety net' of transferring to English medium should children struggle.	The Council notes these comments regarding the perceived 'safety net' of an English-medium stream for pupils accessing Welsh-medium provision. Across Powys and Wales, many pupils access designated Welsh-medium schools which do not have this perceived 'safety net'. The lack of an English-medium stream has not prevented the growth of pupil numbers at schools of this type.

6.8	Less children from English speaking households will decide to access the Welsh stream because they haven't got the English stream within the same school to fall back on. Quite simply there will be less children accessing the Welsh stream! I already know of families that won't be sending their children to YDT if the English stream goes!	As above.
6.9	There is chatter between parents whose children are due to start with us in Reception this year. They are nervous because they were choosing Trefeglwys because of the safety net of the English stream should the Welsh stream not work out for them. We could lose those children altogether if parents do not feel their children will have that safety net.	As above.
6.10	Parents choose to send their children to the Welsh unit with the comfort of the English unit being an option should things not work out, I don't think people will register them there to begin with when the option is taken away, changing units is less upheaval for the child than changing school.	As above.
6.11	As time goes on and English speaking parents/guardians are unable to support those children with their learning needs they have had the option of swapping provision into English. This will no longer be an option. Therefore I believe the drop out rate of families choosing to move children to an alternative site will increase. This does not look good on the school as a whole.	As above.
6.12	Parents from English speaking families opt for Welsh education with the safety net of the pupil moving to English stream if they are struggling. It has happened many times in the last 3-4 years. Without that safety net they might not start that journey in the first place.	As above.

6.13	If a Welsh-medium stream was introduced in Llanidloes, and the children who travel in by bus from Llanidloes end up going to Llanidloes instead, what effect will that have on the school?	Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is currently the sole provider of Welsh-medium primary provision in the Llanidloes catchment, and whilst the Council has no plans to introduce Welsh-medium provision in Llanidloes C.P. School at the present time, it is possible that this could be a consideration in the future, in order to further improve access to Welsh-medium primary provision.
------	--	---

## 6.2 Concern that pupils would choose alternative schools instead of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon

6.2.1	Llanidloes will become the favoured school for many Trefeglwys based parents.	<p>Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, the intention is that this would be introduced on a phased basis, year by year. This would mean that pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school would be able to continue to access this provision until they leave school, therefore minimising the impact on pupil numbers. Any new pupils starting school would be able to access Welsh-medium provision when they start school, meaning that they would be fully immersed in the Welsh language, and would have the Welsh language skills needed to access Welsh-medium provision throughout their time in school.</p> <p>As indicated in the consultation document issued in respect of this proposal:</p> <p><i>'It is possible that changing the school's language category could have some impact on pupil numbers, should pupils from the local area choose to attend</i></p>
-------	---	--

		<p><i>alternative English-medium providers. However, it is also possible that changing the school's language category could lead to an increase in pupil numbers, as more pupils could choose to attend the school to access Welsh-medium provision.'</i></p> <p>Should the proposal be implemented, the Council would hope that parents living in Trefeglwys would choose for their children to access Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon. However, pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose, and any parents not wishing their children to attend Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.</p>
6.2.2	Parents who don't want their children to access Welsh-medium education would have to look at out of area options.	As above.
6.2.3	Pupils who want to access English-medium provision won't be able to do this at Trefeglwys as their parents were able to do – they will have to attend Llanidloes Primary School instead of attending their local village school.	As above.
6.2.4	Trefeglwys as a village is expanding, with many new families moving into the area. I know many of these families with young children, want to send their children to the LOCAL school, but removing the English stream means they will have to choose between Caersws or Llanidloes.	As above.

6.2.5	The large majority of village children will access schools elsewhere (Llanidloes, Caersws and Llandinam.)	As above.
	There is a more transient nature to population these days. Trefeglwys village is growing, and it is possible that the outlook of some parents will be short term. They might see themselves moving elsewhere in a few years and therefore Welsh language provision might not be attractive to them. I am therefore concerned that we will see many parents sending their children out of Trefeglwys to their nearest English-medium school.	As above

### 6.3 Comments about the future viability of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon

6.3.1	Do you honestly believe that there will be enough Welsh stream only children to keep this school open when it's Welsh only?	<p>As indicated in the consultation document issued in respect of this proposal:</p> <p><i>'It is possible that changing the school's language category could have some impact on pupil numbers, should pupils from the local area choose to attend alternative English-medium providers. However, it is also possible that changing the school's language category could lead to an increase in pupil numbers, as more pupils could choose to attend the school to access Welsh-medium provision.'</i></p> <p>The Council has a clear aim to increase the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium provision in Welsh. As the only provider of Welsh-medium primary provision in the Llanidloes catchment, the Council would hope to see an increase in the number of pupils</p>
-------	---	--

		accessing Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon in the future.
6.3.2	I believe that the actual effect of this change would be to immediately decrease the number of pupils attending the school since English stream students will go elsewhere and discourage new pupils starting there. With the aging demographic of Wales this will eventually lead to the closure of the school. Therefore if Powys County Council's aim is to save money, it will – short term there will be fewer pupils at the school and ultimately the school will close.	As above.
6.3.3	A village school has been in the village for hundreds of years, this should not change on the account of extremely poor management, disingenuous behaviour by the Headmistress and board of governors.	The Council has no plans to close Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.
6.3.4	I am worried about the future profile of the school, should pupil numbers decrease.	As above.

## **7. ADDITIONAL SUPPORT THAT WOULD BE NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE CHANGE OF LANGUAGE CATEGORY**

7.1	Ensure that the pathway from 'pre-school' nurseries through to 6 <sup>th</sup> form all offer progression in Welsh.	The Council agrees that there is a need to ensure a clear pathway within Welsh-medium education from pre-school through to 6 <sup>th</sup> form provision. The Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys includes a strategic aim to 'improve access to Welsh-medium provision across all key stages'. The Council is currently developing a number of proposals in order to take this forward.
-----	---	--

7.2	It would be good to ensure that the community around the school has a range of Welsh-medium pre-school provisions such as the Cylch Meithrin and non-maintained provision so that progression to Welsh-medium education is clear to parents from an early age. Similarly, the pathway to secondary provision is also essential. We hope that this will have detailed consideration when considering the provision for communities in this area.	As above.
7.3	The School will need to work with other first Welsh language schools such as Dafydd Llwyd and schools in North Wales such as Pen Baras to ensure this proposal is implemented successfully. Both these schools are exemplars of good practice and will be a good formula for Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon to aspire to.	Comment noted. The Council agrees that should the proposal be implemented, it would be beneficial for the school to work with other Welsh-medium schools in Powys and further afield to ensure a successful transition to the new delivery model.
7.4	Creating a video to be shared on social media giving the experiences of non-Welsh speaking parents whose children have accessed Welsh-medium education would be a way to promote the value and success of doing so – similar to a video by Ceredigion Council which was shared recently, where parents and children were talking and giving their views and responding to questions that arise frequently. Something like this would be powerful in my opinion, and would be based on facts or the ‘real’ experiences of Powys people.	<p>Comment noted. The Council has been working with partners to develop promotional materials relating to Welsh-medium education, including a new webpage which has been launched recently, and is now available to be used by schools, parents and other organisations.</p> <p>Should the proposal be implemented, the Council would work with Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon on a more focussed campaign to share information with parents / other stakeholders in the local area.</p>
7.5	You could offer free guidance and lessons to English families so that they would be confident in Welsh to help their child.	Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, it would work with the school as part of the transition process to identify any support that would need to be provided to support parents / families. This could include Welsh lessons for parents,



		support with homework, opportunities to use Welsh in the community, opportunities to access immersion provision and other initiatives.
7.6	This would be an opportunity to promote Welsh-medium education in the area and to offer immersion provision to families with older pupils who would like to access the school should younger brothers and sisters be joining the school from the start as a Welsh-medium school. This is an opportunity to further increase the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium education in Powys as required by the WESP.	As above.
7.7	If YDT is to be a Welsh only school then it needs to raise it's profile! There is strong competition from neighbouring schools, Carno, Dafydd Llwyd, Llanbryn-mair, Cem-maes Road and even Rhayader, depending on where people live. With more people working from home post covid, there are more options for flexibility. A looming Estyn inspection could also be detrimental to the reputation of the school.	Comment noted.

## 8. REFERENCE TO TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS

### 8.1 Additional travel will be required

8.1.1	If the proposal goes ahead (dates are already set so I assume it will go ahead) the government will be providing transport to ship more children around the countryside.	Should the proposal be implemented, home to school transport would be provided in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy which is in operation at the time.  The Policy approved by Cabinet in September 2020 will come into operation in September 2021. This
-------	--	---

		states that free home-to-school transport is provided to a learner's nearest suitable or catchment school, subject to the learner meeting the eligibility criteria.
8.1.2	If the proposal is approved the choice of the parents/carers and families in the local community would be taken away and if they want to access education through English medium they would have to travel out of their community.	Comment noted.
8.1.3	It also feels as though this would add unnecessary travel for pupils, who would need to travel to an English medium school, lengthening their days at such a young age. It would also result in more vehicles on the road and increased pollution.	Comment noted.
8.1.4	Many children then make the bus journey to Llanidloes in order to access English medium education.	Comment noted.
8.1.5	If it does not stay bilingual those pupils may have to have transport provided.	As above
8.1.6	There is at least one 3 year old in Trefeglwys who will be starting school in September 2022 – the suggested implementation date of the preferred option – who will require home to school transport to another school with English medium provision if the preferred option is implemented.	<p>In order to minimise the impact on any pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, the proposal is to introduce any change to the school's language category on a phased basis, year by year. This would mean that pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school would be able to continue to access this provision until they leave the school.</p> <p>Any new pupils starting school would be able to access Welsh-medium provision when they start school, meaning that they would be fully immersed in</p>

		<p>the Welsh language, and would have the Welsh language skills needed to access Welsh-medium provision throughout their time in school. This would ensure that the pupils become bilingual, fluent in Welsh and English.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, the Council would hope that pupils living in Trefeglwys would access Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, therefore no additional travel would be required.</p>
8.1.7	<p>Very young children (5-7 year olds) would endure early morning starts and have to travel in a bus with children as old as 11 years old. Offputting for both parent and child.</p>	<p>In order to minimise the impact on any pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, the proposal is to introduce any change to the school's language category on a phased basis, year by year. This would mean that pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school would be able to continue to access this provision until they leave the school.</p> <p>Any new pupils starting school would be able to access Welsh-medium provision when they start school, meaning that they would be fully immersed in the Welsh language, and would have the Welsh language skills needed to access Welsh-medium provision throughout their time in school. This would ensure that the pupils become bilingual, fluent in Welsh and English.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, the Council would hope that pupils</p>

		living in Trefeglwys would access Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, therefore no additional travel would be required.
8.1.8	I really hope I get to send my child to your school and not have to drive him 40 minutes a day so he can have a fair start in life.	As above.
8.1.9	The additional transport will create more traffic and polluting the environment.	Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, the Council would hope that pupils living in Trefeglwys would access Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, therefore no additional travel would be required.
8.1.10	Not everybody wants their child educated through the medium of Welsh, and forcing families to choose between this or sending their child 4/5 miles away to a different school is unfair.	<p>In order to minimise the impact on any pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, the proposal is to introduce any change to the school's language category on a phased basis, year by year. This would mean that pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school would be able to continue to access this provision until they leave the school.</p> <p>Any new pupils starting school would be able to access Welsh-medium provision when they start school, meaning that they would be fully immersed in the Welsh language, and would have the Welsh language skills needed to access Welsh-medium provision throughout their time in school. This would ensure that the pupils become bilingual, fluent in Welsh and English.</p>

		Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, the Council would hope that pupils living in Trefeglwys would access Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, therefore no additional travel would be required. However, pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's language category, pupils / parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.
8.1.11	For those parents who choose English medium education they will have to travel out of the village and reducing social contact during the day for children from the community.	As above.
8.1.12	In a situation where you have a child whose family wishes them to be educated in English and there is no provision in Trefeglwys, the child would need to travel to the nearest school. This presents problems, firstly, transport for the child would need to be funded, in the same way that children who access Welsh provision are awarded free transport to Trefeglwys.	As above.
8.1.13	Less than 30% of Welsh citizens are first language Welsh, Trefeglwys is a rural village where the % is even less, why would you prejudice and force parents to travel more so their children can learn in the primary language and the native tongue of their home?	The Council is not prejudging or forcing parents to travel further. The aim of the proposal is to provide an opportunity for all pupils at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon to become fully bilingual by the time they finish school.

## 8.2 Reference to the Council's transport policy

8.2.1	It's disgusting and to add insult to injury I've been told the children are NOT allowed School transport because it's not their nearest school!	<p>Should the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon be implemented, the Council would hope that pupils living in Trefeglwys would access Welsh-medium provision at the school.</p> <p>Should pupils choose to attend alternative English-medium provision, access to free home to school transport would be in accordance with the home to school transport policy which is in operation at the time. The policy which is due to be introduced in September 2021 would not provide transport for pupils living in Trefeglwys to access their closest English-medium provider, therefore there would be no additional transport costs to the Council following implementation of the proposal.</p>
8.2.2	But if you're not allowing English stream to go ahead surely you should at least supply transport to the school that are actually allowed to attend!	As above.
8.2.3	No free bus as its not provided to take them from Trefeg to Llani ONLY to transport Welsh speaking children from Llani to Trefeg, this is hideously unfair and downright discriminatory.	As above.
8.2.4	If parents decide that their children should have English-medium education, what school would they attend, and would they have transport provided?	Parents are entitled to apply for a place at whichever school they choose. As indicated in the Consultation Document published in respect of this proposal, there are three English-medium schools in the Llanidloes catchment – Llanidloes C.P. School, Caersws C.P. School and Llandinam C.P. School. Eligibility for home to school transport would be in accordance with

		the Council's Home to School Transport Policy which is in operation at the time.
--	--	--

### 8.3 Reference to transport costs

8.3.1	The proposals will cause an increase in transport costs due to children now having to travel further to access English medium education.	<p>Should the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon be implemented, the Council would hope that pupils living in Trefeglwys would access Welsh-medium provision at the school.</p> <p>Should pupils choose to attend alternative English-medium provision, access to free home to school transport would be in accordance with the home to school transport policy which is in operation at the time. The policy which is due to be introduced in September 2021 would not provide transport for pupils living in Trefeglwys to access their closest English-medium provider, therefore there would be no additional transport costs to the Council following implementation of the proposal.</p>
8.3.2	The associated costs of provision of buses must be of concern to the council.	As above.
8.3.3	Nearest English stream Llanidloes – more transport costs for the government.	As above.
8.3.4	Presumably Powys County Council would have to pay to transport these pupils to either Llanidloes or Caersws.	As above.

8.3.5	<p>The cost of transporting children to schools should also be a consideration. The current costs of children that are being brought to the school from Caersws, Llanidloes and other local areas, noting that not all the current numbers attending the school come from the village and local area. This proposal will increase the cost of transportation as there will be local people who wish to use English Medium education and will be required to send their child to a different school.</p>	<p>As above.</p>
8.3.6	<p>So we're also footing a huge fuel bill on top and all because Welsh students get more in funding than English.</p>	<p>All schools' delegated funding is determined using the same distribution formula, largely based on pupil numbers. All single stream schools are funded on the same basis, regardless of whether they are Welsh medium or English medium schools. For dual stream schools, the two streams are treated separately for the purposes of classroom staff time required.</p> <p>Should pupils choose to attend alternative English-medium provision, access to free home to school transport would be in accordance with the home to school transport policy which is in operation at the time. The policy which is due to be introduced in September 2021 would not provide transport for pupils living in Trefeglwys to access their closest English-medium provider, therefore there would be no additional transport costs to the Council following implementation of the proposal.</p>
8.3.7	<p>The transport costs a lot of money which would be better spent on computers and extra staff.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>



#### 8.4 Concern about impact on access to extra-curricular activities

8.4.1	Travel is totally dependent on having a car so if the children have to travel by bus to school it limits their options for clubs and activities or parents have to take time off work.	The Council acknowledges that it can be more difficult for pupils to access extra-curricular activities if they are dependent on home to school transport to travel to school. However, the proposal is to introduce the change to the school's language category on a phased basis, and the Council's intention is that all pupils that would currently attend Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon would continue to access Welsh-medium provision at the school, therefore there would be no need for pupils who don't already need to travel to Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon to travel to school.
8.4.2	If people have to get buses to go home it is more tricky for them to go to clubs.	As above.
8.4.3	If the English class shuts and my little sister has to go to another school and Mum gets poorly again it would hard for my sister to do after school things.	As above.

#### 8.5 Reference to pupils travelling into Trefeglwys

8.5.1	The large majority of YDT children are bussed in from a great distance to access the Welsh stream.	Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is the only provider of Welsh-medium primary provision in the Llanidloes catchment. As there is no Welsh-medium primary provision in the town of Llanidloes, pupils living in Llanidloes who wish to access Welsh-medium provision travel to Trefeglwys to access this provision. This is in-line with many other Welsh-medium providers across Powys and Wales, which operate as
-------	--	---

		providers of Welsh-medium education for whole catchment areas.
8.5.2	The majority of children in the Welsh stream are not even from Trefeglwys but bussed in from Llanidloes on a free bus.	As above.
8.5.3	Primary education should be provided to local children. At present many English stream pupils travel to Llanidloes and many Llanidloes area pupils are transported to Trefeglwys for Welsh stream education.	As above.
8.5.4	The school is at the heart of the community and yet it doesn't represent local families, there are a significant number of families who access the FREE transport from out of area	As above.
8.5.5	Currently, it seems obvious that the school doesn't serve the local community well, as the large majority of YDT children are bussed in from a great distance to access the Welsh stream, while the large majority of village children access schools elsewhere (Llanidloes, Caersws and Llandinam). As a result of this we are seeing more traffic in Trefeglwys and neighbouring towns, more pollution, more congestion, more carbon emissions, and far less community cohesion.	As above.

## 8.6 Other

8.6.1	There is no public transport which services Trefeglwys or the surrounding area.	Comment noted.
-------	---	----------------

8.6.2	It should be evaluated as to how much the free transport sways a parent's decision to attend a Welsh provision again highlighting the inequalities.	The Council has a clear aim to increase the number of Powys pupils accessing Welsh-medium provision. As there are fewer providers of Welsh-medium education than providers of English-medium provision, free transport is provided to enable pupils to access Welsh-medium provision, in order to contribute to the Council's aim to increase the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium provision.
8.6.3	I have to travel 20 minutes one way to get to Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon to access Welsh-medium education. The arguments of the few parents who are against the change to a Welsh-medium school because they would have to travel 5-10 minutes from the village to an English-medium school are ridiculous considering the steps other parents who want Welsh-medium care and education for their children in Powys have had to take for decades.	Comment noted.
8.6.4	Local pupils are more likely to treat the school as a 'happy, local, community based place' that they and their parents call in to, before during and after the school day and not shipped away in a bus.	Comment noted.
8.6.5	Would transport be arranged if pupils wished to attend the secondary provision at Ysgol Bro Hyddgen?	The Council's current transport policy would not provide transport to Ysgol Bro Hyddgen for pupils that live closer to Llanidloes High School.

## 9. COMMENTS ABOUT YSGOL DYFFRYN TRANNNON

### 9.1 Positive comments about Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon

9.1.1	I am a past pupil (Welsh stream) and appreciated the education I received through the medium of Welsh, giving me a great grounding in the language, even though I continued my education beyond primary school through the medium of English.	Comment noted.
9.1.2	We were very much looking forward to sending our children to the local school, especially after hearing such good things about it.	Comment noted.
9.1.3	Being a past pupil of the school, the beauty of the school was always the strength of its bilingual provision – the nurturing nature a smaller school can offer and the 'choice' that parents had available to them.	Comment noted.
9.1.4	We can't praise the English stream at YDT enough – our child received an excellent level of teaching and was very happy during his years at YDT and we're enormously grateful for that. He left year 6 a happy, confident and enthusiastic learner.	The Council is pleased to note these comments regarding the provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.
9.1.5	YDT is 21 years old, and in relatively good condition. Neither stream is oversubscribed and so there are no physical capacity issues driving this preferred option.	Comment noted. The consultation document clearly states that the driver for the current proposal is the small number of pupils accessing the English-medium stream at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.
9.1.6	I enjoy going to Urdd club and doing Urdd activities since I moved into the English class. I go to DM Pro and after school club and Urdd club where I see more of my other friends from the Welsh class.	Comment noted.
9.1.7	I am in year 4 and love working with the year 6s it helps me with hard stuff. I like helping the younger people. It is much easier to show Miss my work in the English class and there are not so many people shouting across the room to another person.	Comment noted.

--	--	--

## 9.2 Concerns about the provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon

9.2.1	There has always been a problem around communication at YDT. Notifications are rushed and last-minute and the biggest difference is that parents are not welcomed beyond the school gate. We have given feedback on more than one occasion that the school is missing out on a valuable skillset and potentially enriching contributions that the community of enthusiastic parents would be able to offer. Ultimately, we feel really saddened that what should be seen as a real strength of the educational opportunities available at YDT; its dual-stream bilingual nature, is seemingly now perceived to be a negative to the point where the school is under consultation.	Comments noted. However, the consultation is not about the standard of management at the school and we would be unable to comment on that during this consultation.
9.2.2	Our child had 5 different teachers in one school year and there was an obvious downturn in investment in the English stream vs the Welsh learning environment.	The management of staff would be an issue for the headteacher and governing body. The governing body have control of the budget and would allocate resources to both English and Welsh streams.
9.2.3	The education provided in the English stream at Trefeglwys was inadequate, my child was passed around from pillar to post from Welsh to English.	Should the proposal be implemented, all staff would be teaching in the medium of Welsh and therefore this situation shouldn't occur in future.
9.2.4	Teaching staff are leaving this school in their droves, nothing to do with Covid but more to do with appalling management and leadership within the school.	Issues and concerns such as these should be addressed to the governing body.
9.2.5	The school's current rating is very sad and not a true reflection on the kind atmosphere and great teachers we see as parents.	Comment noted.

9.2.6	As previous efforts were never acted upon, in more recent times we've felt wholly demotivated as parents, feeling there was little point in trying to offer assistance when it's not wanted. Disappointingly, under successive Heads, it has always seemed that parental involvement starts and ends at the School gate.	Comment noted.
9.2.7	This sends out the message that the school is biased in who it accepts.	The school is not 'biased in who it accepts'. Applications for places at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon are processed by the Council's Admissions Team, therefore it is the Council, not the school, which is responsible for allocating places at the school.
9.2.8	Currently, it seems obvious that the school doesn't serve the local community well.	Comment noted

**9.3 Concern that the school has discouraged pupils from accessing the English-medium stream / has not done enough to promote the English-medium stream**

9.3.1	There have been many children from English speaking families who have been actively encouraged to enter the school using the Welsh provision.	<p>As outlined in the Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys and to contribute to the implementation of the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 Strategy, the Council's priority is to increase the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium provision, to increase the number of Powys pupils that are fully bilingual in Welsh and English.</p> <p>The Council would expect all schools that offer Welsh-medium education to share information with parents about the benefits of Welsh-medium education, with the aim of encouraging parents to choose Welsh-medium education.</p>
-------	---	--

		The Council's Admissions information has stated that Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is a dual stream school, and any parent could have applied for a place at the school's English stream. Applications for places at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon are processed centrally by the Council. Any applications for places in the English-medium stream at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon would have been processed in accordance with the Council's admissions process.
9.3.2	Always been the case that parents have been actively dissuaded from putting their children into the English stream which in itself calls into question the very notion that both streams were being treated equally, which should surely be the founding principle of any bilingual institution.	As above.
9.3.3	I also know of several parents who have been discouraged from sending their children to the English stream, within the last few years, and so have sent their children elsewhere. It means that the current number of pupils in the English stream does not reflect the actual number of children in the village and surrounding area that would utilise that side of the school.	As above.
9.3.4	I'm extremely angry and frustrated that such a good school has been allowed to turn away English students for higher funding and other reasons you may have such as racism!	As above.
9.3.5	It seems from local knowledge that the school has stopped taking new English students over the years to lower the numbers and close the English unit.	As above.

9.3.6	This school has orchestrated this issue by telling prospective parents that no English stream exists which is a blatant lie but they have no inclination to provide.	As above.
9.3.7	The previous head teacher sabotaged any future admissions for the English stream by refusing to show parents around. The current leadership team has inherited the damage this caused but have made no effort to counteract this.	As above.
9.3.8	School has a Welsh name (used to be called Trefeglwys school)	Many schools in Powys have Welsh names regardless of their language category. This includes many English-medium schools, as well as dual stream schools and Welsh-medium schools.
9.3.9	There is no evidence that either PCC or the school have attempted to promote or publicise the English Medium route at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.	<p>Promoting the English-medium stream at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is not part of the Council's role.</p> <p>As outlined in the Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys and to contribute to the implementation of the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 Strategy, the Council's priority is to increase the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium provision, to increase the number of Powys pupils that are fully bilingual in Welsh and English.</p>
9.3.10	I do not feel that the school has supported the English stream as well as the Welsh and on times it has felt like a second class citizen. The County and the School should have supported and encouraged families more.	As above.



9.3.11	Promotion of the English Medium availability may have encouraged more parents to choose this option and prevent the current proposal.	As above.
9.3.12	Despite living in Caersws we were not aware that the school had an English stream as it was so poorly promoted.	As above.
9.3.13	There seems to have been a lack effort to promote the school being dual stream over the years and gradually the number of children going into the English stream has reduced. It's been evident the past 4 years that the LA has steered this school to becoming fully Welsh. The fact that the pre-school changing from Little Acorns/Maes Bach to solely Maes Bach without consulting with parents did not help matters and was rather disappointing.	As above.
9.3.14	Parents established a 'Promotional Operational Group', redeveloped the website and a draft prospectus however the efforts were never acted upon.	As above.
9.3.15	As far back as 2017 parents of children in the school had concerns over the future of the English Medium within the school and attempted to make strides to turn the prospects of the English Medium around and promote it fully to encourage more parents to utilise it. These attempts were fruitless and never acted upon despite the offer of time and expertise from a number of passionate parents who were willing to help the school make the changes required.	As above.
9.3.16	A parent once designed a new prospectus but I don't think it was ever used.	As above.

9.3.17	Social media, plays an important role in today's society, and one thing I have noticed and I'm sure many others have too, is that the English stream of the school has never been promoted, via social media such as Facebook/Instagram, newspaper articles nor letters. Many people probably don't even know there is an English stream in the school and have therefore automatically turned local children away to other local schools with a more advertised English Medium school.	As above.
9.3.18	It has been commonly known throughout the parent support network that they have done little to no advertising of themselves to the village, it's no wonder their English medium numbers have dropped. No open days – even to the toddler parent groups next door! No banners outside school (in total opposite of Llandinam having worked hard to boost theirs).	As above.

#### 9.4 Reference to pupil numbers at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon

9.4.1	As the number of pupils in the English stream is so low, particularly in the Foundation Phase, the change would enable resources to be diverted so that they benefit all pupils, enabling the school to operate more efficiently.	Comment noted.
9.4.2	The fact that there are no pupils in the English stream in Reception or Year 1 shows that parents in the area have already made this decision, and favour Welsh-medium education.	Comment noted.
9.4.3	Having such small numbers in the English stream is unfair to the pupils in that stream.	Comment noted.

9.4.4	The numbers have been low in the English Medium for some time.	Comment noted.
9.4.5	It's totally impractical – and unfair – to teach in the situation which currently exists in the school currently, where only 12 pupils receive English-medium education.	Comment noted.
9.4.6	Due to the numbers involved, the current arrangement is not sustainable financially nor in terms of consistency of the school's provision.	Comment noted.
9.4.7	I think changing Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon to a Welsh-medium school would make total sense when looking at the current figures, and in order to enable the school to be more efficient generally, as well as being more united and Welsh in its ethos.	Comment noted.
9.4.8	Why have English stream numbers dropped off so much?	There could be many reasons for this, including parents making a positive choice to provide a Welsh-medium education for their children, linked with the Cylch Meithrin provision delivered at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.
9.4.9	Numbers may have dropped in the English but this does not mean they will stay low. All numbers fluctuate.	<p>The Council notes this comment, however pupil numbers in the English-medium stream have been decreasing for a number of years.</p> <p>The Council's Strategy for Transforming Education states the Council's aim to ensure that 'a growing number of children can access Welsh-medium education from early years to their school leaving age', and includes an objective to 'move schools</p>

		along the language continuum.’ The current proposal in respect of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is in-line with this.
9.4.10	Over the last 20 years, we have seen the numbers in both the English and Welsh fluctuate, due to the times we’ve been living in, the ability of the teaching staff at the school at certain times and also the population in the community.	As above.
9.4.11	When we both attended Trefeglwys Primary school, the English stream was thriving and the Welsh stream numbers were low, however nobody ever suggested removing the Welsh from the school and making it an English medium school.	As above.
9.4.12	There is a continuous removal of students from Trefeglwys School to either Llanidloes or other junior schools in the area, surely this should be looked at first?	There has been no ‘continuous removal of students from Trefeglwys School to either Llanidloes or other junior schools in the area.’  Pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Any parents that have wished their children to attend schools other than Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, or to transfer from Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon to other schools are entitled to apply for a place in the school of their choice.
9.4.13	In approx 2005, the language balance was almost a mirror image of where we have been in the last 5 years or so – admittedly not quite as extreme as the current position but indicative, nevertheless, of an often highly unpredictable issue.	The Council acknowledges that pupil numbers in schools and streams within schools often fluctuate.
9.4.14	In the past the language in Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon was 50/50 split. The school has seen a sustained level of uptake in the	Comment noted.

	Welsh language, despite the fact that we don't have the secondary provision we should have.	
9.4.15	What are the numbers required to make the English stream viable?	The Council's Strategy for Transforming Education includes a Strategic Objective to 'move schools along the language continuum'. This statement is applicable to schools of all language categories, and would be applicable to Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon regardless of the number of pupils in the English-medium stream.

### 9.5 Reference to pupils moving from the Welsh stream to the English stream

9.5.1	Many pupils have transferred from the Welsh stream to the English stream.	The Council notes this comment that many pupils have transferred from the school's Welsh stream to the school's English stream. However, pupil numbers in the school's English stream are low. The proposal is to introduce the change to the school's language category on a phased basis, so any pupils accessing English-medium provision at the school would be able to continue to do so until they leave the school.
9.5.2	It's easier for children to move to the English stream if they struggle in the Welsh stream because it's the same school and uniform, and they can still see their friends.	Comment noted.
9.5.3	Our child struggled in the Welsh stream so moved to the English stream where they have flourished.	Comment noted.
9.5.4	There are still a few children in the English stream class who have moved out of the Welsh stream classes as they cannot keep up with it. What is the back-up plan for those children, as	Designated Welsh-medium primary schools are the preferred delivery model across Wales for delivering Welsh-medium provision and ensuring that pupils

	there could be many more and what will the provision be for those?	become fluent in Welsh and English. The fact that there is no English stream in the school for pupils to transfer has not been a barrier to these schools. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, any pupils wishing to transfer from Welsh-medium provision to English-medium provision would need to transfer to alternative schools.
--	--	---

## 9.6 The proposal would improve provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon

9.6.1	The proposal would attract a greater calibre of Welsh speaking educated teachers to the area.	Comment noted.
9.6.2	The school would be able to concentrate on providing fully Welsh-medium provision to pupils.	Comment noted.
9.6.3	It would have a positive impact as it would provide a fully Welsh ethos for pupils.	Comment noted.
9.6.4	It would strengthen the school's Welsh ethos.	Comment noted.

## 10. COMMENTS ABOUT OTHER SCHOOLS

### 10.1 Comments about Llanidloes C.P. School

10.1.1	Llanidloes primary school is already a very large some would say overcrowded primary school.	Information about the capacity of Llanidloes C.P. School and the other primary schools in the Llanidloes catchment area was included in the
--------	--	---

		<p>consultation document published in respect of this proposal. This suggests that Llanidloes C.P. School is currently over capacity.</p> <p>However, there are two other English-medium primary schools in the Llanidloes catchment. Both of these schools currently have fewer than 60 pupils, and there are places available at both.</p>
10.1.2	The other nearby option for English Medium education is Ysgol Gynradd Llanidloes which is close to capacity.	As above.
10.1.3	Llanidloes primary has very large numbers, large schools are not for everyone! Numbers could get even higher if this proposal is successful!	As above.
10.1.4	Is there sufficient capacity at Ysgol Gynradd Llanidloes?	As above.
10.1.5	With English being spoken at home our 6 year daughter moved to Llanidloes Junior School and is now learning more Welsh in a dual stream environment because of the standard and style of teaching.	Llanidloes CP School is an English-medium school, therefore is not a 'dual stream environment'.
10.1.6	Pupils that have moved from YDT to Llanidloes Primary School are more confident, very happy and taking to the change incredibly well.	Comment noted.
10.1.7	The difference between YDT and Llanidloes Primary School is stark. In Llanidloes there is regular and timely communication with parents. All staff are friendly, approachable and welcoming, and the whole atmosphere around the school feels like it's thriving.	Comment noted.

--	--	--

## 10.2 Comments about Llanidloes High School

10.2.1	Secondary school education (Llanidloes) is trying to offer a successful Welsh stream education but are the numbers high enough to offer everything (economically) that those pupils need? I don't know the answer to this but you don't either.	<p>The Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys clearly identifies concerns about access to Welsh-medium education in Powys and states that:</p> <p><i>'The size and proportion of secondary streams varies considerably across the county, and the range of subjects available through the medium of Welsh also varies significantly. The curriculum offer is increasingly limited for Welsh-medium learners, and there is a significant concern amongst the profession regarding the commitment of the authority to learners who study in Welsh.'</i></p> <p>To address this, the Strategy includes a Strategic Aim to 'improve access to Welsh-medium provision across all key stages', which aims to improve the Welsh-medium offer in Powys, ensuring that pupils can access an appropriate Welsh-medium curriculum during all phases of education.</p>
10.2.2	Will Llanidloes High School continue to be a dual-stream school if this proposal goes forward?	The Council is not currently proposing any changes to Llanidloes High School.
10.2.3	As a result of changes to Powys Admissions Policy, only Dyffryn Trannon pupils will be transferring to the Welsh stream at Llanidloes in the future, and they will not have the opportunity to mix with other children and make new friends with other children in the community.	Comment noted.



--	--	--

### 10.3 Other

10.3.1	There are plenty of English-medium schools within reach of Trefeglwys for those that wish to access English-medium education.	Comment noted. As indicated in the Consultation Document published in respect of this proposal, it is true that there are three English-medium schools in the Llanidloes catchment where pupils could access English-medium education.
10.3.2	There are several English only speaking schools within this neighbouring community who already exclude/discriminate first language Welsh speakers, such as Caersws, Llandinam and Llanidloes.	Whilst it is true that there are three English-medium schools in the Llanidloes catchment where pupils could access English-medium education, it is not true that either English-medium schools or Welsh-medium schools 'exclude/discriminate' pupils. Pupils who do not speak Welsh when they join the school are welcome in Welsh-medium schools, and pupils who speak Welsh at home would be able to apply for a place in an English-medium school should that be their choice.
10.3.3	Would children from Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's Welsh stream be feeding Ysgol Bro Hyddgen or Llanidloes High School?	Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon would continue to be a feeder school for Llanidloes High School.
10.3.4	What are the numbers in Caersws and Llandinam?	As indicated in the Consultation Document published in respect of this proposal, pupil numbers at Caersws C.P. School and Llandinam C.P. School are as follows:  Caersws C.P. School – 56 Llandinam C.P. School – 34

## 11. FINANCIAL IMPACT

11.1	No one was using English stream so a huge waste of money.	Comment noted.
11.2	If this class has a full time (or even part time) teacher, that is a significant cost to PCC. This excess funding would be a disadvantage for other pupils in Powys who are subsequently funded less.	Comment noted.
11.3	Will also save money on resources.	Comment noted.
11.4	The current arrangement is not financially sustainable.	Comment noted.
11.5	The proposal will save a huge amount of money and resources.	Comment noted.
11.6	Is the school financially viable with single funding?	Should the proposal be implemented, the school would be funded as a single stream school in accordance with the Council's funding formula for schools, and would be required to operate within the funding allocated, as is the case for all other schools in Powys.
11.7	Will the finance currently provided to Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon as a dual-stream school remain the same if the school is a Welsh stream school?	All schools' delegated funding is determined using the same distribution formula, largely based on pupil numbers. All single stream schools are funded on the same basis, regardless of whether they are Welsh medium or English medium schools. For dual stream schools, the two streams are treated separately for the purposes of classroom staff time required. Should the proposal be implemented then the funding

		currently provided for the English stream would no longer be needed.
11.8	There is a question regarding the finance of the school going forward and the continuity of education.	As above.
11.9	The only positive is that the school would get more funding.	<p>The school would not receive more funding should the proposal be implemented – as indicated in the Consultation Document that was published in respect of this proposal, implementation of the proposal would eventually lead to a reduction in the funding provided to the school. However, the school would also be able to operate more efficiently as a single stream school.</p> <p>All schools' delegated funding is determined using the same distribution formula, largely based on pupil numbers. All single stream schools are funded on the same basis, regardless of whether they are Welsh medium or English medium schools. For dual stream schools, the two streams are treated separately for the purposes of classroom staff time required. Should the proposal be implemented then the funding currently provided for the English stream would no longer be needed.</p>
11.10	If the rumours are correct, whereby the school gets paid for every child that goes through the Welsh medium, and doesn't get the same funding for an English pupil, then I feel this is totally wrong and corrupt and therefore needs addressing. We should be encouraging equality in today's society, especially through schools.	All schools' delegated funding is determined using the same distribution formula, largely based on pupil numbers. All single stream schools are funded on the same basis, regardless of whether they are Welsh medium or English medium schools. For dual stream schools, the two streams are treated separately for the purposes of classroom staff time required. Should

		the proposal be implemented then the funding currently provided for the English stream would no longer be needed.
11.11	The only purpose I can see for this proposal is cost cutting.	<p>The reasons for the current proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon are listed on page 14 of the Consultation Document that was published in respect of this proposal and are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>To improve educational outcomes</i></li> <li>- <i>To improve educational provision</i></li> <li>- <i>To improve leadership and management</i></li> <li>- <i>To improve efficiency in the delivery of education</i></li> <li>- <i>To increase the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium education'</i></li> </ul> <p>Whilst it is true that implementation of the proposal would lead to a financial saving to the authority, this not one of the reasons for the proposal.</p>
11.12	It has been said that this proposal is not about saving money, but I think it is because you're funding two schools and can see a way to save money because of the decline of the English.	As above.
11.13	If the proposal goes ahead, and if for example there is only one pupil in the English stream, would there be a commitment from the authority that the pupil will be funded?	In order to minimise the impact on any pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, the proposal is to introduce any change to the school's language category on a phased basis, year by year. This would mean that pupils currently accessing English-medium provision

		at the school would be able to continue to access this provision until they leave the school and funding will continue to be provided in line with this commitment.
--	--	---

## 12. IMPACT ON STAFF

12.1	You have a fabulous English teacher you are pushing out.	<p>Should the Council proceed with the proposal, there are a significant number of processes which would need to be undertaken before staff were placed at risk of redundancy including staff consultations, potentially reviewing any fixed term posts and seeking volunteers for retirement.</p> <p>The Council would work with any individual member of staff that would be affected by the proposal to review their options, including training and development prior to any redundancy taking effect.</p>
12.2	Will the English stream teacher have the opportunity to learn Welsh?	As above.
12.3	What will happen to the English stream teacher?	As above.
12.4	When the English stream has ended, will she still have a job?	As above.
12.5	It would be a great shame for the teacher of the English speaking class to lose her job.	As above.
12.6	Concern about job losses.	As above.

12.7	There is a need to provide support for the staff this affects.	The Council agrees that there is a need to provide support to any staff that would be affected by the proposal.
12.8	Staffing in a Welsh-medium school is difficult. Do Powys have a scheme where we can recruit Welsh speaking staff to come to the school? We find it difficult to find Welsh language staff as there are very few in the area, so what can the Council do in relation to this?	All schools follow the local authority's recruitment processes and adverts are placed on the Powys website and on e-teach. Jobs where Welsh language skills are essential are clearly identified. Powys does not have a recruiting scheme for Welsh medium staff. There is an officer with responsibility for newly qualified teachers (NQT) and any new posts, including Welsh medium posts, are clearly communicated with NQTs.

### 13. IMPACT ON FAMILIES / PARENTS

13.1	This will drive families away from Trefeglwys. It's been a bilingual school for over 20 years with no issues.	<p>The Council does not agree with this statement.</p> <p>In order to minimise the impact on any pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, the proposal is to introduce any change to the school's language category on a phased basis, year by year. This would mean that pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school would be able to continue to access this provision until they leave the school.</p> <p>Any new pupils starting school would be able to access Welsh-medium provision when they start school, meaning that they would be fully immersed in the Welsh language, and would have the Welsh</p>
------	---	---

		language skills needed to access Welsh-medium provision throughout their time in school. This would ensure that the pupils become bilingual, fluent in Welsh and English.
13.2	The school would lose families in the village.	As above.
13.3	Reference to families moving to Trefeglwys who are looking forward to their child/ren attending the local school as they could walk there every day and be part of the local community.	<p>Any pupils moving to Trefeglwys would be able to access Welsh-medium provision when they start school, meaning that they would be fully immersed in the Welsh language, and would have the Welsh language skills needed to access Welsh-medium provision throughout their time in school.</p> <p>Alongside any change to the school's language category, the Council would ensure that additional provision such as immersion provision and additional language support would be available to support pupils and their families, providing the opportunity for pupils moving to the area during their time in school to be immersed in the Welsh language, so that they would be able to access Welsh-medium education at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.</p> <p>Pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's language category, pupils / parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.</p>

13.4	Concern that for children who transfer to / attend alternative schools it will be difficult for parents / guardians who do not drive if there is an emergency or if the child is ill and needs collecting from school.	Should the Council proceed with the proposal, pupils and their parents / guardians will need to decide whether they wish their child to attend Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon or an alternative school. Should they choose for their child to attend an alternative school, they will need to consider the impact on their ability to get to the school in an emergency.
13.5	Families have moved into the area on the understanding that Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon was a dual stream school and now feel that they have been lied to.	Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon currently is a dual stream school. The Council is currently proposing to change the school's language category on a phased basis, starting with Reception in September 2022. The consultation exercise carried out provided an opportunity for all stakeholders, including any families that believe they have been 'lied to', to raise these concerns. All issues raised during the consultation will be considered by the Council's Cabinet as they determine whether or not to proceed with implementation of the proposal.
13.6	Concern about the impact on families if children went to a different school to their siblings and that they would have to get 2 children to two different schools by the same time.	Should the Council proceed with the proposal, pupils and their parents / guardians will need to decide whether they wish their child/ren to attend Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon or an alternative school. Should they choose for their child to attend an alternative school, they will need to consider the impact on the family's transport arrangements.
13.7	Concern about the impact on parents / families if children had to attend different schools to access education in different languages.	As above.



13.8	Parents who live within a mile or so of the school are more likely to call in and take part in school organised activities (school assemblies etc).	Comment noted. The proposal is to implement the change to the school's language category on a phased basis. This would ensure that any pupils currently accessing English-medium provision in the school would be able to continue to access this until they leave school, and would provide the opportunity for any other pupils living within a mile or so of the school starting school in the future to be immersed in the Welsh language when they join the school.
------	---	--

#### 14. REFERENCE TO EARLY YEARS PROVISION

14.1	We have worked with the school, the parents and the community more widely to support Cylch Mes Bach and to open a new Cylch Meithrin – Cylch Dyffryn Trannon, which offers childcare in Welsh. By now, any child can access Welsh-medium early years provision, and they can then move on confidently to the Welsh stream at the school.	Comment noted.
14.2	When restrictions allow, there has been a buzz in the local Ti a Fi which is a first step towards Welsh-medium education.	Comment noted.
14.3	We had to travel over half an hour one way to access Welsh-medium pre-school childcare and education until Cylch Meithrin Trannon opened in September 2020. Finally we can access Welsh-medium childcare in the area from 2 years old onwards.	Comment noted.
14.4	Mes Bach operating within the school environment has already caused the Welsh stream numbers to grow and the English stream numbers to decline. The whole pre-school set up within the school is biased towards the Welsh language.	The Council believes that Welsh-medium education flourishes if parents can see a continuity of provision throughout a child's education, and the Welsh-medium early years sector if key to this success.

--	--	--

## 15. REFERENCE TO TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS

15.1	What if there is Reception intake in September 2021? In Sept 2022 there would only be 6 pupils in the English stream and in September 2023 there would be only 2 pupils in the English stream.	No applications have been received to start in the Reception class in the English stream in September 2021.
15.2	PCC Officers have been unable to provide assurance about the continuity of teaching in the English stream should the preferred option be implemented, which will result in the numbers in the class reducing as each year group moves to secondary school. Parents of younger children in the English medium provision require assurances about the provision as numbers reduce.	The proposal is to change the admission arrangements on a phased basis, starting with Reception aged pupils in September 2022. The school would continue to operate as a dual stream school in all other year groups until the change in the language category had been phased in for that year group.
15.3	Will it be possible for Welsh stream pupils to transfer to the English stream after September 2022 should they wish to do so?	As above.
15.4	During an engagement meeting with governors PCC officers were unable to confirm whether pupils would be able to transfer from the Welsh medium to English medium provision if they so wished beyond September 2022. This requires clarification.	As above.
15.5	What level of assurance can Powys can give about the continuity of English provision should the proposal be implemented, as the numbers may taper off in the English stream?	As above.
15.6	I welcome the statement that if the preferred option is implemented all current pupils will be able to complete their English medium primary education at YDT.	Comment noted.

15.7	Changing the category over time would mean that children currently in the school would not be negatively impacted.	Comment noted.
15.8	The conversion to Welsh-medium education should be made gradually, but fairly quickly to ensure pupils learn at the earliest possible age.	Comment noted.
15.9	The change won't impact on pupils that currently attend the school.	Comment noted.

## 16. IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

### 16.1 Reference to additional houses in Trefeglwys / people moving to the area

16.1.1	Trefeglwys as a village is growing with the addition of new houses being built, a dual language school is very much needed.	The Council notes that new houses have been / are being built in Trefeglwys which could impact on pupil numbers at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon in the future. The Council's intention would be that any pupils moving to the village would be able to access Welsh-medium provision at the local school – this is similar to the position in many other villages in Powys and across Wales.
16.1.2	Trefeglwys and the wider area is developing with new housing developments etc. This should increase pupil numbers significantly – but those families should be given a choice.	As above.
16.1.3	With the property development within the village, there is going to potentially be a lot more children seeking to go to the school and more than likely be wanting the English stream.	As above.

16.1.4	There are many housing developments in the village currently, the majority will want to access an English education in the village they live in.	As above.
16.1.5	There are a number of new properties being built in the village, attracting new people to the area. It seems such a shame that the local school would not be able to accommodate any potential new pupils who have not been taught through the medium of Welsh beforehand, or have no desire to be taught through the medium of Welsh.	As above.
16.1.6	There are many new homes being built in the village, with people often moving in from further afield, they may well prefer an English stream.	As above.
16.1.7	New housing being built in the area will bring more pupils to the school.	As above.
16.1.8	Trefeglwys is undergoing fast expansion with a large number of new homes built in recent years and many more on the way. This will ultimately mean more local families for whom the school will be vital.	As above.
16.1.9	The village has new houses and a holiday park being built, there will be more English only speakers wanting to join the school.	As above.
16.1.10	I also feel a lot of people will be relocating due to options to work from home with job opportunities now and as Trefeglwys is not far from Shrewsbury etc. Many people from England may look to relocate to the new developments in the village and like we were, they would be attracted by the English Stream school in the idyllic location.	As above.

16.1.11	Wales has an aging population. In order for Wales to move forward it needs younger people moving to Wales. Predominantly these people will come from England. If you change the school from dual stream to Welsh-medium you will discourage families where English is the first language moving to the area.	As above.
16.1.12	More and more people are reallocating from the Midlands to the countryside and are English speaking. So having dual stream would be a good option for this school and community.	As above.
16.1.13	There are many families in Trefeglwys, a lot more since a few years back and not all of them speak Welsh. It feels like they are shunned due to not speaking the Welsh language. Some have moved here for a quieter and more relaxed upbringing for their family knowing there is a school in the village.	As above.
16.1.14	Lots of houses are being built in Trefeglwys, has this been factored in?	The latest projected pupil numbers for Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon were included in the Consultation Document. Whilst these figures did not specifically refer to houses which are being built in Trefeglwys, the document shows that there are currently 61 surplus places at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, which would be able to accommodate any growth in pupil numbers in the area.

## 16.2 Reference to the language spoken in the community

16.2.1	The community of Trefeglwys is largely English spoken and English is required within the community.	Should the Council proceed with the proposal, all pupils attending Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon would access
--------	---	---

		Welsh-medium provision and would therefore be fully bilingual in Welsh and English, therefore they would continue to be able to speak English.
16.2.2	It's good to see the language flourishing in the school and the village, but as a community, English is the main language.	As above.
16.2.3	As per my first question the community is mainly English, spoken by parents who want the option of both languages if thing don't work out.	As above.
16.2.4	Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon has a wonderful Welsh stream, but Welsh is not the main language of the community. Changing the school would not increase the use within the community either. Most children in the Welsh stream come from outside Trefeglwys. This actually treats the English language less favourably than Welsh, where they should be treated equally. We are a bilingual community, which should be reflected in the school.	As above.
16.2.5	It was a really hard decision moving to the other side of the country and being English there is always the worry that you will not be accepted into the community, like walking into a local pub for the first time, I feel this could make us feel unwelcome and I don't want my child to feel like he doesn't fit in or isn't welcome in his local community because his parent do not speak the language. It really breaks my heart to think he might not be accepted because of where we were raised and the language we speak.	As above.
16.2.6	It's not fair that people from the village have to send their children to neighbouring towns/villages to access education	Should the Council proceed with the proposal, Welsh-medium provision would continue to be available in Trefeglwys for all pupils, regardless of the language

	<p>through English. Trefeglwys is an English speaking community not Welsh!</p>	<p>spoken in their homes. Nobody would 'have' to send their children to neighbouring towns/villages.</p> <p>However, pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's language category, pupils / parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.</p>
--	--	---

### 16.3 Concern that the proposal would lead to community division

16.3.1	<p>The community should be inclusive, and I cannot help but feel that the proposed changes would only serve to divide.</p>	<p>Whilst the Council acknowledges that the proposal could cause some tensions within the local community in the short term, in the long term the Council would hope that the proposal would improve community cohesion, as all pupils would attend the same provision.</p> <p>As indicated in the Integrated Impact Assessment published as part of the consultation documentation:</p> <p><i>'In the short term, it is possible that the proposal to change the school's language category could lead to tensions and disagreement within the local community, in particular whilst consultation processes are ongoing. However only around 10% of the pupils currently attending Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon currently attend the English stream, and there are no pupils currently in the English stream in Reception or year 1.'</i></p>
--------	--	---

		<i>Eventually, it is expected that any community tensions would diminish, and in the longer term as the change in language category is implemented, it is expected that the proposal would help to improve community cohesion, as all pupils in the area would be fluent in both Welsh and English.'</i>
16.3.2	Trefeglwys is predominantly an English speaking village, removing the English stream would set to divide the community.	As above.
16.3.3	The proposal does nothing to reinforce 'strong communities in the green heart of Wales' more that it demonstrates a divide in resources and highlights inequalities.	As above.
16.3.4	There would be no 'community cohesion' as children living within the village that wish to access English Medium will not be able to walk to their local school and instead have to travel out of the area.	As above.

## **17. COMMENTS ABOUT THE WELSH LANGUAGE**

### **17.1 The proposal would have a positive impact on the Welsh language**

17.1.1	The proposal will raise the quality and standard of spoken Welsh at the school because no English would be spoken on the school yard and in assemblies.	Comment noted.
17.1.2	This is a massive opportunity to raise the standard of the Welsh language in rural mid Wales.	Comment noted.



17.1.3	Changing the language category would give the Welsh language a positive future, and would treat the Welsh language equally to English – this won't be possible unless the school's language category changes.	Comment noted.
17.1.4	There will only be fairness for the Welsh language if the language category changes – this would have a positive impact on the Welsh language.	Comment noted.
17.1.5	There would be more opportunities for children in the area to learn and use Welsh.	Comment noted.
17.1.6	The change would have a positive impact on the Welsh language in the school and the area, providing education in a Welsh-medium school in a Welsh area, strengthening the Welsh ethos in the school and the area.	Comment noted.
17.1.7	Positive effect on Welsh language in the area. Raising the profile of Welsh language.	Comment noted.
17.1.8	I think it supports the development of the Welsh language.	Comment noted.
17.1.9	The proposal is very positive for the Welsh language and to those persons that will benefit from this opportunity. The 'persons' standard of spoken Welsh will drastically be improved as all functions/services will have to comply with Welsh language standards.	Comment noted.
17.1.10	There is a need to promote the Welsh language – English will look after itself.	Comment noted.

17.1.11	The proposal will only have positive effects on the opportunities for people to use Welsh and for it to be treated no less favourably than English.	Comment noted.
17.1.12	The change would have a positive impact on the Welsh language in the school and the area, offering education in a Welsh-medium school in a Welsh area, which would strengthen the Welsh ethos in the school and the area.	Comment noted.
17.1.13	For those who choose Welsh medium it will promote the language.	Comment noted.
17.1.14	It would have a positive impact as it would create a natural Welsh environment in an area that had a high percentage of Welsh speakers until a couple of generations ago.	Comment noted.
17.1.15	I believe having a designated Welsh-medium school in the Llanidloes area would have a positive impact on attitudes and the development of the language in general.	Comment noted.

## 17.2 Comments about the benefits of bilingualism

17.2.1	It's a fact that bilingual or multilingual children perform better in exams and develop problem solving skills more quickly than children that only speak one language.	Comment noted.
17.2.2	Bilingualism can slow down the onset of dementia.	Comment noted.
17.2.3	Having another language is valuable when applying for jobs in Wales and opens doors to a new community and numerous opportunities.	Comment noted.

--	--	--

### 17.3 Reference to the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 Strategy

17.3.1	The proposal will contribute towards achieving the target to have a million Welsh speakers by 2050.	Comment noted.
17.3.2	I think it will be a step forward to achieving the Welsh Government's strategy of getting one million Welsh speakers.	Comment noted.
17.3.3	A positive step towards achieving the Welsh Government's target to have a million Welsh speakers by 2050.	Comment noted.
17.3.4	The proposal will contribute to achieving the targets of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.	Comment noted.
17.3.5	This school, being in Trefeglwys could make a really worthwhile contribution to the well-publicised aim to have 1 million Welsh-speakers by 2050 as it is in an area where there are fewer Welsh-speakers. It is well placed, therefore, to redress that balance as the opportunities for using Welsh in Montgomeryshire are thinner on the ground than in many other parts of Wales.	Comment noted.

### 17.4 The proposal would have a negative impact on the Welsh language

17.4.1	Unfortunately, I think that the proposed change will have a negative effect on the language in the area. I believe it is one of the only dual stream options in the area, attracting numbers as a result of this. I do not want my child to be in a small school and I am concerned that being a Welsh unit only will shrink the school	Comment noted. The risk that 'parents don't want to attend a Welsh-medium school, so choose for them to move to alternative schools' is identified as a risk in the Consultation Document published in respect of this proposal.
--------	---	--

	and as a result reduce the numbers of individuals in the area with Welsh language skills and ambitions.	
17.4.2	Furthermore, there have been parents who have chosen Welsh-medium education for their child/ren at YDT because the English stream existed and would be a suitable back up should Welsh medium provision not suit their child. There is risk that by implementing the preferred options fewer families who do not speak Welsh at home will be inclined to try Welsh-medium provision.	As above.

## 17.5 General comments about the Welsh language

17.5.1	The Welsh language in Wales suffered a big decline in learning when it was frowned upon to speak Welsh. Thankfully this is being redressed and Welsh – though still very much a minority language, even in Wales – has gained enormous popularity amongst those wishing to learn another language and enjoy the vibrant culture and heritage that goes with it.	Comment noted.
17.5.2	What language category will YDT be if the proposal goes forward under the proposed Welsh Government new language categories?	It would be a Welsh-medium primary school.

## 18. REFERENCE TO WELSH-MEDIUM EDUCATION DELIVERY MODELS

### 18.1 Support for dual-stream delivery models

18.1.1	To embrace the dual stream approach is to embrace Welsh language and culture in a way that is accessible to all its pupils.	This is not correct. In a dual stream school some learners are enabled to become fully bilingual while other learners in the school study in English only. The learners in the Welsh stream study Welsh and English as first languages and are expected to be fully bilingual. Learners in the English stream study English to first language standard and Welsh as a second language, and are not expected to be fully bilingual by the time they leave school.
18.1.2	Ultimately, we feel really saddened that what should be seen as a real strength of the educational opportunities available at YDT; its dual-stream bilingual nature, is seemingly now perceived to be a negative to the point where the school is under consultation. We are great enthusiasts for the Welsh language and feel strongly that this should not be seen as a Welsh language vs English language issue.	The Council agrees that this should not be seen as a Welsh language vs English language issue. The aim of the proposal is to ensure that all pupils attending Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon have the opportunity to become fully bilingual, with skills in both Welsh and English, regardless of the language spoken in their homes.
18.1.3	Dual stream schools should provide students with equal opportunities to excel in their chosen language.	The aim of the proposal is to ensure that all pupils attending Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon have the opportunity to become fully bilingual, with skills in both Welsh and English, regardless of the language spoken in their homes.
18.1.4	There is evidently a need for a dual-stream school in this community.	The majority of people attending Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon choose Welsh-medium provision, and the proposal to change the school's language category to Welsh-medium reflects this choice.
18.1.5	I believe there is a great benefit in teaching Welsh at a young age and believe that YDT currently has a unique selling point of a dual stream education, providing for local children wishing to	Comment noted.

	learn the native tongue, but at the same time providing some flexibility for those who may find it more challenging to switch, if appropriate, to the English stream. Likewise it encourages the children in both streams and for local children to all socialise together.	
18.1.6	As a family we have chosen to put our children through the Welsh stream to give them bilingual opportunities in the future, however it was reassuring to know that if they struggled through this medium English stream was an option without having to move to another school.	Comment noted.
18.1.7	Dual stream schools provide a 'safety net' – should children, due to learning difficulties or many other reasons decide they were struggling with education through Welsh, they could be transferred back to English without major disruption to their education, friendship groups and mental wellbeing.	Comment noted.
18.1.8	Dual stream schools enable siblings accessing Welsh-medium and English-medium provision to attend the same school.	Comment noted.
18.1.9	If pupils are not progressing well in the Welsh stream there is the option to send them to the English stream and not move schools.	Comment noted.
18.1.10	I like the concept of a dual-stream school, although I appreciate that there are challenges because the numbers never add up and they will never add up.	Comment noted.

## 18.2 Negative comments about the dual stream model

10.2.1	Having two streams creates an artificial difference between the two communities, creating a 'split' between Welsh and English classes – which creates a divide in the community which is very difficult to repair.	Comment noted.
10.2.2	Dual stream schools are very damaging to the Welsh language. You only need a handful of pupils that don't speak Welsh to change the language of the yard.	Comment noted.
10.2.3	Dual stream schools aren't fair on either stream.	Comment noted.

### 18.3 Support for Welsh-medium model

18.3.1	In a Welsh-medium school, all pupils are together and most pupils have parents who don't speak Welsh so they become one community – Welsh speaking and non-Welsh speaking families.	Comment noted.
18.3.2	Evidence clearly shows that in order to learn the language successfully immersion is needed, and pupils need a full Welsh-medium experience in a fully Welsh environment. The way to do that is through a fully Welsh-medium school.	Comment noted.

## 19. REFERENCE TO DISCRIMINATION / INEQUALITY

19.1	In a time of equality and choice, the proposal to remove the dual stream would not be giving the correct message to the community nor to potential new parents and pupils.	Should the Council proceed with the proposal, the intention is that the change is introduced on a phased basis, from the Reception year up, in order to minimise the impact on pupils currently accessing English-medium provision in the school. Pupils from
------	--	---

		<p>homes where no Welsh is spoken would be immersed in the Welsh language, and would become fully bilingual in Welsh and English.</p> <p>Pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's language category, pupils / parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.</p>
19.2	<p>This does not promote inclusion which is what all schools in Powys promote themselves to be.</p>	<p>The Council does not agree with this statement.</p> <p>Should the Council proceed with the proposal, the intention is that the change is introduced on a phased basis, from the Reception year up, in order to minimise the impact on pupils currently accessing English-medium provision in the school. Pupils from homes where no Welsh is spoken would be immersed in the Welsh language, and would become fully bilingual in Welsh and English.</p> <p>Pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's language category, pupils / parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.</p>



19.3	I find it extraordinary in this day and age of equal opportunities and inclusion that this is not promoted in your school. It does lead me to question what morals this would install in the children you are educating? Please reconsider this proposal and ensure the school remains in the twenty first century and does not return to an archaic and dated system.	As above.
19.4	The message this sends to the children who attend the school that one language is favoured more than another. We live in a diverse society and all languages should be treated equally.	As above.
19.5	Considering English is the most spoken language in Wales, I fear by stopping English speaking pupils comes very close to being racist. If my child was denied a place in my village school on the basis that they only speak English I personally would be speaking to my solicitor.	As above.
19.6	I also think it is a shame to exclude the English speaking children who live in the area, it is not setting a good example to the children of equality and is setting an example of linguistic discrimination.	As above.
19.7	Removing the English stream isn't inclusive.	As above.
19.8	For the school to promote inclusion, to dissolve the dual stream approach, segregating the English and Welsh and to work together. The world is a hard enough place without promoting segregation in children.	As above.
19.9	Borderline infringes on rights under this act yes.	As above.

19.10	I do think equality diversity and ethnicity are been ignored.	Equality, diversity and ethnicity are not being ignored. The aim of the proposal is to ensure that all pupils that attend Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon have the opportunity to become fully bilingual in Welsh and English. Pupils would be welcome to attend the school regardless of their linguistic / ethnic background.
19.11	It is racist.	The proposal is not racist. The aim of the proposal is to ensure that all pupils that attend Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon have the opportunity to become fully bilingual in Welsh and English, pupil's would be welcome to attend the school regardless of their race.
19.12	That we live in a multi-cultural society. And abolishing English stream is racist.	As above.
19.13	Discrimination against the race of a pupil.	As above.
19.14	As already answered I believe it's racist. Just like the one sided funding.	<p>The proposal is not racist. The aim of the proposal is to ensure that all pupils that attend Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon have the opportunity to become fully bilingual in Welsh and English, pupils would be welcome to attend the school regardless of their race.</p> <p>All schools' delegated funding is determined using the same distribution formula, largely based on pupil numbers. The funding formula does not discriminate on the basis of race. All single stream schools are funded on the same basis, regardless of whether they are Welsh medium or English medium schools. For</p>

		dual stream schools, the two streams are treated separately for the purposes of classroom staff time required.
19.15	You are not treating pupils equally.	<p>This comment is noted, however the Council's view is that the current situation does not provide equality as not all pupils accessing education in Trefeglwys have the opportunity to become fully bilingual in Welsh and English during their time in school.</p> <p>The proposal to change the school's language category would ensure that all pupils in Trefeglwys would have the opportunity to become fluent in Welsh and English in the future.</p> <p>Pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's language category, pupils/parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.</p>
19.16	Treat all pupils as equal and do what's right for them.	As above.
19.17	We should be encouraging equality in today's society, especially through schools.	As above.
19.18	For equal opportunities shouldn't an English or dual stream setting be provided?	As above.

19.19	<p>The proposal only serves to highlight the inequalities of favouring one language more than another. It is ignorant to think that just because a child accesses an English stream provision that they do not grow and develop in the Welsh language. The impact of such goes against all equal rights to remove barriers to learning. The reputation of the school would be in question.</p>	<p>The Council does not agree that the proposal is 'favouring one language more than the other.' The aim of the proposal is to ensure that all pupils become fully bilingual in both languages, Welsh and English.</p> <p>It is widely accepted that the best way for a child to become fully bilingual, fluent in Welsh and English, is for them to access Welsh-medium education, and across Powys and Wales many pupils from Welsh-speaking and non-Welsh speaking homes attend Welsh-medium education in Welsh-medium schools.</p> <p>Ultimately, pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's language category, pupils / parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.</p>
19.20	<p>The students should be the most important part of this consultation and not politics. The choice should be there. Is this not discrimination for the child who wishes to be taught in the medium of English?</p>	<p>The aim of the proposal is to provide the best possible opportunities for pupils in the area in the future, by providing the opportunity for all pupils to become fully bilingual in Welsh and English.</p> <p>However, pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's language category, pupils / parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.</p>

19.21	It appears there is a strong possibility that the English stream had been discriminated against and there appeared to be evidence that could substantiate this. If this is the case, this is a very serious matter and could be deemed unlawful and should not be overlooked.	The Council does not agree that the 'English stream has been discriminated against'. Parents are entitled to apply for a place in whichever school they choose, and this choice will be accommodated in accordance with the Council's Admissions Policy where there are places available.
19.22	Other than Welsh Language teaching join both streams together and do not discriminate against English speaking students. Discrimination at school or in society should NEVER be allowed under any circumstances.	The Council is not 'discriminating against English speaking students'. All pupils are welcome to attend Welsh-medium schools, including pupils from homes where no Welsh is spoken.
19.23	As I have previously stated the current policy of PCC is discriminatory against people who are English. The proposal will exacerbate that.	The proposal is not 'discriminatory against people who are English.' All pupils are welcome to attend Welsh-medium schools, including pupils from homes where no Welsh is spoken.
19.24	So far you have tried to discriminate against English stream students by offering free school transport to Welsh stream students only. Clearly this hasn't had the desired effect and you still have an English stream so you now hope that this move will solve that problem.	The Council is not discriminating against English stream pupils. The current Home to School Transport Policy provides free transport for eligible pupils to their nearest school that provides education either through English or Welsh. For many pupils in the wider area, Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is the only Welsh-medium provider.
19.25	Arguing that the school would not be 'inclusive' if there was no English stream is ridiculous, as all children would leave the school fluent in Welsh and English should it be a Welsh-medium school. It could be argued that the three English-medium schools in the Llanidloes catchment are not 'inclusive', nor do they	The Council agrees that Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon would continue to be 'inclusive' should there be no English stream at the school.  Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, all pupils would be welcome to access

	provide the same opportunities for children as they don't provide a Welsh stream / Welsh-medium education.	Welsh-medium provision at the school, regardless of their linguistic background.
--	--	--

## 20. IMPACT ON PROTECTED CHARACTERISTIC GROUPS

### 20.1 Concerns about the impact on pupils with ALN

20.1.1	ALN children need to be spoken to in their mother tongue, so they have the best chance of learning. They will need lots of help with homework, which English speaking parents will not be equipped to do if their child is being taught in Welsh. It is vital to communicate well with these sometimes very challenging children. There are many barriers these children have to overcome, without the complications of being taught in Welsh if not spoken at home.	<p>Across Wales there are children with SEN/ALN who are educated successfully in Welsh-medium schools, whether they are from Welsh-speaking homes, English-speaking homes or homes where other languages are spoken. Language is not a barrier to them achieving their potential.</p> <p>However, pupils/parents are entitled to apply for a place in any school they choose. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon's language category, pupils / parents would be able to apply for a place in an alternative school which offers English-medium provision, should that be their preference.</p>
20.1.2	Consideration should be given to supporting those with learning difficulties and to providing better quality provision for those with diagnosed conditions. This should be the Council's priority rather than consultation of this nature that just removes choice as opposed to focusing on the PUPILS needs.	As above.
20.1.3	It excludes any other spoken language, any child that speaks English as a first language or any child who has additional or complex needs would then be excluded.	As above.

20.1.4	Pupils that have additional learning needs have attended English-medium provision instead of Welsh-medium of provision as they would not have coped in Welsh-medium provision.	As above.
20.1.5	Adverse effect on ALN pupils.	As above.
20.1.6	There needs to be English teaching for ALN pupils who speak English at home.	As above.
20.1.7	Families who discover that their child has additional learning needs may very well choose to leave the school as they cannot be supported in the language they speak in the family home.	As above.
20.1.8	If this proposal goes ahead children who struggle with their learning and development are not given the opportunity to succeed in another class as the choice of language will have been taken away thus meaning they would need to travel out of area to access a school that meets their needs. Where a consistent approach would support a child's transition and remove the barriers to learning this proposal adds further stress and burden to the families it is responsible for. There have been a number of children who have transferred seamlessly from the Welsh stream to the English stream.	As above.
20.1.9	Appropriate support will need to be available in school for children with SEN/ALN.	As is the case with other Welsh-medium providers across Powys and Wales, appropriate support would be available in school for children with SEN/ALN.
20.1.10	This proposal has not considered the impact on children or adults with Special Needs.	The proposal's impact on pupils with additional learning needs was considered in the draft impact

		<p>assessment document which was published as part of the consultation documentation.</p> <p>The impact assessments will be updated following the consultation period to reflect feedback received during the consultation period, and the updated documents will be considered by Cabinet when determining whether or not to proceed with the proposal.</p>
20.1.11	<p>What lessons learned have been considered from elsewhere in Powys or further afield on ALN impact, what is the evidence base to show outcomes of ALN pupils taught through a language that may not be spoken at home are comparable to the outcomes of pupils taught in their first language?</p>	<p>Lessons can be learned from Powys, and from wider afield on this matter. Across Wales, there are learners in Welsh medium education, and in English medium education, for whom the school's language of instruction is not the language of the home. Welsh Medium schools from all areas of Wales report outcomes for learners of all abilities, including those with identified needs, as being at least comparable with those in English medium schools. This is particularly, but not exclusively, the case in areas where a significant majority of the learners come from non-Welsh speaking homes.</p> <p>If a child has significant speech and language/communication difficulties, a school will need to provide support for that child in the medium that will best enable them to develop their communication skills. This could include English, Welsh or a form of signing. However, there is practice in Wales and beyond that shows that having additional learning needs does not preclude a child from becoming fully bilingual. In fact, headteachers</p>



		and ALN specialists will be able to cite real and multiple examples of learners with identified additional needs from English speaking homes who make excellent educational and social progress in both languages, supported by their school which operates in Welsh.
--	--	---

## 20.2 Other comments regarding impact on protected characteristic groups

20.2.1	What options are there for families who move to the village, whose 1st language is not English? ie ethnic minorities. Are they even more than others to be penalised for not embracing the opportunity to learn yet another language.	<p>The proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon would not 'penalise' any families moving to the village whose 1<sup>st</sup> language is not English. These families would be welcome to attend Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, and appropriate support would be provided to ensure that their needs were met.</p> <p>Should any pupils whose 1<sup>st</sup> language is not English move to the village and not wish to access Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, they could apply for a place at an alternative school in the local area which offers English-medium provision.</p>
20.2.2	The proposal would not have a negative impact on pupils belonging to the protected characteristic groups – the school would be available for anyone making an application to it.	Comment noted.
20.2.3	I have no concerns about the impact of the proposal on people with protected characteristics. The proposal to change the school's language category would give these pupils the same opportunities as their peers – and that is a basic right. An	Comment noted.

	additional benefit is the fact that Welsh is a phonetic language, which is easier for children with additional needs to learn.	
--	--	--

## 21. COMMENTS ABOUT THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENTATION

### 21.1 Comments about the consultation document

21.1.1	Throughout the consultation document benefits of implementing the preferred option are cited. Many of these benefits are already in place in YDT. It appears the consultation document was not tailored sufficiently to reflect that YDT is already a dual stream school that provides immersive Welsh language education, tracks and monitors pupils, helps learners develop their understanding of Welsh language and culture, produces bi-lingual learners, offers a full range of professional development opportunities, and links with other Welsh medium schools to name but a few. I therefore dispute the assertion in the consultation document that these elements, and others, would be strengthened by implementing the preferred option.	The Council's view is that the Consultation Document has been suitably tailored to reflect Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, and that the benefits indicated in the document are valid.
21.1.2	The cost of English medium provision at YDT was cited frequently in the impact assessment and by PCC officers during Governors engagement meeting. The stream is funded in line with the authority's own Fair Funding Formula and the school has a balanced financial position projected. The appendix of the consultation identifies significant variance in budget share per pupil within the Llanidloes cluster (£3613 up to £7098), with YDT budget share per pupil being nearer the lower end of that range at £4650 per pupil. This is not reflected in the narrative of the consultation document or impact assessment. I suggest the documentation is updated to reflect the balanced budget of YDT,	This comment regarding the school's cost per pupil is noted. The school's cost per pupil is not one of the reasons why the Council is consulting on changing the school's language category.

	comparative budget share per pupil and make it clear that the financial savings identified if the preferred option was implemented would not be retained by the school.	
21.1.3	There is a lack of information on learning from elsewhere within Powys and beyond the county borders of the impact of making a change comparable with the preferred option. Powys County Council has not provided any evidence to suggest there will not be a detrimental impact on enrolments or evidence of outcomes for pupils with additional learning needs not being adversely affected.	<p>There is no requirement to provide information from elsewhere within Powys or wider.</p> <p>The Council has considered the impact on pupil numbers at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon in the consultation document, and has identified risks that pupils would choose alternative schools should the Council proceed with the proposal to change the school's language category.</p> <p>The Council has considered the impact on pupils with additional learning needs in the consultation document and in the impact assessment, which will be updated following the consultation.</p>
21.1.4	The numbers as detailed within the consultation document, although a true representation of the actual numbers on roll, are not a true reflection of the number of local families who would be accessing the English Medium had they not been pushed away from that route.	The proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is based on the small number of pupils currently accessing the English-medium stream at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.
21.1.5	PCC should delay this consultation as the numbers it is basing the proposal on are misleading. Information should be requested from local families who have experienced bias away from the English Medium and ascertain what the number would actually be had parents not been turned away.	The Council does not agree that the proposal is based on 'misleading' numbers. The proposal is based on the small number of pupils currently accessing the English-medium stream at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.

21.1.6	<p>After reading all of the literature to change the language category from dual stream to Welsh-medium, I find it all very one sided, it appears to be focused mainly on the Welsh medium. The Welsh language is not the prominent language used in Wales. Wales has a population of 3.15 million, this is approximately 5% of the whole of the United Kingdom. Therefore it makes absolutely no sense at all to dwindle out the primary language.</p>	<p>The Council and the Welsh Government's aim is to increase the number of Welsh speakers in Wales, through increasing the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium education, and there are additional steps the Council is required to take to consider the impact of proposals on the Welsh language. There is no such requirement for the English language. Changing the school's language category to English-medium is one of the options that was considered when developing the proposal, however this was discounted.</p>
21.1.7	<p>Considerable housing development is underway in Trefeglwys, there is no evidence provided in the consultation documents that the impact of this has been factored into demand for education places. The School Organisation code requires local authorities to take account of the extent to which existing provision exceeds or falls short of demand or projected demand from parents.</p>	<p>The Council has considered whether the 'Need for places and impact on availability of places and accessibility of schools' on page 21 of the consultation document. This includes consideration of future need/demand in the area for additional places. In addition, the latest projected pupil numbers for Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon were included in the Consultation Document. Whilst these figures did not specifically refer to houses which are being built in Trefeglwys, the document shows that there are currently 61 surplus places at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, which would be able to accommodate any growth in pupil numbers in the area.</p>
21.1.8	<p>Have future demographics been considered? The housing market is booming and there are growing numbers of families in the Trefeglwys area with many new houses being built to attract people.</p>	<p>As above.</p>

21.1.9	As noted in your proposal, significant changes are needed to the Welsh-medium offer available in Powys, to ensure that all learners in the county can access full Welsh-medium provision throughout their educational journey.	Comment noted.
21.1.10	The school will not be solely Welsh, it will be totally bilingual. It's essential that this is emphasised, as you have done in the proposal – this needs to be emphasised more publicly, e.g. on social media.	Comment noted.
21.1.11	There is no evidence of any proactive justification for YDT's proposed change of status – no strategic context i.e. the case made for change appears to be YDT in isolation with no real strategy evident.	<p>The Council does not agree with this statement. The Consultation Document includes a section outlining 'Why change is needed in Powys' which provides an overview of the challenges facing education in Powys as outlined in the Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys, as well as a section on 'The Strategic Context' which provides further background relating to the Council's Strategy for Transforming Education and the current proposal for Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.</p> <p>The current proposal is fully aligned with the Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys, which includes an aim to 'improve access to Welsh-medium provision across all key stages', as well as an objective to 'move schools along the language continuum.'</p>
21.1.12	All the reasons cited in support of the proposal could be questioned – the disadvantages listed are fewer in number but potentially have a bigger impact – the risks are understated.	The Council does not agree with this statement

21.1.13	Reference is made to impact on other schools but what about the impact on YDT of decisions taken by other schools?	The Council is unaware of any decisions taken by other schools that would have an impact on Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.
21.1.14	Evidence of current / future need or demand appears to ignore the current building work going on and expansion of the village – it is claimed that the impact of the proposal on the community would be minimal but it could well be extremely divisive if we see the children from the village being transported to Llanidloes for their education.	<p>Comment noted. The Council has considered whether the ‘Need for places and impact on availability of places and accessibility of schools’ on page 21 of the consultation document. This includes consideration of future need/demand in the area for additional places.</p> <p>In addition, the latest projected pupil numbers for Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon were included in the Consultation Document. Whilst these figures did not specifically refer to houses which are being built in Trefeglwys, the document shows that there are currently 61 surplus places at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, which would be able to accommodate any growth in pupil numbers in the area.</p>

## 21.2 Comments about the impact assessments

21.2.1	The impact assessment frequently references benefits of providing Welsh-medium education at YDT including involvement with Urdd and Menter Maldwyn. I do not support the inclusion of these statements as such activities already exist at the school across both the Welsh and English medium streams.	The draft Welsh language impact assessment which was published as part of the consultation documentation clearly shows that the Council fully acknowledges that the school already provides opportunities for pupils to take part in Welsh language activities. However the Council also states in the draft integrated impact assessment that ‘it is likely that changing the school’s language category to Welsh-medium would also result in increased
--------	---	--

		opportunities for pupils to access Welsh language activities...’ The Council stands by this statement.
21.2.2	The Integrated Impact Assessment refers to activities should the school move along the language continuum, such as enhanced Urdd participation and Menter Maldwyn, all of which are already in place. I just wonder if the Integrated Impact Assessment will be revised further in the process, to reflect the reality of the situation as I don’t feel it currently reflects the extent of the extra-curricular and Welsh cultural language activities taking place at the school.	<p>The Integrated Impact Assessment will be reflected to reflect feedback received during the consultation period.</p> <p>The impact assessment document which was published as part of the consultation documentation also includes a draft Community Impact Assessment and a draft Welsh Language Impact Assessment, which have been developed with input from the school. These documents clearly state that Welsh language activities are already available at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.</p>
21.2.3	I was surprised the diminished English medium provision was not the focus of the impact assessment given that there would be no change to the Welsh medium provision should the preferred option be implemented. I request the impact assessment be amended accordingly.	The Council is required to consider the impact of proposals and policy developments on the Welsh language. There is no requirement to consider the impact on the English language.
21.2.4	I do not believe the impact assessment reflects the benefits of children and families being able to choose active travel as a means of travelling.	Comment noted.
21.2.5	Furthermore, the impact assessment states there would be no transport costs as a result of implementing the preferred option. I do not believe this to be true as there is at least one 3 year old in Trefeglwys who will be starting school in September 2022 – the suggested implementation date of the preferred option –	Should the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon be implemented, the Council would hope that pupils living in Trefeglwys would access Welsh-medium provision at the school.

	<p>who will require home to school transport to another school with English medium provision if the preferred option is implemented.</p>	<p>Should pupils choose to attend alternative English-medium provision, access to free home to school transport would be in accordance with the home to school transport policy which is in operation at the time. The policy which is due to be introduced in September 2021 would not provide transport for pupils living in Trefeglwys to access their closest English-medium provider, therefore there would be no additional transport costs to the Council following implementation of the proposal.</p>
21.2.6	<p>Furthermore, I understand any children who currently access English medium provision at other schools such as Llanidloes or Caersws would become entitled to home to school transport, in line with current PCC home to school transport policy. I therefore request the impact assessment is amended to provide a more accurate position on transport implications (including projected costs and emissions) and how arrangements for accessing alternative provision encourages sustainable transport, both of which are required by the School Re-Organisation code.</p>	<p>Should the proposal be implemented, home to school transport would be provided in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy which is in operation at the time.</p> <p>The Policy approved by Cabinet in September 2020 will come into operation in September 2021. This states that free home-to-school transport is provided to a learner's nearest suitable or catchment school, subject to the learner meeting the eligibility criteria. This would not include the provision of transport to English-medium provision where a pupil lives closer to Welsh-medium provision.</p> <p>The proposal is to introduce any change to the school's language category on a phased basis as pupils move through the school, and that any new pupils are immersed in the Welsh language when they start the school. Whilst it is possible that some pupils may choose to access English-medium provision elsewhere, the Council would hope that</p>



		pupils living in Trefeglwys would access Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.
21.2.7	The impact assessment should also be amended to reflect that the children of families without access to car transport would have difficulty accessing after school activities at more distant schools, which could include sports, cultural and afterschool club, resulting in diminished opportunities for personal, social and cultural development.	As above.
21.2.8	I request the impact assessment also be amended to reflect the challenges of centralising education provision in a rural area for families without access to a car or who have disabilities that make independent travel by motorised vehicle impossible.	The Council is not 'centralising education provision in a rural area'. Provision will continue to be available in all current locations. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, pupils from all linguistic backgrounds would continue to be able to attend the school.
21.2.9	How has the 'Well-being of Future Generations Act' been met within this proposal?	The requirements of the 'Well-being of Future Generations Act' have been considered as part of the draft impact assessment prepared as part of the consultation documentation. The draft impact assessment will be updated to reflect comments received during the consultation, and will be considered by Cabinet when determining how to proceed.
21.2.10	The School Organisation Code on page 9 stipulates that projected transport costs needs to be included and I'm interested in CO2 emissions. None has been included in the Integrated Impact Assessment. Will it be included?	The Council states on page 23 of the Consultation Document published in respect of this proposal that: 'It is not anticipated that additional transport costs would be incurred as a result of the change.'

		<p>The integrated impact assessment considers the additional transport which may be required – no additional transport provision would be needed...’ However it is acknowledged that some parents may choose for their children to attend alternative schools instead of accessing Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, which could impact on CO2 emissions. The draft impact assessment will be updated to reflect feedback received during the consultation process, and will be considered by Cabinet when determining how to proceed.</p>
21.2.11	<p>There are some pupils in this village which if the proposal goes ahead will need to be bussed to alternative provision. There will be data available to make a reasonable assumption as to projected transport costs to make the Impact Assessment a more balanced document.</p>	<p>As indicated on page 23 of the Consultation Document published in respect of this proposal that: ‘It is not anticipated that additional transport costs would be incurred as a result of the change.’</p> <p>Whilst pupils may choose alternative schools instead of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, they would not be eligible for home to school transport based on the Council’s policy which will be introduced in September 2021.</p>
21.2.12	<p>What consideration has Powys given to the potential detrimental impact on recruiting pupils to the Welsh stream by not having a dual-stream site which gives parents the flexibility of moving to the English stream if things don’t work out?</p>	<p>The Council has recognised in the consultation document the risk that parents don’t want their children to attend a Welsh-medium school so choose them to move to other schools, and also a risk that parents choose for their children to attend other schools instead of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon in the future.</p> <p>Across Powys and Wales, many pupils access designated Welsh-medium schools which do not</p>

		have an English stream. The lack of an English-medium stream has not prevented the growth of pupil numbers at schools of this type.
--	--	---

### 21.3 Comments about the response form

21.3.1	The options regarding being able to speak, write or read Welsh do not provide a suitable option for some respondents e.g. some Welsh learners.	Comment noted.
21.3.2	Why are the questions all about the Welsh language? The consultation is about removing the English stream at Trefeglwys so it won't have any affect on the Welsh language?	The Welsh Language Standards place a legal requirement on the Council to ask specific questions relating to the potential impact of proposals on the Welsh language. There is no requirement to ask about the proposal's impact on English.
21.3.3	This form is leaning towards the Welsh language being treated less favourably, that is clearly NOT the case in this school and a myth that is perpetuated ad nauseum. The reverse is true, the school should just be managed better and made more welcoming to English speaking children.	As above.
21.3.4	I don't believe that the promotion of the Welsh language is the issue in this instance.	As above.
21.3.4	Why are the questions on this form so hard to understand? There is good presentation for kids but no kids form to fill in.	Comment noted.

## 22. COMMENTS ABOUT THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

## 22.1 Comments about the timing of the consultation during the Covid-19 pandemic

22.1.1	Concern about the timing of the launch during lockdown when children, families, community are struggling to return to some normality.	The Council has been developing its Strategy for Transforming Education since Estyn's inspection of Powys Education Services in 12019. Whilst acknowledging that it would have been preferable for the consultation process to have taken place at a time when there wasn't a global pandemic, the consultation has been carried out in line with Welsh Government requirements.
22.1.2	The timing of this consultation has been inappropriate. It has taken place during the pandemic when ongoing restrictions has meant that not all may have been able to engage with the consultation, particularly if they are not able to access the internet. Also that public, face-to-face meetings have not been able to take place during this consultation.	As above.
22.1.3	The timing of this consultation is not helpful as offering more meetings and face to face Q & A's would have been beneficial to Powys County Council (PCC) during their consultation and more local residents would have been reached in order to share the details of the proposal. More effort should have been made by PCC to ensure that parents of pupils currently at the school and local residents were made aware of the consultation and given as much opportunity as possible to provide their views.	As above.

## 22.2 Comments regarding the ability of stakeholders to respond to the consultation

22.2.1	How will the community be informed of the consultation to ensure that it accurately reflects the views of the community?	The consultation has been carried out in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation
--------	--	--

	Communication from Russell George, Phyl Davies and the transformation team have all stated that the community has been informed, however there are no details of the consultation advertised on the school website, school Facebook page or in the local community. Only the parents whose children attend the school are informed.	Code. As this is the Council's proposal, information about the proposal was published on the Council's website, however there is no requirement for information to be published on the school's website or Facebook page.
22.2.2	There has been a lack of engagement with the local community and school community to provide information of the consultation and encourage views from as many people as possible.	The consultation has been carried out in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code.
22.2.3	I would like clarification of how the local community of Trefeglwys and surrounding areas are being notified of such proposal if they do not have access to online resources. It appears that there is a disadvantage in how the information is being shared.	The consultation has been carried out in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code.
22.2.4	Will there be a meeting for parents as part of the consultation?	No meetings with parents were held as part of the consultation. This is in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code.

### 22.3 Other

22.3.1	Clarity is required in order for consultees to be able to provide meaningful responses and there are so many unanswered questions following discussions with PCC officers that it is impossible to achieve a clear picture of the implications of this consultation.	The Council does not agree with this statement. The current proposal only relates to changing the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon on a phased basis. Whilst there could be some impact on other schools in the area should some pupils choose to attend these schools instead of accessing Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon, the Council would hope that the numbers would be small,
--------	--	--

		therefore the impact on any other schools in the area would be minimal.
22.3.2	In a meeting with the Governing Body of YDT, the Portfolio Holder for Education stated he had predetermined position on this consultation. This sets a tone for the consultation being pre-determined by the local authority as a whole.	The outcome of this process has not been pre-determined.
22.3.3	<p>There are a large number of “known unknowns” relating to this consultation as a result of multiple concurrent consultations within and beyond Powys, which adversely impact on the ability of consultees to determine an informed view on this consultation. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the 2022 admissions policy which may affect Llanidloes High School,</li> <li>- responses to the consultation on Ysgol Bro Hyddgen,</li> <li>- WG consultation on school language categories.</li> </ul> <p>The latter consultation indicates that categorisation will change and so it would seem more logical for any decision about the language category of schools in Powys to await the outcome of that consultation in order to ensure decisions made locally align with the national position. This becomes even more relevant when considering the provision across the cluster. It may also provide an opportunity for the local authority and Governing Body to consider, in conjunction with the local community, any alternatives that could arise from the new school language categories. In light of these “known unknowns”, the current consultation on YDT seems premature. I suggest delaying the decision on YDT consultation until there are more “known knowns” than “known unknowns”.</p>	The Council does not agree that any of these factors would require the current process in respect of the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon to be delayed.

22.3.4	How are responses recorded – are names recorded?	No names will be included in the consultation report.
22.3.5	What is the PCC methodolgy for reviewing and presenting responses to Cabinet?	The issues raised during the consultation period have been summarised and incorporated into this report, along with the Council’s response to each issue. This report will be considered by the Cabinet when determining how to proceed in respect of this proposal, along with an updated impact assessment document reflecting feedback received during the consultation period.
22.3.6	What method is the local authority using for those with low or no literacy ability to ensure that they are able to contribute to the consultation?	The authority published a video online outlining the proposal, and a young people’s version of the consultation document is also available which is presented in a more ‘easy-read’ way.
22.3.7	What consideration was given for the consultation to be undertaken on a cluster basis so that we could see better how the pieces of the jigsaw for the cluster fitted together because many of the queries we have had tonight relate to unknown quantities because the picture for the cluster as a whole was unclear.	A review of the Llanidloes catchment area will take place in Wave 2 of the Transformation Programme. However, the Council’s view is that the current model of delivery in Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is unsustainable due to the small number of pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school.and requires addressing sooner. Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is in a unique position within the Llanidloes cluster as the only provider of Welsh-medium primary education.
22.3.8	What were the drivers for Dyffryn Trannon being selected for this process at this time, when there are other dual-stream schools or small schools?	As indicated in the Consultation Document, the Council is carrying out consultation on a proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon due to the very low number of English-medium pupils at the school.

--	--	--

## 23. REFERENCE TO COUNCIL STRATEGIES

### 23.1 Reference to the Council's Transforming Education Strategy

23.1.1	For those parents/pupils who decide to go out of the local area to their nearest English medium schools, there are concerns about whether those schools will be either retained long term in Powys' transformation programme (e.g. Llandinam).	Comment noted. The Council is not currently proposing any changes to any other schools in the Llanidloes catchment. Should the Council wish to take forward any proposals relating to any of these schools in the future, the Council would need to follow the process outlined in the School Organisation Code, which would provide an opportunity for stakeholders to raise any concerns.
23.1.2	PCC officers have not been able to provide the rationale as to why this preferred option was being consulted on at this time. It would seem more logical to review provision on a cluster basis rather than a single stream in a single school to make more informed, coherent plans and decisions.	Following approval of the Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in April 2020, the Council is currently taking forward a wide range of proposals affecting a number of schools. A review of the Llanidloes catchment area will take place in Wave 2 of the Transformation Programme. However, the Council's view is that the current model of delivery in Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is unsustainable due to the small number of pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school and requires addressing sooner. Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is in a unique position within the Llanidloes cluster as the only provider of Welsh-medium primary education.
23.1.3	Why is this school being looked at in isolation? Other schools locally have spare places, much older buildings and cost more to run.	As above



23.1.4	I am particularly mindful of the surplus places available at other schools in the cluster, the age and state of the estate at those schools and the unknown outcome of proposals to change secondary school catchment areas in the near future. In these circumstances it appears a more robust approach would be to undertake a review of the cluster.	As above
23.1.5	How does Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon fits into the 'Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys 2020-2030' along with other local schools such as the newly built school in Carno?	<p>The Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys 2020-30 includes a Strategic Aim: To improve access to Welsh-medium provision and four Strategic Objectives:</p> <p>S.O.3.1 - Move schools along the language continuum  S.O.3.2 - Develop new primary and secondary provision  S.O.3.3 - Work with Mudiad Meithrin to establish new early years provision  S.O.3.4 - Develop immersion opportunities</p> <p>The current proposal for to Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon relates to Strategic Objective S.O.3.1</p> <p>Ysgol Carno is a Welsh-medium school. Following a review of schools in the Machynlleth/Llanidloes area a few years ago, it was agreed to formally federate the three Welsh-medium primary schools in that area, and an extension was provided to the community centre in Carno to replace the ageing demountable that the school had been using for years.</p>

23.1.6	<p>We have been told that schools with under 90 pupils are classed as ‘small schools’ and are therefore at risk of closure should their numbers not increase over 90. The proposal will therefore put Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon into this category or very close to it, this is of obvious concern as local residents and Councillors do not want to face the possible closure of the local school. In addition to this point, is it not the case that two of the closest schools with English Medium provision, Llandinam and Caersws, are both well under 90 pupils and therefore could be at threat of closure therefore?</p>	<p>The Welsh Government’s definition of a small school is schools that have less than 91 pupils. The Council’s Strategy for Transforming Education has identified that there are too many small schools in the county but this doesn’t mean that all schools below 91 are planned to close. The Council considers a number of factors when reviewing schools – standards, pupil numbers, leadership, condition of buildings, standards, surplus places, sufficiency of places amongst schools in a geographic area, geographic location, language and denominational status, amongst others.</p>
23.1.7	<p>This historical lack of political decision making also appears to be driving the pace of change in education in Powys. Whilst I appreciate the need for improvement cited by Estyn in their recent inspection of the authority, improvement can only be achieved on the basis of sound data and interpretation.</p>	<p>The proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is based on the small number of pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school. The Council’s view is that the proposal is based on ‘sound data and interpretation’.</p>
23.1.8	<p>What is the long-term plan when children reach 11 in terms of the local provision? There is a fear for Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon if there is nowhere for the pupils to move on to when 11, the concern is that parents would vote with their feet, with the school diminishing in size as a consequence. People need to see a strategy in place.</p>	<p>Welsh-medium secondary provision is available at the Welsh-medium stream at Llanidloes High School.</p>
23.1.9	<p>It strikes me that this is the beginning of the end for the dual-stream schools concept if this proposal goes forward. Are you saying that dual-stream schools have no future full stop?</p>	<p>The Council’s Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys includes an objective ‘move schools along the language continuum’. However that does not mean that there will be no dual stream schools in Powys in the future.</p>

23.1.10	Why is Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon being consulted for change when Transforming Education talked about the future of small schools as well as dual-stream schools. Why are we not looking at other schools in the cluster? All the other schools in the cluster are small schools which would potentially realise similar if not greater financial savings than Dyffryn Trannon, then why are you not moving those schools along the language continuum, as all the other schools in the cluster are English-medium.	A review of the Llanidloes catchment area will take place in Wave 2 of the Transformation Programme. However, the Council's view is that the current model of delivery in Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is unsustainable due the small number of pupils in the English stream, and requires addressing sooner. Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is in a unique position within the Llanidloes cluster as the only provider of Welsh-medium primary education.
---------	--	--

## 23.2 Reference to the WESP

23.2.1	An excellent opportunity to contribute to increasing pupil numbers in Welsh-medium education to contribute to the target in Powys' Welsh in Education Strategic Plan which is currently being prepared and in response to Estyn's recommendations.	Comment noted.
--------	--	----------------

## 24. REFERENCE TO ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

### 24.1 Retain the status quo

24.1.1	YDT always has been dual stream and should remain that way.	These comments are noted, however the number of pupils accessing English-medium provision at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon are currently low, and the model does not provide the opportunity for all pupils attending the school to become bilingual in Welsh and English.
--------	---	--

24.1.2	YDT school should remain dual stream.	As above.
24.1.3	I think it should stay as it is.	As above.
24.1.4	It should remain as a dual stream school.	As above.
24.1.5	I am asking that the school remains both Welsh and English and therefore be the best of both worlds.	As above.
24.1.6	Keeping the dual language would be ideal, as it will keep people in the community.	As above.
24.1.7	Let's maintain what we have, which is unique to any other school in the area.	As above.
24.1.8	Keep it dual stream and actively market the Welsh unit.	As above.
24.1.9	There is a demand in the village and environs for both streams. It's incredibly frustrating and upsetting that the school doesn't serve it adequately. Serve the demand and the English stream intake will increase. It's simple.	As above.
24.1.10	The option of keeping the school as it is at present would provide PCC more time to investigate the allegations mentioned and create a full picture of the true situation as to whether there is a need for the English Medium in the area.	As above.
24.1.11	Need to look into how the English Medium can be maintained at the school alongside the Welsh Medium so as not to discriminate against or misrepresent the local community.	As above.

24.1.12	We want there to be a thriving Welsh stream in YDT but this needn't be to the detriment of a thriving English stream. It seems obvious that there is demand for both in the community and, with careful management and proactive leadership we're certain that both streams could grow and succeed.	As above.
24.1.13	The school is a vital part of the community, and even though I understand the importance of promoting the Welsh language, I don't believe that should be to the detriment of the English stream within the school.	As above.
24.1.14	Continue to teach both languages and have one stream that is 50/50 Welsh and English.	The Council's view is that in dual stream schools, some learners are enabled to become fully bilingual while other learners in the school study in English only i.e. The learners in the Welsh/bilingual stream study Welsh and English as first languages and are expected to be fully bilingual, Learners in the English stream study English to first language standard and Welsh as a second language, and it is not designed for them to become fully bilingual by the end of their time at school.
24.1.15	Would make more sense for English children to be bilingual and learn Welsh whilst in the English stream.	As above

## 24.2 Promote the English stream of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon

24.2.1	Support and clear messaging and direction is needed to develop and strengthen the English stream – not take it away. It's a shame this wasn't done sooner maybe there would be no need for such a consultation.	The current proposal to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is based on the number of pupils currently accessing English-medium provision at the school. The number of
--------	---	--

		<p>English-medium pupils at the school have decreased in recent years.</p> <p>As outlined in the Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys and to contribute to the implementation of the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 Strategy, the Council's priority is to increase the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium provision, to increase the number of Powys pupils that are fully bilingual in Welsh and English.</p>
24.2.2	<p>The school has a unique selling point being dual-stream, it just needs to be promoted better. Many people don't understand what dual-stream means. We could expand the promotion of the English stream, and COVID hasn't helped. Maybe we could pause the consultation process for the promotion to have time to work. It needs time for the promotion of the English stream to work. The past 12 months have made it difficult.</p>	As above.
24.2.3	<p>More effort needs to be on promoting the school being dual stream before making this drastic change. There are many friends of the school and parents who would gladly help where possible to make this happen.</p>	As above.
24.2.4	<p>Support from PCC to advertise opportunities in both settings much better. When allowable – open days – or virtual open days!!</p>	As above.
24.2.5	<p>The local authority should help promote the school and ensure that English provision is available as a fair and equal option.</p>	As above.

24.2.6	The Council needs to consider promoting the school in its current status. Raise awareness of the options offered to parents and pupils and work with both, via the school to support the family to make the best choice – not because they are being 'forced' to choose.	As above.
24.2.7	I think they should encourage more English pupils and not discriminate against them.	As above.
24.2.8	Promotion of the English stream. Many people locally are shocked when they realise it is a dual stream school, they assume it only provides Welsh medium education.	As above.
24.2.9	There should be better promotion of YTD as a dual language school. There is a risk that numbers of Welsh language students will dwindle, and then there is no schooling provision at all. This would be a travesty for the local community, that is growing with new residential developments and parents that want the option of a dual language school for their children.	As above.
24.2.10	English stream needs to be advertised within the school! Then both languages will have equal importance! It's not about one being more favourable to the other.	As above.
24.2.11	Leave as a dual school, promote English stream more.	As above.
24.2.12	The leadership team should be supported to raise the profile of the school and to celebrate both English and Welsh streams, to overcome language barriers and misconceptions that children learn a second language regardless of which stream their children attend.	As above.

24.2.13	Promote the English stream as positively as you do the Welsh.	As above.
24.2.14	We could make posters and hang them around places to tell people the English stream is important and know there is an English stream in Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.	As above.
24.2.15	Support the school with a structured plan to advertise itself better to thriving village it inhabits.	As above.
24.2.16	The Council should be considering the impact on the community, the families and staff who this consultation affects by looking to increase the profile of a dual stream school.	As above.
24.2.17	The English stream does not need to be removed but rather supported properly by the headmistress and board of governors.	As above.
24.2.18	The school should actively try and recruit pupils into the English stream! With future housing developments it won't be long until numbers will increase.	As above.
24.2.19	YDT is on a journey, following changes in personnel, to ensure the visibility and profile of the English medium provision is equal to the Welsh medium provision. There are legacy perception issues which are being addressed by the school leadership team. As such, this means the true demand for English-medium provision at YDT may not yet have emerged.	As above.
24.2.20	Not enough people know of the English stream at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon. We are going to make posters and leaflets to let people know about the English stream at Dyffryn Trannon.	As above.



### 24.3 Make Llanidloes C.P. School a dual-stream school

24.3.1	<p>Could a Welsh stream not be introduced into a larger school such as Llanidloes primary school? There are quite a number of pupils in each year group, which could potentially provide sufficient numbers for decent sized classes in both languages?</p>	<p>The Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys clearly sets out the Council's intention to develop Welsh-medium provision across Powys, with the aim of increasing the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium provision. To achieve this, there will be a need to number of Powys schools to move along the language continuum, in order to significantly increase the number of Welsh-medium education places available in all key stages.</p> <p>Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is currently the sole provider of Welsh-medium primary provision in the Llanidloes catchment, and whilst the Council currently has no plans to introduce Welsh-medium provision in Llanidloes C.P. School at the present time, it is possible that this could be a consideration in the future, in order to further improve access to Welsh-medium primary provision.</p>
24.3.2	<p>If both Llanidloes and Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon primary schools were dual stream it would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- reduce the transport costs ie: local children would go their local school because their school would offer both streams</li> <li>- both schools would benefit from having both languages being taught</li> <li>- infant children would be able to go to their local school making it an easier transition when starting school</li> </ul>	<p>Comment noted – response as above.</p>

24.3.3	Offering Welsh education in Llanidloes primary school as well as Trefeglwys (both being dual stream) would boost your Welsh stream numbers in total, save on transport costs and help the High school Welsh stream numbers. This would also help to offer more choice (to parents) who think that young children on polluting transport is not good for children or the environment. What would I foresee: 80 - 90 pupils in Trefeglwys being 50% Welsh stream and 50% English stream and Llanidloes with 320ish pupils, possibly up to 100 in Welsh stream and 200ish in the English stream.	Comment noted – response as above.
24.3.4	There should be consideration in opening a Welsh stream in Llanidloes primary to reduce the carbon footprint and serve the local community. At present Llanidloes school has expanded, however children travel from different areas to access it. The money from the transport could be redirected into supporting the increased demand. The cluster as a whole should be looked into rather than singling one school out for the longer term benefits. This could be moving a problem to another area that will need to go through this process again and the impact of that when children could move schools due to this proposal.	Comment noted – response as above.

#### 24.4 Make other changes to Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon

24.4.1	A new head teacher.	The Council is not responsible for the appointment of headteachers.
24.4.2	Hold the Management of this school to account for allowing this to happen, they have got it into such a state that Powys will have little option to do something, the reality is the English stream is wanted more than the figures will tell you, new housing is being	The current proposal is being taken forward by the Council, not by the 'management of the school', and is based on the number of pupils currently accessing the English-medium stream at Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon.

	built and part of the attraction is this gem of a school being dual stream.	
24.4.3	I think teach 50/50 both languages if both streams cannot continue with more assistance with the help of TA's to struggling children who do not speak the language.	Comment noted.
24.4.4	Welsh language teaching should continue in two streams, basic language skills where English is the main language at home and advanced where Welsh is the main language at home. This should be pitched to challenge both streams.	Comment noted.
24.4.5	Add Welsh Culture and Welsh History to the curriculum. Such an inclusive curriculum would enhance the school experience for ALL students.	Comment noted.
24.4.6	They should be making sure that everyone is aware that our school is in Wales. Historically Trefeglwys has always been a Welsh speaking area but has gradually become bi-lingual and English is now becoming predominant, which has not been a good thing for our village.	Comment noted.
24.4.7	To be dual stream though, I think YDT should have an English medium pre school group aswell as the Mes Bach. When the school wants to encourage parents to bring their children to YDT they need to be able to provide the preschool education in both mediums	Comment noted.

## 24.5 Review other primary schools

24.5.1	Close Caersws primary school which has a very small number of pupils and make Trefeglwys school thriving as it used to be.	<p>The Council's new Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys, which was approved in April 2020, acknowledges that there are too many schools in Powys. The Council is currently taking forward a number of proposals relating to schools across Powys.</p> <p>The Council is not currently reviewing Caersws CP School.</p>
24.5.2	Maybe Caersws primary school should close and those English pupils attend YDT! They would be in uproar I'm sure so why shouldn't we be in uproar with losing our English classes!!	Whilst the Council is not currently reviewing Caersws CP School, the Council is currently taking forward a number of different types of proposals affecting different types of schools. These include proposals to close a number of small English-medium primary schools.
24.5.3	You could consider federating with Llanidloes primary school. This would enable the primary school to be dual stream alongside the secondary being dual stream.	Comment noted. Llanidloes C.P. School and Llanidloes High School currently operate as a federation. This was a governor led federation, which was instigated by the governors of the two schools. The same process could be used to federate Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon with the Llanidloes federation.
24.5.4	Is there an opportunity to collaborate as a cluster with Llanidloes, Carno, Caersws and Llandinam? This could apply to the English and Welsh units and a slightly different subject but is there an option to share digital learning with say Llanidloes and share lessons, we know that the technology is available now! This would strengthen links and learning options as well as the profile of the school.	The Council would encourage all schools to collaborate with each other, on a cluster basis and more widely.

24.5.5	Look at all the schools in the area to come up with better plans.	Comment noted.
--------	---	----------------

## 24.6 Review secondary provision

24.6.1	It would be great if you looked at secondary provision in the catchment too, if that isn't already part of your plans – to ensure that children from 4 years old up to 18 years old can access all of their education in Welsh, in every subject.	Comment noted.
24.6.2	Look to provide positive Welsh-medium secondary provision.	Comment noted.
24.6.3	It is essential that children from a Welsh medium primary school have the feasible option to attend a welsh medium high school where they can access all their provision in Welsh up to and including GCSE and A level without having to spend an hour on a bus.	Comment noted.

## 24.7 Delay the process

24.7.1	<p>In order to provide PCC, communities and parents with greater clarity of the education offer in the cluster in coming years I request PCC discontinue this consultation. There are a number of reasons for this suggestion, and I urge PCC to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Delaying a decision on YDT until the outcome of school language categories consultation by WG is complete to ensure decisions made in Powys align with new categories, this could provide alternative opportunities for the English medium provision at YDT;</li> </ul>	<p>The Council does not believe that there is a need to postpone the discontinue the consultation due to the points listed.</p> <p>The proposal is to change the language category of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon to Welsh-medium due to the small number of pupils currently accessing the school's English-medium stream. The outcome of the Welsh Government's recent consultation on language categories would not impact on this.</p>
--------	---	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Delaying a decision on YDT until the outcome of the school catchment and Bro Hyddgen consultations are known to enable stakeholders to comment on a more complete jigsaw;</li> <li>- Undertake an assessment of the Llanidloes cluster primaries (Llanidloes, Llandinam, Caersws and YDT) to determine the most suitable model of provision on a cluster basis, in alignment with the outcome of the school catchment review.</li> </ul> <p>Combine alternative options 1, 2 and 3 listed above so that the community and PCC can be assured of a more robust approach to determining primary provision in the Llanidloes Cluster which would arguably achieve more of the PCC-defined critical success factors described in the consultation documents.</p>	<p>The recent consultation carried out in respect of the language category of Ysgol Bro Hyddgen will not impact on the current consultation in respect of Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon. The consultation process in respect of school catchments is now complete.</p> <p>A review of the Llanidloes catchment area will take place in Wave 2 of the Transformation Programme. However, the Council's view is that the current model of delivery in Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is unsustainable and requires addressing sooner . Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon is in a unique position within the Llanidloes cluster as the only provider of Welsh-medium primary education.</p>
--	---	---

## 24.8 Other

24.8.1	<p>Spanish, Mandarin, even French would be a better option for another language. If not a language, then additional education likely to enhance career opportunities, ie: almost anything but Welsh.</p>	<p>The Council does not agree with this comment.</p>
--------	--	--