

Secondary School Reorganisation Programme – Update Powys October 2015

Title of Review	What's happened to date	What's happening now	What will happen next
<p>Priority 1 South Powys Beacons Learning Campus (Brecon & Gwernyfed High Schools)</p>	<p>Original recommendation 24th March 2015 – Cabinet recommended that the Strategic Outline Case (SOC) for building a new learning campus in Brecon can be submitted to Welsh Government (WG).</p> <p>Cabinet also recommended that formal consultation starts on the closure of Brecon and Gwernyfed High Schools by August 2017, with the opening of a new English-medium dual-sited 11 – 16 school on the current sites of both schools in September 2017.</p> <p>The SOC was approved by WG in May 2015 – this means that WG has indicated that it supports the direction of travel for a new learning campus in Brecon. The next stage is to develop an Outline Business Case (OBC) for submission to Welsh Government.</p> <p>However, work on the OBC has been placed on hold, whilst a Pause and Review period takes place.</p>	<p>Pause & Review The Council is considering all options related to these two schools again.</p> <p>The Council's School Organisation Review Panel (SORP) has held its initial meeting with the headteachers, governing bodies and local members for both schools to discuss key data and possible options.</p>	<p>The SORP will agree draft recommendations for the two schools, and will discuss this with each school individually.</p> <p>A report will then be presented to Cabinet in late 2015/early 2016 which will include recommendations for the future of secondary education in both catchment areas.</p> <p>Statutory consultation processes, if required (this is dependent on the decision of Cabinet and the definitive nature of any recommendations) will commence in Spring Term 2016 where we will be seeking your views on any proposals.</p> <p>Work will then commence on the OBC for the Campus project which will reflect the recommendation made by Cabinet.</p>

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<p>Priority 2 Mid Powys Builth Wells and Llandrindod Wells High Schools</p>	<p>24th March 2015 Cabinet recommends that a review of secondary education in Mid Powys takes place.</p>	<p>The Council's School Organisation Review Panel (SORP) has held its initial meeting with the headteachers, governing bodies and local members for both schools to discuss key data and possible options.</p> <p>The Council is currently developing options related to these two schools, and will be presenting these to the SORP for consideration later this term.</p>	<p>The SORP will agree draft recommendations for the two schools, and will discuss this with each school individually.</p> <p>A report will then be presented to Cabinet in late 2015/early 2016 which will include recommendations for the future of secondary education in both catchment areas.</p> <p>Statutory consultation processes, if required (this is dependent on the decision of Cabinet and the definitive nature of any recommendations) will commence in Spring Term 2016 where we will be seeking your views on any proposals.</p>
<p>Formal Consultation to remove Welsh-medium provision from Brecon High School</p>	<p>24th March 2015 Cabinet agreed to commence formal consultation to withdraw Welsh- medium provision from Brecon High School from September 2016.</p> <p>Formal consultation has been completed and a Consultation Report has been published.</p>	<p>During the consultation period, concerns were raised that the current proposal in respect of the Welsh-medium stream at Brecon High School cannot be considered in isolation from the work that is ongoing in both Mid Powys and South Powys.</p> <p>Welsh-medium provision in both areas will now be considered as part of these reviews.</p>	<p>The feedback received during the formal consultation will now be considered as part of the reviews in South and Mid Powys, and a decision will be made by Cabinet in due course.</p>

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<p>Priority 3 Review of Sixth Form provision at Ysgol Maesydderwen</p>	<p>24th March 2015 Cabinet agreed to review sixth form provision – all options to be considered. Cabinet considered the SORP recommendation on 29th September, and agreed to implement a local commissioning model</p>	<p>Implementation programme commences</p>	
<p>Priority 4 Review of secondary education in North Powys, with a focus on Welsh-medium/dual-stream provision</p>	<p>24th March 2015 Cabinet agreed to start a review of secondary education in North Powys, with a focus on Welsh-medium/dual-stream provision.</p> <p>Sbectrwm consultancy was commissioned to carry out the review and meetings were held at six secondary schools in North Powys at the end of the summer term 2015. It is anticipated that this business case will be completed by March 2016.</p>	<p>September 29th 2015</p> <p>Sbectrwm's report was considered by Cabinet on the 29th September 2015. Cabinet agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note the contents of the report produced by Sbectrwm Consultancy. 2. To determine that it is desirable to establish a bi-lingual, category 2A school or schools in North Powys. 3. To request that a business case to be produced accordingly. 	<p>A business case will be developed over the next few months and will be considered by Cabinet in Spring 2016.</p> <p>Should Cabinet approve any proposals for change of school structures/language or governance, then statutory consultation processes will be followed.</p>

Glossary

WG	Welsh Government
SORP	School Organisation Review Panel, which is made up of the Cabinet Member responsible for schools and senior schools officers
SOC	Strategic Outline Case