

CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th November 2021
Report Subject	School Modernisation – Consultation on enlargement of premises at Drury C.P. School and Penyffordd C.P. School
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council & Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education and Youth)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks approval to consult through 'The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, School Organisation Code' for an enlargement of the premises at two schools - Drury C.P. School and Penyffordd C.P. School.

The Code sets out Regulated Alterations to Community, Foundation and Voluntary Schools requirements in relation to the enlargement of school premises.

The proposed investment projects at Drury C.P. and Penyffordd C.P. meet the triggers that require consultation on increased capacity for each school through the Welsh Government's legal framework.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Cabinet approves consultation through 'The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, School Organisation Code' for an enlargement of the premises at Drury C.P. School and Penyffordd C.P. School.
---	--

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	BACKGROUND
1.01	<u>Drury C.P.</u> Drury C.P. School forms part of the 21st Century Schools, Band “B” investment programme which is jointly funded through Welsh Government and Flintshire County Council.
1.02	On the 16th March 2021, Cabinet agreed to move forward with the investment project at Drury C.P.
1.03	The original feasibility study was completed in 2017. At the time, Drury C.P. school capacity was 124 Full Time (FT) pupils with an Admission Number of 17 and this included one mobile classroom. The feasibility study assumed a new capacity of 150 FT.
1.04	Since, September 2021, based on Welsh Government guidance, the capacity has increased to 160 FT with an Admission Number of 22 as the second mobile classroom has been on site for four years, which triggers its inclusion within the schools capacity assessment.
1.05	Having reviewed the pupil number and projections, it is proposed to increase the scope of the project further. The proposal would be to extend and refurbish the school to cater for an increased capacity of 180 FT.
1.06	This means that the capacity will increase over the 25% within a five year period and this triggers the requirement to consult through ‘The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, School Organisation Code’ for an enlargement of school premises.
1.07	<u>Penyffordd C.P.</u> A new primary school was constructed to replace the former infant and junior school with the school taking occupation of the new facility in September 2019.
1.08	The original planning approval for the new school at Penyffordd included a planned two classroom extension which would increase the capacity of the school to 375 FT pupils.
1.09	This project is now being brought forward due to local demand and is funded from a combination of Section 106 developer contributions to education and the Council’s own capital programme.

1.10	However, the current proposals to increase the capacity at the school require consultation through 'The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 School Organisation Code' for an enlargement of the premises of a school (excluding nursery and special schools), as there would be a 25% increase in capacity within a five year period.
1.11	For both schools, delivery of these schemes cannot proceed until such time that statutory proposals to increase the capacity of the schools have been published and consulted upon.
1.12	Subject to Cabinet approval the consultation would start in January 2022. This provides time for officers to prepare the appropriate paperwork. The anticipated time line for consultation is noted as Appendix 1.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Consultation will be conducted by the School Modernisation Team.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	All projects are managed using a risk register. Risks are managed accordingly, and financial risks are managed through a project contingency. Any high level risk which cannot be managed with the projects/programme will be incorporated into the risk register for the Education and Youth Portfolio.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	Subject to Cabinet agreement, consultation will be carried out, through the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, School Organisation Code.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Copy of Anticipated Consultation Timeline.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	School Organisation Code – The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2018 https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-10/school-organisation-code-second-edition.pdf

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Damian Hughes Telephone: 01352 704135 E-mail: damian.hughes@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>School Organisation Code – The new School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2018 makes Local Authorities responsible (rather than the Welsh Ministers prior to October 2018) for the determination of most statutory school organisation proposals that receive objections.</p> <p>21st Century Schools - Is a collaboration between the Welsh Government (WG), the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and local authorities. It is a major, long-term and strategic capital investment programme with the aim of creating a generation of 21st century schools in Wales.</p> <p>S106 – Is an agreement between a developer and the local Planning Authority, which assists in reducing impact of a development on a community.</p>